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GIBBONS

STAMP WEEKLY

A POPULAR WEEKLY STAMP JOURNAL

FOR THE GENERAL COLLECTOR, AND MORE ESPECIALLY FOR
BEGINNERS AND YOUNG COLLECTORS

EDITED BY
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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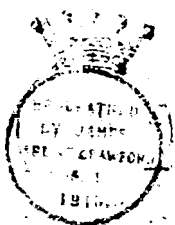
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Wholesale Agents

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VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

British Columbia and Vancouver Island



discovery of gold in 1857 brought a rush of population to the province, and in 1866 Vancouver Island and the mainland were united under the name of British Columbia. In 1871 it entered the federal union of the Dominion.

British Columbia stretches from the Rocky Mountains to the sea and from Washington to Alaska. It has a total length of 1250 miles, and is the largest province in the Dominion. Its mountain ranges are said to include some of the grandest scenery in the world.

Their Philatelic History

ACCORDING to *The International Geography* the coast of British Columbia was discovered and partly explored by Spanish voyagers, and by Cook in the course of his last voyage in 1778. In 1793 Alexander Mackenzie first crossed the interior on his journey from Lake Athabasca to the Pacific Ocean, and early in the nineteenth century David Thompson explored and opened up trade routes into the country from the upper waters of the Saskatchewan and Athabasca rivers. In 1849 Vancouver Island was granted a Governor, and in 1856 it elected its first legislative body. The

Their Philatelic History

The philatelic history of British Columbia and Vancouver Island is both brief and peculiar. The first postal issue was made in 1861 in the shape of a solitary 2½d. stamp, inscribed BRITISH COLUMBIA & VANCOUVER ISLAND. Then in 1865 Vancouver Island was provided with two stamps in cents currency, inscribed VANCOUVER ISLAND, and in 1867 British Columbia also had its own separate stamp, inscribed BRITISH COLUMBIA. This first separate issue for British Columbia was a 3d. stamp, and in 1867 it was overprinted with various values. This provisional issue served the postal purposes of the united colonies till they were, in 1871, merged in the Dominion of Canada.

British Columbia and Vancouver Island

1861. One value. Design, head of Queen Victoria in profile to left, inscribed BRITISH COLUMBIA & VANCOUVER ISLAND: POSTAGE TWO PENCE HALF-PENNY. To provide for a lack of a 3d. value this stamp was subsequently ordered to be sold at threepence.

According to Mr. Donald King this official notice could not have been much more than a matter of form, as the 3d. had always to be paid for the stamp, owing to the lack of copper currency. Much controversy has centred around the question whether this 2½d. was ever issued for use imperforate, but the generally accepted opinion now favours the statement in Gibbons Catalogue that it must be regarded as a proof.



No wmk. Perf.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
2½d., rose	20	0	20	0

Vancouver Island

1865. Two values. Design, head of Queen Victoria in profile to left, inscribed VANCOUVER



ISLAND, and value in words. These stamps were issued both imperforate and perforated, and they were watermarked Crown CC.

	Wmk. Crown CC.		Imperf.	
	Unused.	Used.	s.	d.
5 cents, rose	—	—	—	—
10 „ blue	90	0	60	0

The same, but perf.

5 cents, rose	25	0	25	0
10 „ blue	25	0	25	0

British Columbia

1865. One value. Design a large V surmounted by the Royal Crown, inscribed BRITISH COLUMBIA — POSTAGE THREE PENCE, watermarked Crown CC and perforated.



Wmk. Crown CC. Perf.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3d., blue	3	0	7	6

1867. Provisional issue. The 3d. stamp of the last issue, printed in various colours, and surcharged with values in cents currency.

	Wmk. Crown CC.		Perf.	
	Unused.	Used.	s.	d.
2 c., brown, sur. black	5	0	10	0
5 c., red „ „	25	0	25	0
10 c., lake „ blue	80	0	80	0
25 c., yellow „ violet	10	0	10	0
50 c., violet „ red	30	0	40	0
1 dol., green „ green	70	0	80	0

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

THE IMPERIAL ALBUM

Tenth Edition. Size of pages, 8½ × 11½ inches. The present edition is arranged in three volumes. Two causes have acted to bring about this result. First, the ever-increasing number of new issues, for which accommodation must be provided; and secondly, the demand by collectors that space shall be found for varieties of perforation and shade, errors, etc., to conform as closely as possible to the lists given in the publishers' Catalogue. Vol. I. The Stamps of the British Empire; post-free, 10s. 9d. Vol. II. The Stamps of Europe, and the Colonies and Possessions of European States; post-free, 12s. 9d. Vol. III. Foreign Countries, except Europe and Possessions; post-free, 10s. 9d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 39, Strand, London, W.C.

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

IN 1893, on the occasion of moving from No. 8 Gower Street to our new premises at 391 Strand, I published a short sketch in the *Monthly Journal* of the history of our firm, in which I stated that the business was started in 1854—this I have since discovered was not quite correct, as Mr. Gibbons tells me that he started selling stamps when he was sixteen years old, which was in 1856—therefore this present year of grace is really our jubilee year.

In looking back over the old books, catalogues, and albums of my firm, I am much impressed by the enormous strides that have been made in stamp collecting during the past fifty years, and I think that perhaps many of my younger readers may be interested in a short sketch of the history of our business and in some particulars of those who have helped to build it up to its present proportions.



E. STANLEY GIBBONS
From a photo taken about 1870

CHAPTER I

The Founder of the Firm

MR. EDWARD STANLEY GIBBONS was born at No. 13 Treville Street, Plymouth, in 1840, the same year that saw the introduction of Rowland Hill's scheme of prepaying postage by means of an adhesive label.

His father was Mr. William Gibbons, a

black, Western Australia, then current, and also a 1d. Sydney View. About 1855 Mr. Gibbons was taken from school and was given the position of junior clerk in the well-known Naval Bank, Plymouth; but he had not been there much over a fortnight when the sudden death of his eldest brother (William P. L. Gibbons) entirely altered his prospects, and he was taken from the bank and placed in his father's shop at



E. STANLEY GIBBONS

Present day

pharmaceutical chemist at the above address.

Mr. Gibbons was educated at Messrs. Hallorans' Collegiate Establishment in Torrington Place, Plymouth, where there were about a hundred pupils. He tells me that his earliest recollection of postage stamps was about 1854, when, as a youth of fourteen, he remembers possessing a little book about 5 x 3 inches in size, with perhaps twenty stamps in it for the purpose of exchange. Amongst these was the newly issued 1d.,

13 Treville Street, Plymouth, as a compounder of pills and powders.

The fact that young Gibbons had plenty of spare time while he was an apprentice to the business permitted him to indulge in stamps, and his father, finding that it was a lucrative pursuit, allowed him a desk on the left-hand counter as one entered the shop, to accommodate his treasures and correspondence. This was in 1856, when our hero was but sixteen years of age, this small start being the foundation of what

has become the largest business in the world in this branch of commerce, and it is from this period that we date the foundation of the firm which this year celebrates its jubilee.

Mr. Gibbons tells me that he first traded as E. S. Gibbons, but soon merged this into the more euphonious E. Stanley Gibbons. Shortly afterwards he dropped the E. and altered to Stanley, Gibbons, & Co., inserting a comma between the Stanley and Gibbons to increase the importance of the firm.

As a young man Mr. Gibbons took a leading part in various social organizations of his native town, and as I write I have before me a number of circulars to which his name is attached.

One of the earliest of these reads as follows:—

**THE AMATEUR
COLOSSEUM OF SCIENCE AND ART
PLYMOUTH**

Gentlemen are informed that the above Company has accommodation for a select number of members, situated at 15 Treville Street.

The above room is fitted up with Curiosities from all parts of the World, a Library, Museum, and Philosophical Apparatus.

We beg to inform you that the above room is intended for Useful Knowledge and Amusement, during the evenings, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Terms may be known on application to
E. S. GIBBONS,
Manager.

Another concern with which Mr. Gibbons was prominently associated was the Plymouth Mutual Improvement Association, which was established in 1858, and in the prospectus for the season 1862-3, which I have before me, the president was Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons.

The lectures of this Association were all given at the Colosseum, Plymouth, and on

6 May, 1860, Mr. Gibbons gave a lecture, entitled "The History of Cortes and the Conquest of Mexico," which he followed up with many others on various subjects.

In 1866 Mr. Gibbons was elected President of the Plymouth Literary Association, and I have before me a copy of the address he delivered to the members on the occasion of the Annual Conversazione on 19 January, 1866.

CHAPTER II

Plymouth, 1856 to 1874

ABOUT 1858 or 1859 the increase of the business necessitated an extension from the desk in the shop to a room on the second floor, where Mr. Gibbons installed his first clerk—a lady named Miss Cummings, with whom Mr. Gibbons suffered the same disappointment that has befallen us on numberless occasions since—Miss Cummings got married, and preferred to be a clergyman's wife to learning the rudiments of what was then the start of a new business.

So the business grew and grew, and eventually the receipts exceeded those of the drug business, to which Mr. Gibbons succeeded on the death of his father.

With the aid of a manager he then endeavoured to carry on both businesses at once; but a pharmaceutical business, as is well known, needs personal supervision, and as Mr. Gibbons preferred stamps to drugs, the latter was neglected and eventually sold.

This enabled our pioneer to give his whole attention to stamps, and he very distinctly recalls the astonishment of his friends and their dismal prognostications, on his foolishness in giving up a certainty for an uncertainty; but Mr. Gibbons had his heart in the stamp business and quickly built up a foreign connexion of some magnitude.

(To be continued.)

THE KING'S OWN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

This Album has been specially designed for those collectors who either commence a collection with the Postage Stamps of King Edward VII, or who collect these stamps as a supplement to a General Collection, The King's Own Album contains 100 pages of heavy white plate paper outlined with a neat border of neutral grey, with quadrillé background inside the grey border, and name space at the top of each page. Exact size of leaves from the outer edge, $7\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$; available for mounting stamps, $6\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$. The title-page is printed in the Royal Colours, with the King's Cypher Monogram and Crown. Strongly bound in cloth, bevelled boards, with the Official Cypher Monogram and Crown in gold on cover. Post-free, 8s.; abroad, 8s. 9d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

JOHNSON MAJOR, DETECTIVE

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON

"THEY'RE gone!" said Johnson major vehemently, as he peered into the drawer of his desk. Instinctively I knew he referred to a parcel of higher-value Africans, a gift from his uncle, which I had ocular evidence of his having placed in his desk drawer the previous evening.

"Gone!" I ejaculated in amazement.

"Gone!" he reiterated; "stolen!"

As we looked at each other in astonishment, a timid knock was heard at Johnson's study door, and Cyril Fmsley, a youngster of about eleven, entered with tear-stained face.

"What is the matter, young un?" Johnson inquired kindly.

"My st-stamps have been stolen," sobbed Cyril piteously.

"What! have your stamps been stolen too—er to-day, Fmsley?" replied Johnson, evidently desirous of keeping our young friend in ignorance of his own loss.

"Yes," the youngster replied. "I put them in my desk last night, and when I went for them to-day they had disappeared."

"Ah! perhaps you have mislaid them, my little chap. Run away and try to find them," Johnson rejoined, affecting a levity which was contrary to his own feelings at the time. "But here, one moment. Don't mention a word to anybody about your stamps being missing, will you? Promise me!"

And Cyril promised.

When we were alone Johnson interrogated me as to whether I could form any idea as to who could be the miscreant, which I could not. I could not bring myself to believe that the school harboured any one despicable enough to steal the treasured stamp collection of a youngster, or bold enough to pilfer a parcel of stamps belonging to the cock of the school.

"I intend to run him to earth, if at all possible," Johnson said.

"Bravo, Sherlock!" I ventured. "Shall I be your Watson?"

"Yes," he replied, with a smile. "And

please leave me now, Doctor, to my deductions."

The next day Johnson's chief topic of conversation was the missing stamps. He said, "It appears to me that whoever has taken these stamps would be desirous of getting rid of his loot at the first opportunity. He would hardly, I think, send them away by post to a dealer; in such a case he would have to give his name and address, and that would be risky."

"True," I remarked.

"Well," continued Johnson. "it appears to me that the most plausible theory is that some small, and perhaps local, dealer must buy them. You will remember that I have a book giving a list of the stamp dealers in Great Britain, and the one nearest to the school is a Mr. Starnes, of Bridmead."

"Do you propose to ask him, then, if he has received these missing stamps?" I queried.

"No," he replied; "we must advance cautiously. Mr. Starnes may be a man with an easy conscience, and, in such event, to ask him about the stamps would put him on his guard at once."

I agreed with Johnson's remarks. "But what will you do? You cannot openly accuse him."

"No," said Johnson slowly, "I have a better plan than that."

"What is it?" I inquired eagerly.

"See me to-night," he responded enigmatically. "So long."

I pondered as to what could be his scheme, but unavailingly. In the evening when we were alone he unfolded his plan.

Johnson had discovered some damaged stamps which had accumulated during his philatelic career, and which, had they been perfect specimens, would have been worth some pounds. He invited my help in gumming them into an exercise book, together with other stamps in little demand by collectors, and which, therefore, only the largest dealers would be likely to have in stock. Many of the stamps bore postmarks easy to remember. These he had taken out of his

own collection. When we had finished the task many of the damaged stamps appeared to be perfect, and we made out a list of the contents of this improvised collection, and of any peculiarities of the postmarks, the exact position of them, and, where possible, the dates. We then prepared a want list, including among other stamps those in our faked collection.

"I would forgo my whole collection to discover the offender," he said.

"What course do you intend to adopt now?" I asked.

"To leave this faked collection where it could be easily stolen," replied he.

"I see," I said, with a knowing air, "and then lie in wait to pounce upon the thief in the act, and—*grand tableau*."

"Nothing of the sort," he replied. "Jackdaws are not caught with birdlime."

Johnson always had a nasty knack of speaking in—parables I think you call them.

Nevertheless, we did lie in wait for about an hour one evening; but no thief put in an appearance.

However, the following day Johnson and I went down to the nets, and on our return to his study the collection had vanished.

"This equals the Egyptian Hall, doesn't it?" he said.

"Rather," I replied. "But what do you propose to do now?"

"List, and I will unfold my scheme. I am basing my course of action on the supposition that the miscreant will dispose of his unlawfully acquired merchandise to this Mr. Starnes, vendor of adhesive postal labels, and otherwise."

"Steady, steady, Johnson," I said. "Wait until I fetch a dictionary."

"Doctor Watson should not require a dictionary," he replied, with affected hauteur.

"Sorry, Sherly, old boy. Continue."

"My brother-in-law, as you know, is a stamp collector, and I recollect having seen at *chez lui* a paper called *The Stamp Trades Monthly*, in which Mr. Starnes advertised. Are you listening?"

"*Oui, oui*," I said, just to air a bit of my French, "I am all ears."

"And feet," Johnson responded mendaciously. Nasty cheap wit, wasn't it? "But to business. In reply to a letter, my brother-in-law sent me the current number of this journal. In next month's issue, I propose to insert this advertisement in the prepaid

column, four words for one penny," and he read to me the following:—

"Collector wishing to fill up gaps in his album will send want list to dealers. Damaged stamps would be accepted if cheap."

And he gave the name and address of his brother-in-law, who lived at Rushworth, twenty miles distant.

"You are gradually unweaving the tangled skein," I said. "But proceed."

So he continued. "It is now the twenty-third of the month. Small advertisements for insertion in the next issue, to be published on the first of next month, must be received by the twenty-fifth of this, so an advertisement posted to-night will be in good time."

"True," I ejaculated. "And then?"

"I have asked my brother-in-law," replied Johnson, "in the event of a reply from Mr. Starnes, to send him our want list, which is now in his possession."

Johnson then told me that his brother-in-law had often expressed his intention of running down to the school, and spending a half with us, and he had now promised to be with us the following Wednesday, and bring with him any stamps he might have received from Mr. Starnes.

On the day we waited in a fever of suspense for the train to arrive, and we questioned our ally eagerly on arrival as to whether he had received any reply. Fortune seemed to be favouring us, for he produced a selection of stamps received from Mr. Starnes, some of which were the identical specimens stolen.

We received permission from our much-esteemed pedagogue to go to Bridmead, and on arrival there called on Mr. Starnes, and Johnson's brother-in-law produced the stamps, saying that we had recognized some which had been stolen some few days previously.

The stamp dealer was most courteous, and upon learning that young Emsley's collection, which lay untouched in his office, had also been stolen, offered to return it at once. He gave us a description of the youth from whom he had bought the stamps, which tallied exactly with that of a new pupil at Barratry's, named Heap.

On our return to the school, Johnson questioned Heap as to whether he knew anything about the late stamp thefts. He at first disclaimed all knowledge, but after

further cross-questioning admitted his guilt and promised to make a full confession to his father if we would only keep the matter quiet. To this we agreed.

Johnson later received a nice letter from Heap's pater stating how sorry he was to learn of his son's delinquencies, and stated that he had sent his son sufficient money to make good all the amounts he had wrongfully received. He further thanked Johnson for not making knowledge of the thefts

public, and whom he asked to be a friend to his son, stating that he was sure the wrongdoing was the result of a sudden temptation.

Heap stated later that he had fallen into debt through card playing, and was very contrite over his misdeeds. He repaid Mr. Starnes all moneys received, bought Johnson some more Africans to make good his loss, and we have never since regretted having made him our friend.

THE PHILATELIC BALL

By W. E. IMESON

WE met—not in a crowd, but at a philatelic ball;

I can't describe her beauty, yet—I'll try to, after all.

Of Philatelia's daughters she was fairest of the fair,

We made—although I say it—yes, we made a 'perfect pair.'

Her dreamy eyes, of deep blue shade, like stars did softly shine:

A catalogue of meanings in their depths I did divine.

Her pearly teeth, a perfect set; a rare rose-red her cheek;

A wealth of golden 'hairlines' crowned her 'Queen's Head,' so to speak.

Her costume I, alas! can't paint, lest lady critics smile—

'Twas philatelic in design, Parisian quite in style. The dainty skirt of 'Penny Blacks' was English quite, though she

Had edged it with a fringe of blue stamps made in Germany.

A 'West Australian' chiffon did a swan-like neck display—

In taste or style no 'errors' did occur, I'm bound to say;

Her hose unique was made, of course, from stamps of far Cashmere;

Whilst shoes of tiny size displayed Morocco stamps and rare.

Her age? (I hear the ladies cry, "How dare you mention 'age'!")

The modern woman wears so well her years perplex a sage.

No 'early issue' was my fair, nor yet one up to date;

She might have been—well, say, between nineteen and thirty-eight.

Her dancing! Ah, in praise of that a volume I could fill!

I claimed her for 'The CA Waltz,' 'The Double Crown Quadrille';

An extra 'extra' too was mine—she played the coquette's part—

And in 'The Stamp Fiends' Galop' she completely won my heart.

The supper-dance was also mine (no chaperon was there).

Between each course I found, of course, to woo her time to spare.

Her name was Clara Angus, and I whispered, "Pardon me,

If I'd my way you'd not for long a 'single CA' be."

"Why, C A B spells cab," said she, "and mine's already here;

There's some one come to fetch me, see—(Oh, John, you are a dear!)

This is my husband, Mr. Spoon—to see us you must come;

Of single 'CA's' we have got a charming 'pair' at home."

Thus cruelly shattered love's young dream my philatelic queen;

My heart she'd 'perforated' quite—it really was too mean

To 'gauge' my feelings thus, and then to make me look so small:

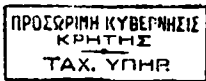
No more you'll catch yours truly at a philatelic ball.

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Crete.—We quote the following from the *Monthly Journal*: "The philatelic zeal of the revolutionary party seems really to be out-running its discretion. There seems to be a fresh issue of stamps about once a fortnight, or oftener; possibly there is more than one revolutionary party in the stamp business, but we gather that they all reside in the capital of the country to which they desire annexation, in preference to remaining in their own unfortunate island. The latest stamps that have reached us are in the design of which we gave illustrations in October, but instead of the circular hand-stamp there is a device in the centre (between the inscribed label and the value) which seems to represent a very much mutilated corpse, with an abnormally long nose at one end, and a very large foot at the other; doubtless it is emblematic of a Cretan Atrocity of some kind. The whole design is in one colour, printed on thick, white wove paper, gummed but not perforated.



ΛΕΠΤΑ 10

5 lepta, green.
10 " red.
20 " blue.

At the last moment it has been revealed to us that the extraordinary article in the centre of the stamps is intended for a map of Crete; and we are glad to hear that the revolution has produced no atrocities, and we believe no bloodshed, partly perhaps because its most active directors are superintending the issue of stamps at Athens."

Grenada.—*Even's Weekly Stamp News* is informed that the 1s. value has been issued on the multiple CA paper.



Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf.
½d., purple and green.
1d. " carmine.
2d. " brown.
2½d. " blue.
1s., green and orange.

Mauritius.—Mr. W. H. Regan has informed *Even's Weekly Stamp News* that the 2 c. current Arms type has appeared on multiple CA paper.



Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf.
2 cents, lilac.

Portuguese Colonies.—The current 50 r. and 75 r. values of several of the colonies have been undergoing a change of colour, only a few of which we have yet chronicled, so we now append a list up to date.



Colours changed.

Angra. 50 r., ultramarine.
75 r., brown on yellow.
Funchal. 50 r., ultramarine.
75 r., brown on yellow.
Horta. 50 r., ultramarine.
75 r., brown on yellow.
Ponta Delgada. 50 r., ultramarine.
75 r., brown on yellow.

MISCELLANEOUS

London Stamp Dealers

Nor a hundred miles from Charing Cross there is a dealer, who is also a poet, and on whom the mantle of Tennyson has descended (peace, Mr. Alfred A.!). One of the oddest characters is an individual who deals in cheap Continentals. He actually fills his coat, between the lining, with thousands of packets of stamps. He looks big and formidable, but the adipose, in his case, is merely a layer of stamps, several inches thick, all round him; and he can unload at a counter a hundred thousand cheap stamps, without turning a hair, or looking a bit thinner! One of the greatest stamp cranks that ever was in London, is no longer a landmark, and that is the self-dubbed Stamp King. Like the gentleman in the music-hall ballad, "he's in an asylum now." It is amusing sometimes to notice the air of contempt with which some of the hole-and-corner dealers regard Gibbons' Catalogue. They "know more about stamps than Phillips!—they ignore catalogues!—some of their prices are a tenth of Gibbons, and others are ten times as much." To wade through their books of indifferent rubbish sets one's teeth on edge. They certainly *do* ignore catalogues, and it is quite easy to find things marked at *over* catalogue; but any at one-tenth—?

B. GORDON JONES in the

Philatelic Journal of India.

New Issues—British v. Foreign

Those who have not had occasion to keep quite so strict an account of the annual crop of New Issues as a chronicler is obliged to do, may perhaps have imagined that the various parts of the British Empire have been the chief sinners in this respect during the twelve months that have elapsed since Christmas last came round; and it must be confessed that the new varieties of watermark and paper have provided specialists in the stamps of many of the British Colonies, with abundant opportunities for adding pages to their albums. But in spite of the fact that Part I of our publishers' current Catalogue was published a few months before Part II, the additions to the former in the recent Supplement occupy only six pages, as compared with twelve pages of additions to the latter volume.

The Monthly Journal.

Story of a Minor Variety

ONCE upon a Time there was a General Collector, who was brought into Contact, quite unexpectedly, with a Fine Unused Specimen of a Minor Variety. As a result of the Collision, he was led to consult an Eminent Specialist, who promptly relieved him of all Anxiety, and of the Minor Variety in question, giving him in Exchange a heavily obliterated Copy of the Normal Type. N.B.—The Value of the Minor Variety in the Latest Edition of the Catalogue of Messrs. Blank & Co. was Five Shillings, while that of the Normal Type was Six Pence.

MORAL.—A Current Catalogue in the hand is worth two Eminent Specialists in the Exchange Club.—*The Monthly Journal.*

Ceylon: Single CA and Multiples

A CORRESPONDENT at Colombo has very kindly obtained for us a list of the dates at which the various values of the ordinary stamps on the two papers were put in circulation. He adds that every precaution was taken to keep the different papers separate, and not to issue stamps upon a new paper until the supply of those upon the older paper was exhausted.

The list is as follows:—

Single wmk.	Mult. wmk.	Single wmk.	Mult. wmk.
2 c. 21.7.03...	17.11.04	15 c. 2.7.03...	1.12.04
3 c. 11.6.03...	17.11.04	25 c. 11.8.03...	no record
4 c. 29.5.03...	13.9.04	30 c. 29.5.03...	7.9.05
5 c. 2.7.03...	29.11.04	75 c. 31.3.05...	25.5.05
6 c. 5.11.03...	11.10.04	R.1.50 12.4.04	no
12c. 13.8.03...	29.9.04	R.2.25 7.4.04	record

The Monthly Journal.

Failure of Mr. J. Westhorp

It is with regret that I have to announce that Mr. J. Westhorp has been obliged to call his creditors together, and has been declared a bankrupt. Mr. Westhorp has been known to many philatelists as a dealer in a quiet and retiring way, from whom they could generally obtain many varieties missing in their collections. His knowledge of British Colonial stamps was especially good, and in Transvaal stamps he ranked as one of the best judges. His liabilities are considerable, and I am informed that his losses are caused by matters entirely apart from his stamp business. I am sure that all his friends will tender him most hearty sympathy and best wishes for a prompt return to prosperity.—*The Monthly Journal.*

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

News from Mysore

BANGALORE, 6 December, 1905.

The 3 pies "On H.M.S."

THERE are a few quite recent Indian stamps which do not seem to be very easy to obtain. The first of them is the 3 pies, carmine, with the overprint "On H.M.S.", in unused condition. Gibbons does not price it, and the French official catalogue hazards $1\frac{1}{2}$ francs as a fair valuation, which seems rather high for a stamp which was lately current at one farthing. Yet there must be "something in it," for nobody seems to have laid by a stock of any importance, and it seems to be a stamp which should be obtained before some fancy price, such as 2s. 6d., is asked for it. Another stamp of the same series—the 1 anna, carmine, with the "On H.M.S." overprint—is also not very abundant in unused state, but it seems to be far commoner than the 3 pies.

To take the matter at a glance, all the stamps which were issued between the common series and the King's Heads are worth getting unused, namely, the 3 pies, carmine, the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green, the 1 anna, carmine, and the 2 annas, violet.

Types of the "On H.M.S."

If the beginner looks at his "Gibbons" he will find a footnote to the effect that there are two types of the overprint "On H.M.S.", but he can ignore these with advantage. Should he have an opportunity of getting a number of these stamps he will find that there are three types, and it happens that the thinnest is the commonest, and is the one at present in use, all the King's Heads having the variety of surcharge. The 1 rupee with Queen's Head exists with the thick surcharge only.

The Current 8 annas Stamp

There is a most peculiar shade of the current 8 annas stamp of India; it is very

difficult to describe, but resembles the juice of an unripe damson. It has, in fact, a distinct bluish tint which makes it quite unlike the two common shades of this value. Whether it is the latest printing or not I am not able to say at present.

The 6 a. 8 pies Again

Some months ago I mentioned that the 6 a. 8 pies stamp was unappreciated and undervalued; an instance showing how rare this stamp is when in good condition occurred recently. A collection was offered to me which contained superb specimens of the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 4 annas of the first issue; the 4 annas, green, without watermark; a fine lot of small "Service"; the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, provisional, unused; and a fine range of shades, used and unused, of all later issues; but the 6 a. 8 pies was not represented at all—it was almost the only blank space on the Indian pages of the Imperial Album which contained the collection. One of these days the price will rise considerably, and it would be well to get this stamp before it is ranked as a rarity.

Really!

The Postmaster-General of India probably did not mean to be funny when he issued the notice to the effect that "all articles addressed to the camp of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales should not bear the name of a town, for if the name of a town be added *the article will be sent to that town.*" It does not follow by any means that articles are always sent to the town to which they are addressed, as we who have experience of certain post offices in the South of India know to our cost. If the Postmaster-General had said "articles addressed to a post town *may* be sent to that town," he would have been more accurate.

E. WHETHERELL.

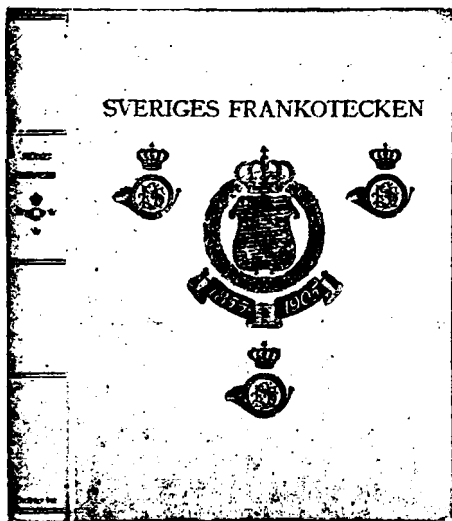
A FINE BIRTHDAY GIFT

No. 68, 1500 varieties. Each specimen is in perfect condition, and the 1500 different Stamps form a splendid start for any one. A large number of really rare and valuable stamps are contained in this collection; but it is impossible to enumerate them, as we are constantly adding New Issues and Older Stamps when purchased. Satisfaction is guaranteed. £1 15s., post-free and registered.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

REVIEW

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF SWEDEN, 1855-1905



SWEDEN has, during the year 1905, celebrated the fifty-years jubilee of its postage stamps. The postal authorities wished to mark the occasion by publishing a history of the postage stamps of Sweden and the postal department of the country. But they gave up this idea in favour of the Philatelic Society of Sweden, and the result is now the book which lies before me. The name in the original language is *Sveriges Frankotecken, 1855-1905*, meaning the history, not only of the stamps, but also of the post cards and envelopes. This book will be an ornament to any philatelist's book-case, not only on account of the elegant binding—blue cloth with the Swedish Arms, the Post Office emblems, and Philatelic Society's monograms in gold—but also on account of the interesting reading and the many illustrations and diagrams.

The book is published by the Philatelic Society of Sweden and can be ordered from the same—address: Sveriges Filatelist-Förening, 24a Grefsturegatan, Stockholm, Sweden—and will be sent post-free to any part of Great Britain for 13s. 6d.

I take this opportunity of pointing out an error in my Scandinavian letter which appeared in *G.S.W.* dated 23 December,

1905, in which the price was erroneously mentioned as 12s. 6d.

On the front page is a very good photograph of H.R.H. Prince Gustaf Adolf, the husband of Princess Margaret, daughter of the Duke of Connaught. Prince Gustaf Adolf is the patron of the Swedish Philatelic Society, and the book is dedicated to him.

The work is divided into two parts, one referring entirely to the Post Office and the postal service of Sweden. This part of the book is written by a Post Office official, Mr. Ernst Östberg, who has especially studied old papers referring to postal matters. This part is very interesting, and gives some tables and figures showing the exact time at which the various values were ordered and issued, also the quantities delivered from the Government's printing offices. The author also throws some light on the question relating to the invention of stamps, and he claims Lieutenant Curry Gabriel Treffenberg to be the inventor of the postage stamp. A proposal passed in the Swedish Riksdag, 3 March, 1823, was read by this gentleman, giving a lengthy and detailed proposition for introducing "a kind of stamped paper of various values, which could be bought at the post offices for use on letters." His object in proposing this means of paying the postage was to put a check on the postmasters, which was more difficult when payment was made over the counter in cash. The proposition, however, fell through, and not until thirty-two years after Lieutenant Treffenberg's proposal the postage stamp was introduced in Sweden, but at that time the postage stamp had already been in use for fifteen years in England.

In a special chapter there is an account given of how the postage stamp was introduced in England. Photographs of Rowland Hill and James Chalmers are reproduced in connexion with this. The first part of the book is not only a history of the Swedish Post Office, but contains a great deal about other European postal departments. This part comprises ninety-six pages.

The second part of the book deals very

scientifically with the philatelic history of Sweden. This part has been written by Mr. N. V. Holmberg, an official of the Swedish State Railways. This gentleman is a specialist on Swedish, Danish, West Indies, Norwegian, and Icelandic stamps. He has been assisted in his difficult task by the President of the Swedish Society, Consul-General Sixten Keyserm, and the Hon. Secretary of the same Society, Mr. Hilmer Djurling, the latter an able and well-known writer on philatelic subjects. This part is by far the most interesting in the book, especially from the collector's point of view.

The introductory chapters deal chiefly with the printing and perforation of the stamps, the paper and watermarks, and also give an account of how some of the "errors" have happened, as, for instance, the scarce 20 and 30 öre, and the 3 sk. bco., yellow. We find more about this in the descriptive chapter on the entire issue of all the stamps.

This part comprises also a complete illustrated catalogue, giving the date of issue of all stamps, the date of withdrawal, the number issued, and all known shades. This is the only complete catalogue of Swedish stamps ever published. To give an example, the 1872, 6 öre, perf. 14, is specified in seven distinct different shades from red-violet to olive-brown, passing through two shades of grey. The oblong Official stamps, as well as the Postage Due (Lösen), which have been withdrawn since 31 December, 1891, are included in this catalogue, also envelopes, wrappers, and post cards.

To give an idea of the completeness of this catalogue, I may mention that the same comprises sixty-eight pages, with an additional ninety-one pages of descriptive matter. There are several "errors" chronicled, which I have not seen included in any catalogue, of which I may mention the 3 sk. bco., yellow, of which only one copy is known; 4 sk. bco., with the letter "R" in FYRA (four) appearing as "B," viz. FYBA. In the 1858-72 issue, Arms of Sweden, is also a type error in the 24 öre, 30 öre, and

50 öre values. The "E" in the word ÖRE appears as an "r," viz. ÖRF. Of the 30 öre, brown, a few *imperfurate* copies are known. General stamp collectors know of the 17 öre, grey, of the Lion type, listed in Stanley Gibbons at 15s. Now there is an interesting account given of this stamp, explaining that no official order was ever given for a grey stamp of this value, only for a violet one. The printer of the stamps at the time also declared that no grey stamps were actually printed. But there they are! and several of them are still to be seen in the General Post Office old stock. And this stamp was also included in 1885 reprints.

If stamps of violet colour are treated with a chemical (HCl) they will change into a greyish colour. But a stamp treated in this way will sink *at once* if put into water, whereas a stamp printed grey will not sink until soaked. I mention this only by the by, should any collector like to satisfy himself as to the genuine character of his 17 öre, grey. I give no comments on the subject, for the simple reason that I have none to give. It seems to me a puzzle still unsolved. Of the 20 öre, red, of the Lion type, is an imperforated edition recorded. Other varieties mentioned are well known, and need no further mentioning here.

The reprints of 1868, 1871, 1885 are dealt with separately.

This is not the least important part for the collector to study to enable him to distinguish a practically valueless reprint from a genuine stamp. In connexion with the publishing of this work the reprints of 1885 have been again reprinted, as an enclosure with the book.

A few old copies of this reprint might still be had from the Society at four guineas each. They were originally all subscribed for by postal officials and collectors.

To put it briefly, this is a work doing great credit to the Swedish Society, which had the conscience to undertake the bringing out of this standard work.

LOUIS ZETTEISTEN,

Member of the Philatelic Society of Sweden.

THE STRAND POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

Well arranged, reliable, and thoroughly correct. Seventh edition. 100 Postage Stamps, all genuine and different, and of a catalogue value of over 8s., are presented with each Strand Album. The book, which is printed on an unusually good quality paper, is bound in a new and specially designed cover. The size is a new and convenient one, viz. 9½ inches by 7¼ inches. Sufficient guards have been inserted so that when the Album is full the covers shall be level with each other, and not bulged, as is often the case in imperfectly constructed books. 300 pages, post-free, 2s. 11d.; abroad, 3s. 4d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 39, Strand, London, W.C.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION LONDON, 1906

THE Executive Committee have much pleasure in intimating that Mr. P. Mahé and Mr. J. N. Luff have consented to act as Judges at the Exhibition as representing respectively the Collectors in France and the United States of America, so that the full list of the Judges will now be: Messrs. Bacon, Beckton, Castle, Dr. Diena, Major Evans, Dr. Kloss, Mr. J. N. Luff, Mr. P. Mahé, Lieut. Napier, R.N., and Baron A. de Reuterskiöld.

The preliminary arrangements for the Dealers' Stalls at the Exhibition have now been completed. They will be fifteen in number, ten of them situate in the Annexe leading out of the Main Hall, and the remaining five on the first floor, where numerous interesting exhibits will be placed, and where the Lecture and Committee rooms are situate.

The Committee have decided to offer these Stalls by private auction at upset prices varying from £15 to £65 each. Bids will only be received from firms of Stamp Dealers and Publishers and others concerned with Philately, to whom a copy of the Catalogue

has been supplied by the Committee. Intending bidders who may be unable to be present at the auction by themselves or by their representatives, may communicate their instructions to either of the Hon. Secretaries, and the same will be treated as in strict confidence. Such instructions can of course be to bid up to a certain amount for any particular Stall, and if that is not obtained, for some one or more alternatively of those remaining.

The Committee will in each case arrange for the name of the occupier of the Stall to be prominently displayed, and will also provide a Counter with glass case and lifting flap, shelves at the rear of the Stall, and two chairs.

The Auction will take place towards the end of February, and descriptive Catalogues, containing plans showing the position and dimensions of each Stall, will be ready before Christmas, and can be obtained on application to either of the Hon. Secretaries, 13 Walbrook, E.C.

H. R. OLDFIELD, *Hon. Secretary.*

L. L. R. HAUSBURG, *Asst. Hon. Secretary.*

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Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.

Subscription: 5s. annually.

THE December, 1905, meeting of the above Society was duly held on the 19th, but the Christmas holidays had an appreciable effect on the attendance. Mr. H. L. Hayman, Vice-President, occupied the chair, and amongst those supporting him were Messrs. J. C. Sidebotham, W. T. Standen, W. A. Boyes, W. G. Cool, A. H. L. Giles, T. H. Harvey, J. B. Neyroud, A. W. McLean, D. Thomson, F. Read, C. H. Garnett, M. Weinberg, R. B. Yardley, W. Simpson, M. Z. Kuttner, A. Bagshawe, H. Wills, and H. A. Slade, Secretary.

There was no business of general interest beyond the election of Rev. H. A. Rawlinson, of Alton, Hants, and Mr. Guido Becucci, of Harpur Street, W.C., as members. A letter was read from Sir William Avery, Bart., thanking the Society for their congratulations.

Mr. H. L. Hayman had intended showing his, perhaps, unique collection of Liberian stamps, but a combination of circumstances had prevented him from mounting all the issues, and rather than show

only a portion of the collection, which is always unsatisfactory, he decided to postpone the display until later. Mr. J. C. Sidebotham, the Hon. Librarian, filled the breach, and handed round two volumes of his general collection for the inspection of the members. After some months of highly specialized collections a general collection made a welcome change, and the stamps were greatly admired, the used copies being almost without exception picked copies, though an occasional poor copy spoilt a page. It would be invidious to pick out any country for special mention, but Ceylon and Cyprus were very strong. At the conclusion Mr. Simpson proposed a vote of thanks and Mr. Cool seconded. Mr. Hayman, in the course of some humorous remarks about the survival of a general collector, put the vote to the meeting, and it was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Sidebotham suitably responded. His books show that the general collection has not yet joined the ranks of the "Camberwell Beauty" or Great Auk's Egg, crushed out of existence by the specialist. For this much thanks.

Exchange and discussion followed, and the meeting broke up soon after 9 p.m. amidst a general interchange of the season's greetings.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.
 Secretary: H. F. Johnson, 4 Portland Place North, Clapham
 Meetings: Exeter Hall, Strand, W.C. (Road, S.W.)
 Annual Subscription: 1s. 6d.

THE Christmas holidays were responsible for a slight diminution in the attendance at the Junior Philatelic Society's meeting in Exeter Hall, on Saturday, 16 December, 1905.

Exchange took place from 6 to 8, and then the ordinary business of the meeting was commenced. The Secretary read the minutes, which were duly passed. The President announced that gifts had been received for the permanent collection of stamps from Messrs. Langner, E. J. Rondel, C. D. Botwright, G. H. Holland, Mr. Beaumont, and Captain Dingwall; also a parcel of miscellaneous literature from Miss Cassels for the library.

New members elected were Messrs. R. W. Allwright, Guido Becucci, and Percival Harvey.

Following upon these announcements, Mr. R. Halliday, addressing the Chair, said that since the last meeting he had had an opportunity of studying the Society's new book on *The Postage Stamps of the United States of America*. He thought the publication of it was a great credit to the Society, and he hoped that the members would not neglect to support this very important part of the Society's work this season.

Mr. James Feeny also congratulated the Society on the excellence of its latest publication.

Mr. Melville then gave a short address on Hayti as a country for beginners, illustrating it with a choice display.

Mr. Halliday proposed, and Mr. A. H. L. Giles

seconded a vote of thanks, which was put to the meeting by Mr. Feeny, and carried with acclamation.

The next item on the programme was a humorous paper by Mr. W. E. Imeson, entitled "On Nothing in Particular—Especially Stamps." This, in the absence of Mr. Imeson, was read in a most enjoyable manner by the President.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Imeson. After the Chairman had announced the particulars of the next meeting, he conveyed the season's greetings to all the members of the Society on behalf of the officials, and the meeting terminated at 9.30.

H. F. JOHNSON, *Honorary Secretary*.

4 PORTLAND PLACE NORTH, CLAPHAM ROAD, S.W.

North of England Philatelic Society

President: G. B. Bainbridge, J.P.
 Hon. Sec.: Mark Easton, 43 Sidney Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
 Meetings: Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE usual monthly meeting was held in the Y.M.C.A., Newcastle, on Thursday, 7 December, the President, Mr. Geo. B. Bainbridge, J.P., in the chair.

After the transaction of formal business and the election of two new members (Messrs. E. M. Gallwey and Denton Hepworth), Mr. Bainbridge showed his splendid collection of triangular Capes, Canada, Mauritius, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Lagos, Northern and Southern Nigeria, and Oil Rivers, many sets being complete in both mint and used condition. As some of the other members had their collections for comparison, a most instructive and interesting evening was spent.

December packet started on the first of the month, with thirty-one sheets. Value, £269. 16s. 4d.

CORRESPONDENCE**Hong Kong Cancellations**

DEAR SIR,—In my article on the "Cancellations on Hong Kong Postage Stamps," which recently appeared in the *Weekly*, there will be found on page 355 this statement:—

"We have already questioned the establishment of an agency at Chefoo, for there is not now a Hong Kong agency there, and I have so far been unable to discover that there ever was one."

As a refutation of this statement I am glad to say that I have just come across a cover from the city in question, bearing a Hong Kong stamp cancelled with a postmark similar in appearance to the one now in use, inscribed VICTORIA—HONG-KONG (Type IX). We may therefore add to our list:—

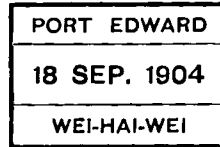
Type IXb, lettered CHEFOO—BRITISH P.O.

The date is NO 10 O3, and the letter (in place of the time on the Victoria postmark) is c.

I must say that this is the first time, in looking over thousands of Hong Kong stamps for postmarks, that I have ever come

across one from Chefoo; and it was this fact, coupled with the knowledge that the *U.S. Postal Guide*, which mentions all the other Hong Kong agencies, does not name Chefoo, that caused the quoted sentence to be written. Cannot some one now supply further details?

I am also glad to say that I have seen a letter from Wei-Hai-Wei, bearing a Hong Kong stamp cancelled with the postmark



illustrated. It is in violet ink, and is evidently a rubber handstamp and desk-pad arrangement.

I also find that, at least up to 1879, Hong Kong was supposed to have had agencies in Hai-Fung (Haiphong) and Hanoi, Tongking. Has any one ever seen anything from these ports (now French)?

Very truly yours,

C. A. HOWES, s.B.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

The Editor regrets that he has no time for direct correspondence. All letters requiring a reply will be dealt with under the head of "Answers to Correspondents."

Cape Triangulars.—One of the most frequently recurring questions, even from beginners, is how to distinguish between Perkins Bacon & Co. and De La Rue printings of the triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope. We therefore avail ourselves of the following detailed reply to a correspondent by our confrère, the Editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India*:—

"As far as we know the only points of difference are the shades; the Perkins Bacon prints of the 1d. are paler, i.e. brick-red and rose-red, the De La Rue prints being carmine and brown-red. The 4d. Perkins Bacon prints are softer and paler and more delicate shades than the dark blue and slate-blue De La Rue prints.

"The 6d. and 1s. are easily distinguishable, as their colours are very different; the 6d. De La Rue print is bright mauve in place of lilac (with slate or grey tints), and the 1s. is emerald in place of dark green or yellow-green.

"The blue-paper specimens are always Perkins Bacon prints, but this blue paper is doubtless of the same nature as that employed for the 1d. English, and owes its colour to chemical action between the ingredients of the paper and pigment. This paper was not used after 1858, so could not occur on 1863 De La Rue prints.

"The only stamp which it is difficult to determine is the darker shade of the brick-red 1d. value, as this is very like the paler shades of the brown-red De La Rue print. The De La Rue prints have as a rule a flatter appearance, and the figure of Hope looks larger, but is of course not really so—the flatness gives this effect.

"The 1d. with watermark Crown and CC is of course a De La Rue print, but it is believed to be only a proof. An article on the issues of the Cape of Good Hope will probably appear in the *P. J. of I.* when the

Victorian article is finished, and further information will be obtained if possible on this subject.—ED. *P. J. of I.*"

Chas. Roberts (31 Lichfield Street, Walsall) intimates that he has a vol. of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* which he is willing to exchange for Gibbons Catalogue, Parts I and II.

L. J. L. (London).—Your stamp is not a postage stamp, but a fiscal. We cannot give the value of fiscals.

W. C. T. (Muswell Hill).—We cannot yet say when the next editions of Gibbons Catalogue will be published, probably not for some months. The work of preparing the Beginner's Catalogue is not yet sufficiently advanced for any announcement of date of publication or price. Mr. Melville's work on the stamps of U.S.A. may be had from the Hon. Secretary of the Junior Philatelic Society, Mr. H. F. Johnson, 4 Portland Place North, Clapham, London, S.W., and the price is 1s. 6d.

Sandwich.—Some of the stamps of the Sandwich Islands are very scarce indeed, and some are very common, but we cannot say anything about their probable increase of value. They are much more popular in America than here.

M. D. M. (Folkestone).—No, "the great philatelists," presuming you mean specialists, do not trouble to count their stamps. We never met a great specialist who could say how many stamps were in his collection. No, Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., have not prepared an album for Fiscal stamps, but one is published by Mr. Walter Morley, Catford, London. Yes, a new edition of Gibbons Catalogue is published every year, but purchasers are supplied free with supplements bringing issues up to date, and these if you wish may save you buying a new edition every year.

OUR PHILATELIC DIARY

JANUARY, 1906

We shall be glad if Secretaries of Philatelic Societies will send us their Programmes for the new year. Several Societies are omitted from this Diary for lack of Programmes.

6. Junior Philatelic Society: Two diplomas will be awarded, one for the best exhibit of *philatelic literature* or *library accessories*, and one for the best short paper (not to exceed ten minutes in reading), to be read by a member to the meeting. A further diploma will be awarded to the publisher exhibiting the best handbook, special or general, calculated to be of advantage to junior philatelists. The special programme will include: Auction of Philatelic Literature. Paper—"Early Stamp Catalogues"; R. Halliday.
- 9 & 10. Auction: Puttick & Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London. 4.30 p.m.
11. Bristol Philatelic Society: General Meeting.
- 12 & 12. Auction: Ventom, Bull, & Cooper, Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London. 5 p.m.
- 16 & 17. Auction: Glendining & Co., 7 Argyll Street, London. 4.30 p.m.
17. Enterprise Philatelic Society (London): Display with Notes—Antigua, Bahamas, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Dominica; E. Heginbottom, B.A. Paper—"Recollections," accompanied by Display; H. W. Westcott. General Sale and Exchange.
19. Philatelic Society of London: H. R. Oldfield, a Paper on the Stamps of Servia, with Display.
20. Junior Philatelic Society: Bourse. Paper—"Gibraltar and the Morocco Agencies"; H. W. Westcott. Display—Gibraltar, C. F. H. Gibson, Hon. Secretary of the Manchester Philatelic Society. Display—African Colonies IV, St. Helena and Sierra Leone. Debate—Used & Unused. Openers, C. J. Patman (used); James Feeney (unused).
- 23 & 24. Auction: Puttick & Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London. 4.30 p.m.
- 25 & 26. Auction: Ventom, Bull, & Cooper, Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London. 5 p.m.
- 30 & 31. Great Sale by Auction of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., immense stock of post cards and envelopes, by Glendining & Co., at 7 Argyll Street, London. 4.30 p.m.

Editorial Address—EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Camanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 2
Whole No. 54

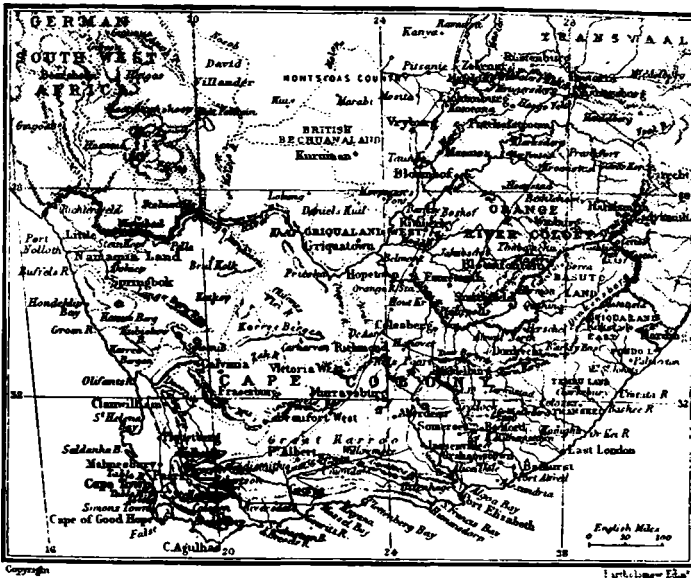
13 JANUARY, 1906

VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Bechuanaland



BECHUANALAND previous to 1895 included British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate. These vast territories stretched from the then northern boundary of Cape Colony up to the Zambesi River. British Bechuanaland—that is, the southern portion of Bechuanaland—was administered as a Crown Colony, but in 1895 it was annexed to Cape Colony, and the northern portion known as Bechuanaland Protectorate was in the same year handed over by the Colonial Office to the British South Africa

Company, within the sphere of whose operations it had by the charter of 1890 been included. But because of the Company's complicity in the Jameson Raid into the Transvaal from Mafeking the transfer was recalled and cancelled, and the Protectorate was once more placed under the direct control of the High Commissioner for South Africa, who represents the British Crown in its administration. It is administered by magistrates who have a force of police at their command, and by native chiefs, the

most powerful and famous being the popular Christian chief Khama.

Professor Bryce, who in 1895 travelled across South Africa from Cape Town to Fort Salisbury, passing through Bechuanaland and Matabeleland, thus describes the territory known to us stamp collectors as the Bechuanaland Protectorate:—

Bechuanaland, including the Kalahari Desert, is of vast extent but slender value. It is a level land, lying entirely on the plateau between 3000 and 4000 feet above the sea, and while some of its streamlets drain into the Limpopo, and so to the Indian Ocean, others flow westward and northward into marshes and shallow lakes, in which they disappear. One or two, however, succeed in wet seasons in getting as far as the Orange River, and find through it an outlet to the sea. It is only in the wet season that the streamlets flow, for Bechuanaland is intensely dry. I travelled four hundred miles through it without once crossing running water, though here and there in traversing the dry bed of a brook one was told that there was water underneath, deep in the sand. Notwithstanding this superficial aridity, eastern Bechuanaland is deemed one of the best ranching tracts in South Africa, for the grass is sweet, and the water can usually be obtained by digging, though it is often brackish. There is also plenty of wood—thin and thorny, but sufficiently abundant to diversify the aspect of what would otherwise be a most dreary and monotonous region.

The Protectorate, which has an area of about 386,000 square miles and a population of 100,000, extends from the Molopo River in the south northwards to the Zambesi, and is bounded on the east by the Transvaal and Matabeleland, and on the west by German South-West Africa. The natives are peaceful cattle breeders and farmers, and are very loyal to the British Crown.

Its Philatelic History

In our Gibbons, British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate are now very properly placed under the general heading of Bechuanaland, in two divisions. These two divisions were, and still are, a source of perplexity to those stamp collectors who do not trouble to study the history and progress of the countries whose stamps they collect. In a meeting of a well-known philatelic society, I have heard the question asked why there should be separate stamps for Bechuanaland, and have been amused at the wholesale inability to explain the why and wherefore. The explanation was, of course, a simple one. British Bechuanaland was a Crown Colony administered from

London, and the Protectorate was native territory administered locally by the High Commissioner for South Africa, hence the separate issues of stamps. In 1895 British Bechuanaland was handed over to Cape Colony by the Colonial Office, and in 1897 its separate issue of stamps was superseded by the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope.

At first sight the issues are somewhat perplexing, for in both cases Cape stamps have been used for overprinting, but the overprint BRITISH BECHUANALAND clearly distinguishes all the Crown Colony issues, and the Protectorate issues are in every case overprinted with the words BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE. There need, therefore, be no trouble whatever in separating the issues of the two divisions of Bechuanaland.

The stamps of the Crown Colony and the Protectorate are said to have been used indiscriminately throughout the whole of the territories comprised in the term "Bechuanaland." Nevertheless, for all philatelic purposes they are distinct colonies. The local misuse of the postal issues is no excuse for such a philatelic muddle as the issues present in *Africa*, Vol. I, published by the Philatelic Society of London.

British Bechuanaland

1886. The first stamps issued were provided by overprinting a supply of the then current stamps of the Cape of Good Hope with the words "British Bechuanaland" in two lines, in small type, as illustrated. The first stamp overprinted was the 4d., blue, watermarked Crown CC; then followed the ½d. and 3d. on Cape stamps watermarked Crown CA, and after these makeshifts a series of five values, ½d., 1d., 2d., 6d., and 1s., on Cape stamps, watermarked with an anchor. The ½d., black, was overprinted in red ink, all the others were overprinted in black.



Cape of Good Hope stamps overprinted "British Bechuanaland."

	Wmk. Crown CC. Perf.		Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
4d., blue	5	0	5	0	6	0

	Wmk. Crown C.C.	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
			s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., black	2	6	5	0
¾d., claret	2	0	3	0
Wmk. Anchor.			Perf.			
½d., black	1	0	4	0
1d., carmine	4	0	3	0
2d., ochre	2	6	4	0
6d., violet	10	0	8	6
1s., green	35	0	35	0

1887. A long series of thirteen values. The ½d. value was provided by overprinting the then current Great Britain Queen's Head ½d., vermilion, with the words BRITISH BECHUANALAND in small sans-serif capitals, BRITISH at the top of the stamp and BECHUANALAND at the foot. All the other values were supplied from printings of what were known as the "unappropriated dies," i.e. dies of designs with the Queen's Head and values, but with blank labels, in which were printed, in this case, the name of the colony and the words POSTAGE AND REVENUE. The 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. were all of the size and type of the 1d. illustrated. The 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. values were of the type of the 1s., and the £1 and £5 values were of the larger size illustrated.

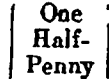


	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., vermilion	0	2	0	3
1d., lilac	0	6	0	4
2d., "	1	6	0	4
3d., "	0	5	1	0
4d., "	6	0	2	0
6d., "	10	0	1	0
1s., green	1	6	1	6
2s., "	2	9	2	9
2s. 6d., "	3	6	4	0
5s., "	7	6	6	0
10s., "	14	0	—	—
£1, lilac	40	0	—	—
£5 "	—	—	100	0

1888. For some reason, presumably to indicate the value more clearly, the 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. stamps were additionally surcharged with the numeral of value. The 1d., 6d., and 1s. were thus surcharged in black, the 2d. and 4d. in red. The 2d. is also chronicled with a green surcharge, but copies are rarely met with.

With numeral of value added.					
Black surcharge.					
		Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
1d., lilac . . . . .	.	0	4	2	6
6d., " . . . . .	.	8	6	5	0
1s., green . . . . .	.	15	0	3	0
Red surcharge.					
2d., lilac . . . . .	.	2	6	2	0
4d., " . . . . .	.	40	0	—	—
Green surcharge.					
2d., lilac . . . . .	.	—	—	£10	—

1888. To make up for a shortage of ½d. stamps, 700 of the threepence of the unappropriated die issue of 1887 were surcharged "One Half-Penny" in three lines, with a bar on each side obliterating the original value. This stamp, of course, because of the small number issued, is very scarce.



Surcharged in black.					
		Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. on 3d. . . . .	.	40	0	40	0

1889. To further make up for a deficiency of ½d. stamps, a number of the current Cape of Good Hope, ½d., black, watermarked Anchor, were overprinted with the words "British Bechuanaland" in similar type to the first issue, but with "British" at the top and "Bechuanaland" at the foot of the stamp.

British

Bechuanaland

Overprinted on Cape of Good Hope.

	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., black	0	6	2	6

1891. Two values, 1d. and 2d. Cape of Good Hope current stamps, overprinted

vertically with the words "British Bechuanaland," in two lines, reading upwards.

British
Bechuanaland.

*Overprinted on Cape of Good Hope.
Wmk. Anchor. Perf.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d., carmine	0 9	0 9
2d., bistre-brown	0 8	0 5

1891-4. Five values. Current Queen's Head stamps of Great Britain overprinted with bolder type, as illustrated, BRITISH BECHUANALAND in two lines, horizontally, in black ink.

**BRITISH
BECHUANALAND**

*Overprinted on current stamps of Great Britain.
Wmk. Imperial Crown. Perf.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d., lilac	0 3	0 2
2d., green and red	0 6	0 3
4d., brown and green	0 6	0 6
6d., purple on red	1 0	1 3
1s., green	1 4	1 6

1893-5. The same vertical overprint on current Cape of Good Hope stamps as in the issue of 1891, but reading downwards instead of upwards.

*Overprinted on Cape of Good Hope.
Wmk. Anchor. Perf.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d., carmine	0 6	0 6
2d., brown	0 6	0 9

1897. Current Cape of Good Hope ½d., green, overprinted BRITISH BECHUANALAND as illustrated.

BRITISH

BECHUANALAND

*Overprinted on Cape of Good Hope.
Wmk. Anchor. Perf.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., green	0 4	1 0

This completes the history of the postal issues of the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland. That colony is now merged in the older colony of the Cape of Good Hope, and its philatelic history is as complete and as distinct as that of the once separate colonies of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.

Bechuanaland Protectorate

The northern portion of Bechuanaland, known as the "Bechuanaland Protectorate," is still a stamp-issuing state. As already shown, it is administered as a British Protectorate by the High Commissioner of South Africa, who acts in the matter as the representative of the Imperial Government.

1888. The first stamp issued was the ½d., vermilion, of British Bechuanaland of the 1887 issue, overprinted in addition with the word "Protectorate."

*British Bechuanaland stamp overprinted
"Protectorate."*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., vermilion	0 3	1 0

Then followed, in the same year, the 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., and 6d. of the same issue of the unappropriated die design, with addition of the word "Protectorate" with numeral of value underneath, all in black; also a 4d. with the numeral of value in red, and also 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. of the same 1887 British Bechuanaland issue of the unappropriated die design, with the word "Protectorate" only added.

*British Bechuanaland 1887 issue overprinted
"Protectorate."*

Black surcharge.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d., lilac	1 0	3 0
2d., "	6 6	6 6
3d., "	25 0	—
4d., "	40 0	50 0
6d., "	5 0	5 0

With value in red.

4d., lilac	15 0	20 0
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Overprint "Protectorate" only.

1s., green	10 0	7 6
2s., "	—	£6
2s. 6d., "	—	£8
5s., "	—	£10
10s., "	—	£12

1889. Two values. The current Cape of Good Hope ½d. value overprinted in green "Bechuanaland Protectorate," as illustrated, and the ½d., vermilion, of the first issue overprinted "Fourpence," as illustrated.

Bechuanaland

**BRITISH
Protectorate**

Protectorate

**Fourpence
BECHUANALAND**

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., black	0 4	—
4d. on ½d., vermilion	1 0	—

1897-1901. The current Queen's Head stamps of Great Britain overprinted BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE in black, as illustrated.

**BECHUANALAND
PROTECTORATE**

Stamps of Great Britain overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate."

	Wmk.	Imperial Crown.	Perf.		Used.	
			Unused.	Used.	s.	d.
½d., vermilion	.	.	0	1	—	—
½d., blue-green	.	.	0	1	—	—
1d., lilac	.	.	0	3	0	3
2d., green and red	.	.	0	3	0	3
3d., brown on yellow	.	.	0	5	—	—
4d., green and brown	.	.	0	6	0	6
6d., purple on red	.	.	0	8	—	—

(To be continued.)

1904. Two values of the current King's Head stamps of Great Britain overprinted vertically BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE, the word BECHUANALAND reading upwards on the left and PROTECTORATE reading downwards on the right.

**BECHUANALAND
PROTECTORATE**

Great Britain King's Heads overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate."

	Wmk.	Imperial Crown.	Perf.		Used.	
			Unused.	Used.	s.	d.
1d., scarlet	.	.	—	—	—	—
2½d., ultramarine.	.	.	0	4	—	—

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

CHAPTER II (continued)

Plymouth, 1856 to 1874 (continued)

IN 1863 Mr. Gibbons had one of the best transactions of his life, and the following are exact particulars I have got from him.

One morning two sailors passing by the chemist's shop noticed the sheets of stamps in one of the windows, and went inside and said, "Do you buy used postage stamps?" On Mr. Gibbons replying in the affirmative they said they had some on their ship and would bring them in.

Sure enough, next day the men turned up, and one of them carried a kit-bag full of stamps over his shoulder.

They were asked into the back parlour and turned out the bag on a large round table.

The stamps were all *triangular Capes*, thousands and thousands of them, many in large strips and blocks of eight or more, Perkins Bacon & Co.'s printings and wood-blocks mixed up anyhow.

Mr. Gibbons, even in those early days, could not imagine how two sailors could

have got a sackful of *triangular Capes*, and asked them for particulars.

One of the men said:—

"When our boat got to Cape Town we had leave, and some of us went on shore for a spree, and me and my mate here happened to go in a show we found folks crowding into and found a bazaar going on. Some ladies persuaded us to take a shilling ticket in a raffle, and we won this here bag of stamps which the ladies had begged all round Cape Town for this bazaar."

Well, the men were delighted to take a five-pound note for the lot, and departed highly pleased.

Mr. Gibbons cannot say what he made out of this haul, but he thinks fully £500, and perhaps more; and if we think of the prices at which he sold these stamps we can only wonder what that bag would be worth now! A large fortune, beyond a doubt.

I have before me at the moment of writing the letter copybook from March, 1864, and I think it is of great interest to

quote extracts from some of the letters of that period, showing at what low rates the stamps were sold.

LETTER TO MR. ALEX. ROSENBERG.
16 March, 1864.

[The letter starts about some exchange, and goes on to say]

"If you will send me a good lot, I can supply you in *any quantity* 1d., 4d., and 6d. Cape of Good Hope, 10d. a doz.; genuine old woodblocks, Cape of Good Hope, 3s. doz."

M. BROWN. 24 March, 1864.

"I have much pleasure in acceding to your wishes by enclosing the 3 doz. Blocks, at 10s. doz., for which Post Office order 30s., per return, will oblige."

J. PAUWELS. 24 March, 1864.

"If I send you any more *1d. blue* and *4d. red* woodblocks they will be 4s. each, as I am offered that by several dealers. I enclose $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. 1s. Capes, at 1s. 6d. per dozen."

STAFFORD SMITH & SMITH.
24 March, 1864.

"In reply to yours of the 19th in reference to Cape stamps, I have a few left, viz. 1d., 4d., and 6d. Capes, at 8s. gross, and Blocks at 10s. dozen. These prices are nett cash."

HAMILTON, ROSS, & Co., Cape Town.
6 April, 1864.

[Letter ordering some stamps, and saying at the end]

"Please not to send me 1d. triangular, unused, as they are no good to me."

In the same letter Mr. Gibbons offers to pay 1s. per dozen for used *square* 1d., 4d., 6d., and 1s., which were then just issued, but offers only 3d. per dozen for mixed 1d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. triangular.

On 23 June, 1864, the price of the Cape *Errors* had gone up, as there is a letter to Mr. E. H. C. Harley offering him a 1d., blue, at 15s.

First Removal

About 1870 Mr. Gibbons removed from Treville Street to Lockyer Street, near the Hoe, Plymouth, and during his residence there had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of Lieut. E. B. Evans, R.A., who at that time was stationed at Bovisand, one of the forts commanding the entrance to Plymouth Sound.

During his residence in Lockyer Street Mr. Gibbons brought out the *F.R. Album*, which was the pioneer of the *Imperial Album*, and the following year he placed the first edition of the *Improved Album* upon the market.

The *Imperial*—Mr. Gibbons informs me—was the first album to have entirely detached squares for the reception of stamps, an arrangement which added much to their appearance and to the popularity of this album.

The publication of these works, when in their first editions, created considerable opposition from other philatelic publishers, resulting in legal actions in the Chancery Court, in all of which a satisfactory settlement was arrived at.

Eventually Mr. Gibbons decided that Plymouth was too far west for the successful carrying on of the business, and in 1874 he decided to move to the Metropolis.

CHAPTER III

London, 1874 to 1890

WHEN Mr. Gibbons first came to London in 1874 he settled in a road leading from Clapham Common, and there the business was carried on in a private house for about two years.

I am told that Mr. Gibbons had to leave because he could not convince his landlord that he was not conducting a girls' school: the lady clerks coming and going at about regular school hours, were looked upon as schoolgirls, and no schools were desired in that exclusive street.

The business continuing on the up grade, Mr. Gibbons thought it would be more convenient to live in town, and in 1876 moved to 8 Gower Street, London, W.C., where he remained for fourteen years, and it was in that house that he made his greatest successes, confining himself entirely to a correspondence business, and, as he states, he offended many by declining personal interviews; to this, however, he made a few exceptions, amongst whom I may mention the late Mr. Gilbert Lockyer and my friend Mr. M. P. Castle, both of whom have told me of the good times they had hunting through mixed parcels of old stamps, and picking out scarce minor varieties, which Mr. Gibbons used to let them have for a trifle as long as they did not want to take up any of his valuable time.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Gibbons had his

hands more than full; he used personally to edit all his albums and catalogues, and in the busy seasons received from two to three hundred letters a day, all of which, with a very few exceptions, were answered the same day as received.

During these years Mr. Gibbons had several offers from philatelists who were desirous of entering the business and were willing to introduce large sums into the concern, but these he always declined, as he preferred to work alone and unfettered.

Mr. Gibbons has been frequently asked from what sources he obtained stamps in his early days, and has kindly looked up a few examples for which he can vouch.

From a M. Georges Nunes he obtained many valuable supplies of old South Americans: one lot in particular consisted of *many* thousands of the small italic figures. Brazil included some *hundred* of the 180, 300, and 600 reis!!

From a student in Stonyhurst College Mr. Gibbons had literally scores of thousands of the Bolivia eagle series, especially of the 10 c., brown, of which he estimates he had at least *five thousand*.

Another remarkable lot was from Georgetown, British Guiana, and consisted of some three to four hundred circular (1850 issue); the bulk of these were the 12 c., blue, but there were amongst them some scores of 4 c., orange, and a smaller number of 8 c., green, but no copy at all of the rare 2 c., rose.

Mr. Gibbons obtained many of his earliest supplies of stamps from Continental sources; amongst these, he bought most largely from Messrs. Zochiesche and Koder, of Leipzig; from *Der Literarisches Museum*, of Dresden. From Signor Caldalli Curadassi he had fine selections of the old Italian States at nearly nominal prices.

Mr. Gibbons' brother, who was a commander in the Royal Navy (and I am glad to say is still alive, well and hearty, and aged 76), was of great use in securing useful stock, and bought many large parcels for the Plymouth firm, on his trips all over the world. One good lot he bought up was the balance of the stock of *The Fiji Times Express*—the *originals*, not the imitations which were made some years later.

(To be continued.)

About 1862 or 1863, Mr. Gibbons commenced importing unused stamps direct from the various countries, among the earliest being Newfoundland, Bermuda, West Australia, British Columbia, and Ceylon.

Some of his earliest experiences with colonial postmasters were very funny. For instance, a West Indian Post Office returned his money order with the remark that the stamp ordered did not exist, whereas the letter was actually prepaid with the very stamp in question.

The Postmaster at Albany, West Australia, in a letter enclosing £20 worth of unused values, remarked that he had taken the liberty of sending half a sheet (120 stamps) of 2d. printed in the colour of the 6d., and apologized for charging the last-named price, as he had been charged that by the authorities. This 2d. proved to be the rare 2d. mauve (1879), and they were sent out at 5s. each, and gradually raised to 40s., at which price they were practically cleared out. Nowadays a good unused mint copy fetches about £24, and is not easily to be obtained at that rate.

Such things as Turks Islands provisionals of $\frac{1}{2}$, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, and 4d., Nevis 4d. and 6d., lithographed, etc. etc., were imported in hundreds, and sold at double face value.

* * * *

Among the noteworthy collections purchased between 1874 and 1890 Mr. Gibbons quotes that of Mr. B. P. Rodd. A superb collection was that of Mr. J. D. Beveridge, of Glasgow, especially rich in Confederate Locals. Mr. M. P. Castle's was a grand general collection in between twenty and thirty volumes.

Mr. C. T. Reid's collection was noteworthy, as it consisted solely of *errors*, including most of the rarities, such as U.S. 1869 15, 24, and 30, inverted centres.

The collection of Major Evans was a remarkably fine one, wonderfully strong in "native" Mauritius, including a number of reconstructed plates.

Another great purchase was that of the magnificent Australian collection of Mr. Van Dyck, including probably the most superb accumulation of "Sydneys" and "Laureated" that has ever been seen.

STANLEY GIBBONS PRICED CATALOGUE OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD
Vol. I. Great Britain and Colonies; post-free, 2s. 9d. Vol. II. The Rest of the World; post-free, 2s. 9d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

THE STAMP MARKET

By AN ODD LOT

Gold Medal Transvaal Collection

SOME time ago I intimated that Glendinings had received for sale the celebrated collection of Transvaal stamps formed by Mr.



Alberto Philippe. This collection was awarded the Gold Medal at the recent German Exhibition. It was to be sold by auction, unless some wealthy collector came forward and purchased the collection as it stood. The said

wealthy collector has not come forward, consequently it is to be sold by Glendining and Co. on the 30th of this month. Needless to say, it is a grand collection, and includes some of the gems of the Nankivell Collection.

Some Great Transvaals

Amongst the many great rarities which are included in the collection are a superb block of four of the 6d. of the so-called blotchy printing of Viljoen, with the *tête-bêche* variety, from the Nankivell Collection. This, I am told, Mr. Nankivell bought from a well-known German dealer many years ago for £3. I should not be surprised if it fetched nearer £30 at the sale, for it is the only unused block known. Another grand *tête-bêche* block is the 6d., blue, on pelure paper, also from the Nankivell Collection; and yet another *tête-bêche* rarity is a used pair of the 6d. of 1876, on stout, hard paper. Other gems are the "Transvaal" error, imperf.; the 6d., blue on blue, surcharge omitted, imperf. and rouletted copies; a magnificent block of four of the 1s. of 1877, V. R. TRANSVAAL, with surcharge inverted, very lightly cancelled and unique.

Field Day for Transvaal Specialists

Truly it will be a field day for Transvaal specialists, and those who attend the auction on the 30th will no doubt meet a few of these Great Moguls, who now include the Earl of Crawford, Mr. Duveen, and Mr. Yardley. Prices can scarcely fail to make many records, for nothing approaching this grand collection in the matter of Transvaals has been offered at auction since the sale of the Pearce Collection in 1898.

Great Britain Rarities

Two rarities of Great Britain were sold by Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper on 21 December, 1905. The 1882, wmk. Anchor, £1, brown-lilac, on blued paper, unused, fetched £25; and the 1854-7 2d., blue, wmk. Small Crown, perf. 14, catalogued at £15, brought £9.

Pictorial New Zealands

SOME of the varieties of these stamps are fetching long prices, and there is a keen though quiet competition for many of the scarcer varieties. Just now they are being written up in an excellent series of articles in the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* by Mr. W. B. Edwards, a shrewd specialist in recent New Zealands.

Australian Watermarks

UNLESS I am very much mistaken, it will probably well repay collectors to keep a close watch on Australian stamps with the new watermark of Crown A. Already there are two distinct varieties, one on which the Victoria and Tasmanian stamps have been printed, and the other on which recent New South Wales have been issued, and there are indications that both these will have to give way for a third variety in compliance with the wish of King Edward VII.

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SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR G. S. W. READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "G. S. W." readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they despatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

ED. "G. S. W."

OUR TENTH SPECIAL OFFER

Our Mr. Phillips has recently returned from Paris, and during his visit looked through the stocks held there, and can confidently say that old used French stamps were much scarcer than generally supposed, judging from quotations in the catalogues.

We can suggest as well worth attention the undernoted two stamps, which are somewhat difficult to obtain in fine used condition, and which will be considered cheap bargains at our special price.

FRANCE. 1849.



1 franc, carmine-brown, used.

Catalogue price 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.

Special Bargain price 6s. each.



1862-70. 5 francs, grey-lilac, used.

Catalogue price 5s. and 7s. 6d. each.

Special Bargain price 4s. each.

The two stamps 9s. 6d., post-free.

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NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Danish West Indies.—Three high values have been added to the new series, the low values of which were chronicled in Vol. II, p. 264. These high values are of a separate design and larger size, as illustrated, and are bicoloured.



Perf.

- 1 fr., blue-green, centre steel-blue.
 2 fr., orange-red „ brown.
 5 fr., gold „ brown.

Grenada.—*Der Philatelist* chronicles and illustrates the long-talked-of new series of ship design. The central portion of the stamp shows the vessel of Columbus in sight of land, with the name of the colony at the top and the value at the foot, POSTAGE on the left side and REVENUE on the right side.

Ship type. Perf.

- ½d., green.
 1d., carmine.
 2d., yellow.
 2½d., blue.

Morocco Agencies.—Our publishers have sent us the 1 and 2 pesetas on multiple CA paper. These have followed very quickly after the single CA.



Morocco
 Agencies

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf.

- 5 c., green.
 10 c., carmine.
 1 p., black, value in carmine.
 2 p., black „ blue.

Philippines.—We quote the following from the *Metropolitan Philatelist* (New York):—

It has been decided that the Philippine stamps of the new series of the denominations of 4 and 10 pesos, equal in value to our \$2.00 and \$5.00 denominations, are unnecessary, and these stamps will not be issued. Mr. H. M. Forbes, the representative of the postal department of the Philippines, arrived in Washington this week, and brings this intelligence with him. After going over the matter in Manila the conclusion was reached that the demand for the 4 and 10 peso stamps would not warrant their issue. The 2 peso stamp will be the highest value. Mr. Forbes says he will recommend that the engravers at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing make some further minor alterations in the designs, and then work may be begun on the plates, and the stamps issued as speedily as practicable. Inasmuch as Mr. Forbes has not had a conference with the Director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing relative to these changes, it is impossible at this time to say what the changes will be. It is understood, however, that the stamps will appear practically as they have previously been described.

Sierra Leone.—The £1 has been added to the set on multiple CA paper, thus completing the series.



Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf.

- ½d., purple and green.
 1d. „ rosine.
 1½d. „ black.
 2d. „ ultramarine.
 3d. „ grey.
 4d. „ rosine.
 5d. „ black.
 6d. „ purple.
 1s., green and black.
 2s. „ ultramarine.
 5s. „ carmine.
 £1, purple, on red paper.

GLEANINGS FROM MY STAMP ALBUM

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

IN the many articles which it has been my privilege to write in the pages of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for the benefit of young collectors, I have endeavoured to treat the subject of our mutual and world-wide hobby from three points of view, viz. the practical, the theoretical, and the financial. Let us review these three points in the reverse order.

The Financial

The £ s. d. side of the matter does undoubtedly loom large on the horizon. How could it be otherwise? I turn over the pages of my album and note stamp after stamp which represents a little bit of self-sacrifice, or, to speak more accurately, a deprivation of other pleasures. Can you expect me to be more than human? Is it not natural that sometimes the thought of the unrighteous mammon (unrighteous only because of its oft misuse) should arise and I fall to musing on the present-day values of these philatelic treasures, and wonder whether they have increased in value or whether they have remained as stationary as the pyramids or the sphinx? It is the condiment in the philatelic meal, the salt of human endeavour, the spice without which our king of hobbies would soon languish and die, like leaves when winter draws near. But—there is always a but—let the young collector take heed lest the all-devouring greed of gain should rob him of that amusement, that interest, that beguiling of long hours in innocent enjoyment which stamp collecting ought to afford. Once turn your hobby into a business and you beget a bed of thorns. You begin to live in a world of exciting and unnatural cares. Worry, the thing which kills more men than honest work, marks you for her own. You become the prey to a countless brood of troubles; and why? Because you have transformed a delightful, healthy-minded, education-producing, hobby into a series of stock-exchange transactions which bring a whole gamut of emotions into play. Joy alternates with depression, hope with doubt, delight with disgust. No. Keep your hobby what it was meant to be—a snowball gather-

ing knowledge as it rolls, a sunbeam radiating the sunshine of interest and pleasure, the portal to an encyclopædia of entrancing studies in many fields. Do that, and the financial interest may safely be left to take care of itself. The knowledge you gain will teach you how to invest wisely and well. The greater the care you display in your collecting, the greater will be your satisfaction. And when at times your mind does turn to questions of rise and fall in values, I do not think that the financial aspect will be anything but a source of added joy.

The Theoretical

Of all views on stamp collecting this is the most illimitable. Think what it means. It includes a knowledge of the political history of the kingdoms of the world during the last sixty-five years. It presents us with the most wonderful portrait gallery which the world has ever seen. It carries us back into the mysterious realm of heraldry. Epoch-making inventions of later days figure cheek by jowl with pictorial representations of the geographical discoveries of former times. The erstwhile glories of Greece, her world-renowned games, her divinities, find their place in postal story. Nor do the birds and beasts of other climes lack representation. The world's beauty spots figure here and there, and at times the rise of stately buildings provides yet another feature to the postal landscape. All these imply knowledge on many themes, yet the sum total of philatelic knowledge is barely skimmed. Remainders, errors, surcharges, forgeries, reprints, call for wide and long study. Many of these have been under review in the pages of last year's articles. It will be my endeavour during the coming year to enlarge on some of these points, and write more particularly on such subjects as portraiture and heraldry in stamps, historical landmarks, geographical notes, etc.

The Practical

How has the practical side been getting on during the past year? Does the album show improvement? Are the stamps cleaner

and less smudged than they used to be? Have the backs been attended to and all foreign bits of paper removed? What about the mounting? Is it now possible to see the whole back of the stamp without first having to remove it from the page of the album? Is the arrangement all that we could wish? These are practical questions on a very important feature of our hobby. I hope that every reader of *G.S.W.* can answer these questions to his own satisfaction.

In these days of scientific collecting, the old watchword of St. Christopher is the motto of every *bona fide* collector, "None but the highest." The stamps must be whole and clean, and as slightly obliterated as is consistent with the term "postmarked." All the philatelic accessories—the album, its paper, the mounting and arranging of the stamps in it—must be of the best. Careful, loving attention to the smallest details repays in the long run. Anything that is worth doing at all is worth doing well. There! New Year thoughts have set me moralizing. Forgive me, and let me at once to my theme.

The Postage Stamp

What is it? Of course, every one knows that a postage stamp is a bit of paper issued to frank letters, papers, and parcels through the post, and designed to save the time and trouble involved in the old system whereby each letter had to be paid for either on dispatch or receipt. The person to whom the unpaid letter was addressed was not bound to take in the letter. He could refuse to pay for it, in which case he had the privilege of examining the outside of the envelope and then, if he still refused to pay, he had to hand it back to the postman. Of the artifices adopted to convey the wishes of a writer without any payment of postage, the following story is an interesting example.

Coleridge, the poet, was visiting the Lake District in his young days. He chanced to stop at the door of an inn when the postman was delivering a letter to the barmaid. She received the letter, turned it over, looked at it carefully, and then asked what the postage was. A shilling was the fee. With a sigh the letter was handed back, with the remark that she was too poor to pay. How could the author of the immortal *Ancient Mariner* stand by and see this poor maid so ruthlessly deprived of her letter?

In spite of her remonstrances, he paid the shilling. You can easily picture the sequel. The girl explained, after the postman had gone, of course, that she had learnt all that she wanted to know from the envelope. A prearranged code of signs on the back of the letter had been agreed upon by her brother and herself. The letter itself contained no writing. "We are so poor," she added, "that we have invented this method of correspondence." Such deceptive ingenuity was often resorted to. Indeed, I am informed that as newspapers were sent through the post at a much lower cost than letters, children were taught to under-dot letters in newspapers so as to form the words of the messages they wished to communicate to their absent friends. Nowadays such sly doings are almost obsolete. The introduction of the Penny Post caused an immense improvement in what, for want of a better word, I may call postal ethics.

But I have wandered from my track. We were discussing the definition of a postage stamp. It is a means of prepaying postage. But is it only that? Is it not also, in many cases, a sign of progress in civilization? Compare, for example, the first issues of British Guiana, of Uganda, of Roumania, with the current issues. Rough, badly executed, type-set designs have given place to the most artistically engraved of stamps. It must not, however, be assumed that the civilization of a country may be accurately gauged by the designs on its postage stamps. In that case I fear that our own country would fall considerably behind such notorious states as the South American Republics or Labuan. Semi-civilized countries possess stamps which represent the ideal of the engraver's art. The stamps, however, are the product of some country of a higher degree of civilization, which helps to prove my point.

Again, the postage stamp is a historical landmark. Turn over the pages of your album. Witness the many changes of political life depicted on the stamps of France. The head of "Liberty" gives place to that of Louis Napoleon, Republic to Empire. Ten years elapse. Napoleon III is at the height of his power. A laurel wreath crowns his head in the 1862 issue. The Franco-Prussian War breaks out. Metz and Sedan and Strasbourg fall. Paris is encircled by German cannon. The head of the Emperor gives place to the head of "Liberty." Republic is once more proclaimed over the ashes of Empire. Peace is declared. France regains

much of her former prosperity. Eirene, the goddess of peace and wealth, and Mercury, the god of commerce, take the place of the symbol of the republic in 1876. Fourteen years pass. France turns to yet another phase in the scale of human greatness. Justice, Love, and the Rights of Man are found depicted on her recent issues.

This is one example, briefly worked out, one of many. The influence of one country over another leading finally to the latter's absorption, the changes in social life, the changes in coinage, all these find numerous examples in the stamps of many countries.

The postage stamp is also a medium for much knowledge of heraldic and legendary art. It gives us a curious insight into the

religious prejudices of at least one of the world's religions. It illustrates the productions of many countries. It tends to promote a more exact knowledge of the location of many little-known countries. And what shall I say of the habits of observation and order which the collecting of stamps entails? Surely here are a peck of reasons, any one of which would be sufficient to answer that oft-repeated question, "What is the good of stamp collecting?" The wonder to me is, not that there are so many collectors, but that there are so many who once used to collect but gave it up. However, as they say in Yorkshire, "A good old 'has been' is better than one of the 'never was's.'"

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

FUNNY LITTLE PICTURES

By EDWARD KIRBY ELLIOTT

"IT'S such a lovely afternoon, Arthur, that if you like we'll go a jolly long walk; we might go by Blakeley, through Sarcey Forest, and round by Ashton, home—that will make a good ten miles. If we don't start too early we shan't find it too hot, especially as so much of our way will lie through the forest. What do you say, eh?" The speaker was the Rector of Artwell, and he addressed his fourteen-year-old son.

"Right you are, dad, I'm fly; jolly it'll be too, I know. When shall we start?"

"Well, I have about half an hour's writing to do, then I must just call in and see Widow Morris for a few minutes; she sends word that she has a letter from her son abroad, which she wants me to read, her sight fails so; it won't take long, so you can come there with me, then we'll start."

It was about a quarter to three on that brilliant August afternoon when Mr. Moore and Arthur set out. The widow's cottage lay at the end of the village, but in their way. Passing through the little gate, they stood a minute in her tiny garden, admiring the gay, old-fashioned flowers blooming there with lavish gaiety and exhaling delightful odours. The front of the cottage was a veritable bower of roses, climbing up to and even over the low thatched roof; the little beds were full of white pinks,

rocket, fuchsias and sweetbrier, mignonette, sweet-williams, and heartsease, while in the corner stood a large myrtle bush covered with its airy, star-like flowers, which filled the warm air with delicious perfume. It was quite a fairy bower, the windows being also filled with flowering pot-plants, behind which Mrs. Morris's grey head could be faintly seen.

Mr. Moore tapped at the door, lifted the latch, and entered, saying genially, "Well, Mrs. Morris, and how are you to-day?"

"Thank you, sir, I'm only middlin'; I do enjoy my health so bad, sir; the rheumatiz racks my poor old bones to pieces, I 'ardly knows 'ow to move. But surely I are glad to see ye, sir, for I've a-gotten a letter from our Jim, and my eyes are that dim I fair can't make out 'is writin', that I can't. There it is, sir," handing the rector a large, thin, foreign envelope, "if you'll be so kind."

Poor as the old woman's health report sounded, it must not be supposed that she was in doleful mood—far from it; she smiled cheerfully as she told her "tale of woe," for, like all her class, she delighted in relating how she "enjoyed bad 'ealth," and would not take it as any compliment to be told she was looking well.

The rector put on his spectacles, removed the letter from its envelope, which he laid

on the table, and began to read. Arthur in the meantime, after greeting Mrs. Morris kindly, had turned to look out of the window. Tiring of this at last, for the letter was long and not easy to decipher, he turned away and sat down, when his eye fell on the envelope on the table, and he saw at once that it bore a foreign stamp, which, on picking it up, he found to be Australian. Just then his father finished the record of the domestic events of "our Jim," the proud possessor of a big "quiverful," whose doings he narrated at length for the grandmother's delectation, but which, naturally, did not much interest Arthur.

As soon as his father finished he exclaimed, "I say, Mrs. Morris, may I have the stamp off this letter?"

"Why, surely, sir," she readily assented. "Do you care for them things?"

"Rather," answered Arthur emphatically, at the same time carefully annexing the stamp; "I collect them and stick them in a book, you know. I have seven hundred odd, but I haven't this one, and am very pleased to get it."

The widow beamed upon the jolly boy through her glasses, smiling indulgently at his eagerness. "Well, to be sure," she said, "who'd have thought of that, now? Ah," she went on, "it's 'ears an' 'ears sin' my boy went away; he went to Wales—leastways it's New Souf Wales I b'live they calls it—not Wales in England, ye know, sir—further off nor that—in Australy they tell me. Ah! he've bin a good boy to I, that a 'as; many's the bit of money he've sent 'ome to 'elp me on, and 'im with a big fambly, too! But I was a-thinkin', sir," she said to Arthur, "if ye're fond of they stampses, I've got some more laid by ye're welcome to, for I've kep' all my son's letters. When he fust went out 'is letters come with such funny little picters-like on 'em I thought I'd keep 'em, and so I've kep' 'em all. Let me see."

Widow Morris rose with rheumatic difficulty, crossed the room to where a table stood against the wall, laden with books and other things—the Family Bible made a good foundation upon which rose a pyramid of various literature, to a height which, if it had not been for the support of the wall, would certainly have toppled over. This store of varied knowledge was garnished on either side by tea-trays resplendent with wonderful birds unknown to mere ornithologists, and flowers in

colours which put nature's tints in the shade, besides lavish gilding thrown in. Above hung the family portraits, daguerreotypes and photographs—some faded, some fresh—interspersed with the "funeral cards," those much-treasured if lugubrious mementoes embossed with white designs on a sombre black ground—willows of a luxuriance unknown to nature, shading tombs the magnificence of which is strangely at variance with the humble "departed" whose simple annals are inscribed thereon!

"That's Jim," said his proud mother, pointing to the most faded portrait—of her first-born—while she rummaged in a large, old-fashioned work-box, from the depths of which she presently extracted a packet of letters. Seating herself, she slowly turned them over, thereby sorely trying Arthur's patience as he caught tantalizing glimpses of the rare old stamps. "There they be, sir. Queer little picters, ain't they? Jim sent us several letters soon after he got there, as we was so anxious to know how he fared; but after he got settled he didn't have time to write so of'en, not bein' much of a scholar neither. There, sir, if they be any use to ye I'm sure ye're heartily welcome to 'em, and it's glad I am to make a little return—though to be sure 'tis nothin' to speak on—for all yer father's kindness to me."

"Why, father!" cried Arthur, when at last the garrulous old lady paused, "I do believe they're what they call 'Sydney Views.' I've never seen any before, but there are pictures of them in my catalogue, and I fancy they're worth something."

Besides these there were specimens of all the following issues—not many, for as time went on letters from "our Jim," as Mrs. Morris had hinted, came but seldom.

"Well, well, Arthur, we must get on or we shall lose our walk; it's a quarter to three now." The rector was not a philatelist or he would not have taken this grand find so calmly, while even Arthur only vaguely suspected its importance.

"Thank you very much indeed, Mrs. Morris," Arthur warmly said, as he finished the careful removal of the stamps from their envelopes, one of which she gave him to put them in, and Mr. Moore and his son set out, leaving old Mrs. Morris curtsying and sunning herself at the door.

They enjoyed their walk immensely, for it lay through charming country scenery

and the weather was perfect. Arthur, highly delighted with his new-found treasures, resorted to them again and again, and almost succeeded in infecting his father with some of his enthusiasm.

"Well, my boy, when we get home we'll examine them carefully and see what your catalogue has to say," was the paternal ultimatum.

Arrived home, tea was the first consideration, and they were quite ready for it; then Arthur reached out his catalogue and the stamps, and began a close and eager inspection of his treasure-trove. There were six specimens of the penny, six two-penny, and two threepenny "Sydney Views," but Arthur could not satisfy himself amongst all the bewildering varieties "with clouds," "no clouds," "yellowish," "greyish," and "bluish" papers, "whips and bales, picks and shovels," what, exactly, his treasures were; moreover, many of the stamps in the catalogue were not priced, but those that were figured highly. In addition to these were several specimens of "Laureated Head" and some of the handsome large square stamps, of which the 5d. has just celebrated its jubilee, besides later issues. Arthur hastened to his father's study with his stamps and book, and burst out, "I say, father! it strikes me these stamps are worth a lot of money, and, if so, poor old Mrs. Morris ought to have the benefit!" He then showed his father the stamps and catalogue, and soon convinced him that there was something in it.

"It really does seem as though they must be valuable," said Mr. Moore. "I think we

must see what we can do. I wonder how we had best set about it?"

"Oh, that's easy enough, father; we've only got to send them to Stanley Gibbons and Co., where I bought my album and this catalogue, you know; they'll soon tell us their value. But don't you think I might keep just a few of them, for Mrs. Morris did give 'em to me, so they're really mine?"

"There's some justice in that," admitted his father, "but we must not take advantage of the old woman's ignorance; we'll write up with them and see what comes of it."

Accordingly Mr. Moore wrote to the firm named, enclosing the stamps, and asking what they would give for each. In a few days the answer came offering fifteen pounds for the older stamps, or to buy any of them at the prices separately named. Upon this Mr. Moore decided that, with Mrs. Morris's consent, they would sell twelve pounds' worth and give her the money, while Arthur should be allowed to keep the rest.

When this was explained to Mrs. Morris, she was so lost in astonishment that her "queer little picters" could be of such fabulous value (as it seemed to her), and so overjoyed at the prospect of possessing "such a fortune," that she readily consented to the proposal, which was speedily carried out. Moreover, she promised to give Arthur all the stamps she got, and to ask "our Jim," when next a letter was sent to him, to collect all the stamps he could, and send them home for him. "For if it 'a hadn't been for you, sir, I'd never 'a known they little picters were worth any money what-somedever!"

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

London Philatelic Society

President: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

Hon. Sec.: J. A. Tilleard, 70 Gracechurch Street, E.C.

Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W. Alternate Fridays at 7.45.

Annual Subscription: Town, £2 2s.; Country, £1 1s.

The third meeting of the season 1905-6 was held at 4 Southampton Row, on Friday, 10 November, 1905, at 7.45 p.m.

Present: M. P. Castle, L. L. R. Hausburg, Robert Ehrenbach, Herbert R. Oldfield, L. W. Fulcher, Captain George F. Napier, A. R. Barrett, Rudolph Frentzel, W. Schwabacher, Thos. Wm. Hall, C. J. Daun, T. Maycock, Franz Reichenheim, J. A. Tilleard, A. Bagshawe, C. Neville Biggs, Jas. Robt. Laing, F. N. Schiller, R. B. Yardley, E. D. Bacon, and one visitor.

The chair was taken by Mr. M. P. Castle, and the minutes of the meeting held on 27 October, 1905, were read and signed as correct.

The attention of the members was called to the honour conferred on Mr. W. B. Avery, a member of

the Society and formerly member of the Council, and the Honorary Secretary was requested to convey the congratulations of the members to Sir W. B. Avery, Bart.

The members then proceeded to the election of Mr. Charles Cohen, proposed by Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg and seconded by the Honorary Secretary, who after ballot was declared duly elected a member of the Society.

Mr. Hausburg then read a paper entitled "Philatelic Researches in Australia," prefacing the same by producing a specimen set of postal and fiscal stamps which through Mr. Hausburg had been presented as a donation to the Society by the Australian Government. In the course of his paper Mr. Hausburg showed pulls from the perforating machines of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, and Victoria, and of the rouletting machines of South Australia, Tasmania, and Victoria.

He also showed samples of the notched brass rule set up on edge used for rouletting stamps of South

Australia and some of those of Victoria, the guillotine notched knives used for Tasmania stamps, and the "rolling-pin" rouletter of the earlier Victorian issues.

Mr. Hausburg also explained and illustrated the classification and subdivision of the perforators of the no-watermark stamps of Queensland, and produced impressions of the surcharges of South Australian stamps, and of the dies of the 1d., 2d., and 3d. of the first issues of Victoria, and of the five designs for the octagonal 1s. (3 to 6 being incomplete), and of the plate of fifty stamps of the 2d. engraved by Thomas Ham, with the figure of the Queen on the throne.

After giving an explanation of the so-called impressed watermarked paper of Queensland, Mr. Hausburg's paper and illustrations concluded with a display of a few of the scarce stamps of Australia in magnificent condition.

THE fourth meeting of the season 1905-6 was held at 4 Southampton Row, on Friday, 24 November, 1905, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, W. Schwabacher, F. Ransom, Herbert R. Oldfield, Thomas William Hall, H. M. Hansen, Franz Reichenheim, C. J. Daun, J. Bonhote, B. D. Knox, T. Maycock, E. D. Bacon, Robert Ehrenbach, L. W. Fulcher, J. A. Tilleard, A. R. Barrett, and one visitor.

The chair was taken by Mr. Castle, and the minutes of the meeting held on 10 November, 1905, were read and signed as correct.

A letter was read from Sir W. B. Avery, Bart., acknowledging the congratulatory message conveyed to him in accordance with the resolution of 10 November last.

Mr. Brownlow D. Knox then read the first portion of a paper on "The Malta Local Post and its Stamps." During his remarks he handed round a copy of the Malta Government *Gazette* for 16 November, 1860, which contained the official announcement of the service and public sale of stamps for 1 December of that year. Mr. Knox inclines, however, to the belief that some delay occurred, and a start was not actually made until a month later. The working of this local post proved unsatisfactory from the commencement, and, according to information received, continued so even as late as the nineties.

Dealing with the stone-coloured series of halfpenny stamps, Mr. Knox showed, by postmarked copies, that the printings of "golden yellow" and "brown orange" (Gibbons' Nos. 6a and 7) must be antedated nearly ten years. Similar evidence also induced Mr. Knox to consider that an issue of "yellow-buff,"

perf. 14, was made between the "buff" and the "yellow-buff" issues, perf. 12½ (Gibbons' Nos. 4 and 5). In conclusion, he passed round a few copies of the 1873 printing, which he regards as the rarest shade among Malta halfpennies. This view was confirmed by Mr. Ehrenbach, who added that a like shade was to be found in Indian 2 anna stamps.

A vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Bacon, who cordially congratulated Mr. Knox on the contents of his paper; it was seconded by Mr. Tilleard, and after some remarks in support by Col. Bonhote, was unanimously carried. Mr. Knox suitably responded, and the proceedings then terminated.

Herne Bay Philatelic Society

8 Promenade Central.

THE first monthly meeting was held in Newton's Saloon, 8 Promenade Central, on 13 December, 1905, several members being present. An interesting and instructive paper was given by the President, R. MacLachlan, Esq., J.P., on "Paper, Watermarks, and Perforations." Two new members were elected, Messrs. Morgan and Moffat.

Scottish Philatelic Society

President: John Walker.

Secretary: R. W. Findlater, 30 Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh.

Meetings: Edinburgh. Monthly: 8 p.m.

Annual Subscription: Ord. 5s.; Cor. 2s. 6d.

THE December meeting of the above Society was held on Monday, 11 December, 1905, at 26 Frederick Street, Edinburgh, at 8 p.m., with an attendance of twenty members. Mr. Kenneth Mackenzie, Mr. Arthur S. Orr, s.s.c., Mrs. W. B. Blaikie, and Miss Newman were unanimously elected ordinary members. The Secretary reported that the September, October, and November packets were still in circulation. The December packet, sent out on the 4th of the month, had good sales to date. The increase in the sales in the September and October packets has been very marked, the total sales for these two months being over £20 in excess of sales for same period of last year.

Mr. Robert Kerr gave a very fine display, accompanied by some explanatory notes, of the stamps of Great Britain. In forming this collection, the greatest care has been taken in procuring only specimens in the "finest" condition. The collection is strong in fine pairs and strips, etc., all the rarities being included. The "Officials" form a particularly fine and strong exhibit.

OUR PHILATELIC DIARY

JANUARY, 1906

We shall be glad if Secretaries of Philatelic Societies will send us their Programmes for the new year. Several Societies are omitted from this Diary for lack of Programmes.

16 & 17. Auction: Glendining & Co., 7 Argyll Street, London. 4.30 p.m.

17. Enterprise Philatelic Society (London): Display with Notes—Antigua, Bahamas, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Dominica; E. Heginbottom, s.a. Paper—"Recollections," accompanied by Display; H. W. Westcott. General Sale and Exchange.

19. Philatelic Society of London: H. R. Oldfield, a Paper on the Stamps of Serbia, with Display.

20. Junior Philatelic Society: Bourse. Paper—"Gibraltar and the Morocco Agencies"; H. W. Westcott. Display—Gibraltar, G. F. H. Gibson, Hon. Secretary of

the Manchester Philatelic Society. Display—African Colonies IV, St. Helena and Sierra Leone. Debate—Used v. Unused. Openers, C. J. Patman (used); James Feeney (unused).

23 & 24. Auction: Puttick & Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London. 4.30 p.m.

25 & 26. Auction: Ventom, Bull, & Cooper, Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London. 5 p.m.

30 & 31. Great Sale by Auction of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., immense stock of post cards and envelopes, by Glendining & Co., at 7 Argyll Street, London. 4.30 p.m.

Editorial Address—EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Camerton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 3
Whole No. 55

20 JANUARY, 1906

VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Bosnia



At the conclusion of the Russo-Turkish War in 1878 the administration of Bosnia and Herzegovina was, by the Treaty of Berlin, handed over to Austria. Nominally these territories still form part of the Turkish Empire, but virtually they form part of Austria.

Bosnia was annexed by the Turks in 1463. Oppressive taxation led to a rebellion in 1469, which was suppressed by

Omar Pasha. A still more serious rising occurred in 1875, and this led to Austrian intervention. The Treaty of Berlin confirmed Austria-Hungarian rule. Once freed from the misrule of Turkey, the country made rapid progress in the construction of roads and railways, manufactures were established, mines were opened up, and paper mills started.

Professor Penck, in *The International Geo-*

graphy, tells us that "Bosnia and Herzegovina formed before the conquest of the Turks a separate kingdom, and from an ethnographical point of view they are still uniform. Their inhabitants belong to the Croatian branch of the Southern Slavs, but they are diversified by religion. Forty-three per cent are Christians of the Eastern Church, called Servians; 20 per cent are Roman Catholics, called Croats; and 37 per cent are Mohammedans, called Turks, though there has been only a very insignificant Turkish immigration. The landowners, or *Begs*, are mostly Mohammedans; the tenants, or *Kmetts*, are Christians."

Bosnia has the reputation of being the most beautiful of the Balkan provinces. Herzegovina, on the other hand, is described as a bare, rugged, ill-watered country of limestone mountain masses.

The capital of Bosnia, Serajevo, is thus described in *Chambers's Encyclopædia*: "It stands on the hill-slopes that overlook the Bosnia River (three miles distant), 166 miles south-west by rail of Bosna-Brod, on the Danube, and 100 miles east by rail of Metkovich, a port near the mouth of the Narenta in the Adriatic. The citadel and the minarets of 100 mosques, the crowded 'charsia' or bazaar, and the steep and narrow streets climbing the hillsides amidst gardens, represent the ancient Moslem town; the wide streets on the plain near the railway station, traversed by tramways and lit with the electric light, the Roman Catholic Cathedral, and the Bosnia Museum reflect the swift progress that has taken place since the Austrian occupation in 1878." The population is 41,000.

Its Philatelic History

We stamp collectors have dropped the second name of Herzegovina, and catalogue the stamps under the name of Bosnia for brevity's sake. The issues are few, only three in all; and, for the beginner, simple; but the specialist finds varieties of perforation galore. The first issue was made in 1879, the year following the Berlin Treaty, the design being that of the Austrian double-headed eagle, with the Arms on the breast and numerals of value in the upper corners. In 1900 the numerals were removed to the lower corners, and in 1901-4 they were printed in black. The currency was in the first issue the kreuzer of Austria, or novcics in the language of the provinces. The stamps bore no inscription; even the numer-

als of value had no letter indicating the currency. In 1900 the currency was changed to the new, heller, currency of Austria.

1879. Nine values. Design, double-headed Austrian eagle with the Arms in a shield on its breast, with numerals of value in the upper corners. The stamps were designed, engraved, and printed in Vienna. Perforated.



Numerals in upper corners.
Perforated.

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
½ (nov.), black	. . .	0 1	0 1
1 " grey	. . .	0 6	0 1
2 " yellow	. . .	1 0	0 2
3 " green	. . .	0 9	0 2
5 " red	. . .	0 3	0 1
10 " blue	. . .	1 0	0 3
15 " brown	. . .	1 0	0 2
20 " olive-green	. . .	2 0	0 2
25 " violet	. . .	2 6	0 4

1900. Fourteen values. Design as before, but with numerals of value removed from the upper to the lower corners, and a somewhat similar design for the three higher (krona) values. The currency altered from novcics to the new Austrian heller and krona.



Numerals in lower corners.
Perforated.

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
1 (h.), black	. . .	0 1	0 1
2 " grey	. . .	0 1	0 1
3 " yellow	. . .	0 1	0 1
5 " green	. . .	0 1	0 1
6 " brown	. . .	0 2	0 2
10 " red	. . .	0 4	0 2
20 " rosine	. . .	0 9	0 3
25 " blue	. . .	0 6	0 2
30 " bistre	. . .	0 9	0 5
40 " orange	. . .	0 8	0 6
50 " mauve	. . .	0 7	0 4
1 k., carmine	. . .	1 3	1 0
2 k., ultramarine	. . .	2 6	2 0
5 k., slate-green	. . .	6 0	5 0

1901-4. A few values of what is evidently intended to be a new series throughout, with numerals separately printed in black, but with the design unchanged.

	Numerals in black.		Unused.		Used.	
	Perforated.		s.	d.	s.	d.
20 (h.), rosine	0	3	0	2
30 ,, brown	0	5	—	—
35 ,, blue	0	5	0	2
40 ,, orange	0	6	—	—
45 ,, greenish blue	0	8	—	—

(To be continued)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

Bechuanaland



BY an oversight a general map of South Africa was used last week to illustrate our article on the postal issues of British Bechuanaland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate, instead of the special map of Bechuanaland which had been prepared. From this special map, which we now reproduce, the division of the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland from the vaster territory of the Bechuanaland Protectorate is much more clearly shown. As will be

noted, the Protectorate territory stretches from the Molopo River, which forms the northern boundary of British Bechuanaland, right up into the neighbourhood of the Victoria Falls on the Zambesi River. But for the unfortunate Jameson Raid it would have formed a very natural extension of the British South Africa Company's territory down to the northern boundary of Cape Colony.

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

CHAPTER IV

Retirement of Mr. Gibbons and conversion of the business into a Limited Company

IN 1890, Mr. Gibbons found that his health was not so good as he could wish, his occupation being of a very sedentary nature, and having accumulated a sufficient fortune for his requirements during the thirty-six years he had been in business, he decided that he would retire and live at his villa in Richmond. This, however, was easier said than done. The stock he had accumulated was so enormous that it filled the house in Gower Street from attic to basement, and when I visited Mr. Gibbons in 1889, we, after some search, found a stock of 2½d., 4d., and 6d. Cyprus in his wife's wardrobe!

After various consultations a group of four or five well-known collectors thought they might purchase the business, and Mr. Gibbons called me in to make a rough and independent valuation. This occupied about six weeks' hard work, and, after all, the proposed arrangements came to naught.

I then talked the matter over with Mr. Gibbons and offered to purchase the entire business myself if a satisfactory mode of deferred payments could be arranged.

The purchase price was fixed at £25,000, and the business was thereupon turned into a private limited company, 6% debentures for the amount of the purchase price being issued to Mr. Gibbons, of which a certain amount was to be paid off each year.

The first directors of the Company were:

E. Stanley Gibbons, Twickenham, Chairman.

J. O. C. Phillips, Birmingham.

Commander A. F. Gibbons, R.N., Southampton.

Charles J. Phillips, Managing Director.

The whole of the ordinary share capital was held by me, with the exception of seven shares held by various friends in order to have a quorum to form a limited liability company.

I brought into the business a stock of choice stamps of the value of close on £5000, and these were added to the stock of the new company.

Under the new management the business of the company largely increased, and at the end of the first year's trading it was found that the returns were practically double those of the preceding year.

One of the first undertakings of the company was to establish a house organ under the name of the *Monthly Journal*, the aim of which was to publish correct and complete lists of all new issues and discoveries, and original articles by the best philatelic writers of the day.

For a short time the *Monthly Journal* was edited by me, but the pressure of other business compelled me to hand it over in September, 1890, to our friend Major E. B. Evans, and under his kindly auspices it has flourished apace; and I sincerely hope and trust that Major Evans may live to see the jubilee of the *Monthly Journal* as well as the jubilee of our publishers.

CHAPTER V

Our Chairman

YOURS truly, Charles James Phillips, was born in Cherry Street, Birmingham, on May 15, 1863, and, as a youth, I lived for some years at Castle Bromwich, attending the preparatory school of the Rev. — Bevan.

About 1874, our family moved to Edge Hill, Sutton Coldfield, and while living there I passed, by examination, into King Edward's Grammar School, New Street, Birmingham, remaining there until about the year 1878, when I left school and entered the offices of Messrs. Bayfield and Bayfield, Chartered Accountants, Temple Row, Birmingham, as junior clerk. In the course of time I worked my way up until I was entrusted with important audits, not only in Birmingham and neighbourhood, but in Gloucester, Bristol, Cardiff, Derby, etc.

Owing to the personal friendship of the late Mr. Henry Buckley, I was, in 1884, offered a good position in the Assay Office, of which office Mr. Buckley was Chief Warden. Here I entirely remodelled the system of book-keeping. I also had charge of the Record Rooms, and rearranged the records of the office, extending back to about 1780. In the course of this work I found from the old minute books of the

celebrated guinea packets (still No. 11). This was hung on a Christmas tree, and divided between my brother William and myself. I started a collection and kept it until 1885, when, on the occasion of my marriage, the collection was sold to Mr. H. Buckley and the proceeds turned into furniture.

Whilst at the Assay Office I had plenty of spare time (the office did not open on



C. J. PHILLIPS

office that the late Sir Rowland Hill (whose father was a schoolmaster in the Hagley Road, Birmingham) when a boy had been employed at the Assay Office as errand boy at a salary of 6s. per week, and, as was shown by another resolution, this salary had to be paid direct to Rowland Hill's father, and not to the boy himself!

My first recollection of stamp collecting was when a youth of about ten years of age my father bought one of Stanley Gibbons

Saturdays) and started to *deal* in stamps, and so quickly did the business of stamp dealing grow that in May, 1890, I finally left my comfortable position at the Assay Office, and on June 30, 1890, moved to London and purchased the entire business of Stanley, Gibbons, & Co.

About 1886 I started the first Philatelic Society in Birmingham, which met once or twice a month at the rooms of my father in Colmore Row.

Mr. James Bottley--then the third most important collector in Great Britain--was chairman, and amongst regular members were Messrs. Edward Nettlefold, Henry Buckley, W. B. Avery, Edmund Shorthouse, Richard Hollick, T. D. F. Evans, and many others, most of whom are still ardent collectors.

I acted as Hon. Secretary of this Society until I left Birmingham.

In 1891 I formed "The Philatelic Protection Association," and acted for some years as secretary. During this time a number of persons were prosecuted for dealing in, and making imitations of, postage stamps, and convictions were obtained in several cases, with sentences varying from three months' to three years' imprisonment. For many years this purged the English trade, but the Association should now be revived in order to take proceedings against certain persons well known, and about whose doings a considerable amount of evidence is being secured in preparation for future action.

In December, 1889, I started a monthly paper under the title of *The Stamp Advertiser and Auction Record*, and edited it myself until it was merged into the *Monthly Journal* when I moved to London.

An important feature of this paper--and one that brought it a large subscription list--was a carefully compiled list of Australian stamps, with the correct prices of the day; this was the first attempt to accurately appraise the many scarce things in this interesting group of stamps.

In July, 1890, the *Monthly Journal* was started, and I acted as editor for a few months.

I have two sons, Frank, who entered the firm in January, 1905, and Ernest, now at school in Switzerland, who will probably enter the firm in the course of the year 1907.

So much for what the Editor facetiously calls "the genesis of C. J. P.," and but for his insistence it would probably have been considerably curtailed.

(To be continued.)

A GRAND OLD STAMP

HISTORY OF THE FIVEPENNY STAMP OF NEW SOUTH WALES

By A. F. BASSET HULL

THE first suggestion as to the expediency of introducing a fivepenny stamp for this colony emanated from Major W. H. Christie, who held the non-political office of Postmaster-General from 1852 to 1865, in which latter year the office was made a political one.



It was in May, 1853, that Major Christie discussed with Mr. R. P. Raymond, Inspector of

Stamps, the question of providing a stamp to prepay the combined inland and ship postage, viz. 2d. and 3d. The outcome of this discussion was a recommendation addressed to the Colonial Secretary, that instructions might be forwarded to the Colonial Agent-General to procure in England a steel plate containing one hundred

labels for printing fivepenny postage stamps. It was stated that this denomination was much required for ship letters posted in the country, and would there serve the same purpose as did the threepenny stamp in Sydney. It was proposed to print the new denomination in green, but of a darker shade than the threepence, and in order that the difference in value might be at once perceived, the label should be of an oval or pentagonal shape, to which the form or design then in use would be perfectly applicable.

Complete estimates as to the cost of plates for both fivepenny and eightpenny stamps, paper, and colours were furnished on the 27th May, 1853, but it was not until the 29th August following that an order was transmitted to the Agent-General in London.

Mr. Barnard, who then held the position

of Agent-General in London for the Australian Colonies, placed the order in the hands of Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., engravers, of Fleet Street, London, the firm which had engraved the previously issued sixpenny and one shilling stamps. This firm submitted a tender on the 7th January, 1854, which was accepted, but the order was not completed until the 29th January, 1855. The cost of engraving the steel dies and making the plates was £125 each, and the colours provided for the fivepence comprised deep mineral green, crystal green, and flake white. Paper watermarked with a double-lined figure 5 was furnished.

The plates, paper, and colours arrived by the *Phoenixian* on the 26th June, 1855, and on the 24th July the Colonial Storekeeper was requested to issue twelve books of papers for printing stamps from the plate. This requisition was countermanded on the 27th August, the reason assigned in the record being that "proper plates had not been sent"; and thereby hangs a tale!

In 1852 designs were required for the proposed sixpenny and one shilling stamps; several were sent in by professional artists—a Mr. Nicholls amongst others—but were rejected. Mr. T. W. Levinge, Postal Inspector, having seen and freely criticized these artists' designs, was asked to try what he could do in that particular line. He submitted five sketches, of which two were selected, and duplicate copies were sent to the engraver.

"Unfortunately," wrote Mr. Levinge when the plates came to hand, "either from want of proper instructions to the Colonial Agents, or want of ability in the engraver, the designs, instead of being improved, as was expected, were not even copied, and it can be seen at a glance that whatever the faults of the drawings, the stamps are inferior." Both the original designs and the prints from the engraved plates are on view to-night, and it is not too much to expect that impartial observers will venture to differ from Mr. Levinge's expressed opinion. Although the distinctive features of the hexagonal and octagonal shapes were disguised by the addition of engraved spandrels to complete a square design, the drawing and execution can only be described as exquisite. Mr. E. H. Corbould, Drawing Master to the Royal Family, produced the beautiful portrait of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, and the

steel die was engraved by that master of his art, William Humphrys.

Now the "head and front of the offending" with regard to the fivepenny plate was that the design consisted merely of an adaptation of the much-maligned sixpenny stamp, and the instructions as to adopting an oval or pentagonal shape had been totally disregarded. It was admitted by the Postmaster-General that the execution was unexceptionable, but he nevertheless deemed it his duty to recommend that the plates be returned to the engraver, and others more in accordance with the instructions be demanded.

Steps were taken to prepare fresh copies of the designs for both fivepenny and eightpenny stamps, and these were submitted to the Governor on the 12th October, 1855. His Excellency, however, having seen proofs from the plates already furnished, thought that they would admirably answer the purpose for which the new designs had been prepared, and was of opinion that it would be unwise to return the plates. They were therefore retained, but the adverse comment was communicated to the engravers, who subsequently urged that the indefinite nature of the instructions, and the difficulty of producing artistic and well-balanced designs of such unusual shapes justified their action in engraving the designs which they had supplied.

In the meantime the plates were sent to the Inspector of Stamps on the 14th November, 1855, with instructions to prepare a supply of stamps for issue on the 1st December. Such supply was ready on the 20th November, and the fivepenny stamp was gazetted to be issued (together with the eightpenny) on the 1st December, 1855.

This was before the days of perforation—a convenience that had only been introduced in England in the previous year—and consequently the labels were separated from one another by means of the humble but necessary scissors, or a pen-knife.

There was not much demand for the new value. Five thousand five hundred were printed for the first supply, of which 1000 were issued during December, 1855, but the remainder were sufficient to meet all demands until May, 1858, when 22,900 were struck off. At the end of January, 1860, when perforation was first introduced in this State, 18,500 fivepenny stamps were in stock, the number issued imperforate

being therefore 9900, extending over a period of four years and two months.

Notwithstanding its comparatively long existence in this imperforate condition, the stamp is rare thus, unused specimens being quoted at £8 each, and used ones at £7. Of course, a very large proportion of those issued were destroyed in the ordinary course along with the letters they franked to their destination. At the present day it would probably be difficult to find half a dozen copies of the stamp, either used or unused, in the stocks of even the largest stamp dealers.

The printing of the fivepence was effected by means of the hand-printing press furnished by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. in 1853, and this press is still used for the purpose. This probably constitutes another record of service, but I have no catalogue of printing presses from which to verify this assumption.

The postage-stamp printing branch was transferred from the General Post Office to the Government Printing Office in 1857.

The subsequent history of this stamp is comparatively uneventful. It continued to be printed on the paper watermarked 5, and was perforated by means of two machines of varying gauges, 12 and 12½, 13, the first variety being issued on the 1st February, 1860; 143,500 perforated stamps with the figure watermark were issued between February, 1860, and August, 1884.

The stamp perforated 12 is worth about £3 unused, and the other variety about 7s. 6d.

In 1884 the supply of figure-watermarked paper became exhausted, having been somewhat largely drawn upon in early days to supplement the depleted stocks of two-penny and sixpenny paper. The paper with the watermark of a Crown over the letters NSW, adopted for nearly all the other values in 1871, was used for the five-

pence in August, 1884, and on the first type of this paper 100,000 stamps were printed and issued between 1884 and 1890. In 1891 the postal union rate of 2½d. per half-ounce letter for places beyond the colonies came into force, and there was an immediate and large increase in the number of fivepenny stamps required. The second type of water-marked paper was then used, and no less than 2,147,000 stamps have been printed on that paper and issued during the fifteen years since 1890. These were perforated by many varying machines, and their value ranges from face to a few shillings, according to perforation.

The total number of stamps printed from the steel plate made in 1855 has, therefore, been 2,399,000, or 23,999 impressions from the plate of 100 multiples, and that plate is still in splendid order, and equal to many more years' service.

No other individual postage stamp in the whole world has such a record of service, unchanged in design, unaltered in colour (except as regards inevitable shades of intensity) and printed from the one plate.

This stamp was overprinted with the letters OS, at first in red and subsequently in black, for official use; and many copies have been distributed from time to time, bearing the overprint "Specimen."

The fivepence of New South Wales is one of the most artistically designed and executed labels, delighting alike the philatelist and the artist; its splendid proportions and evenly-balanced wealth of detail dwarf all the meretricious concoctions of later days into absolute insignificance, and its long and honoured service is without rival in the annals of Philately! Truly it deserves the title I had the honour of bestowing upon it five years ago, when writing a eulogy in a philatelic journal, of the GRAND OLD STAMP.—From *The Australian Philatelist*.

BRITISH AFRICA POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

Owing to the fact that the war in South Africa has caused great attention to be drawn to the stamps of the British Possessions on that continent, and to the enormous increase in the number of collectors that has ensued from the issue of the War Provisionals in Mafeking, Bloemfontein, Pretoria, etc., we think this a good time at which to place before the public a new and very complete Album, designed for the British Possessions, etc., on the African Continent. The Album is designed upon the well-known plan of the Imperial Albums—the stamps in numbered spaces of the correct sizes on the right-hand page, and the description, full particulars, and illustrations on the opposite page. In order to make this a permanent Album we have provided from one to four blank pages after each country, thus making the Album available for the issues of many years to come. 220 pages. Size, 8½ × 11¼ inches. Post-free in Great Britain, 10s. 7d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR G. S. W. READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "G. S. W." readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

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Ed. "G. S. W."

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

LIBERIA.



REGISTRATION STAMPS.

Errors. Imperf.

10 c., blue on rose.

10 c., green on buff.

10 c., red on yellow.

10 c., red on blue.

The stamps were used in the towns of
BUCHANAN, HARPER, MONROVIA,
and ROBERTSPORT,
and only the early printings were, by
error, sent imperf.

The set of four stamps is catalogued
at 12s.

Special bargain price,
7s. 6d. the four, post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED

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ODD-SHAPED STAMPS

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

THE usual shape of a postage stamp is a rectangle. Most countries have adopted this as the most convenient shape. Some countries, either to demonstrate their independence of thought in departing from a well-recognized rule, or merely with the object of producing something different from the rest, have devised forms other than rectangles. It is of these that we would treat in this article.

Consider the first issue of British Guiana. The shape is far from circular. It conforms more to the schoolboy definition of a circle as "a straight line bent all round." The issue was printed on coloured paper in black ink. Every stamp, before issue, was initialed by the postmaster or post office clerks, the initials being written with pen and black ink across the face. The rudeness of design, and consequent ease of imitation, gave to the series the briefest of lives. The roughly drawn ugly stamps were withdrawn, and now figure among the world's great rarities.



Other circular stamps are the series of Afghanistan from 1869 to 1890, the first issues of Jammu and Kashmir, native states of India, all of rude native barbaric type, and the first issue of Roumania with the head of a bull and the five-pointed star.

From the circle we pass to the elliptical or egg-shaped form. Of this, the first issue of Finland is a notable example. Arms on a shield occupied the central space, while



the value in kopecks was printed twice, as seen in the foregoing illustration. (100 kopecks = 1 rouble = 3s. 2d.)

Brunswick, Mexico, and Prussia have issued stamps with oval designs; but, as they were printed on sheets which were perforated in rectangular shapes, the stamps may be more correctly described as rectangular in form and circular in design.

Two curiously shaped stamps have emanated from Colombia. The one is rectangular in form with rounded corners, the other is outlined by pairs of concave and convex arcs. Both are of the Arms order. In the first an eagle, with nine stars over his head, rests on a shield. The armorial bearings are very indistinct. Above is a double cornucopia. In the centre, on the white ground, is the cap of Liberty. Below appear some ill-defined smudges which might be taken for anything, and probably represent a ship or ships.

Colombia.



We come to triangulars. Of these, the well-known Cape specimens are by no means the only examples. The 1865 and 1869-70 issues of Colombia have each a three-cornered example. The first is equilateral in shape, while the second partakes more of the nature of the scalene triangle (for has it not three unequal sides?) or a right-angled triangle with the right angle at the top.

Colombia.



Liberia brought out a highly pictorial triangular in 1894. Other examples may

be seen in the 5 francs Djibouti, 1894-1902, and the Obock camel views. The 3d., green, Newfoundland is illustrated below.



Omitting all reference to rectangular shapes in which we have four-sided right-angled figures with one side longer than the other, we proceed to consider the square-shaped stamps.

The British Guiana issues of 1862 and 1882 approximate very nearly to Euclid's definition of a square. The '62 series are type-set. The '82 series filled up the central blank space with the picture of a ship in full sail, the typical emblem on British Guiana stamps.

British Guiana.



The 5s. and 20s. values of the 1888 issue of New South Wales are fine examples of



square-shaped stamps. The one presents a map of Australia as the central design; the other presents the portraits of Captain



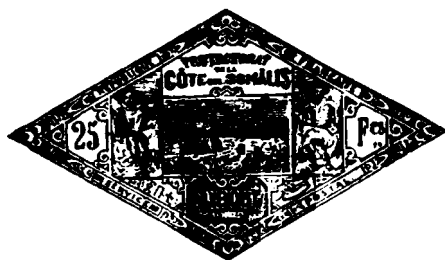
Phillip, the first Governor, and of Lord Carrington, the Governor in 1888.

Several German States—e.g. Baden, Bavaria, Bergedorf, Brunswick, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Thurn and Taxis, and Wurtemberg—showed a partiality for squares in their early issues. Nor must we omit to mention the 1d., reddish purple, of Newfoundland's first issue, which differs very slightly in form and design from the 3d., 6d., and 1s. values of the first issues of Nova Scotia. From the illustrations given, it will be easily seen that if the crown and numerals in the Newfoundland stamp were turned through an angle of forty-five degrees, the only remaining differences between the two stamps would be the inscriptions.



In 1851 New Brunswick issued three square-shaped stamps of exactly the same design as the second of the above illustrations.

The rhombus, or kicked square, to use a term well known to budding geometers, is scarcely known in stamps. Indeed, the only example that occurs to me is the 25 francs value of the French colony of Djibouti. The label explains itself.



Octagonal shapes appear only as irregular figures. The embossed English of 1847-54,

the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna of Jhalawar, some early issues of Western Australia, and the 5 cents. Colombia of 1867 are of this order.

Great Britain.



Jhalawar.



Western Australia.



Colombia.



A FEW HINTS ON THE STRIPPING OF STAMPS

By F. S. LLOYD

IT is frequently a question of great difficulty to the young philatelist, and, indeed, no less so to his elder and more experienced brethren, to know how to remove a delicate stamp from the envelope or page to which it is adhering, without at the same time spoiling its surface, destroying some of its colour, or rendering it torn or dirty. How often does a collector gain possession of one of those small but valuable collections of stamps of many years ago, making a right goodly show in the primitive album of their time, in which they are stuck tightly down with gum, or more terrible still, paste; and yet how comparatively few of them will he remove unscathed so as to shine with equal brilliance when transplanted into the more pretentious album of to-day!

Many methods have been recommended to this end, but, in my experience, there is none that can compare with that now to be described. With its aid I have frequently removed the most delicate stamps unimpaired from albums or envelopes, and nearly always, where unused specimens are concerned, with a large proportion of their original gum still in situ, a point which goes far to increase the market value of many old stamps.

The requisite apparatus is not expensive, as three shillings should suffice to purchase all that is necessary. First of all, though, the collector should possess certain virtues.

1. A knowledge of the stamps which he is about to strip from their backing of paper or card, especially as regards the toughness

and texture of the paper composing them, and also as regards their colour and its fixity or not on exposure to moisture.

2. A large stock of patience.

3. Steadiness and carefulness in manipulation. This is largely obtained as a result of practice.

He should procure the following articles:

1. Two half-plate glass cutting-shapes with bevelled edges, such as are used by amateur photographers for trimming their prints to shape—cost 10d. apiece.

2. About a foot or rather more of the inner tube of a motor-car tyre. This length from a spoilt inner tube can be purchased from any motor repair shop for a few pence. Of course, any sheet of thin india-rubber will serve the same purpose, as well or better, but new sheet rubber is often expensive, while a piece from a spoilt tube can be had almost for the asking.

3. A few sheets of best white blotting-paper, or white Swedish filter paper (bibulous paper).

4. A thin blunt-edged blade of some sort. The weapon I use is a particularly convenient one for many philatelic purposes, and consists of a pocket penknife with very thin flat metal sides. At one end is a small blade, which shuts up in the usual manner; at the other is a thin, tapering, metal envelope-opener. This is practically a knife blade with edges all but sharp, and is so thin that it forms an admirable lifter for stamps.

Now to get to work. The piece of tyre

tubing is first split up along the seam so that it lies out as a flat sheet, and this is then divided into two equal pieces, each of which will therefore be about six inches long. The pieces are then washed very thoroughly in warm water and soap, and scrubbed with a nail-brush to free them from adherent grease and dirt, and are then well rinsed in several changes of running water and dried.

It may be required (a) to remove the paper from the backs of a number of loose stamps, or (b) to remove one or more stamps from an album with as little injury to both stamps and album as possible. The procedure differs slightly in each case.

In the case of *loose* stamps, a sheet of blotting-paper is folded into three or four thicknesses, and these trimmed to the size of one of the glass cutting-shapes: the pad thus formed is saturated with water until wet throughout, but not sopping or oozing with moisture. The wet pad is placed on one of the glass slabs, and the stamps laid on it severally *face upwards*, i.e. with the paper which it is wished to remove in contact with the wet blotting-paper. The other glass plate is then placed over all, and the parcel is put under moderate pressure, such as that yielded by half a dozen large books.

The weights should be lifted from time to time, and the progress of the softening of the gum watched through the glass. If the pad has been properly damped, no water should spread over the edges of the stamps or on to their face; this is always a sign of too wet a pad, and their surfaces should remain unmoistened throughout.

Experience alone will be the best guide to the period necessary for the loosening of the stamps from their backing; as a rule, when ready to strip, their faces acquire a slightly dark muddy look, and if left too long the moisture will penetrate to their colour and spoil its freshness. As a rule, however, after ten to fifteen minutes the upper glass is removed and a stamp taken out for trial. The flat blade should be gently insinuated under one edge of the stamp, when, if the gum be sufficiently dissolved, it should peel off without resistance: should it, however, not peel easily, replace it on the pad, cover as before, and leave a little longer. Never attempt to strip a stamp by pulling, or tearing will certainly result; a little longer on the damp pad will work wonders.

As each stamp is stripped, it should be placed on a clean sheet of blotting-paper, back upwards, to dry. It is not advisable to hasten the drying process as by placing before a fire, as some stamps show a marked tendency to curl, and may crack when subsequently flattened out. If the procedure has been carefully performed, you will notice that each stamp still retains some of its gum. When dry it may be mounted in the album in the ordinary way.

If it is wished to remove *stamps from albums*, the method of procedure is very similar. Make and wet a pad of blotting-paper as before. This is placed on the *back of the page* to which the stamps to be removed are adhering, and a piece of the rubber sheeting over it, the second piece of rubber being placed over the stamps and in contact with their faces: the book is now shut, and moderate pressure applied. After the requisite time, the stamps are peeled off as before. If stamps are on both sides of a page, it is advisable to place the damp pad in contact with those stamps which are least likely to suffer from contact with it.

When dealing with stamps fastened into an album with *paste*, one must proceed with great care and patience, as the fermentative changes which have taken place in the paste often soften the paper to such a degree, that a stamp which is appearing to peel out very well may suddenly tear or crack right across. The moral is to give pasted stamps a prolonged damping.

Repairing Damaged Stamps

Though torn stamps seldom grace an album, it may be occasionally advisable to keep a rare stamp, even though much torn, until it can be replaced by a perfect specimen, and the following method is a simple and easy way to effect this end.

Place the torn stamp and any loose pieces of it on the damp pad face upwards, cover with the glass plate and press for a few minutes until the pieces are damp and supple. Remove with the flat blade to a piece of clean glass face downwards; the pieces are then placed in position with a blunt needle mounted in a wooden handle, their correct apposition being watched from the other side of the glass. When this is complete, a stamp mount is damped and placed over the repaired stamp, to which gentle pressure will make it adhere. When dry the stamp may be mounted as usual in the album.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

New South Wales

SYDNEY, 4 December, 1905

Jubilee of the 5d. N.S.W.

SYDNEY philatelists have been celebrating the jubilee of the fine old fivepenny N.S.W. stamp. In honour of the event a conversation was held by the Sydney Philatelic



Club in St. James's Hall on the evening of 2nd inst., and a special souvenir post card was published for the occasion. The most interesting feature of the function was perhaps

the exhibit of the Commonwealth Government, consisting of the original engraved steel plate of 100 multiples, together with the old hand press, with its great fly-wheel, imported in 1855. This apparatus is still in use, and many sheets of stamps were printed and perforated in the presence of those assembled. A temporary post office was established on the premises, and a special jubilee postmark used for the occasion. Members of the Club exhibited a fine collection of every variety of the five-penny stamp, and the President, Mr. Basset Hull, in an interesting speech, gave a short history of the stamp, and claimed that the fact of the same plate having been in use for fifty years was a record unequalled in the annals of postage stamps.

N.S.W. Perforations

It is sometimes asked why the stamps of some countries show such a perplexing variety of perforation. During a recent visit to the Government Printing Office of N.S.W. the writer was considerably enlightened on this point, and a brief account of the methods now in use may prove interesting. In the stamp room there are no fewer than seven perforating machines—all operated by foot power. Of these two are single-line machines, used chiefly for perforating the stamps of larger size—the fivepenny, five shilling, etc.; three are the old comb machines, all of slightly differing gauge. There is one new comb machine of improved design and local manufacture, and one machine is employed for perforating the letters used to distinguish stamps

supplied to the Commonwealth offices, State departments, and the railways, lettered respectively OS, ^{OS}NSW, and GR. The superintendent stated that he paid no attention to the exact gauge, and so long as the stamps parted readily was quite satisfied.

Compound Perforations

The explanation of compound perforations is also interesting. Two men may be engaged perforating stamps of the same denomination on two machines of differing gauge. When the bell sounds to knock off work they may both be half way through a sheet, or rather set of sheets, for four sheets are perforated at the same time with a sheet of thin yellow paper below to take the burr. Their work is removed and placed in the safe till work is resumed, and it is quite possible for the part-finished sheets to be given back to the wrong operators, in which case one row of stamps on each sheet would show a compound perforation. But this does not often happen, hence the rarity of such specimens.

The New Australian Watermark

The new watermark, Crown over A (for Australia), is now coming into use, the penny, twopenny, and sixpenny having already appeared on the new paper; but the writer is informed that there are very large stocks of the old paper on hand, and that this will have to be used up. All the paper used in Australia for stamp-making is imported from London, and apparently the contracts entered into by the various State Governments prior to the federation of the Post Office are still unexpired, as the new Victorian Crown over A watermark is totally different from that of this State, pointing to a different source of supply.

Commonwealth Stamps

It is understood that the Commonwealth Government are importing new machinery with a view to printing uniform postage stamps at one office, instead of four as at present. Adelaide is suggested as the probable location, since the central Government already possess a printing office there in connexion with the post office, and it is stated that stamps can be produced there far cheaper than at either Sydney or Mel-

bourne. This assertion has been strongly resented by the Government printers of New South Wales and Victoria. The matter of having stamps printed in two colours—one a running colour—is also under consideration, and competitive designs are to

be called for. It is to be hoped that something a little more artistic and better executed than our first Commonwealth production (the current ninepenny) may result.

WILFRID B. LLOYD.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Enterprise Philatelic Society

Secretary: A. C. Constantinides, Woodview, Archway Road, Highgate, London, N.

Meetings: Monthly, Devonshire House Hotel, Bishopsgate Street, London, E.C.

THE twenty-seventh ordinary monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, 20 December, 1905, at the Devonshire House Hotel, and was very well attended.

The chair was taken by Mr. Vice-President W. B. Edwards, B.Sc., at 6.45 p.m., when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. H. G. Bourne, of South Croydon, was elected to membership.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Edwards for sundry donations of philatelic literature to the library, and one also to the following gentlemen for donations of forgeries and notes of forgeries to the Society's collection—Messrs. J. R. Burton, A. H. Harris, and F. A. Meggy.

The following items on the evening's programme were then submitted to the gathering:—

1. A paper entitled "Reminiscences Philatelic and Otherwise," by Mr. A. H. L. Giles, R.N. A very interesting narration of this gentleman's travels all over the world, and the many opportunities, presented and grasped, of obtaining desirable stamps at prices which made his listeners' mouths water. For instance, Cape triangulars at 1s. per dozen, including a woodblock.

2. A display of rare stamps by Mr. J. Read Burton. This was a marvellous show, and included amongst other good things: St. Helena, 4d., carmine, *imperf.*, double surcharge, an uncatalogued variety; New Zealand, a number of the early issues, unused, including serrated and rouletted, amongst the latter the 1s., N.Z.; Cape Colony, complete, except for woodblock errors, and including the error surcharge halfpenny without the "p"; U.S.A., the issues up to 1869 almost complete, and many unused, amongst these being a mint strip of three of the 12 c., black, *imperf.*

3. A ten-minute paper by Mr. A. H. Harris, entitled "Speculative Issues," and containing many sensible remarks anent this subject.

4. A display of Uncommon Postals and Fiscals by Mr. H. V. Brand, a special item being the rarest fiscal of Mauritius.

5. A short display and paper on "Some of the Recent Issues of Chili," submitted by Mr. F. A. Meggy, whose remarks were well received by the many members of the Society who are interested in this country.

A general sale and exchange occupied the little time which now remained, and after a very pleasant evening the meeting dispersed at 9.30 p.m.

We have still room for one or two members, and reports may be obtained from the Hon. Sec., A. C. Constantinides, Woodview, Archway Road, Highgate, London, N.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: E. Egly, Arnccliffe Road, West Park, Leeds.

Secretary: Charles W. Harding, 139 Belle Vue Road, Leeds.

Meetings: Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street, Leeds.

Annual Subscription: 6s.; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

THE President, Mr. E. Egly, read a paper on that admirable institution the Universal Postal Union, before the members of this Society in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, 19 December, 1905.

The paper gave a mass of statistical and general information, comprehensive in detail, relating to the useful work accomplished by the Union, and was greatly appreciated.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Egly for his most practical and interesting paper, proposed by Mr. W. V. Morton, seconded by Mr. T. K. Skipwith, and supported by Mr. A. H. Stamford.

Mr. J. Myers, jun., was unanimously elected a member of the Society.

Amongst the novelties shown were the entire first issue of U.S.A., 1847, on original letters, four rare proofs imperforate of Nevis, and one of Virgin Islands, by Mr. H. Wade; 1d., red, English, imperforate, showing two watermarks, small crown, one inverted; also an original official notice announcing the introduction of the Postal Union rates of postage, G.P.O., dated 1875, by Mr. W. V. Morton.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: Herbert Woods.

Secretary: W. Halfpenny, 28 Dacey Street, Liverpool.

Meetings: Angel Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool. 7 p.m.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of the above Society took place on Monday evening, 18 December, 1905, at the Angel Hotel, Dale Street. In the absence of the President, Mr. Savage took the chair, and after the usual preliminaries a paper on "Stamp Collecting as an Investment" was read by Mr. W. C. Taylor, who dealt with the matter in a very interesting and common-sense fashion. He condemned the action of many collectors who bought stamps after they had been "boomed," and then on trying to sell found they had to face a serious loss.

His advice was to take up countries which had had their day, and were in consequence not so much sought after, as if purchased judiciously they stood a good chance of showing a profit in the course of time.

A discussion followed, and interesting speeches were made by Messrs. Milner, Whitworth, Hughes, Robson, and the chairman.

A display of the stamps of the United States of America was held, and an extremely fine lot was shown, including a splendid specialized collection by Mr. Tweddle.

North of England Philatelic Society

President: G. B. Bainbridge, J.P.

Hon. Sec.: Mark Easton, 43 Sidney Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Meetings: Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE usual monthly meeting of this Society was held at Y.M.C.A., Newcastle, on Thursday, 4 January, 1906, at 7.30, the Vice-President, Mr. T. D. Hume, in the chair; seventeen members being present.

Three new members, Messrs. Arnett, Grabham, and Tinn, were proposed and elected.

Mr. Jas. Coltman then read a most interesting paper on "King's Heads," dividing the subject into (1) papers, (2) colours, (3) designs, and (4) surcharges. He passed in careful review all issues to date, and stated that he found great difficulty in getting good

clean copies in used condition, more particularly 2½d. value, and especially those of the African Colonies.

Mr. Coltman then showed his fine collection of singles and multiples, many countries being complete in both varieties.

Mr. Buckland proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Coltman for what he termed one of the most instructive and enjoyable of the Society's meetings. This was carried with applause, and the recipient suitably responded.

The January packet started on the 2nd with twenty-three sheets, value £205 16s. 9d., and contains many good stamps priced moderately. The October packet came back from circuit on the 3rd, and all sheets were returned to members and credit balances paid by the 5th.

CORRESPONDENCE

Our Gratis Stamps

DEAR SIR,—Allow me to convey the expression of my best thanks to *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for a very acceptable addition to my collection of Indian postage stamps. The gratis stamp (No. 21) sent out with the first number of Vol. III of the *Weekly* is, I find, in my copy, a nice little minor variety of the surcharged "On H.M.S." 2 annas, blue, Queen's Head type. The surcharge is of the thick lettering, the "H" having no break in the top and bottom lines, thus **H**.

Hoping to receive other equally good things from your enterprising journal during 1906,

I am,

Yours faithfully,

A. C. WRAY.

BATTERSEA PARK, S.W., 6 Jan., 1906.

Hong Kong Cancellations

DEAR SIR,—I regret to "string out" my information to such an extent, but the manner of its coming is responsible. I am happy to state in this second addendum that the mystery of the "Y 1" cancellation on the Hong Kong stamps, detailed on p. 355, Vol. II, of the *Weekly*, has now been solved by the discovery

of a cover bearing it. This was mailed at *Yokohama*, and bears a clear postmark of my Type VII, lettered YOKOHAMA—A—JU 19—77; also an 8 c. Hong Kong stamp cancelled with the "Y 1" obliteration. It was addressed to Hong Kong, and reached there seven days later.

In addition to the settling of the agency responsible for the obliteration, we can therefore add to our postmarks:—

Type VII, lettered YOKOHAMA.

Very truly yours,

C. A. HOWES, S.B.

DEAR SIR,—I have a postmark which I do not think is mentioned by Mr. Howes in his interesting article on the Hong Kong cancellations. The stamp is 1880 issue, 10 c. on 12 c., blue, and the postmark Mr. Howes's Type IV; but it has a figure IV in Roman numerals instead of the usual number and letter. I know nothing about the cancellation, but noticed it in my collection after reading the article. Perhaps Mr. Howes can throw some light on it.

Yours truly,

J. R. M. ALBRECHT.

OUR PHILATELIC DIARY

JANUARY, 1906

We shall be glad if Secretaries of Philatelic Societies will send us their Programmes for the new year. Several Societies are omitted from this Diary for lack of Programmes.

20. Junior Philatelic Society: Bourse. Paper—"Gibraltar and the Morocco Agencies"; H. W. Westcott. Display—Gibraltar, G. F. H. Gibson, Hon. Secretary of the Manchester Philatelic Society. Display—African Colonies IV, St. Helena and Sierra Leone. Debate—Used v. Unused. Openers, C. J. Patman (used); James Feeney (unused).

23 & 24. Auction: Puttick & Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London. 4.30 p.m.

25 & 26. Auction: Ventom, Bull, & Cooper, Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London. 5 p.m.

30 & 31. Great Sale by Auction of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., immense stock of post cards and envelopes, by Glendining & Co., at 7 Argyll Street, London. 4.30 p.m.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 4
Whole No. 56

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VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Bolivia



BOLIVIA is a South American inland republic extending from the eastern slopes of the Andes to Brazil. The area is about 567,000 square miles, and the population is estimated at only 2½ millions, about half of whom are set down as Indians. Bolivia was cut off from the sea by the occupation of its coast lands by Chili in the war between Peru and Chili in 1879, in which Bolivia very foolishly became embroiled.

The revolt from Spanish rule commenced in 1809, but independence was not secured until 1825, when a general assembly of the people resolved that what was then known as Upper Peru should be named Bolivia in honour of General Bolivar, the well-known Colombian general, who had come to assist in the liberation of Peru.

Of the political situation in Bolivia Mr. C. E. Akers says:—

There are two principal factors with which the

Government has to reckon in the question of the preservation of peace. The first is the comparatively scarce white element of the population, with whom, however, a revolutionary outbreak is the inevitable product of discontent, and it is the office-seeking proclivity of this section of the inhabitants that most frequently leads to disturbances. Moreover, when one or other of the political parties obtains control, it is seldom that anything short of actual force can again bring the Opposition into power. Practically, all elections for the Presidency and National Congress are a farce, and official influence is so unstintingly exercised to ensure the return of the Government candidate that no peaceable political combination is allowed sufficient latitude to attempt to secure a majority at the polls.

As to the peculiar position and prospects of Bolivia, we quote further from Mr. C. F. Akers' *History of South America* :—

Not only is access to Bolivia difficult and tedious, but when once the country is reached there is a lack of all modern methods of transport everywhere. Roads for wheeled traffic do not exist except in very few places, and then only for limited distances; passengers and cargo are carried on muleback, ten or twelve days' travel in such fashion being of common occurrence. No wonder progress of all kinds is checked. . . . It is in the mineral wealth of Bolivia that the main industrial enterprise is centred. According to ancient records in connexion with the Royal Mint at Potosi, the gold and silver bullion shipped to Spain between the date of the Spanish conquest and Bolivia's independence reached the value of £120,000,000. But for the last hundred years all mining industry has been checked by internal disorders, and the development of the rich deposits known to exist that might have taken place has yet to occur—probably within the next decade. . . . In spite of the backward economic condition of Bolivia and her people, there are signs of substantial progress, at least in the direction of mineral development. For the last few years many districts have been carefully prospected by experts; the result is seen already in the beginning of fresh mining adventures. Once the question of transport is solved, progress is assured. A flourishing mine industry will bring immigrants from all parts of the world, whose arrival must eventually effect a decided change, let us hope for the better, in its national life.

Bolivia has no recognized capital. The official seat of government alternates between La Paz (population 63,000), Sucre (population 27,500), Oruro (population 16,000), and Cochabamba (population 30,000); and the Congress is convoked sometimes at one and sometimes at another of these places.

Of La Paz, the commercial capital, Mr. Akers says :—

It lies at the foot of the beautiful mountain of Yllamani, in the basin forming the head of the Yungas valley, at an elevation of 11,000 feet above sea-level, within reach of perpetual snow on the one side and semi-tropical valleys on the other. So marked a feature is this proximity to extremes

of hot and cold, that the saying is common in La Paz that two messengers dispatched in the early morning can return in time for the midday meal, the one bearing ice for the household and the other pineapples and such tropical fruits.

Its Philatelic History

The first issue of Bolivia has always had a peculiar fascination for specialists for the reason that its stamps, more particularly the 5 c., are full of minor varieties of engraving. This first issue was made in 1866, and consisted of an eagle with wings outspread, and included four values, all very roughly engraved. In the following year the colours were changed. Copies of this series of changed colours are extremely scarce, for it was superseded in the same year by a series of new design very sharply engraved, evidently the work of the American Bank Note Company. Its central design was a mountain peak with nine stars underneath, i.e. one star for each department or district into which Bolivia was then divided. In 1878 a more elaborate design was provided, but in 1887 there was a reversion to the design of 1867, the stars being increased in number to eleven. In 1894 Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, & Co., of London, designed, engraved, and printed a new series, retaining the burning mountain and the stars as the central design, but adding at the top and bottom large numerals of value. In 1897 a large plaster series of portraits, evidently of local production, was issued. These gave place to an excellently engraved series with a portrait of Sucre in 1899, followed in 1901-4 by the current series of many portraits designed, engraved, and printed by the American Bank Note Company.

1866. Four values. Design, an eagle perched on a globe, with outspread wings, in an oval, with numerals of value in each corner. The 5 c. of this series yields the specialist many varieties, found principally in the lines of shading of the globe. In the 10 c. he finds seventy-eight varieties, and in the 50 c. and 100 c. thirty varieties; so that if any of my young friends get many of these stamps they will do well to consult some specialist friend before swap-



ping them away. Gibbons Catalogue, Part II, sets out most of the varieties in the common 5 c. very clearly. The stamps were issued imperforate. The 10 c., 50 c., and 100 c. are of the type of the 50 c. illustrated.

	Imperf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
5 c., green	.	0	4	1	0
10 c., brown	.	30	0	7	6
50 c., yellow	.	1	6	10	0
100 c., blue	.	1	6	—	—

1867. Three values. Same design as previous issue, but colours changed. The 5 c. is changed from green to lilac, the 10 c. is omitted, the 50 c. is changed from yellow to blue, and the 100 c. from blue to green. These stamps are extremely scarce.

	Imperf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
5 c., lilac	.	15	0	15	0
50 c., blue	.	—	—	80	0
100 c., green	.	15	0	10	0

1867. Five values. Design, a mountain peak of the snow-capped Andes, with llama climbing the mountain, in an oval on the Arms of the Republic enclosed in a circle, with nine stars for the nine departments of the State, numerals of value in the upper corners. The engraving and printing are evidently the work of the American Bank Note Company of New York. The 500 c. has from very early days of collecting been a much-prized rarity. Perforated.



	Perforated.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
5 c., green	.	1	0	1	3
10 c., red	.	1	6	0	6
50 c., blue	.	1	6	2	6
100 c., orange	.	3	6	8	0
500 c., black	.	65	0	100	0

1871. Same five values and same general design, but with eleven stars instead of the previous issue. The 500 c. of this eleven-stars issue is even a much greater rarity than its predecessor of the nine-stars issue. Perforated.



	Perforated.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
5 c., green	.	0	2	0	3
10 c., red	.	1	3	1	3
50 c., blue	.	2	6	3	0
100 c., orange	.	1	0	—	—
500 c., black	.	150	0	—	—

1878. Four values of an elaborate, but most unsatisfactory, design as illustrated. The chief features of the central design of

the previous series are crowded into the upper half of the stamp; then there is a ribbon across the centre of the stamp bearing the inscription CORREOS DE BOLIVIA. In the lower half is an open book, a curious emblem for a country so backward in the matter of education as Bolivia. Perforated.



	Perforated.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
5 c., ultramarine	.	3	0	0	5
10 c., orange	.	1	3	0	2
20 c., green	.	3	0	0	3
50 c., carmine	.	12	6	2	0

1890. Seven values. The design a reversion to the nine-stars issue of 1867, but colours changed, and new values added of 1 c., 2 c., 20 c. The 500 c. is not repeated in this series. The 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., and 10 c. were first issued rouletted, that is, with long cuts instead of the punctured holes of ordinary perforation, and the same values with the 20 c. added were subsequently lithographed instead of printed from the plates. These lithographed stamps are very easy to distinguish by their very coarse and indistinct workmanship, but for the purposes of readers of G.S.W. I list only the ordinary perforated series.



	Perforated.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., carmine	.	0	1	0	2
2 c., violet	.	0	3	0	3
5 c., blue	.	0	4	0	2
10 c., orange	.	2	0	0	3
20 c., green	.	1	9	0	4
50 c., red	.	3	3	3	3
100 c., yellow	.	5	0	5	0

1894. Seven values. New design, printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson, & Co., London. The design preserves the features of the previous issue, but has a prominent numeral of value in the centre at the top and bottom of the stamp. Perforated.



	Perforated.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., ochre	.	0	1	0	1
2 c., vermilion	.	0	1	0	1
5 c., green	.	0	2	0	1
10 c., brown	.	0	3	0	1
20 c., blue	.	1	0	0	3
50 c., rose-lilac	.	2	0	2	0
100 c., carmine-red	.	3	6	—	—

1897. Eight values. Design varying in each value, all except the 2 bolivianos having large portraits of Bolivian celebrities, whose biographies have already appeared in back numbers of *G.S.W.* Our illustrations will speak as to the plaster size of the stamps and their designs. The 2 bolivianos is printed in almost all the colours of the rainbow, and in this respect is unique amongst postage stamps. Perforated.



Perforated.		Unused.		Used.	
Large portrait series.		s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., olive-green	. . . . .	0	2	0	2
2 c., vermilion	. . . . .	0	2	0	2
5 c., blue-green	. . . . .	0	3	0	2
10 c., brown-purple	. . . . .	0	4	0	2
20 c., rose and black	. . . . .	0	6	0	4
50 c., orange	. . . . .	1	3	—	3
1 bol., blue	. . . . .	3	0	—	—
2 bol., red, yellow, green and black	. . . . .	6	0	—	—



1899-1901. Seven values. Design, a well-engraved portrait of Sucre, evidently the work of the American Bank Note Company. Perforated.

Perforated.		Unused.		Used.	
Portrait of Sucre.		s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., dull blue	. . . . .	0	1	0	1
2 c., red	. . . . .	0	1	0	1
5 c., green	. . . . .	0	3	0	2
5 c., red (1901)	. . . . .	0	3	0	3
10 c., orange	. . . . .	0	5	0	3
20 c., rose	. . . . .	0	9	0	4
50 c., bistre-brown	. . . . .	2	0	1	6
1 bol., dull violet	. . . . .	4	0	5	0

1901-4. Six values. Design, various portraits, except the 2 bolivianos, which is of the Arms type. Perforated.

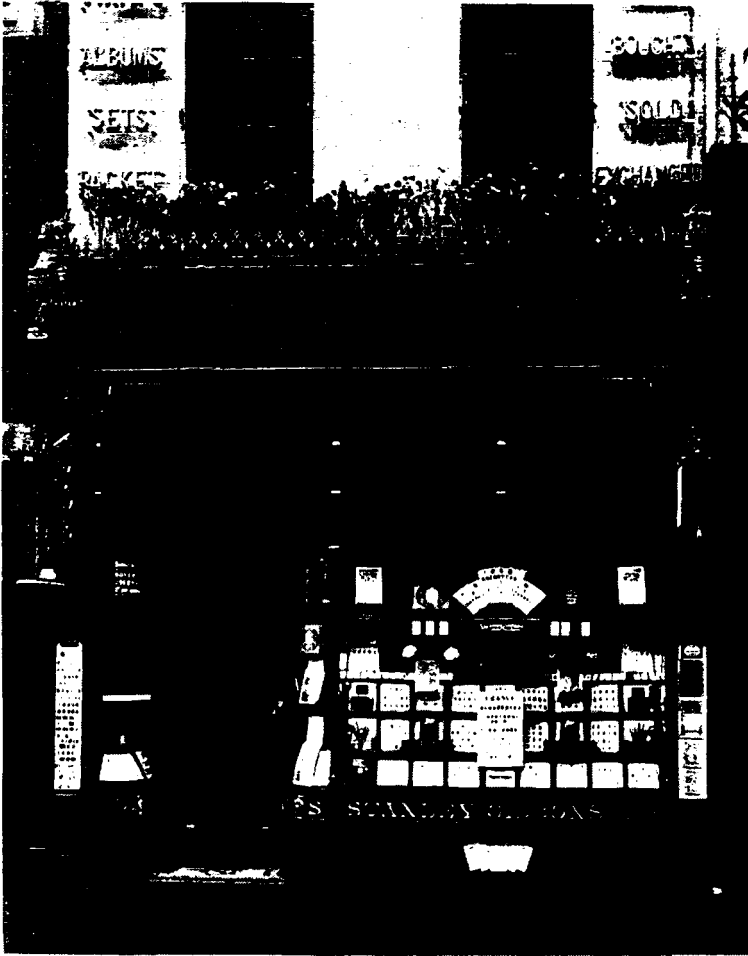


Perforated.		Unused.		Used.	
Series of various portraits.		s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., claret	. . . . .	0	1	—	—
2 c., green	. . . . .	0	2	0	2
5 c., red	. . . . .	0	3	0	1
10 c., blue	. . . . .	0	5	0	1
20 c., purple and black	. . . . .	0	9	—	—
2 bol., brown	. . . . .	8	0	—	—

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS



SHOP FRONT

CHAPTER VI

Removal to the Strand

AFTER a good deal of consideration it was decided that a private house did not afford sufficient facilities for the reception of clients who wished to make their purchases in person, and it was thought best that a small shop should be opened as

a kind of feeler to see if new business could be obtained in sufficient quantity to pay for the extra expense.

A good deal of trouble was taken to find the right location, and I well remember inspecting premises in Piccadilly, Regent Street, and Cheapside, but each of these streets presented some disadvantages, and eventually we decided to settle in the

Strand, and events have proved this to have been the right spot.

Our first venture was in a small half-shop at No. 435 Strand, three doors from the Lowther Arcade—the site now merged into Coutts' Bank.

This branch was opened on 6 March, 1891, and was from the commencement under the management of our good friend Mr. J. W. Jones, a philatelist of acknowledged acumen.

Those were the days of bargains, and no mistake. One exceptional one occurs to my

that it was decided to combine the shop and offices, and for this purpose we took our present premises on a lease for twenty-eight years.

In 1900 more room was required, and we were luckily able to secure the upper three floors of adjoining premises at 390 Strand, and to open communication with 391 on the first and second floors.

Our Head Office in the Strand now contains the following accommodation:—

Basement.—This is arranged as a store-room for publications; the floor and walls



SHOP

mind. One day a dear old lady came in with a dilapidated old Lallier album—she did not like the dirty old stamps in her book, but wanted a nice lot of bright and many-coloured Russian locals. We let her have all she wanted—a modest list of cheap stamps, coming to £10 in all.

In that old album, amongst all the trash and rubbish, we found a fine United States, 1869, 30 cents, carmine and blue, *centre inverted*, and *unused*. This passed at once into the collection of Sir W. B. Avery, Bart., where I suppose it still remains. I only know two other copies in the world in an unused condition.

In 1893 business had increased so much

are solidly concreted. Here we have boiler and hot-water pipes circulating hot air not only through the basement, but all over the ground floor, shop, etc.

Ground Floor

The Shop is handsomely decorated with solid mahogany fittings, and in cases round the walls there are artistic displays of the publications of the firm, and also sample sets and packets of stamps. The window is one of the most attractive in the Strand, judging by the number of people who stop to look in. The contents of the window are changed once a month, and special attention is paid to artistic and attractive arrangements of the goods for sale.

Behind the shop is a long, broad passage leading to the Order Department. In this passage on the right is the *Strong Room* of the firm. This is built on a solid stone and brick foundation extending right through the basement into the solid earth. The strong room is protected by one of the best steel doors six inches thick, then there is an air space of fourteen inches, and this is followed by a pair of steel doors, so that even if the first door got red-hot the heat could not penetrate to the contents of the strong room.

Milner safe; in this the retail order stock is placed every evening. The room is fitted with two very long counters and several smaller desks. The longest desk is used on both sides by the girls who execute the retail orders. The other long desk is used for the book-keeping.

First Floor

On the first floor there are four rooms, two looking on to the Strand and the other two facing our large back office.

On the Strand front I have my private



ORDER DEPARTMENT

Next to the strong room is the *Packing Department*, where parcels are all made up, letters copied, entered, and dispatched.

At the end of the packing counter is a large Milner safe six feet high, and in this is stored the stock of sets and approval books and sheets.

We now come to the *Main Office* in the building, which is used as an *Order Department*, and also as cash and book-keeping office. This room is excellently lighted by a large glass dome; from the floor to the top of the dome there is a space of 24 ft. 6 in. At one end of the room is a very large

office, where I receive clients and show the choicest rarities and collections in the firm's possession.

In this room there are two very strong Milner safes, one to contain reserve stock, special collections, etc., and the other, and larger one, is used to hold our unique Reference Collection, of which I shall speak later on. In this room will be found the portion of our collection of philatelic literature that is printed in the English language.

Leading out of this room is another, on the Strand front used as *Editor's Room*, and

in this room we do practically all the work on our albums, catalogues, etc. Here also we keep a reserve set of original clichés of stamps used to illustrate our various publications. In this room we keep the portion of our philatelic library that is printed in foreign languages.

The two other rooms on this floor are used entirely by our Approval Department, one of the most important branches of the business, and one to which special attention is now being devoted.

shorthand and typewriting staff. The typewriters in use are all "Yosts," which after a good trial of several other makes are found to be the most satisfactory of any that we have tried.

Leading out of this room is another room, also used for correspondence and as a filing-room for letters. We rather pride ourselves on our method of filing and handling some three to four hundred letters a day. The letters are all filed on the card-index system, and each letter has a "flimsy" copy of the



MANAGER'S PRIVATE OFFICE

Second Floor

This floor consists also of four rooms: one room is used entirely for work in connexion with the *Monthly Journal* and *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*. The addressing of the wrappers used to send out these papers is done by a treadle machine operating an endless band, on which are set up the names and addresses of subscribers in metal type. Wrappers which were formerly addressed by hand at the rate of, perhaps, forty or fifty per hour are now addressed at the rate of 1000 to 1200 per hour.

Opposite this room is one general correspondence-room, used exclusively by our

reply attached to it. Any letter of the previous five years, with our reply to it, can be found within a couple of minutes.

Opposite the second correspondence-room is a small room at present used as a store-room for stationery, etc.

Fourth Floor

On this floor there are five rooms. The largest one is used for making up packets and sets, sorting common stamps, etc. etc., and next to this is a private room for the female staff. The other rooms on this floor are used by the caretaker and his family, who live on the premises and look after the cleaning, etc.

The whole of the offices are amply protected against fire. Some years ago we called in Messrs. Merryweather & Sons, the well-known experts, and on their advice fitted each floor with fire-bells, buckets of water, etc., and to each floor on the back

we fixed up outside iron fire-escapes, giving access to premises behind ours.

We have also a perfect system of office telephones, each room being able to call up any other room, a method that saves an immense amount of running about.

(To be continued.)

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Jamaica.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., send us the 1d. value of the Arms type on multiple CA paper.



Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf.
½d., green and black.
1d., carmine and black.

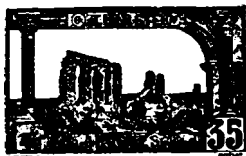
St. Lucia.—*A Correction.*—On page 440, Vol. II, of *G.S.W.*, we announced on the authority of our New York correspondent, Mr. E. B. Power, that this colony was about to issue a new series portraying the Arms of the colony. Mr. Power now writes that St. Lucia was a slip of the pen for Grenada. Of this new Grenada series we have been hearing rumours for many months. We suppose they will materialize some day. Anyway, there is nothing like a little judicious beating of the tom-tom for some time in advance. In this case we suspect the source of inspiration is the sight of sample sets entrusted to the Berne authorities for distribution to the members of the Postal Union.

Siam.—Messrs. [Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., send us the current 14 atts surcharged 1 att, and the 28 atts surcharged 2 atts. The surcharges are in black.



Provisionals.
1 att on 14 atts, blue.
2 atts on 28 atts, chocolate and blue.

Tunis.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., send us some curious productions as new issues for this French Protectorate. In these stamps the order of small size for low values and large size for high values is reversed. The low values are of the large oblong type, and the francs of the small size.



Perf.
35 c., olive-green and pale bistre.
40 c., dark brown and red-brown.
75 c., red-brown and carmine.



1 fr., black on buff.
2 fr., red-brown on straw.
5 fr., green on green.

Victoria.—Our publishers send us the 3d. of the current series to be added to the list with the new watermark Crown A.



Wmk. Crown A. Perf.
½d., green.
1d., rose.
2d., violet.
3d., orange.
6d., green.

POSTAGE STAMP DEVICES

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

"WHAT a picture gallery!" We can easily imagine some non-collecting friend uttering such an exclamation as he or she turns over the pages of our Stamp Album. Views culled from the whole gamut of human endeavours are here in profusion. Portraits both of the mighty dead and of the no less mighty living, representations of the gods and goddesses of antiquity, pictures of birds, beasts, and fishes, both legendary and actual; views of beautiful landscapes and seascapes; designs of human invention, from the rude barbaric alphabet of an Eastern state to the most finished product of Western civilization—all these are here displayed to the view, a feast in beauty of design and colour, a veritable kaleidoscope, a marvellous example of the fertile ingenuity of the human brain.

When, however, we begin to differentiate between the various designs and tabulate them under certain headings, we find that the most general design on postage stamps is that of the portrait of the reigning sovereign or president.

The reason why, we need not discuss. It seemed a natural thing in 1840 to take as an example the coins of the realm and make use of Queen Victoria's head for the central design of the first postage stamp. The portrait idea took some years to gain a footing in other countries.

The United States of America seems to have been the next country to follow suit, with portraits of Franklin and Washington, in 1847. In the next decade portraits became very general, until now there are very few great stamp-issuing countries which have not, in one or other of their issues, adopted this device. Russia and Turkey are, I believe, the only exceptions, for Germany fell into line in 1900 with a group, among which the Emperor figures, on the 3 and 5 mark values. Russia has always been content with her double-headed eagle for the central designs of all her issues, with the one exception of the ephemeral issue of the Charity war stamps, issued last year. The 3, 5, and 10 kopeck values depict monuments at Sebastopol and Moscow, while the 7 kopeck value gives a

picture of the statue of Peter the Great at St. Petersburg. Three kopecks was charged over and above the face value of each stamp, and the excess was paid into a fund for the benefit of the orphans of Russian soldiers who fell in the war with Japan.

The case of Turkey is interesting. There is a verse in the Koran which forbids all manner of statues. The Turk, being a strict follower of the prophet Mohammed, interprets this verse to include portraits. Hence no portrait of the Sultan has ever appeared on Turkish stamps. Instead, thereof, we have the "Thoughtra," or official signature of His Majesty the Sultan. The first Sultans used to make rough impressions with the five fingers of one hand at the foot of their decrees, and history relates how Mohammed II placed his fingers, wet with blood, on the columns of Saint Sophia, at the capture of Constantinople in 1453. The arabesque pattern in the centre of Turkish stamps is intended to represent these finger impressions. To the Mohammedan, the hand has three great meanings. It typifies providence, law, and power. The hand on the stamps symbolizes the spiritual and temporal power which protects the good and the faithful and punishes their adversaries.

Lest the reader look and look in vain for the hand on the accompanying illustration, it may be well to explain that it occupies the central portion above the upturned crescent. The "Thoughtra" is written over the hand with elaborate sweeps of the pen. In the illustration it means, "His Majesty Abdul-Aziz, son of Mahmoud, may he be always victorious." With every new stamp there is a corresponding change in the "Thoughtra."



We return to portraits. Have you ever compared the many stamp portraits of our

late Queen Victoria? They form a most interesting study. Let us then consider the early portraits. The first is that which figures on the black penny stamp of 1840. It was taken from the medal struck by Mr. William Wyon, of the Royal Mint, to commemorate Queen Victoria's visit to the city of London on Lord Mayor's day 1837. The engraver of the original die of the stamp was Mr. Frederick Heath, and the printers were Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. Undoubtedly it was an idealized portrait, but for simple dignity and grace and queenliness it has never been surpassed. What a contrast it offers to the laurel-crowned effigy of the New South Wales issue of 1851, engraved by Mr. John Carmichael, of Sydney, or the caricature by Mr. Jervis in 1853! These early examples of colonial workmanship are, to say the least, far from prepossessing.

Great Britain.



1840.

New South Wales.



1851.



1853.

Let us turn to her namesake colony of Victoria and see how stamp production fared in the colony newly cut off from New South Wales. The engraver here was a Melbourne artist, Mr. Thomas Ham. His design pictured the Queen wearing a low-cut dress, diadem, and coif, and holding the orb in her left hand and the sceptre in her right. The portrait was not a success, but the idea was good.

Two years later, in 1852, he improved upon it by introducing a full-length portrait of the Queen in royal robes, wearing a crown and seated on a throne. The Gothic arch surrounding the design gives a certain

dignity to the picture, and the result is quaint and pleasing.

Victoria.



1850.



1852.

If Mauritius can boast of having produced the ugliest caricatures of Queen Victoria (what wonder, when the first issue is said to have been designed by a local watchmaker!), Canada can certainly lay claim to the finest series of portraits of our late Queen. The charm of youth, the dignity of age, the symbol of rank and the symbol of widowhood, all these are fittingly depicted on the stamps of Canada. Description is superfluous. Look at the illustrations, or, better still, give Canadian stamps a warm corner in your heart and a roomy resting-place in your album, for they are indeed a goodly treasure.



1868.



1893-7.



1851.



1897-8.

Tasmania joined the stamp-issuing countries on 1 November, 1853. The engraver

Tasmania.



of the first issue was a Mr. Coard. The stamps were printed at the office of the *Courier* newspaper of Hobart Town. The example given of this first issue needs one remark. The design was intended to represent Queen Victoria. Of the success of the attempt I leave the reader to judge.

The early issues of British India in 1854-5, printed at Calcutta at the office of the Surveyor-General, were not satisfactory from an artistic point of view. Accordingly, the November of 1855 saw Messrs. De La Rue's 4 annas take the place of the Calcutta-printed red and blue octagonal. Since then, native art has been abandoned and British India has obtained its stamps from England.

New Zealand entrusted her postal requirements to Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. The portrait of Queen Victoria which figures on all her issues of the first seventeen years, from 1855 to 1872, was taken from the picture painted by Mr. Alfred E.

Chalon, R.A., immediately after the Coronation.



1855.

The 2½d., blue, of the 1882-97 issue of New Zealand is the one blot in a very attractive series of designs. One can hardly credit that the firm which engraved the first of the illustrations below was also responsible for the second.



1882-97.

(To be continued.)

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

TOMMY'S STRATEGY

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON

"IT fits like a glove, mum," said Mr. Cutts, the tailor, as he surveyed with an experienced eye Tommy Triggs in a new Norfolk jacket.

"Ain't it too loose acrost the chest?" queried Mrs. Triggs, eyeing the garment critically.

"Not a bit, mum," replied the sartorial artist. "Your son is getting broader every day; we must allow for expansion. It's a lovely fit!" he continued, straightening the lapels of the coat, pulling it at the back, and manipulating the badly-fitting garment as only a vendor of "ready-mades" can do. "It's a nice change from the sailor's," he added; "it makes the bonny chap look a perfect little man."

The reference to her ten-year-old son as a bonny little chap conquered any misgivings Mrs. Triggs may have had as to the fit of the Norfolk jacket, and she decided on that particular one.

"Don't send it 'ome just at once," she said; "I came acrost an old figured vest of my 'usband's, and the fancy buttons on it 'ud make the Norfolk jacket look smarter, I thinks." The tailor acquiesced, and it was arranged that Tommy should bring the buttons the following day.

Tommy was in high glee on his way home. His devoted father always gave him a penny for each pocket in a new suit, and this one would have three. The money thus acquired would be spent on foreign stamps, for the young hopeful was an ardent collector. On his arrival home, he told his father how the expected pence would be expended.

Now Tommy had a sister, Beatrice by name—known as Beatty in the family circle—who was "keeping company" with a young man whom Mr. and Mrs. Triggs had invited to spend a few days' holiday under their roof, to decide whether he was really

fit to be trusted with the future of such a treasure as the lady in question—their only daughter.

This young man, William Larcum—Beat's bloke, as he termed himself—declared his intention of following the example of Tommy's pa by also giving a penny for each pocket in the new suit. Ma said it was very large-heartedness, but they couldn't hear of it. Pa said, "No, no, certainly not." But Bill said, "Yes, yes, the pleasure's mine," and this clinched matters; the Triggs had no further argument to offer.

Tommy's happiness was unbounded as he anticipated the great treat in store for him, and on the following day, when he was entrusted with the fancy buttons from pa's old figured vest to convey to the tailor, could not resist looking in the stamp shop, which lay in his line of march, to gaze eagerly at the alluring display of the stamp-man's wares, and cogitate as to what he would buy with his promised pence.

While he was worshipping the philatelic display, two young men of the labouring class walked up to the shop and gazed in at the window.

"Funny business, this 'ere stamp business," said one.

"Yaas," replied the other. "Don't see much in stamp collecting."

"'Fre," said the first speaker, his face wreathed in smiles as though he had been favoured with a sudden inspiration, or had started an amazing discovery, "these 'ere ain't stamps—they're blooming puzzles," and he pointed to a set of Siam.

"Ahr's that?" replied his mate.

"Well, see them bareheaded covies?"

"Yaas."

"Puzzle, find their 'ats."

The second speaker could not solve the conundrum.

"Why, look dahn in the bottom right-'and corner. Don't yer see? 1 att, 2 atts, and so on."

And laughing heartily at the impromptu joke, they went on their jovial way.

Tommy had heard the foregoing conversation, and longed to possess a set of stamps which lent itself to such an amusing conundrum, so that he might delight his pa and ma, Bill and Beatty, with its repetition.

Such a joke would be appreciated by the Triggs. The omission of an "h" to them was of small import—in fact, "a custom more honoured in the breach than in the observance," for in their daily conversation they

made a liberal interpolation of aspirates, and so counterbalanced such omissions.

The Triggs' offspring looked at the set—"9 Siam, only 1s.!" *Only* one shilling. It was a vast sum to Tommy, and he would have but sixpence with his new suit—three-pence from his father, and three-pence from his sister's fiancé.

He went on his way to the tailor deep in thought; but before entering Mr. Cutts' establishment, he had resolved upon a certain course of action. The tailor recognized him as he entered the shop, and asked, "Has your ma sent you with the fancy buttons?"

"I shall bring those this afternoon," said Tommy. "Will you please put a pocket at the back of the trousers—like pa has to keep his money in—and two inside pockets to the jacket?"

Mr. Cutts promised that this should have his attention.

"Let me see," soliloquized Tommy; "six pockets—penny for each pocket from pa, and same from Beat's chap, that makes one shilling!"

That same afternoon he took to the tailor the fancy buttons, requesting that the suit might be delivered, if possible, at six o'clock on the following Saturday evening. He knew his mother would be out shopping then, and was desirous that Mrs. Triggs should not become aware of the extra pockets too soon.

When the suit arrived, Mrs. Triggs and Beatty, as anticipated, were out. Tommy rushed eagerly upstairs, donned the new garment, and came down smiling to his father and "Bill," who were smoking cigars at five for a shilling, thoughtfully provided by the latter, in front of the fire. Beatty's young man surveyed Tommy with admiration, and declared that he looked a fair toff; and Tommy, deliberately referring to the new pockets, reminded the two of their former promise, and accordingly received sixpence from each.

Tommy then went and put on his old sailor suit, and disappeared in quest of the much-coveted stamps, which were affixed in his album before the return of the two fair shoppers, who were heavily laden with purchases.

Mrs. Triggs inquired anxiously whether the new suit had arrived, as she was desirous of her son wearing it on the following day, Sunday. Being assured of this, she asked her young hopeful to try it on; but he ungallantly declared himself so tired and to

have such a headache, that he would rather leave it until the morning. He lost no time, however, in introducing the Siam stamps into the family circle, who laughed uproariously at the joke about the "atts."

"Guess the bloke with the twelve atts must be an ole clo' man," said Bill.

"Oo er, you are a one!" shrieked Beatty, giving him a most unmaidenly dig in the ribs in playful appreciation of this joke.

When Mrs. Triggs heard of her son's deception, she was sorely grieved. "What would Bill think of her training of her children?" she worried, and he was such a good catch for Beatty; he "earned good money."

But Bill, notwithstanding her tearful explanation, treated the matter as a huge joke, and declared that the young rascal Tommy would make his way in the world.

THE STAMP MARKET

By AN ODD LOT

Only a Nought Omitted

A CURIOUS, but not uncommon, omission blunted the point of what I intended to be a mild sensation in my last notes on page 24. Under the head of "Some Great Transvaals," I said I should not be surprised if a *tête-bêche* block of the 6d. of the Viljoen printing fetched nearer £30 than the £3 originally paid for it by Mr. Nankivell. Of course, I meant £300! £30 would be a very mild statement. It was merely a case of a nought omitted. That is all!

Those *tête-bêche* Rarities

Those *tête-bêche* rarities are among the greatest gems in the greatest Transvaal collections. Very few copies are known of those of the First Republic. A specialist tells me that in the course of more than a decade of experience he has seen only about half a dozen copies in all. Many very wealthy collectors are now competing for the rarities of the early Transvaals, hence the amazingly big prices which they fetch.

That other Auctioneer

THE well-known London stamp dealer who has been credited with the intention of turning stamp auctioneer has apparently thought better of his proposed venture, for he has not come forward, nor do I believe he is likely to be so foolish. He knows well enough that there are already too many in the field.

East and West Africans

THERE can be no doubt that East and West Africans are rising in popular esteem, but, alas! these quick changes from single to multiple CA watermarks have removed some very interesting stamps out of the reach of the young collector. Otherwise some of those East and West Africans might have remained very tempting countries to many. In Lagos, Southern Nigeria, Gambia, British East Africa, and Somaliland, many single CA stamps have run into long prices.

Single CA's

It is early days yet to say what stamps are likely to remain scarce. The high prices that prevail for those that are scarce should tempt the speculators to unload any stocks they may have secured. One or two lots have come on the market and lowered prices for a few days at a time, but only for a few days, and the chances seem to be against stocks turning up.

That New Beginners' Album

PASSING 391 Strand the other day, I dropped in to know how the new album for beginners is getting on, and I was informed that it is progressing very satisfactorily, though no date can yet be fixed for its publication. Poor Gordon Smith's help is sorely missed in a work of this sort. Having compiled the Century Album, his experience would have been invaluable in the work of further simplification.

THE BEST STAMP HINGES

We have just prepared a new stamp hinge, of convenient size, put up in *air-tight tin boxes*, each containing 1000 hinges of good tough paper, doubly gummed, and thus easily peelable. Post-free, 7d. per box.

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PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Herne Bay Philatelic Society

8 Promenade Central.

THE third meeting of the season 1905-6 was held in Newton's Saloon, 8 Promenade Central, on Wednesday, 10 January, 1906, at 8.15 p.m.

The following gentlemen were present: Major P. F. Brine, in the chair, Messrs. Barwood, jun., G. Dukes, C. S. Greenhead, R.A.M., J. J. Moffat, J. L. Moore, T. F. Newton, and T. Ridout.

It was decided that the exchange of stamps should take place at each meeting.

Mr. G. Dukes read a paper on "French Stamps and Hints on Collecting." He was congratulated on the interesting way in which he treated the subject and on the well-arranged collection of French stamps displayed.

Mr. C. S. Greenhead, R.A.M., promised a paper on "Great Britain" on 14 February.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Malville.

Secretary: H. F. Johnson, 4 Portland Place North, Clapham

Meetings: Exeter Hall, Strand, W.C. [Road, S.W.]

Annual Subscription: 1s. 6d.

THE Special Literature night of the Junior Philatelic Society was held on Saturday, 6 January, in Exeter Hall. An auction, chiefly of lots of philatelic literature, was commenced shortly after 5.30, a goodly number of members being in attendance, and excellent prices being secured for some of the best works offered. Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge conducted the sale in his usual brisk and cheerful manner.

At 8 o'clock the ordinary meeting was commenced. After the Secretary had read the minutes, various donations were acknowledged on behalf of the librarian and the curator of the permanent collection.

The following new members were elected:—E. Egley, W. E. Whitnall, C. J. Phillips.

It was announced that the tickets and plan for the Bijou Theatre performance of the Society's novel stamp play were ready, and could be booked at once on application to the Secretary.

The awards in the literature contest were awarded as follows:—Diploma for literature and library accessories.—Fred J. Melville. Diploma for a paper on a philatelic subject.—Class A (over 21), H. Clark; Class B (under 21), L. H. Crouch.

The examination was conducted by secret ballot papers, and the examiners were kept in ignorance of the names of the competitors. In the literature contest, Mr. H. Clark very nearly tied with the President, securing 80.6 marks to the latter's 83 out of a possible 100.

The chief entries were on view at the meeting, and the extensive card index to philatelic literature, with over 15,000 entries, exhibited by the President was much admired.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. R. Halliday, Mr. Eastwood read that gentleman's paper on "Early Stamp Catalogues and their Compilers." It proved, like all Mr. Halliday's compilations, to be of the utmost interest to all interested in the history of the pastime of stamp collecting. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to both the writer and the reader of the paper.

Mr. Melville then read a short humorous paper, which was much appreciated, and the meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: E. Egly, Arcliffe Road, West Park, Leeds.

Secretary: Charles W. Harding, 139 Belle Vue Road, Leeds.

Meetings: Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street, Leeds.

Annual Subscription: 6s.; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

AT the last meeting of this Society, held at the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, 9 January, 1906, there was a display of European stamps by the members.

All countries were represented, some by really fine and valuable collections, Mr. H. Wade's French (of the First Republic and of the Empire) and unused Russian deserving especial mention. Messrs. Egly, Thackrah, and Fox also showed very interesting general collections of used and unused Europeans.

Amongst the novelties shown were: Denmark, King's Head, 5 öre, green; 15 öre, violet, the latter with figure in centre; and Belgium, 1 franc, yellow, 1905, by Mr. Egly; the very rare 3d., English, rose, 1862, with two secret dots, perforated, with watermark, and in mint state, by Mr. W. V. Morten; Great Barrier Islands Pigeon Post stamps, by Mr. P. M. Knight; Danish West Indies, 25 bit, new issue, by Mr. Fraser.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: Herbert Woods.

Secretary: W. Halfpenny, 28 Dacey Street, Liverpool.

Meetings: Angel Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool. 7 p.m.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held at the Angel Hotel, Dale Street, on Monday evening, 8 January, 1906. The President, Mr. Herbert Woods, was in the chair, and there was a large attendance of members. After the usual preliminaries, including the election of two new candidates for membership, a paper on the stamps of Canada was read by Mr. Burrow. The lecturer gave a very lucid and interesting address, opening his remarks with a short outline of the colony's history, and passing on to its philatelic issues. About these he brought forward many interesting and little-known points, and called special attention to the magnificent field this colony gives to the specialist, owing to the grand range of shades to be found in the various issues.

The exhibits for the evening were the stamps of Canada and Sweden, and a fine lot were shown. In Canada, Messrs. Hughes and Rockliff both exhibited fine collections (Mr. Hughes' being specially strong in shades); while in Sweden Mr. Allender made a good show.

Hearty votes of thanks to the lecturer concluded a pleasant evening.

Scottish Philatelic Society

President: John Walker.

Secretary: R. W. Findlater, 30 Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh.

Meetings: Edinburgh. Monthly: 8 p.m.

Annual Subscription: Ord. 5s.; Cor. 2s. 6d.

THE usual monthly meeting of the above Society was held on Monday, 8 January, 1906, at 26 Frederick Street, Edinburgh, at 8 p.m., with a good turn-out of members. Miss Currie, Edinburgh, was unanimously elected an ordinary member.

The Secretary reported that the September packet had returned from circulation, the sales being exactly double for corresponding month of last year. The October, November, and December packets were still in circulation, with excellent sales to date. The January, 1906, packet, was dispatched on the 2nd inst.

Mr. James Baxter and Mr. William Bonnar gave an interesting display of the stamps of Australasia, Mr. Baxter's collection being especially strong in Victoria, while Mr. Bonnar, having devoted his energies to New Zealand, made this combined display an exceptionally interesting one.

The Society welcomed one of its lady members, who kindly attended this meeting, and the hope was expressed that others would find time to attend the meetings.

At the February meeting the President, Mr. John Walker, will read a paper, and be assisted by Mr. N. M. Berrie in a display of the stamps of Scandinavia.

Philatelic Society of Victoria

President: W. R. Rundell.
Secretary: W. Bretschneider.
Meetings: 128 Russell Street, Melbourne.

The general meeting of the above Society was held on 16 November, 1905, at the rooms, 128 Russell Street,

at 8 p.m. Mr. Jackson, the Vice-President, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. W. R. Waddington was duly elected a member.

Positions in Book 150 were next balloted for.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Committee had decided to alter the by-laws so as to allow the Sydney members of our Society to have the Exchange Books in the same way as our country members are getting them. The action of the Committee was approved of by those present.

Mr. Jackson proposed, and Mr. Welsh seconded, that Rules 3 and 6 of the Junior branch be altered to read as follows:—

Rule 3. Young ladies and gentlemen under twenty years may be elected as members.

Rule 6. The subscription shall be 2s. per half-year, payable in advance, for members under twenty-one years, and 3s. per half-year, payable in advance, for members over twenty-one years.

These two alterations are to be confirmed at the next general meeting of the parent Society.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Bound Copies of Vol. I.—We regret to learn from our publishers that they have only been able to bind up some twenty-five copies of Vol. I, all told. By some strange oversight no sheets seem to have been set aside for binding, so that few copies will be available even at the publishers' price of 10s.

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to Edward J. Nankivell, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Correspondence.—The Editor regrets that he has no time for direct correspondence. All letters requiring a reply will be dealt with under the head of "Answers to Correspondents."

Examination of Stamps.—This work is done by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., whose terms for the examination of stamps sent to them for their opinion are, cash in advance: 2s. 6d. per dozen; a minimum charge of 1s. being made if less than twelve stamps are sent. Postages extra. The stamps should be sent lightly fastened on sheets, with sufficient space above each stamp for the insertion of the desired information.

The following abbreviations are used in giving an opinion:—B. Bogus, i.e. never existed; F. Forged; G. Genuine; G.F. Stamps genuine, surcharge forged;

R. Reprint; W. Watermark. The charge for marking the forgeries in a collection in its entirety is at the rate of 10s. per 1000 stamps examined, the minimum fee being 5s. Postages extra. If a correspondence is desired, the charge is 1s. for each letter written.

Subscriptions.—Subscriptions must be sent to the publishers as set out on the front page of cover, or to booksellers or railway bookstalls, but never to the Editor.

Covers for Binding Vol. I.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. I of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d. post-free.

Our Miscellaneous Page.—We wish to make *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* a storehouse of information, and shall therefore be glad of any cuttings of more or less permanent interest for our "Miscellaneous" page. Source and date of cutting must be given.

Philatelic Societies.—We wish to make a special feature of the prompt publication of the reports of Philatelic Societies, and trust we may have the kindly co-operation of the honorary secretaries in this matter. Reports should be written on one side of the paper, and despatched to the Editor by the earliest post.

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Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 5
Whole No. 57

3 FEBRUARY, 1906

VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Boyaca



BOYACA is one of the eight (formerly nine with Panama) provinces into which the United States of Colombia is divided. Each province has its own financial administration, hence the separate postal issues for these various provinces, now happily to be welded into one for postal purposes.

The Department or Province of Boyaca lies between the rivers Magdalena and Orinoco, touching the frontier of Venezuela.

The western portion of the province is mountainous, but in the east there are vast prairies, watered by the Meta and its tributaries. The Muzo emerald mine is said to be the richest in the world. There are also coal, iron, and copper mines. The area of the province is 33,350 square miles, and the population about 720,000. The capital is Tunja, with a population of between 6000 and 7000.

Its Philatelic History

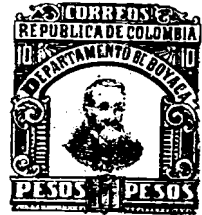
Although a separate province with its own financial administration, it did not occur to the authorities to follow the lead of the other departments in issuing a separate series of stamps till 1899, and then one fine morning we stamp collectors received a roughly produced stamp labelled "Colombia—Boyaca." For four years that single 5 c. stamp served all the needs of a separate issue, till in 1903 we were presented with a full set of various designs from 10 centavos to 10 pesos. In 1904 a 10 c. appeared of a new design, and with it ends the separate philatelic life of Boyaca, its stamps being superseded by the general issue of Colombia.

1899. One value. Design, a portrait of Mendoza Perez, very roughly produced locally. Perforated.



	<i>Perforated.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
5 centavos, blue-green . . .	5	0	—

1903. Six values. Various designs. The 10 c. and 20 c. are of the Arms type; the 50 c. has a portrait of General Pinzon; the 1 peso is of the large central numeral design; the 5 pesos presents us with a view of the monument erected to commemorate the battle of Boyaca, at which Bolivar gained



a decisive victory over the Spanish forces on 7 August, 1819; and the 10 pesos has a portrait of President Marroquin. The stamps were issued perforated and imperforate.

	<i>Perforated.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
10 c., grey-black . . .	0	1	0 2
20 c., brown . . .	0	2	0 3
50 c., green . . .	0	2	—
50 c., blue . . .	—	—	—
1 peso, red . . .	—	—	—
5 pesos, black on rose . . .	—	—	—
10 ,, black on yellow . . .	—	—	—

	<i>Imperf.</i>		
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
10 c., grey-black . . .	0	1	0 1
20 c., brown . . .	0	2	0 2
5 pesos, black on rose . . .	2	6	—
10 ,, ,, buff . . .	4	6	—

1904. One value. New design, in which a statue takes the place of the Arms as the central design. Perforated and imperforate.



	<i>Perforated.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
10 c., orange . . .	0	2	—

	<i>Imperforate.</i>		
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
10 c., orange . . .	0	6	—

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

CHAPTER VII

Some collections we have purchased

A SHORT list of a few of the more important collections purchased since the incorporation of our company may prove of interest.

Of small collections, both general and specialized, we have bought many hundreds. Very often we buy a collection to obtain a few stamps we require, and we then hand over the balance to our Auction Department, to sell them without reserve for what they will bring.

The first collection worthy of note that we purchased in 1891 was a superb one of the Philippine Islands costing us £550.

This contained complete reconstructed plates of the first issue 5 and 10 cuartos and 1 and 2 reales.

A little later we bought Mr. G. T. Köster's collection of Mexicans, mostly obtained during his annual visits to that country. This included over 100 Guadalajaras.

In February we purchased Mr. Charles Colman's British Colonials for nearly £2000.

In this there were Canada 12d., used; British Guiana, 1856, 4 c., blue, oblong; Cape, woodblock errors; Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland shillings, unused, in shades, etc.

In May we purchased a fine general collection formed by the French Ambassador in China.

In April, 1893, we bought the superb collection of Indian stamps formed by the late Mr. D. Garth, which was justly considered to be the finest collection of these stamps in existence.

In 1894 we purchased, for £3000, the fine general collection of Mr. Ernst Winzer, of Dresden; this was really a double collection, as Mr. Winzer collected all the stamps he could obtain, both used and unused.

In October, 1894, we purchased, for £10,000 net, the celebrated collection of Australian stamps formed by Mr. M. P. Castle.

Later in the same year we purchased the remarkably fine collection of unused British stamps, consisting of postage and telegraph

stamps, proofs and essays, formed by His Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C. This collection cost nearly £2000.

In 1895, on the occasion of my first visit to the United States, I bought the old collection of Mr. Charles T. Harbeck for the sum of £3000. This collection was interesting, as it contained two stamps issued later than 1870.

Owing to the death of Mr. Gilbert Harrison, his executors placed his collections in my hands for sale. They were all highly specialized, and consisted of Portuguese India, Cashmere, Afghanistan and Japan, etc. We first sold the stamps on commission, but eventually bought the whole balance, paying about £6000 in all for these grand collections.

About 1895 we bought the very old collection of Mr. W. Cooper, of Pembroke Square, W. The price was a large one, but I am unable to find a record of the exact figure paid. This collection was a *very* old one, and contained some remarkable proofs and essays, and even a number of proofs of forgeries.

In June, 1895, we bought the large collection of Mr. J. E. Wilbey, contained in thirty large volumes, and consisting of used stamps only, in which this gentleman specialized. This contained many great rarities, such as superb circular and large oblong British Guiana, Moldavia first issue, etc.

Early in 1896 we gave £3000 for the collection of Mr. W. Hughes-Hughes, of the Inner Temple. This was commenced in 1859 and closed in 1874! But it did contain some gems. Amongst them I remember Cape of Good Hope, woodblock error 4d., red, unused; British Guiana, large oblong 4 c., blue, on sugar paper; Great Britain, 1d., plate 77, unused; Moldavia, 81 paras, etc.

Later in the same year we gave Mr. R. Ehrenbach £6000 for his superb collection of German stamps, one of the finest specialized collections we ever handled, strong in old stamps, unused, mint, in singles and blocks.

In November, 1896, we (in conjunction

with a friend) bought the collection of British stamps formed by the late Earl of Kingston, the cost price being £1800. To give an idea of the strength of this collection, I may mention that it contained no less than fifty-six unused copies of the 6d., 10d., and 1s. octagonal stamps.

In 1897, Mr. F. W. Ayer, of Bangor, Maine, U.S.A., placed his collection in our hands for sale. This collection contained the finest lot of the great rarities that we have ever had in our possession at one time, and we sold the finest stamps to the amount of £21,000 in a very short time. Space will only allow mention of a few things we had in this collection, but amongst them I remember—

Hawaiian Islands. First issue, eighteen copies, including two of the very rare 2 c.

Ceylon. Imperf. 4d., 8d., 9d., 1s., and 2s., mint set.

Cape. Woodblocks. Five errors, including the blue in a pair.

Buenos Ayres. Five copies each of the red and yellow.

United States. Baltimore, 10 c., buff, envelope, only copy known; Millbury, two copies; Brattleboro', used on letter.

Confederate Locals. Most of the rarities, including Madison, 3 c.; Uniontown, 2 c.; Grove Hill, 5 c.; Rheatown, 5 c., used.

Western Australia. 4d., blue, frame inverted.

North Americans were the strongest lot ever on sale, and included all known shades, used, unused, and on letters, etc. etc.

In 1898 we bought the general collection of Mr. H. L. Hayman for £4000. This collection was in twelve volumes, with Africa highly specialized and very fine. If I remember rightly, there were over seventy copies of the Cape of Good Hope woodblocks, including several unused.

In 1899 we bought one of the most interesting collections of stamps we have ever handled, that of the late Mr. J. Pauwels of Torquay. This collection contained stamps from 1840 to 1870. Amongst them I note—

British Guiana, 1856. Large oblong 4 c., blue, on sugar paper.

Cape of Good Hope. Both woodblock errors and several blocks unused.

New South Wales. Twelve unused Sydneys, etc.

Moldavia. 81 p., unused.

Réunion. 15 c. and 30 c., etc.

The cost of this collection, which was contained in two small books, was £4000.

In 1901 we bought Mr. W. T. Willett's superb collection of unused British stamps, containing nearly all the rarities in mint condition, and many of them in pairs and blocks.

From the same gentleman we had also a pretty lot of Nevis in whole sheets, the two collections costing us nearly £2000.

A little later on we bought from a well-known collector on the Continent a specialized collection of Philippines, the early issues plated and in fine condition.

About the same time we bought a fine lot of New South Wales, a collection formed by a well-known amateur in Sydney, and at about the same period we got a set of plates of Sydneys in London; this little lot ran to four hundred Sydneys and a great mass of laureated, the two collections costing close on £4500.

Later on we bought a specialized collection of Hawaiian Islands, including three of the first issue and most of the numerals, plated.

At the end of 1901 we paid nearly £3000 for two collections formed by an amateur of Genoa, the one a superb lot of the Italian States, wonderfully strong in old stamps on original letters. The other collection was one of Swiss stamps, and it contained the following—

Zurich. 4 rp., eighteen copies; 6 rp., 103 copies.

Geneva. 5 + 5 c., four copies.

Basle. Twelve copies.

Vaud. 4 c., pair and two singles, etc.

In 1902 we bought the South African collection of Mr. C. Hollander for about £1500, also the very fine specialized collection of New Zealand formed by Mr. Bate; and later in the same year Mr. Ehrenbach's Dominican Republic and a great collection of used English from a Scotch amateur.

In 1903 we bought the superb collection of Transvaals in seven volumes, formed by Mr. E. J. Nankivell during the preceding twenty-three years, the price paid being close on £3000.

Later in the same year we bought from a collector in Port Louis, Mauritius, a choice collection of these popular old stamps.

A little later on we bought a fine Australian collection containing no stamps later than 1885.

And the end of the same year we bought a fine collection of British Guiana, nothing later than the issue of 1882, including a

superb lot of the circular, 1850, the rare oblong, 1856, etc.

In 1904 we purchased a selection of *great rarities* to the amount of £4700 from a well-known titled collector.

In 1905 we bought the second collection of Australian stamps formed by Mr. M. P. Castle, paying £5750 for it, a grand lot of the most saleable stamps in the world—amongst them twenty-five unused and 341 used Sydney Views.

Later in the same year we bought a superb collection of Tasmanians, the 1d. and 4d. first issue, plated and nearly complete.

(To be continued.)

A little later we purchased Mr. T. W. Hall's very nice collection of Fiji Islands.

Such is, indeed, only a brief outline of the many fine collections that have passed through our hands during the last few years. We have had many others—some of great importance, about which the owners do not want any facts published—and many indeed of smaller importance; but I think it is of interest to put on record this brief summary of some of the most interesting collections we have handled.

FURTHER HINTS ON STAMP STRIPPING

By F. SEYMOUR LLOYD

AT the request of the editor, I append a short description of the chief causes which render the stripping operation one requiring special care. It will readily be understood that the examples given below are illustrative rather than comprehensive, and each collector will be able to amplify the list from his own experience.

I. Difficulties due to the character of the paper of which the stamp is composed

(a) If a stamp is composed of a very *thin paper* it is likely to be more fragile, and therefore the risks of tearing during stripping are greater. Examples are to be found among the early issues of Russia, Belgium, Denmark, Turkey, and many of the German states and American republics.

(b) The *texture* of a paper may render it very fragile, especially when damped; wove paper, if not finely surfaced, is apt to be more fragile than laid. Native-made papers are especially fragile when damped, e.g. Afghanistan, early issues of China and Japan, and many of the special issues of the Indian states.

(c) *Age*. Stamps become more brittle with increasing age, especially if badly stored or exposed to much light or handling.

When dealing with thin or fragile stamps the chief points to be noticed are, to see that the backs of the stamps are thoroughly,

but not too much, damped, and to touch the stamp as little as possible during its removal. When sufficiently moistened pass the blade of the envelope-opener carefully beneath one corner of the stamp, gently insinuating it further and further with a slight lifting movement until the whole is removed. If there is resistance at any point, wait a little and try again after a return to the moist pad; perseverance will be rewarded with success.

II. Difficulties due to the weakening of certain parts of a stamp by processes in its manufacture

(a) *Embossing*. Owing to the stretching and therefore weakening of the paper at the site of the embossing, one sometimes finds that the embossed design tends to separate from the body of the stamp. Examples are found in certain issues of Portugal, Sardinia, Gambia, Bavaria, etc.

(b) *Impressed watermark*, e.g. the cross-bearing oval impressed into the Swiss stamps of 1862-78, tends to separate wholly unless great care be used in stripping.

III. Difficulties caused by the fugitive nature of the dyes used to colour the stamp

(a) The early line-engraved stamps of Great Britain are so stable as regards their colouring that they may be even soaked in hot water without materially affecting their tint. Later days, however, have seen the

introduction of *surface-printing*, and the employment of aniline and other fugitive dyes, which, while they give fairly constant results in the hands of the printer, yield hues of all gradations when the labels printed with them are exposed to damp or moisture. Examples of such stamps are the current issues of Great Britain and most of her colonies. The early stamps of Russia and the Levant are particularly delicate, for, in addition to their colour spreading or washing out in water, their surface is very sensitive to injury, and readily rubs off on careless handling.

(b) *Safety paper*. Paper impregnated with prussiate of potash, which gives a blue colour to the stamp, largely washed out by immersion in water. Examples are to be found in the fourpenny, carmine (1855-6), of Great Britain and some of her Revenue stamps.

(c) *Delicate surcharges*. It is said that some of the official surcharges of Deccan will wash off.

(d) *Postmarks* may be considered under this heading. Postmarks printed with violet aniline or with greasy inks are apt to run or spread if the stamp is wetted on the surface, thus disfiguring it even further.

It is in cases such as these that the benefit of this method of stripping is so useful, as the surface of the stamp, not being wetted, is left practically unchanged.

One frequently finds stamps with small pieces of paper adhering to portions only of their backs. If such a stamp be treated by the damp pad method just described, it follows that the free parts of the stamp will be more wetted than the covered, so in such cases it is best to lay the stamp face downwards on a piece of clean glass and with a fine camel's-hair brush lightly charged with water paint over the adherent piece of paper, until the gum holding it is sufficiently dissolved to allow it to be peeled off without damping the free portions.

POSTAGE STAMP DEVICES

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 60.)

OUR hasty survey is almost ended. Of those colonies which have found no place in this article, there is one which for excellence in the portrait designing on her stamps has no superior. I refer to the Niger Coast Protectorate, now divided into Northern and Southern Nigeria. Contrast the illustration of the 1s. value of the Niger Coast, 1893, with the 2d., blue, Mauritius of 1859, probably the ugliest stamp portrait ever engraved, and you will see how widely different the representations have been of our late Queen Victoria, whose memory will ever be kept green as that of one

beloved by her people and revered the wide world o'er, the memory of one who lived a noble life ever absorbed in her people's good and the weal of the Empire over which she ruled so long and so greatly.

It is not our intention to travel along the track of Boswell Junior and begin to write up histories of the illustrious rulers whose portraits appear on stamps; but, as he possibly takes for granted that the history of our Royal Family is so well known that the writing up thereof is unnecessary, we will just have a peep at some of the stamps on which members of our reigning dynasty are depicted.

Canada, always to the fore with portraits of our late Queen Victoria, likewise enjoys the unique distinction of having given to the world two stamp portraits of Prince Albert the Good. These appear on the 6d., purple, of 1851, and the 10 c., brown, of 1859. I have seen it stated emphatically that these portraits are those of Lord Elgin, but as my information dates from



1859.



1893.

the year 1865, and is borne out by the leading catalogues, it seems probable that the flat contradiction is due to some mistake.

Canada.



The accession of our King, Edward VII, in 1901 brought with it a new order in postage stamps. "Queen's Heads" became obsolete, and the head of His Majesty began to appear on the postage stamps of the mother country and her colonies. But not for the first time. We must go back forty years. In 1866 his portrait appeared as Prince of Wales on the 10 c., black, of Newfoundland.

Again, in succeeding issues of Newfoundland, he appeared as a boy in Highland costume. And once more, in 1897, a royal series appeared in which His Majesty appeared on the 2 c., orange, and 2 c., vermilion. The other portraits of this series were those of Queen Victoria, Queen Alexandra, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the curly-headed baby boy, Prince Edward of Wales.



1866.



1868.

Representations of Deities

The first issue of France had a fine representation of the head of Ceres, the Roman goddess of agriculture and the fruits of the earth, and known to the Greeks as Demeter. On the stamps of 1849-50, the head of the goddess is encircled with a wreath formed of ears of corn, from which hangs a bunch of grapes. The precedent for such a description of the goddess is seen in a mural painting from Pompeii, in which Demeter is depicted with ears of corn entwined in her hair. In connexion with the stamps

of France this head of Ceres is generally taken to be symbolical of Liberty as well as Prosperity.

A curious parody of this head appeared on the stamps of Corrientes, an eastern province of the Argentine Republic. Common report says that engravers were rare in Corrientes in 1856. Accordingly, the task of copying the French head of Ceres was entrusted to a baker's boy who had served under an engraver before his emigration to the Argentine. A comparison of his work with the original is here given.

France.



Corrientes.



Mercury, the Greek Hermes, the son and messenger of Jupiter, fitly appears in the designs of the stamps of Greece, where of old he was worshipped as the god of commerce and the guide of travellers. In Art, he is represented with wings on his feet. A flat, broad-brimmed hat called a petasus adorns his head, which hat in later times was ornamented with wings. His staff, the caduceus, received from Apollo in exchange for the lyre which he had invented, was the symbol of the power that produces wealth and prosperity. The addition of wings symbolized his duties as the herald and messenger of the gods.

It is a curious fact that Greece, the mistress of ancient Art, had to apply to Paris for the first issue of her stamps. M. Albert Barre, the principal engraver to the French Mint, undertook the work. The general design of the French issue formed the background, while the head of Hermes was substituted for that of Ceres. We give illustrations of this issue of 1861, and also of a full-length view of the god in the issue of 1901.



(To be continued.)

GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

A Chalky Paper Feud

THERE is a deadly feud growing up between the pros and cons for giving the specialist variety known as chalky paper catalogue rank. As I have already intimated, Gibbons have barred the variety in the Supplement to their Catalogue, and this means, in all probability, its being barred from the Catalogue proper when the new edition comes out.

The beginner can look on and enjoy the fray, for he at least, whatever happens, will bar chalkies.

The chalkites counted their chickens before they were hatched, for they forestalled Gibbons by announcing that "of course Gibbons would list it. They had listed New South Wales and Portuguese chalkies and, of course, they would have to be logical and catalogue colonial chalkies." But, then, every one knows that we are an "illogical people"—at least, foreign writers on our parliamentary system say so—and if any evidence of our illogical tendency were needed, scientific inquirers would only have to put us stamp collectors into the box. Do we not frequently fondly include a variety in one country that we rigorously exclude from another? Of course we do. We pay the piper and we call the tune.

But let us get back to these chalkies. The chalkites are very angry with Gibbons for not taking the course they had mapped out. One devotee screams out that the chalky paper is as distinguishable as single and multiple, but then this was written in London, and it was very foggy in London when he wrote.

Again, they ask if chalky paper is not as admissible as the thick and the thin papers of China first issue. Agreed! say I for one, but two wrongs do not make a right.

However, it is admitted that the Catalogue exclusion of chalkies seems to have given satisfaction to a large body of philatelists, "especially to those who write for philatelic journals." Ahem! Just so. Aye, there's the rub. And we are a strong body to reckon with, Mr. Chalky.

The Exhibition

I SUPPOSE that projected International Philatelic Exhibition is coming off all right, though we hear precious little about it. There is not much beating of the tomtoms. Evidently the Executive Committee do not believe in publicity. Indeed, you might, for all evidence to the contrary, imagine that they had received strict injunctions to "keep it dark."

Barbados on the Spree

THE inhabitants of the loyal little colony of Barbados evidently intend to make the tercentenary of the English occupation of the island an occasion for high jinks. They are going in for a procession, sports, pastimes, illuminations, dinners, etc., and they are going to wind up with an issue of Tercentenary postage stamps. They are rather too fond of jubilizing on the slightest provocation; only a few years ago we had a series of jubilee plasters from them.

Norway's Next Move

BUT my philatelic eyes are centred on Norway. I am daily, I might say hourly, expecting to receive a series with the portrait of Norway's brand-new king.

Servians Unsettled

ARE we to lose King Peter's portrait from the stamps of Serbia? If we are to believe the Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, a new revolution is being planned to replace King Peter with a German prince, with a preference for Prince Francis Joseph of Battenberg. The Servians, it is said, are tired of being boycotted by the rest of Europe. All the courts of Europe, says the correspondent, have refused to receive a visit from King Peter, or to have any direct dealings with him, for the opinion prevails that he knew of the plan for the murder of King Alexander. This new revolution is credited with the intention of driving King Peter and his family out of Serbia before another year is over. Alas, poor Peter!

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR G. S. W. READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "G. S. W." readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

Ed. "G. S. W."

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

PERSIA.



1889. 7 chahi, brown.

10 „ black.

1 kran, orange-red.

2 „ pale rose.

5 „ green.

ALL UNUSED AND MINT.

The set of five stamps is catalogued
at 1s. 11d.

Special bargain price,
1s. the five, post-free.

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

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Barbados.—The Nelson Centenary stamps, which were ordered last June, have not yet arrived, says a Reuter telegram. The set will consist of $\frac{1}{4}$ d., $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 6d., and 1s., and about one year's supply has been ordered.

Brazil.—The 300 reis has been received by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., on water-marked paper.



Wmk. "Estados Unidos Brazil." Perf.

- 10 reis, scarlet and blue.
- 20 " orange "
- 50 " green. "
- 100 " carmine.
- 200 " blue.
- 300 " green and black.

British Guiana.—In *G.S.W.*, Vol. II, page 389, we chronicled the 96 c. as reported on multiple CA paper, and inserted it in our summary of values issued on multiple paper as being in its old colours of purple and carmine. We have now received the actual stamp from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and find the colours are altered to black and carmine on yellow paper.



Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf.

- 1 c., grey-green.
- 2 c., purple and black on red paper.
- 4 c. " blue.
- 5 c. " on blue paper.
- 6 c., grey-black and ultramarine.
- 12 c., purple and violet.
- 24 c. " green.
- 48 c., grey and chocolate.
- 60 c., green and carmine.
- 96 c., black and carmine on yellow paper.

Labuan.—*Even's Weekly Stamp News* says:—

"Since January 1st the Borneo Company has ceased to sell the stamps of Labuan or have any interest in them, and they can only now be had from Labuan."

New South Wales.—The *Australian Philatelist* says the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value has been issued on Crown A paper.



Wmk. Crown A. Perf.

- $\frac{1}{4}$ d., green.
- 1d., carmine.
- 2d., blue.
- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., dark blue.
- 4d., brown.
- 6d., orange.
- 1s., purple-brown.

Southern Nigeria.—The *Philatelic Exchange and Mart* says: "According to information to hand from Southern Nigeria, the 10s., single watermark, King's Head, is likely to be in use for a considerable time, that is supposing no enterprising person secures the thirty odd sheets which are still for sale in the treasury, otherwise those stamps should remain at their present value for the next few months."

Western Australia.—According to *Even's Weekly Stamp News*, the 2d. value has been issued on Crown A paper.



Wmk. Crown A. Perf.

- 1d., rose.
- 2d., yellow.

A SUBTLE TEMPTATION

By A. B. COOPER

CHAPTER I

IT was a cold day in latter March, and Mary Mandeville sat upon the bear-skin rug by the cosy fire in the morning-room. She was so deeply engrossed in old letters which lay scattered around her that she hardly noticed the entrance of her aunt, Mrs. Murray.

"What in the world have you got there, Mary?" said the elder lady, gazing down at her pretty niece in mild surprise.

"They are some letters sent on to me by Aunt Matilda. She turned them out during the spring cleaning. They are from grand-dad to mother, written, of course, when he was in South Africa, and when you girls"—smiling up at her aunt's rotund, matronly figure—"were at school in England. Aunt Matilda thought I ought to have them. They are most interesting, and only fire my ambition the more to follow in grand-dad's footsteps."

"Oh, dear!" sighed Mrs. Murray; "I should have thought their effect would have been just the opposite, for dear father, great brave heart that he was, was no fireside missionary. He was of the Livingstone type—knew him intimately, too, of course—and doubtless shortened his life by exposure and hardship."

"Grand old man!" said Mary. "These letters, though written so modestly, reveal his high ideal of duty. But you didn't really expect them to damp me, did you?"

"Well, I could almost have hoped they would. China is not South Africa, you know; and I shall be sorry to lose you, dear, if ever you put your resolve into action. Now, if you were a missionary's wife it would be different. But I must go. I ordered the carriage for ten. I'm driving into Farnmill."

Five minutes afterwards young Bob Murray strolled in. "Halloa, Mary!" he said, echoing his mother's words; "what have you got there?" and he flopped down beside her on the rug. "Crikey!" he further remarked a moment later. "Foreign stamps! What a queer shape! I've never seen any like these before. Mine are all square."

"Oblong, you mean," said Mary, for the first time seeming to notice him.

"Now, Miss Particular," retorted Bob. "Well, oblong, then—but what would you call that?" and he held up an empty envelope and pointed to a pair of stamps.

"'Triangular' might fit," said Mary.

"I shouldn't wonder," mused Bob, taking no notice of Mary's word, "if these three-cornered stamps are rattling good ones." He was busy removing them from the envelope. They came away with the greatest ease, and as there was no cancellation mark they looked quite fresh and new. "Let me put them on my exchange sheet, and mark them half a crown each."

"All right. I hope you'll get it. But the stamps are mine, remember," said his cousin, playfully pulling Bob's ear. "If you get anything for them it is ear-marked for foreign missions."

"And what am I ear-marked for?" said Bob, comically rubbing his auricular member.

"For a kiss, if you get half a crown each for them. Help me up, Bob—I've got the cramp with sitting so long"; and Bob, who considered Cousin Mary the queen of girls, jumped up with alacrity and, taking her two hands, hauled her to her feet.

"There! You shall have the kiss now," said Mary, giving the boy a hug, which he accepted with becoming resignation.

A week later and twenty miles away, in the large manufacturing town of Barton, a yellow fellow in clerical garb rang the bell of the smoke-begrimed, red-brick vicarage. A neat maid-servant opened the door, and the young man walked in without remark. As he stood in the hall removing his overcoat, however, he asked: "Is the vicar returned?"

"No, sir," replied the maid; "he said you were not to wait for him, but were to go on with dinner, as he might be detained."

"Bring it along, then, Jane, I'm ready," he said, and went rather wearily upstairs to the bathroom.

Five minutes later he was sitting all alone in the dining room. He never liked

dining alone, but the vicar was so uncertain that it was no novelty. Indeed, during the six months he had been the Rev. William Bryanstone's curate, and had lived under the same roof with his bachelor vicar, he

He picked up the postal packet which lay beside his plate. "Oh, these are stamps from Edward Thurlow," he muttered. "It'll do after dinner. I should judge he's a boy, both by his style of calligraphy and from



"CRIKEY! FOREIGN STAMPS! WHAT A QUEER SHAPE!"

had found opportunities of quiet intercourse all too few, for he was well aware that the vicar was a man of rare sympathy as well as knowledge, and, on coming to St. John's, he had looked forward to a close association with him with peculiar pleasure.

the fact that he never sends me anything of value." He laid down the packet again, and went on with his soup. By the time he reached the rice pudding, or third stage in his simple meal, however, he developed fresh, though still languid, interest in the

stamps. He broke the seal and drew out the sheet. He had only eaten two spoonfuls of the pudding, but the sight of that stamp-sheet effectually settled his appetite. He stood up and held the sheet close to the shaded lamp. There was a wonderful eagerness in his eyes. Perhaps it was the fault of the light, but it certainly appeared as if his face had even grown pallid.

"Half a crown!" he muttered, "and it's worth a thousand half-crowns if it's worth a penny."

He pushed his plate away and, fetching a magnifying glass from the writing table, laid the sheet on the white cloth, and brought the lens to bear upon a triangular stamp—one of three at the foot of it.

"Yes," he said, aloud, "there can be no doubt about it. This is one of the stamps in which an error of colour occurred—a Cape of Good Hope, 1861—in a pair, and unused, too! How in the world did the youngster come by it? Half a crown each! It's the find of a lifetime."

He pushed back his chair and paced about the room with bent head. So long did he continue his march that Mrs. Hopkins, the housekeeper, came up herself to inquire whether the vicar wanted dinner kept for him. She received a negative monosyllable, and the maid cleared the table. Then the curate took down his big annotated Bible and tried to study. But a brown study was the most he could accomplish. He leaned back in his chair and thought and thought.

His mind reviewed his past. He went once more through the hard struggle of his boyhood. Almost single-handed, he had fought his way to a first-class education, although he had never been to the 'Varsity; and now a burning desire had taken possession of his heart, singularly open to the influence of great enthusiasms, to secure a high medical degree and devote his life to the healing of men's souls and bodies in some dark region of the earth.

This, then, was the type of man Arnold Anderton was. But there was a fly in the ointment. He was poor—very poor. His stipend of one hundred pounds a year was his sole asset. He saved fifty of it, but it would take several fifties to see him through a complete course of medicine and surgery, and he could not be content to foist himself even on the poor benighted heathen with a certificate of proficiency in "first aid," or some such simple attainment.

"It's heaven-sent," he said aloud, pre-

sently; "I've prayed for this and it has come." He glanced down at the Bible which lay open in front of him: "All things work together for good to them that love God." These words appeared to start out of the page and to give a wonderful sanction to his thoughts.

And what were those thoughts? They ran something like this: "It is done every day, and even our Saviour used it as the basis of a parable—the parable of the treasure found hid in a field. The owner of the field did not know the treasure was there—the fortunate finder did, and profited by his superior knowledge. How often are pictures and books, picked up for the proverbial old song, found to be masters or rare editions, and worth fabulous sums? Does not the same rule apply to stamps? If not, why not? The vendor of this sheet of stamps marks the majority of them at prices ranging from threepence to a shilling. They are worth no more. Those which he values at half a crown each are worth——" Ah, the very thought of what they were worth made the curate flush with eager anticipation. "The vendor, then, would be well content to receive half a crown each for these stamps. It is a perfectly straightforward transaction. The price asked will be paid."

He could not concentrate his mind upon sermon-making, so he turned to his medical books. But again his thoughts flew off at a tangent. "Think of the good the money will do," he said to himself. "It will be devoted to the highest and noblest ends." But even this consideration did not appear to give him all the satisfaction it seemed calculated to afford. He pushed his books away from him with a gesture of impatience, and taking from his breast-pocket the sheet of stamps he again examined his wonderful "find."

At that moment the vicar came in. Anderton felt an impulse to put the stamps out of sight, but he resisted it. The vicar knew as much about stamps as a swallow knows of an English November, but he came and looked over Anderton's shoulder and, noting the triangular stamps, expressed a mild surprise at their shape.

"I've never seen a three-cornered stamp before," said the vicar. "What country do they hail from? Oh, I can see for myself. Cape of Good Hope. Marked at half a crown, are they? That's a pretty good profit on a fourpenny stamp—eh, Anderton?"

Now, Arnold Anderton was not by nature secretive, and on any other occasion his natural impulse would have been to share his new-found joy with his friend and colleague. Yet he felt a strong disinclination to talk about the stamps at all, and, after a few commonplace remarks, he expressed his readiness for bed, and carried them upstairs with him.

As Arnold Anderton knelt at his bedside, for the first time for years he felt as though a wall of partition had been built between him and heaven. Beyond his will the rhyming couplet from *Hamlet* came tumbling through his mind, and gave him a subconscious pang—

My words fly up, my thoughts remain below ;
Words without thoughts never to heaven go.

He rose from his knees and opened the little Bible that lay on his dressing table. Almost mechanically he turned to the eighth chapter of Romans, and again he read the words: "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them that are the called according to His purpose." "Yes," he said aloud, "I am called, and God has provided the means."

Arnold Anderton had known when a sad case in the parish had kept him awake. The sorrows of his fellows got upon his heart, and sometimes upon his nerves, too. To-night he had no such burden, yet he lay wide-eyed, and sleep refused to be wooed. The grey dawn crept into the room, but slumber still eluded him. Suddenly he sat bolt upright. His own text of the previous Sunday had risen before him like a spectre: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy path. Be not wise in thine own eyes." It did not seem to have any direct bearing upon the immediate issue before him, but it helped him to make up his mind instantly. He sprang out of bed, slipped into his dressing gown, and withdrawing the curtains he sat down at the little writing table in the window with the sheet of stamps in front of him. On the sheet itself he wrote underneath the precious stamps: "These stamps which are marked at two shillings and sixpence each are very valuable, and the writer would advise their owner to have them valued by an expert before submitting them for sale."

He did not know to whom they rightly

belonged, because the sheet went in a sort of circular tour by post from hand to hand. He only knew, and by name only, the one from whom he received it, and to this correspondent, Edward Thurlow, he wrote a brief note requesting that the sheet should be returned intact to its original sender. Having done this he dressed, slipped out of the house—the housekeeper and maid were not yet stirring—and posted it. Then he returned and, as he had a hard day's work before him and had hitherto had no sleep, went to his room. Before lying down, however, he knelt again at his bedside. The middle wall of partition was broken down, the lost communion was restored. Then he lay down and it was the breakfast bell which woke him.

"You were rambling about early this morning, Anderton, were you not?" said the vicar, as his curate appeared a little late and sat down to breakfast. "I thought of coming in to see if you were unwell, but I fancy I went off to sleep in the act of making up my mind."

"The devil quoted Scripture to me last night, sir," said the younger man, tapping the top of his egg with a spoon. "The text was all right, but the application was all wrong."

"Ah! that's interesting," said the vicar, looking at the young man, as who should say: "You've gone so far, you must tell me the rest."

"Yes, I'll tell you," said Anderton, interpreting the look. "It will do me good. You saw those stamps last night?"

"Yes—what of them? Is the devil a philatelist?"

"You know my ambition—to take my M.D. and carry my knowledge where it is most needed?"

"Yes," said the vicar, looking more mystified with every word.

"Well, the sale of those stamps—the pair of triangular ones, I mean—would probably pay for my course."

"What!"

"True. They *might* sell for anything up to three hundred pounds."

The vicar spilt his coffee in his surprise. "You don't tell me that! You're in luck, my boy."

"So the devil to'd me last night, and he used a text to make the lie seem true: 'All things work together for good.'"

"And don't they?"

"Not in that way. Those stamps were

priced by a novice. It was an exchange sheet, and the original owner was ignorant of their value. I got up early this morning to send them back. The devil's text proved a poor soporific; I couldn't sleep."

"God bless you, my boy. You did right,

(To be continued.)

right, right. Say no more about it. The world would laugh at you, but—let the world laugh. Marmalade? Excuse me leaving you. I've heaps to do if I'm to run over to Summertown next week-end. You say I need a change—I believe I do."

DEATH OF MISS HADLOW

WE regret to hear of the death of Miss H. E. Hadlow, who has been her brother's (Mr. Wm. Hadlow) right hand in his stamp and auction business in London for the past fifteen years. She was well known to most leading collectors who met her in her brother's office. Always courteous and obliging, she was popular with all who

called to do business with her equally popular brother. Unfortunately she had to undergo an operation for tumour in the early part of last month at the Tottenham Hospital. The operation was successful, but complications set in, blood poisoning supervened, and Miss Hadlow passed away at the early age of forty-nine.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society

President: P. J. Lloyd.
Secretary: Henry Alsop, 25 Alma Road, Clifton, Bristol.

The annual general meeting was held at 25 Alma Road, Clifton, on 18 January, 1906. There was a good attendance, with Alderman Gardner in the chair.

The President, Mr. P. J. Lloyd, sent a message apologizing for his unavoidable absence. The Hon. Secretary read his report and financial statement, which showed the Club was still maintaining its sound position.

The meetings held have been of great interest and value to the local members, especially so to those interested in West Indians, as arrangements have been made with Mr. E. Heginbottom for the loan of his

collection during the season. The exchange packet, which is circulated monthly, is well supported, the sales showing an increase over last year, the commission of five per cent being charged on net balances. A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to the President, Vice-President, retiring members of the Committee, and the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer for their services during the past year.

The officers and Committee were elected: President, Mr. P. J. Lloyd; Vice-President, Alderman Gardner, J.P.; Committee, Messrs. R. Dallon, J. H. Reynolds, J. W. Stooke, D. H. McPherson, G. Harrington, and Dr. Evans; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Henry Alsop.

The next meeting will be held at 36 Woodstock Road, 8 February, 1906.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

The Editor regrets that he has no time for direct correspondence. All letters requiring a reply will be dealt with under the head of "Answers to Correspondents."

E. L. G. (Westbury).—The stamp you describe is the Switzerland issue of 1900, made to commemorate the twenty-fifth year of the Universal Postal Union. The values and catalogue prices are as follows:—



Perforated.		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
5 c., green	• • •	0 2	—
10 c., rosine	• • •	0 6	0 6
25 c., blue	• • •	0 6	0 4

Then these stamps were re-engraved. The horizontally lined background was made clearer, and the figures of value were lined instead of being left solid. The 10 c. of the re-engraved series is a scarce stamp. The 25 c. was also re-engraved, but was not issued for use, although a few specimens were obtained by favour.

	Re-engraved.		Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., green	• • •	• • •	0 2	—
10 c., rosine	• • •	• • •	3 6	—

The names you notice at the foot of the design—"Grasset" and "Florian"—are the names of the designer and the engraver of the stamps.

E. T. H. (Cheltenham).—The control numbers of the English King's Heads are—

1d., green: A, B, C, C4, D4.
1d., pale green: D4, D5, E5.
1d., carmine: A, B, C, C4, D5.

F. L. D. O. (Folkstone).—1. The best album for Great Britain and Colonies is the Imperial Album, published by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. The price is 10s. for the volume in cloth binding. 2. The cheapest of British Colonies with a view to com-

pletion? Cayman Islands might serve your purpose. Its issues are as follows with Catalogue prices:—



1900. Queen's Head.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., green	0 2	—
½d., carmine	0 3	—



1901-2. King's Heads.
Wmk. Single C.A.

½d., green	0 1	0 1
½d., carmine	0 2	—
½d., ultramarine	0 4	—
6d., brown	1 6	—
1s., orange	2 6	—

1905. King's Heads.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., green	0 1	—
½d., ultramarine	0 4	—
6d., brown	—	—
1s., orange	—	—

3. Fiscal stamps are stamps used for fiscal, *i.e.* revenue purposes, not for postage. Stamps on bills, promissory notes, contracts, etc., are fiscals. 4. Gibbons catalogues about thirty varieties of the Cape triangulars, but the specialist would make many more by going in more freely for shades. They vary in price from 2s. up to an alarming number of pounds sterling, and are on the whole what you would probably term very expensive.

T. A. W.—We presume the explanation of the mystery of Llandoverly Falls on the Jamaica stamp is that some Welshman noticing a similarity in one of

the many falls in the colony to the Llandoverly Falls of his beloved Wales, christened the colonial imitation with the Welsh name. Will some one of our Jamaica readers clear up the mystery for us? Our correspondent, who lived in Swansea for seventeen years, says he knows the spot well, and recognizes the picture on the Jamaica stamp.

H. M. M. (Co. Kildare).—We see nothing in the present state of affairs in Russia to cause a rise in Russian stamps. If a republic were to displace the present government, the old stamps might then have a boom. Indian Native States have grown greatly in popularity owing to the lucid and interesting manner in which they have been written up in the *Monthly Journal* by Major Evans, but if you are, as you seem to be, on speculation bent, don't touch them until you thoroughly understand them. You had much better select good British colonies and collect straightforwardly: if for investment, take only unused.

A Young Un (Clapham).—Oh, yes, we shall have other stories to follow on in place of the *Stamp King*: in fact, *entre nous*, we have quite a surprise packet in that line up our editorial sleeve to commence probably in the autumn. Meanwhile you will find the first chapter of a good three-chapter story in this number. You can please yourself about including the Danish Christmas stamp in your collection. We don't think it is likely to be included in the Gibbons Catalogue.

E. S. B. (Slough).—Your Cape of Good Hope stamps overprinted with a "G" are Griqualands. You will find them in Gibbons Catalogue, page 85 of Part I. The value depends on the particular type of the letter "G," of which there are six varieties.

I. F. B. F. (St. Leonards on Sea).—The stamps of the Danish West Indies were written up in the *American Journal of Philately* in 1902. We don't know of any articles on the stamps in an English periodical. Prices were boomed considerably during the negotiations for the purchase of the islands by the United States, but as the proposed purchase fell through because the Danish Parliament refused to sell, the boom ended, and we see no reason to anticipate any rise unless the negotiations be renewed. We certainly should not recommend any Spanish colony for a rise. As you do not want to waste your money and have your pocket to consider, why not keep to the safer lines of British colonials? They are always saleable, whereas a foreign country might be most unsaleable.

OUR PHILATELIC DIARY

FEBRUARY, 1906

We shall be glad if Secretaries of Philatelic Societies will send us their Programmes for the new year. Several Societies are omitted from this Diary for lack of Programmes.

- Birmingham Philatelic Society: Paper—"Greece"; Mr. T. W. Morris. Display—Seychelles; Mr. J. W. Heath. North of England Philatelic Society: Auction.
- 1 & 2. Auction: Plumridge and Co., 64 Chancery Lane, London. 4 45 p.m.
- Philatelic Society of London: Mr. R. Yardley. Display of stamps of Griqualand, with Notes. Birmingham Philatelic Society: Auction. Manchester Philatelic Society: Lecture by Mr. F. J. Melville; Athenæum, 6.30 p.m.
- Junior Philatelic Society: 6 p.m., Auction; 8 p.m., Display—Fogeria, A. B. Kay; 8.40 p.m., Display—African Colonies V, Lagos and Mauritius; 9.15 p.m., Paper and Display—"Barbados," C. P. Rogers.
- Liverpool Philatelic Society: Paper—"Great Britain"; Mr. J. Bernstein. Display—Seychelles.
- Leeds Philatelic Society: Paper by Mr. F. J. Melville.
- 6 & 7. Auction: Puttick and Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London. 4.30 p.m.
- Manchester Philatelic Society: Dinner, 6.30 p.m.
- Bristol Philatelic Society: Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts, and Tobago.
- 8 & 9. Auction: Ventom, Bull, and Cooper, Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London. 5 p.m.
- Scottish Philatelic Society, Edinburgh. "Scandinavia"; Mr. N. M. Berry and Mr. J. Walker.
- 13 & 14. Auction: Glending and Co., 7 Argyll Street, London. 4.30 p.m.

Editorial Address—EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, CAMBANTON, CAMDEN PARK, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

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EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Bolivar



SIMON BOLIVAR, the Venezuelan general and statesman, who was born at Caracas in 1783, has been called the "Washington of South America." More than any other single man he may be credited with the lion's share in finally ridding South America of Spanish dominion and misgovernment. Hence his portrait appears on the postal issues of some of the South American republics, and many towns,

cities, and states in South and North America have been named after him. Nevertheless, Simon Bolivar died a poor man at the early age of 47.

But the Bolivar with which we are concerned for the moment is the northern department of Colombia, known to us stamp collectors as the stamp-issuing state of Bolivar.

Of the Colombian State or Department

of Bolivar there is little to be said. It lies west of the Magdalena, has an area of 21,345 square miles, and an estimated population of 350,000. Its capital is Cartagena, and its chief port Barranquilla. The surface of the province is described as being low and well watered, with many swamps, and the climate in some parts hot and unhealthy.

Its Philatelic History

Its philatelic history commenced with the issue of two values of a peculiar under-sized little design in 1863. Then followed a series of an Arms design, after which there were several series with portraits of Simon Bolivar, with a wind up of one or two series of various shapes and sizes, all quaint and crude local productions.

1863-6. Two values. Design, the Arms of Colombia in the centre, with inscriptions, E.U. DE COLOMBIA, CORREOS DEL ESTADO, in the outer frame, and in the inner frame, ESTADO S. DE BOLIVAR, and the value. The stamp was, as will be noted from our illustration, of a miniature size. The 1 peso is common, but the 10 c., green, is one of the rarities of the States of Colombia. The 10 c., printed first in green, was subsequently changed in colour to rose.



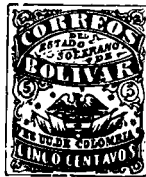
	<i>Imperf.</i>	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
10 c., green	.	£10	£6
10 c., rose	.	15 0	5 0
1 peso, red	.	0 9	—

1872. Four values. Design, Arms of the republic of Colombia. *Imperf.*



	<i>Imperf.</i>	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
5 c., blue	.	1 0	1 0
10 c., mauve	.	2 6	2 6
20 c., green	.	20 0	15 0
80 c., vermilion	.	—	22 6

1874. Three values. Design, Arms of the republic. *Imperf.*



	<i>Imperf.</i>	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
5 c., blue	.	—	3 6
10 c., mauve	.	1 6	1 6

1878. One value. Design, the Arms of the republic enclosed in a circle with inscriptions. *Imperf.*



	<i>Imperf.</i>	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
5 c., blue	.	10 0	4 0

1879. Four values. Design, portrait in profile to left of Simon Bolivar in military dress. The date of issue is inscribed on the top of the design in all values. The framing of the portrait varies in each value. Perforated.

Dated 1879. Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., blue	0 6	0 3
10 c., mauve	0 4	0 4
20 c., red	0 6	0 6
40 c., brown	1 0	1 0

1880. Six values. Two high values completing the previous series, but dated 1880, together with the stamps of the previous issue, all dated 1880. Design, same large portrait of Simon Bolivar in profile to left, with varied framework. Perforated.



Dated 1880. Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., blue	0 4	0 4
10 c., mauve	0 6	0 4
20 c., red	0 6	0 6
40 c., brown	1 0	1 0
80 c., green	5 0	4 0
1 peso, orange	6 0	5 0

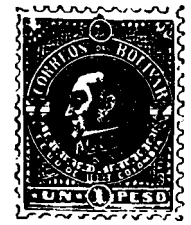
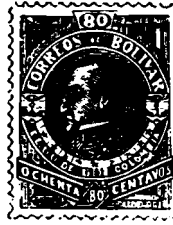
1882. Two still higher values, of 5 and 10 pesos. Design, a full-face portrait of Simon Bolivar in large-size stamp. This stamp was printed in two colours, the portrait in one colour and the framework in another. Perforated.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 pesos, blue and carmine	5 0	—
10 „ marone and blue	8 6	—

1882. Six values. Design, the same portrait of Simon Bolivar, but varied designs in the framework. Each stamp is dated with the year of issue. In the 40 c. the date is split up in the upper corners, in the other values it is placed over the central numerals of value below the portrait.



Dated 1882. Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., ultramarine	0 8	—
10 c., lilac	0 3	0 3
20 c., carmine	0 6	0 6
40 c., brown	0 8	0 8
80 c., green	1 6	1 0
1 peso, orange	2 0	—

Same designs dated 1883. Perf.

5 c., ultramarine	0 4	0 4
10 c., lilac	0 4	0 4
20 c., carmine	0 6	0 6
40 c., brown	0 9	0 9
80 c., green	1 6	1 6
1 peso, orange	2 6	2 0

Same designs dated 1884. Perf.

5 c., ultramarine	0 8	0 8
10 c., lilac	0 4	0 6
20 c., carmine	0 6	1 0
40 c., brown	0 8	0 8
80 c., green	1 0	4 0
1 peso, orange	2 6	2 6

Same designs dated 1885. Perf.

5 c., ultramarine	0 4	0 4
10 c., lilac	0 4	0 3
20 c., carmine	0 6	0 9
40 c., brown	0 8	0 8
80 c., green	1 6	—
1 peso, orange	3 0	—

1891. Six values. Design, portrait of Bolivar in profile, in uniform design for all values. Perforated.



	Perforated.	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., black	. . .	0 1	0 2
5 c., orange	. . .	0 4	0 4
10 c., red	. . .	0 6	0 6
20 c., blue	. . .	1 6	—
50 c., green	. . .	—	—
1 peso, violet	. . .	4 0	—

1903. Four high values. A curious issue of various shapes and sizes, very crudely designed and printed. Of some of the values the sheets were made up irregularly, with some stamps laid sideways at the foot

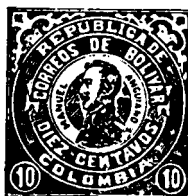


of other stamps, and in some cases the name of the engraver, Valentine, was printed between the rows of the stamps. Each stamp was decorated with a rough and almost unrecognizable portrait of a South American celebrity. The 50 c. is intended as a portrait of Bolivar; the 1 peso, Fernandez Madrid;

the 5 pesos, Rodriguez Torices; and the 10 pesos, Garcia de Toledo.

	Perforated.	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
50 c., green on rose	. . .	0 4	—
1 peso, vermilion on red	. . .	0 6	—
1 ,, orange on greenish	. . .	—	—
1 ,, green on lavender	. . .	1 0	—
5 ,, carmine on lavender	. . .	2 0	—
5 ,, carmine on yellow	. . .	3 6	—
5 ,, carmine on green	. . .	3 0	—
10 ,, blue on green	. . .	4 6	—
10 ,, purple on green	. . .	5 0	—

1904. Six values. Designs: the low values, 1/2 c., 1 c., and 2 c., were of a numeral type; 5 c., with a portrait of J. M. del Castillo; 10 c., portrait of Manuel Anguiano; and the 20 c., portrait of Pantaleon G. Ribon. Imperforate and perforated.



	Imperf.	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1/2 c., black	. . .	0 1	—
1 c., blue	. . .	0 1	—
2 c., mauve	. . .	0 2	—
5 c., black	. . .	—	—
10 c., brown	. . .	0 3	—
20 c., scarlet	. . .	0 3	—
	Perf.		
5 c., black	. . .	0 1	0 1
10 c., brown	. . .	0 1	0 1
20 c., scarlet	. . .	0 1	0 1

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

A VERY HANDSOME PRESENT

Packet No. 69, 2000 varieties. A grand packet, every stamp being different and genuine, and thus forming a choice collection in itself. £3, post-free and registered.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 39, Strand, London, W.C.

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

CHAPTER VIII

Purchase of the business of
Messrs. G. Hamilton-Smith & Co.

IN the autumn of 1904 we felt there was scope for a really good and well-appointed shop in the best portion of the City.

In looking round I happened to mention the matter to my friend Mr. Hamilton-Smith, and a suggestion was made that a combination might be of use to both firms.

Matters were gone into, and it transpired that both partners in Hamilton-Smith & Co.



97 GRACECHURCH STREET

Many busy City men have no time to come up West during the day: they arrive in the City at Cannon Street, Liverpool Street, Fenchurch Street, London Bridge, etc., and after business hours return home as soon as possible. Lots of men have a spare half-hour or so in the day, and we thought a nice bright shop with a private room where a gentleman could sit down comfortably, have a smoke, and look at good stamps in fine condition, would prove an attraction, and after nearly a year's trial we are pleased to find that this has proved to be the case.

were also partners in the auction business of Glendining & Co., and eventually it was decided to purchase both businesses and enlarge the capital and scope of the firm.

The new capital was fixed at £91,500, and was all taken up by the directors and one or two friends, and an issue of debentures was made which is also held privately, and no shares or debentures were offered to the public. It is advisable to mention this, as I often receive inquiries for shares in our company and have to explain that there are none on the market.

Messrs. G. Hamilton-Smith & Co. had a good general stock of stamps, specially strong in British Colonials, and I was agreeably surprised to find how well their stock amalgamated with our own, and filled up many gaps. This stock was taken over at a valuation, and even now is not all merged into our general stock.

At this branch we have three large windows, which are fairly well shown in the foregoing sketch.

These windows contain an artistically arranged display of stamps and publications, and one generally sees a crowd of people looking in.

Inside there is a well-fitted shop in which



G. HAMILTON-SMITH

The two partners in Hamilton-Smith & Co. joined the Board of Directors, and Mr. G. Hamilton-Smith has taken charge of the new City branch, and Mr. S. E. Gwyer remains in the auction business.

CHAPTER IX

Our City branch

ON 21 February, 1905, we opened a branch of our business in the City at 97 Gracechurch Street, E.C., almost facing Cornhill, and between the corner of Leadenhall Street and Leadenhall Market.

every inch has been utilized. Leading out of the shop is the private room of the Manager and Mr. Stanley Mann, and in this room the better stamps are shown, and purchases are made, often running into very large figures.

Underneath is a very large basement, used as a packing room and storeroom for publications.

Leading out of the basement we have constructed a very strong and fireproof *strong room*. The walls are nearly two feet thick, and the entrance is protected with a Milner's steel door six inches thick; and

inside this is a very tough teak door, as an extra precaution against fire and water.

The strong room is twenty-two feet long, and in the interior we have fitted up sixteen steel lockers, each with its own key. Some of these lockers are used for reserve stock, private books and papers, etc., but ten of them are at liberty, and are at the disposal of clients of the firm who for any reason may wish to deposit their collections with us during their absence from town. No charge is made for such accommodation, and a client has the only key of his locker and can take it away with him.

For the City branch we have prepared a full set of stock-books, arranged in the order of our Catalogues, and priced at Catalogue rates. Special discounts are allowed to those clients who make large purchases. We have also on sale a grand lot of books of sets about 2000 in number, and a superb lot of packets ranging from 6d. to £14 each.

A full line of publications can be seen here at the regular list prices.

The City branch is prepared to purchase at liberal rates from any one in the City, old general or specialized collections, single rarities, and especially the higher values of current used stamps, for which we have a great demand, and for which we therefore

can pay much higher prices than have been obtained previously in the City.

Mr. George Hamilton-Smith, manager of our City branch and a director of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and Glendining & Co., Ltd., was born on 30 January, 1870, at Clifton, near Bristol, and was educated privately.

He first started collecting in 1882 while a schoolboy, but not in a serious manner. He left Bristol about 1890 and removed to London, and there commenced dealing in stamps, and shortly afterwards joined Mr. T. W. Cheveley to manage his stamp-dealing department, as Mr. Cheveley found all his time occupied with the stamp auctions.

After about seven months at this work, Mr. Hamilton-Smith thought he could do better on his own account, and in 1894 took an office in London Street, off Fenchurch Street, where he was in business for about six months, and left there on meeting Mr. S. F. Gwyer, when they decided to go into partnership, and took premises in the name of G. Hamilton-Smith & Co., at 158 Regent Street, W., and remained there, doing good business, for some time, but eventually found they were not able to buy in that quarter, and so removed to the City, to 10 Bishopsgate Street Within, in 1895, and remained there until they sold their business to Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., in January, 1905.

(To be continued.)

POSTAGE STAMP DEVICES

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 71.)

AUSTRIA has been less happy in her several attempts on the head of Mercury which figure on the Newspaper stamps. The "human form divine" has very little of the divine and very much of the human about it. A rough Roman nose and coarse features characterize the first two designs. A deer-stalker's cap is the prominent feature of the 1900 issue.

Austria: Newspaper stamps.



Two other attempts at portraiture may

be seen in the 1890 and 1895 issues of Uruguay. Comment is needless.



The island of Crete hit upon the happy idea of perpetuating the traditions of ancient Greek mythology by means of her postage stamps. On the establishment of a permanent government under Prince George of Greece, the first mythological issue of 1900 appeared, the 10 lepta value with the portrait of Prince George being the only exception to bridge the gulf of twenty

centuries and link the present with the mighty shades of the past.

Hermes appears on the 1 lepton value under one of his many disguises. His staff stands at the side, and the shepherd's cloak falls from his shoulders. Under his Roman name of Mercury we have already described and illustrated him at length, therefore we will pass on to the goddess whose head appears on the 20 lepta value.

Hera, the wife of Zeus, or Jupiter, to use his Roman name, was the queen of the Grecian's heaven. Homer represents her as the most majestic of all the goddesses. In works of art, she is often pictured as seated on a throne in a full robe, with a sort of diadem on her head. The expression of the face is severe and queenly, the eyes large and wide open.



Hera.

Talos figures on the 1 drachma value. He was a brazen giant whom Hephæstus, the god of fire, had given to Minos, king of Crete. His special work was to guard the island. This he did by going round the island three times a day and scaring away all who approached by throwing stones at them. If they landed, he caught them, sprang into the fire with them, and pressed them to his bosom until they were burnt to death. On the stamp he is pictured in the act of throwing a stone. A vein of blood was supposed to run from his head to his foot, where it was closed by a nail. The loss of the nail, which fell out or, as some say, was shot out by an arrow, caused the death of the unhappy Talos.



Talos.

On the 2 drachmæ stamp, Minos, the aforementioned mythical king of Crete, is pictured as seated on a throne, sceptre in hand. He was the son and friend of Jupiter. Tradition ascribes to him the framing of the famous older Cretan constitution, and the founding of the naval supremacy of Crete before the days of Troy. In Homer (*Odyssey*, xi. 568), Odysseus sees Minos "having a golden sceptre, acting as arbiter to the shades" in Hades. In later legends he appears as judge of the dead.



Minos.

St. George and the Dragon appear on the 5 drachmæ value. The design is almost a facsimile of that which appears on our gold coins. This at first sight may appear strange, but England has no proprietary right to St. George as her patron saint. Many legends are connected with his name. If we separate the wheat from the chaff, it would appear that St. George was the son of well-born Christian parents in Cappadocia. He served with great distinction as a soldier in the Roman wars. During the persecution in the reign of Diocletian he bore witness to his Christian faith, and consummated his witness in his martyrdom, A.D. 303. Many saints and heroes of old time are described as dragon-slayers. The dragon is symbolical of the antagonistic and hostile principle of evil which has opposed itself to man from the beginning. Hence the slaying of the dragon typified, in allegorical form, the struggle between the higher and lower natures of man, and the victory of good over evil. The story of St. George and the Dragon was included in the office books of the Church of Rome until the days of Pope Clement VII (1523-34). The Crusaders adopted St. George as the soldier saint, and wore the cross which bears his name on their shields. England, Aragon, and Portugal chose him as their patron saint. Those who have read Shakespeare's *Henry V* will remember the King's inspiring address to his soldiers

before Harfleur and the fine dramatic climax. ΓΕΛΛ

The game's afoot ;
Follow your spirit : and, upon this charge,
Cry—God for Harry ! England ! and Saint George !
III. 1. 32.



St. George and the Dragon.

In the 1905 series of Crete we have another set of stamps descriptive of the mythological age, always excepting the 10 lepta value, sacred to the head of the reigning Prince George.

First appears Diana on the 2 lepta value. This ancient Roman deity was the goddess of the moon, of the open country, its mountains, forests, springs, and brooks, of the chase and of motherhood. Her attributes were akin to those of the Greek Artemis, the mighty huntress. To her all beasts were dear and sacred. Armed with her bow and arrow, she delighted in the chase. In works of art she is generally depicted as leading or carrying a hind, or riding in a chariot drawn by hinds. Hunting dogs complete the picture, as in the illustration.



Diana.

Britomartis was a Cretan nymph, daughter of Zeus, and beloved by Minos, who pursued



Britomartis.

her for nine months, until at length she leaped from a high rock into the sea. She was saved by falling into some nets, and

Artemis made her a goddess. Her worship extended throughout the islands and along the Mediterranean coast. Amongst other attributes, she was the patroness of hunters, fishermen, and sailors. The design of the 5 lepta probably depicts an incident in her flight from Minos.

Jupiter, the Greek Zeus, as his name, a corruption of "Diovis pater," implies, was the father of heaven and king among gods. Born of Rhea, the mother of the gods, one tradition says that he was sent to Lycos, in Crete, to be there brought up. This tradition is evidently the basis of the scene depicted on the 20 lepta value, in which the young god is being nurtured by a hound. As ancestral god of the Latin people, the most splendid festivals were held in his honour. The Roman Emperor was recognized as his vice-gerent on earth. His worship gradually spread over the whole empire, and he finally became representative of the pagan world in general.



Jupiter.

Triton was the son of Neptune. He dwelt in a golden palace at the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea. His form was half man, half dolphin. By means of a twisted sea-shell, on which he blew, he raised or calmed the billows. In later classic lore, many Tritons appear, but they are always regarded as attendants on the other sea-gods while riding or driving over the waves.



Triton.

The 50 lepta value pictures the head of Ariadne, daughter of Minos, king of Crete. When Theseus came to the island to kill Minotaurus, the bull-headed man, Ariadne fell in love with him and gave him a clue of yarn to find his way back from the laby-

rinth where the Minotaur was concealed. After the slaughter of the monster, Theseus carried off Ariadne, a willing captive. Soon afterwards he deserted her, whereupon Dionysus raised her to the dignity of a god's wife. Jupiter granted the boon of immortality, and divine honours were paid to her.



Ariadne.

The last of the mythological stamps, the 1 drachma value, represents Europa seated on a bull, whose form Jupiter had assumed in order to carry her off. In Crete she became the mother of Minos, the famous king and law-giver, the ruins of whose palace at Gnosso are shown on the 3 drachmæ value.



Passing from the gods of Greece and Rome, we travel eastward to India. There, on some of the native stamps, a rough-drawn

(To be continued.)

picture of the god Buddha is represented. His origin is wrapt in mystery. According to the Buddhist books, he had a real existence and lived, in the fifth century a.c., a prince, Siddhartha by name, of Kapilavastu, on the confines of Oudh and Nepaul. Ascetic and contemplative in disposition, he was married to a charming princess, and surrounded with all the luxury and dissipation of an Oriental court at his father's instigation. Twelve years of such a life proved enough. He eluded his father's guards, and began the life of a religious mendicant. After years of anxious thought, he concluded that the goal of man was perfect wisdom now realized in his own person. This discovery made, the time for preaching was ripe. He began his missionary labours at Benares, and traversed the greater part of Northern India. Numerous converts were made, and though in the land of its birth the religion has now little hold, as regards the number of adherents Buddhism is still the prevailing religion of the world. Buddha died at Kusinagara, in Oudh, at the age of eighty.

Duttia (Indian Native State).



GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Changes in Names

Of late years we have had many changes in the names of countries. First, Niger Coast Protectorate was split up, and we got Northern and Southern Nigeria in the reconstruction. Then, on the East Coast of Africa, British East Africa and Uganda were merged into one and renamed on the postage stamps East Africa and Uganda, and British Somaliland became simply Somaliland.

Changes Catalogued

All these changes have been duly noted and acted on in Gibbons Catalogue, except the last. Niger Coast old issues are re-

tained under the old heading, and Northern and Southern Nigeria go under their alphabetical letters; but Somaliland remains under the old heading of British Somaliland, and perhaps wisely so, to distinguish it from French Somali Coast.

Orangia

But yet more changes seem to be looming up. In a recent newspaper telegram from Cape Town, Orange River Colony is referred to as "Orangia." Does this portend a shortening of the name of Orange River Colony into the equally expressive one word "Orangia"? Possibly, when self-government is granted, it may be under this new name.

Brevity in Stamp Names

WE shall be none the worse for a little brevity in some of our stamp nomenclature. We have got tired of such mouthfuls as we have been accustomed to, but they are all on the wane. Van Diemen's Land has become Tasmania; Vancouver and British Columbia and Prince Edward Island have been merged into Canada; Cape of Good Hope, for ordinary purposes, has given place to Cape Colony, though the old and more or less obsolete designation is still retained on the postage stamps. Some day British South Africa will become Rhodesia, and so on.

No Time for Long Names

The fact of the matter is, we have no time for long-winded names. In ordinary philatelic conversation New Zealand becomes "N.Z.'s"; New South Wales, "N.S.W.'s"; Straits Settlements, "Straits," and so on.

When I was a youngster I had a small dog which I named, after a favourite character in a North American Indian story, "Keewaygooshturkumcangangewah," but I soon found that the constant use of such a comprehensive name for my four-footed companion made a serious inroad on my time, and I was compelled to shorten it to "Kee." So the process goes on, and will continue.

A Dot on his Tail

MANY years ago, Colonel Morris Newman, in the *Philatelic Record*, drew attention to a little peculiarity in the stamps of the first issue of British South Africa, viz. a dot in the tuft of the tail of one of the supporters in the Arms. This peculiarity has never been accorded catalogue rank, and wisely so; but, as a consequence of its exclusion, it is periodically rediscovered. The latest rediscoverer is Mr. L. Bennett in the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*. I have never seen any explanation of this little dot, but it is peculiar in the fact that on the same sheet it is not consistently in the same position. I am therefore inclined to regard the dot as an accident of some sort. Still, it is strange that it is to be found only on the tail of the left supporter. On some values, particularly on the 4d., printed by Perkins Bacon & Co., its occurrence is very frequent.

Our Perforations

SOME good people have started worrying the editor of the *Daily Mail* with letters complaining about the perforation of our

postage stamps. Mr. J. C. Merryweather writes:—

Our new Postmaster-General would be conferring a favour on all business men by adopting some new form of stamp perforation.

The circular perforations now used do not part easily enough, and much care is required in dividing sheets of stamps to prevent a number being torn and spoilt. Could not the perforations be made oblong?

Then Mr. W. F. Reid adds:—

The difficulty mentioned by Mr. J. C. Merryweather is one that all users of stamps must have met with, and which has been avoided in some countries by substituting a line of cuts for the perforations in vogue with us. The tearing of individual stamps may be prevented by making the perforation at the intersection of two lines slightly larger than the others.

Now if our friends will buy a few sheets of the various perforations which they innocently imagine would be an improvement on our own, and experiment on them, they will soon learn the unwisdom of airing their peculiar ignorance. Stanley Gibbons will supply them at double face, as a special favour, with sheets of stamps rouletted with cuts and stamps perforated with large holes. As a matter of fact, the De La Rue perforation has, in the opinion of competent authorities, no equal as an efficient method of separation.

Death of King Christian

THE sudden death of King Christian IX of Denmark, on 29 January, 1906, is an event of special import to stamp collectors. We all join in the sorrow at the death of the grand old King, which must bring in its train at least a few changes in the stamps of Denmark. Presumably the unsuccessful portrait in the current series will give place to that of the new King.

Accident to Mr. F. Oliver

I GREATLY regret to hear that Mr. F. Oliver (manager of Messrs. Bright & Son) has met with a serious accident, having had the misfortune to break his leg at the ankle in two places. This occurred on Monday, 22 January, when Mr. Oliver was leaving business, and was walking down a side street to the Temple Station. He was at once taken to King's College Hospital, and has undergone two operations, which, I am glad to say, have been quite successful; but it will be a matter of several weeks before he can get about.



A SUBTLE TEMPTATION

By A. B. COOPER

(Continued from page 79.)

CHAPTER II

BOB MURRAY had gone to spend the Easter Vac with his chum and fellow stamp collector, Ted Thurlow. He had duly received back his stamp-sheet from that worthy with congratulatory comment. The price of half a crown had been too much for the young gentleman's pocket, and he had selected a few cheaper ones, and passed the sheet on to the Rev. Arnold Anderton, St. John's Vicarage, Barton, who was only a name to him, although he knew he was Mr. Bryanstone's curate.

Bob had shown the sheet and its inscription to Mary, and that enthusiastic young lady, thinking of their dedication to the missionary cause, had given him five shillings for his trouble and as a holiday *douceur*, and had detached the stamps again and put them into her card-case, thinking to follow the unknown correspondent's advice at a more convenient season.

Then she forgot all about stamps, for they were but little in her line. Her uncle—her dead mother's only brother—the Rev. William Bryanstone, came to preach the Easter sermon at the little church at Summertown, and the joy of his companionship put all such minor matters in the background.

Mr. Bryanstone, Mr. and Mrs. Murray, and Mary were sitting in the drawing-room on Easter Sunday evening. The younger children were abed.

"How does your new curate get on with you and your people, William?" said Mr. Murray, in the course of conversation.

"He's a fine fellow," said the vicar; "you must know him, Charles. He's quite an acquisition, but I fear I shall lose him all too soon."

"Well, a good clergyman does not always get preferment," said Mrs. Murray, "and one may rejoice when he does."

"Yes, but his ambition does not lie in that direction. He is all for taking his M.D. and going out to China, or somewhere else far enough, and devoting his life to medical missions."

Mrs. Murray glanced quickly at Mary, and saw that she was intently gazing at

her uncle. She made no remark, however, fearing to embarrass the sensitive girl.

"He's the soul of honour, too," went on the vicar, enthusiastically. It was evident he admired his curate. "I'll tell you a story about him. It only happened last week. But if ever you see him—as you soon will, I hope—you won't breathe a word of the matter?"

Everybody murmured acquiescence in the condition, and the vicar went on. "He had some stamps sent to him through the post—he's a keen stamp collector, his one weakness—and some triangular ones, Cape of Good Hope, I think, which had some peculiarity of colour, were among the number. They were marked at half a crown, and he tells me they are worth a fabulous sum."

Mr. and Mrs. Murray were now deeply interested, but their eyes were so riveted upon the vicar's animated face that Mary's almost painful attention was unnoticed.

"Well, you can see what a subtle form of temptation this situation presented. Here was a young fellow burning with a desire to serve God and his fellow-men in a special way, and here was the means at hand to accomplish his purpose."

"How?" said Mrs. Murray, slow to comprehend, for she had never known the pinch of straitened circumstances.

"Why, my dear Dora, he's as poor as Job, and an M.D. is not come at without expense. He's saving like a miser, but you know the living cannot afford more than a paltry hundred a year for the curate. Of course, he lives with me—that helps him."

"Well, what did he do?" asked Mr. Murray. Mary said nothing. She could not have spoken for the world, yet her self-consciousness made her fear her very silence might betray her. She knew what was coming.

"Do? He spent a sleepless night fighting his conscience, and rose at dawn and returned the stamps to the poor innocent who sent them to him, telling him, practically, they were worth a little fortune."

"Splendid!" said Mrs. Murray. "Wasn't it, Mary? You, with your aspirations, can appreciate a sacrifice of that sort—eh?"

Mary blushed scarlet. "He only did right," she said; "we are not to do evil that good may come."

"Well spoken, my little missionary," said her uncle, pinching her cheek. "She blushes like a schoolgirl, Dora."

Mary soon after found an excuse for saying "Good night." She felt she wanted to be alone and to think. She thought to some purpose, for presently she made an excursion to Bob's bedroom, where treasures many and weird were stored. Mary knew



"HE TELLS ME THEY ARE WORTH A FABULOUS SUM"

"She'll never go with my good will," said Mrs. Murray, knowing what her brother had in his mind. "There are heathen enough at home."

"Well, well, well!" said the kindly vicar, "time enough yet. We shall see; we shall see."

where he kept his *Philatelic Journals*, and it was these she was in search of. She found them in the dark, and carried several copies into her own room. There she discovered, as she expected, the London address of a famous auction-room, where, among other curios, stamps were frequently

put up for sale. She could not brook delay now. She knew the firm to be highly reputable, and that she might safely entrust her precious stamps to their care. She wrote briefly asking them to dispose of the pair of stamps enclosed, deduct their commission, and send her the balance, whatever it might be.

The next day Mr. Bryanstone returned to Barton, and exactly a week later Mary received a registered letter from the auctioneers in London. It was lying upon her plate when she came down to breakfast, and, though her heart beat painfully and she longed to tear it open there and then, prudence forbade, and she slipped it into her pocket and poured out the coffee like one "schooled to deceive."

Breakfast over, however, she rushed upstairs to her room, and, standing by the open window, with the smell of the spring in her nostrils, she opened the fateful letter. There was a type-written covering note, a statement of the sale, and an intimation that ten per cent had been deducted as commission. The note concluded: "We have pleasure in forwarding to you our cheque for the balance, viz. £235 5s., which please acknowledge at your earliest convenience."

Mary dropped on her knees by the open window. It looked out over a lovely old garden, with an orchard beyond. Ever after the recollection of that moment of ecstasy was associated in her mind with the faint scent of apple-blossom. A couple of starlings, whose backs glinted in the sun like the opalescent colours of coal-tar, were whistling to one another in the branches of the beech, whose longest arms swept the

window-panes. She did not utter a word, but her lips moved, and a beautiful smile played round them. Her happiness was too complete for words. Then she seemed to find herself, and she rose. "It's dedicated—it's dedicated," she said, "and he shall have it to the last penny."

That day she drove into Farnmill. She took her cheque-book with her, and her first call was at the bank. She paid in the London cheque, and made another out payable to "Self" for an exactly similar amount.

"How will you take it, Miss Mandeville?" asked the counter-clerk, who knew her very well, for her balance at the bank was always a very solid one.

"Four fifties, three tens, and a five," she said.

The crisp bank-notes and two half-crowns were handed over the counter. Mary put them in her hand-bag and departed with a smile and a bow.

"Of course, he must not have a ghost of a notion where the funds come from," she said to herself, as she lay back in the landau, and occupied herself with pleasant thoughts. "He'll think they have dropped straight from heaven. And they have—of course they have. I am only the channel along which this tiny trickle of God's boundless providence flows."

Having prepared for this visit to town, she had directed James to drive to the post office, and in one of the telegram partitions she re-read the note written at home. It ran: "The money enclosed is dedicated to the furtherance of God's work in heathen lands. Kindly use it in preparation for your own work as a medical missionary."

(To be continued.)

THE KING'S OWN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

This Album has been specially designed for those collectors who either commence a collection with the Postage Stamps of King Edward VII, or who collect these stamps as a supplement to a General Collection. The King's Own Album contains 100 pages of heavy white plate paper outlined with a neat border of neutral grey, with quadrillé background inside the grey border, and name space at the top of each page. Exact size of leaves from the outer edge, $7\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$; available for mounting stamps, $6\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$. The title-page is printed in the Royal Colours, with the King's Cypher Monogram and Crown. Strongly bound in cloth, bevelled boards, with the Official Cypher Monogram and Crown in gold on cover. Post-free, 8s.; abroad, 8s. 9d.

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PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

London Philatelic Society

President: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

Hon. Sec.: J. A. Tilleard, 10 Gracechurch Street, E.C.

Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W. Alternate Fridays at 7.45.

Annual Subscription: Town, 22 2s.; Country, 21 1s.

The fifth meeting of the season 1905-6 was held at 4 Southampton Row, on Friday, 8 December, 1905, at 7-45 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, Herbert R. Oldfield, Robert Ehrenbach, R. B. Yardley, Capt. George F. Napier, E. D. Bacon, A. W. Maclean, L. W. Fulcher, C. Neville Biggs, T. Maycock, Rudolph Frentzel, Thos. W. Hall, E. A. Elliott, W. T. Wilson, C. McNaughtan, J. A. Tilleard, L. L. R. Hausburg, Franz Reichenheim, A. R. Barrett, B. D. Knox, and one visitor.

The chair was taken by Mr. Castle, and the minutes of the meeting held on 24 November, 1905, were read and signed as correct. The members then proceeded to consider the election of Mr. Edmund Hornblower Roebuck, proposed by Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg and seconded by the Honorary Secretary, who, after ballot, was declared duly elected a member of the Society.

A communication was also received from Mr. Lane Joynt, with a copy of the id., red, stamp of Great Britain printed on Small Crown paper, attention being called to the curious nature of the perforation.

A paper by Messrs. M. P. Castle and L. L. R. Hausburg, on the retouches of the New Zealand stamps, was then read, accompanied by a display of Mr. Hausburg's superb collection of this country, and also by enlarged photographs, showing the retouches, and followed by a lantern display of the stamps further illustrating these. The paper referred first of all to a report from Mr. A. E. Cousins, engraver, of Wellington, N.Z., dealing with the Perkins Bacon plates, and showing that only the second plate of the 2d. was retouched. It was explained that the probable reason for the uneven wear of this plate was the overheating and consequent softening of the steel in parts. The retouch was made by Mr. James M. Lloyd. A photograph of an impression from the whole plate, showing that the retouches were all in the lower eight rows, was produced for inspection.

The display comprised specimens of the 2d., blue,

watermarked Star, the 2d., orange, and the 2d., vermilion, watermarked Star, N Z, lozenges, and no watermark, respectively, all of which showed signs of retouches in different parts of the stamps. Reconstructed plates of the 2d., blue, and the 2d., vermilion, were also produced, showing all the retouches. The display of the collection included specimens of "lozenge" paper. A very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Castle and Mr. Hausburg, and to the New Zealand Government for their extreme courtesy in helping the Society, not only on the present occasion, but also in connexion with the forthcoming publication of the stamps of the Australian continent, was proposed by Mr. Ehrenbach, seconded by Mr. Yardley, and carried unanimously. Mr. Hausburg having responded, the proceedings terminated.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: Herbert Woods.

Secretary: W. Halfpenny, 28 Dacey Street, Liverpool.

Meetings: Angel Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool. 7 p.m.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held at the Angel Hotel, Dale Street, on Monday evening, 22 January, 1906, the President, Mr. Herbert Woods, in the chair.

A lecture on "Minor Varieties" was given by Mr. Savage, which was splendidly illustrated with lantern slides. The lecture was extremely interesting and instructive, and many valuable bits of information were given relative to the various minute differences between the ordinary specimens and others, which, owing to some fault of workmanship or defect in printing, differed in a slight degree therefrom, thereby adding in many cases enormously to their value.

The slides, which were made by Mr. Easton, were beautifully executed, although in many cases, the stamps being of pale colour, the difficulty of getting good detail was immense.

The lantern was manipulated by Mr. Lowell, who had very kindly given his services before in that capacity.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Savage and his friends by the President, seconded by Mr. Beer, and was enthusiastically accorded. A most successful evening then terminated.

BRITISH AFRICA POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

Owing to the fact that the war in South Africa has caused great attention to be drawn to the stamps of the British Possessions on that continent, and to the enormous increase in the number of collectors that has ensued from the issue of the War Provisionals in Mafeking, Bloemfontein, Pretoria, etc., we think this a good time at which to place before the public a new and very complete Album, designed for the British Possessions, etc., on the African Continent. The Album is designed upon the well-known plan of the Imperial Albums—the stamps in numbered spaces of the correct sizes on the right-hand page, and the description, full particulars, and illustrations on the opposite page. In order to make this a permanent Album we have provided from one to four blank pages after each country, thus making the Album available for the issues of many years to come. 220 pages. Size, 8½ × 11½ inches. Post-free in Great Britain, 10s. 7d.

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New Sheets of Stamps for beginners and medium collectors. We have just been arranging our Approval Sheets of Stamps on an entirely new and much simpler plan than formerly. The Stamps are mounted on Sheets, containing an average of 100 Stamps per Sheet. They are all arranged in the order of our New Catalogue. First, Great Britain and the Colonies, then all Foreign Countries. These Sheets contain about 3000 different Stamps, and a Sheet of any particular country will be sent on demand. The Sheets arranged to date are over forty in number, and contain all Great Britain and the Colonies, and all Foreign Countries.

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ALLEGED THEFT OF STAMPS

AT Guildhall, London, on Saturday, 27 January, 1906, before Mr. Alderman Crosby, Roland Snazalle, 30, a clerk, living at Endlesham Road, Balham, was charged with stealing and receiving during the past twenty months from a strong room of the premises of the British South Africa Company (Limited), London Wall Buildings, London Wall, a quantity of postage stamps of the face value of £3155 17s. 4d.

Detective-Inspector Lyon, who had charge of the case, said he could only offer evidence as to the arrest that day. He went on Friday evening with Detective Marriott and a witness named Braum to the prisoner's address. When the prisoner came to the door Mr. Braum remarked, "That is the man I know as Evans, and of whom I have purchased stamps." The

prisoner said, "My name is not Evans, but Snazalle. I don't know you." Mr. Braum, however, replied that he was certain he had made no mistake, and the officer informed the prisoner that he would be arrested and his place searched. He said, "I will give you no further trouble. I stole the stamps, but you will not find any of them here. What I have not sold to Mr. Braum I have burnt. They were stamps that had been sent to Rhodesia and returned as damaged and obsolete." His house was searched, but no stamps were found. At the time the stamps disappeared the prisoner was in the employ of the British South Africa Company.

The Prisoner: I never said they were obsolete.

The Alderman ordered a remand.—*The Times.*

OUR PHILATELIC DIARY

FEBRUARY, 1906

We shall be glad if Secretaries of Philatelic Societies will send us their Programmes for the new year. Several Societies are omitted from this Diary for lack of Programmes.

6. Leeds Philatelic Society: Paper by Mr. F. J. Melville.
- 6 & 7. Auction: Puttick and Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London. 4.30 p.m.
7. Manchester Philatelic Society: Dinner, 6.30 p.m.
8. Bristol Philatelic Society: Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts, and Tobago.
- 8 & 9. Auction: Ventom, Bull, and Cooper, Loudoun Hotel Surrey Street, Strand, London. 5 p.m.
12. Scottish Philatelic Society, Edinburgh. "Scandinavia"; Mr. N. M. Berry and Mr. J. Walker.
- 13 & 14. Auction: Glendining and Co., 7 Argyll Street London. 4.30 p.m.
14. International Philatelic Union: Display—Fiscals; Mr. W. Schwabacher.
- 15 & 16. Auction: Plumridge and Co., 64 Chancery Lane, London. 4.45 p.m.
16. Philatelic Society of London: Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg. Paper on the "Perforations of Victoria," with Display. Manchester Philatelic Society: Elementary Discussion—St. Lucia and Tobago, opened by Mr. F. J. Beazley.
17. Junior Philatelic Society: Seventh Annual Conversazione in the Bijou Theatre, Archer Street, W., when it is hoped to present a philatelic farce, entitled *The Lady Faker*, for the first time. Full announcements will appear in due course.
19. Liverpool Philatelic Society: Display—British Guiana, Sarawak.
20. Herts Philatelic Society: Display with Notes, Straits Settlements; Mr. A. Bagshawe. Leeds Philatelic Society: "Bordeaux Issue of France, 1870"; Mr. F. A. Padgett.
- 20 & 21. Auction: Puttick and Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London. 4.30 p.m.
21. Enterprise Philatelic Society, London: Auction for disposal of Members' Duplicates, etc. Discussion—"Is Finality a Desideratum?"; opened by Mr. A. H. Harris. General Display by Members—The Far East; General Sale and Exchange.
- 22 & 23. Auction: Ventom, Bull, and Cooper, Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London. 5 p.m.
23. Manchester Philatelic Society: Paper—"Outsider's View of Philately"; Mr. J. H. Abbott.

THE PHILATELIST'S COLLECTING BOOK

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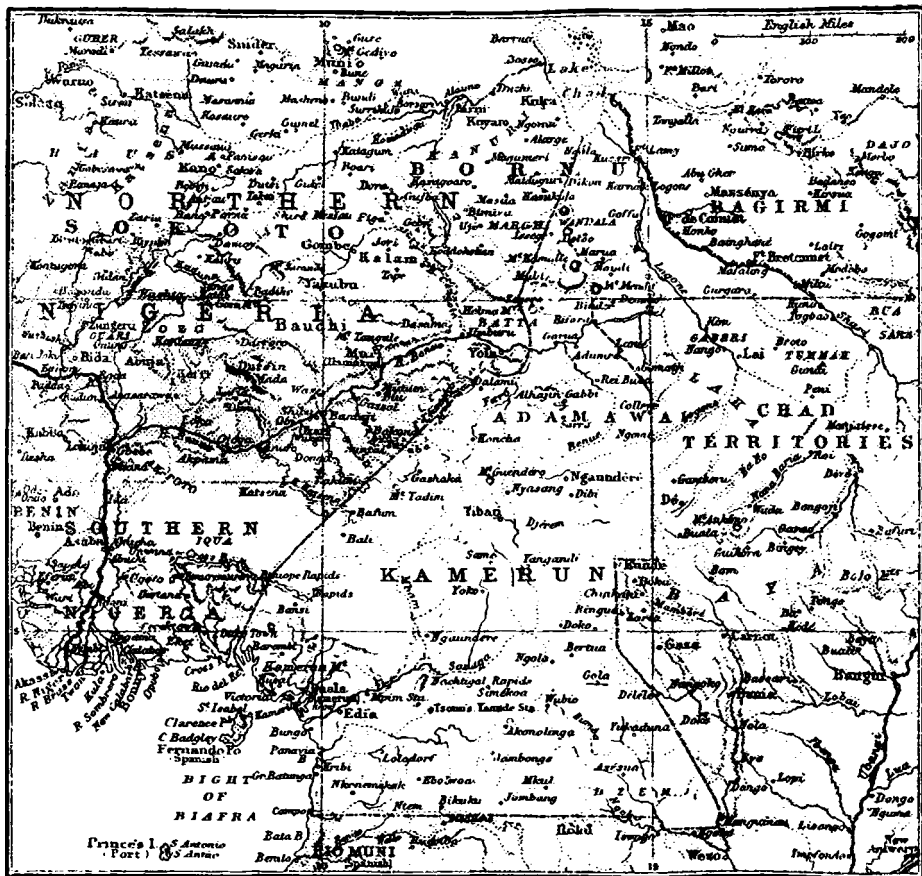
17 FEBRUARY, 1906

VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Benin



THE French Settlement at the mouth of the River Benin, on the West Coast of Africa, must not be confounded with the British territory of that name further inland, which now forms a district of Southern

Nigeria. French Benin for some time was a separate settlement, and had separate issues of postage stamps from 1892 till 1894, after which it ceased to have a separate issue of stamps, and was included in the

adjoining French possession of Dahomey. The first stamps issued for Benin were surcharged with the word "Benin"; then it became "Golfe de Benin"; but the last issue reverted to the simple word "Benin."

1892. Thirteen values. Design, the "Commerce" Colonial type of France, overprinted with the word BENIN. The stamps of this first issue are nearly all scarce. Perforated.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on azure	15 0	—
2 c., brown on buff	15 0	—
4 c., purple-brown on grey	15 0	—
5 c., green on pale green	1 6	1 3
10 c., black on lilac	6 0	4 0
15 c., blue on pale blue	2 0	—
20 c., red on green	10 0	—
25 c., black on rose	6 0	—
30 c., cinnamon on drab	7 6	—
35 c., black on orange	20 0	—
40 c., red on buff	12 6	—
75 c., rose-carmine on rose	15 0	—
1 fr., olive-green on toned	20 0	—

1892. Three provisionals. Design and overprint as in last issue, but with fresh value surcharged in figures.



Provisionals, surcharged on previous issue.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
"01" on 5 c., green	17 6	—
"40" on 15 c., blue	15 0	15 0
"75" on 15 c. "	40 0	—

1893. Thirteen values. Design, "Peace and Commerce" type, with tablet at foot inscribed GOLFE DE BENIN. Perforated.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on azure	0 4	—
2 c., brown on buff	0 4	—
4 c., purple-brown on grey	0 3	—
5 c., green on pale green	0 2	—
10 c., black on lilac	2 0	—
15 c., blue "	0 6	—
20 c., red on green	0 8	—
25 c., black on rose	1 0	—
30 c., cinnamon on drab	1 0	—
40 c., red on yellow	1 3	—
50 c., carmine on rose	2 6	—
75 c., " orange	4 0	—
1 fr., olive-green on toned	7 6	—

1894. Thirteen values. Design as in last issue, but with tablet inscribed BENIN, instead of "Golfe de Benin." Perforated.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on azure	0 1	—
2 c., brown on buff	0 1	—
4 c., purple-brown on grey	0 1	—
5 c., green on pale green	0 2	—
10 c., black on lilac	0 3	0 4
15 c., blue	0 3	—
20 c., red on green	0 8	0 8
25 c., black on rose	1 0	0 5
30 c., cinnamon on drab	1 0	—
40 c., red on yellow	1 0	1 0
50 c., carmine on rose	1 3	—
75 c., brown on orange	1 6	—
1 fr., olive-green on tinted	2 0	2 0

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

STANLEY GIBBONS PRICED CATALOGUE OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD
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Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

CHAPTER X

The Auction Department
Glendining & Co., Ltd., 7 Argyll Street,
Regent Street, London, W.

THE auction business of Glendining & Co. was established in the year 1901, at 14 King William Street, Strand, the first sale being held on 22 January of that year. The catalogue included a number of interesting war medals and decorations, and the auction proved a very successful one, owing to the support given to the new venture by personal friends. The first lot to be offered was a Waterloo medal, which in friendly competition brought three or four times the normal price usually paid for such a decoration, and the afternoon's sale realized about £500. Within a few months sales of coins were introduced, and from that time forward the monthly sales of medals and coins have been one of the principal features of the business. This specialism in the auction business had hitherto been confined to two or three well known firms, whose houses have been established a hundred years or more, but the success which has attended the new venture proves conclusively that there was room in London for auction business of this kind, if conducted on proper lines. Messrs. Glendining & Co. have always made prompt settlements with their clients a first principle, and frequently all vendors' accounts for sales have been paid within a week of the auction, and never has the full settlement been delayed beyond the twelve days which they pledge themselves to their clients. Possibly this feature has brought the business together, vendors naturally preferring to receive a prompt settlement of their accounts, rather than a polite intimation that their goods have been sold and that payment will be made in a month's time or later. After a time philatelic sales were introduced, but here there were so many established businesses already in the field that progress was more difficult, and the few sales which were held (more in the nature of an experiment than

otherwise), were of little importance. In October, 1902, Mr. Glendining was joined in partnership by Mr. S. E. Gwyer; the business was removed from King William Street, Strand, to the Argyll Gallery, 7 Argyll Street, Oxford Circus, and the philatelic sales seriously and energetically cultivated. Beginning with the collection of Mr. C. Murray, which, though small, consisted of choice stamps, the business has never looked back or had a corner to turn, but has consistently shown a gradually increasing turnover, and soon attained a foremost position. In 1904 and 1905 the auction



THIRTEENTH-CENTURY SEAL OF THE TOWN OF
DUNWICH, SUSSEX

sales of postage stamps conducted by Messrs. Glendining & Co. considerably exceeded the sales of any other firm of philatelic auctioneers, and from the important collections placed in their care for disposal the 1906 season should prove a record one.

Rare and interesting coins are frequently submitted for competition, and amongst the curiosities in numismatics which have been sold are : copper penny of 1860 (£4), copper

farthing 1860 (£6), and a halfpenny of 1872 struck in brass (£7).

Bric-à-brac sales are another feature of the business, and all classes of fine-art property are to be met with suitable for collections and home decoration. A glance at the catalogues will disclose interesting objects of vertu, paintings, engravings, coloured prints, choice old china, antique silver, and the innumerable articles which gladden the heart of the collector and connoisseur; whilst those of a musical turn of mind will find in the special sales of violins and other stringed instruments an assortment worthy of inspection. A curious bronze seal of the thirteenth century, formerly used by the corporation of Dunwich, Suffolk, a town now under the sea, realized £75, whilst the celebrated bugle which gave the



THE BALAKLAVA BUGLE

order for the charge of the Light Brigade at Balaklava was bid up to £1050, a big price even for a relic of this description. Not only has the auction business shown a consistent increase in volume, but the results have been so satisfactory as to produce many record auction prices far beyond those attained by any other firm for similar articles; for instance, the silver medal for conspicuous gallantry issued to Hy. Thompson, A.B., R.N., Perak River, 1876, realized £66. The naval Victoria Cross awarded to Hy. Curtis for gallantry in the Crimean War sold for the large sum of £142; a similar decoration to Colonel F. Cornwallis Maude, C.B., £145. Other interesting decorations which have been sold for big prices are the gold Peninsular Cross awarded to Colonel J. B. Galiffe, C.B., 60th Regt. £500; a similar decoration to Lieut.-Colonel Russell Manners, C.B., 74th Regt., £600; another to General Sir Manley Power, £545. Some rare medals for naval services



ANTONIUS STRADIVARIUS

have been sold, the gold medal for Trafalgar realizing £250; whilst a sword presented to a captain who served in the same battle went for £72. Silver medals for Indian battles have sold well; a native's medal for Seetabuldee was disposed of for £80, and another for the capture of Deig for £75.

Messrs. Glendining & Co. make the care of their clients' property a first consideration, and it is gratifying to report that of

as a consequence the attendance of buyers is invariably a good one.

The capital of Glendining & Co., Ltd., is £7500, in ordinary shares, the whole of which are held by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and the Directors of that firm.

The present officials are: D. W. Glendining, S. F. Gwyer (Managing Directors); Charles J. Phillips; G. Hamilton-Smith.

Mr. Douglas William Glendining was born on 19 July, 1863, in London, and was



D. W. GLENDINING

the countless thousands of valuable articles which have been entrusted to them for disposal none have been known to go astray; besides commodious strong rooms for the storing of valuable articles, they hold their clients covered by an insurance policy against the risk of fire and burglary.

Visitors and provincial clients will find the auction gallery most centrally situated, the Tube Railway bringing it within a few minutes' journey of any part of London, and

educated at St. Olave's, Southwark. He left school at the age of seventeen, and at once entered the office of Messrs. Holmwood and Holmwood, Marine Insurance Brokers, Gracechurch Street, E.C., and Lloyd's.

Mr. Glendining left there in December, 1900, and soon afterwards opened as an auctioneer at 14 King William Street, Strand.

His first start in the auction business was

in coins and medals, and from the commencement it was a pronounced success, which was perhaps due to the fact that he had collected medals for many years, and has given so much attention to them that he has come to be recognized as *the authority* on medals, especially war medals and decorations.

Mr. Glendining soon turned his attention to stamps, and held some successful sales;

first stamp collection, and acted as agent for Stanley, Gibbons, & Co. for his school in that town.

Mr. Gwyer tells me that after leaving school he got tired of stamps, and exchanged his first collection for a bike; tired of the bike and swapped it for a gold watch; got hard up and sold the watch for eight pounds.

About 1876 he was articled to Messrs.



S. E. GWYER

this branch did not, however, become of much importance until Mr. S. E. Gwyer joined him in October, 1902.

Mr. Samuel Edward Gwyer, a Director of Glendining & Co., Ltd., and of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., was born on 9 December, 1858, at Keynsham, near Bristol, and was educated first at Colston's School, Stapleton, near Bristol, and then at Haysman's International College, Hampstead. Finally he was for some time at school at Bourbourg, near Paris, and while here started his

Walton & Lee, auctioneers, Mount Street, Piccadilly, but, after paying £250 for his apprenticeship, left them, owing to better prospects, and then joined an uncle at Derby to learn the colour business, staying there for some six or seven years.

In 1883 Mr. Gwyer left Derby and came to London, entering the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, and after being there about eighteen months was removed to the East to join their foreign staff.

At this time of leaving London he sold his second collection, which was of much more importance than the first one. A large portion of this collection was acquired by Mr. W. W. Blest, who made his first considerable purchase from Mr. Gwyer. The remains of the collection were sold for nearly £200 to the Rev. W. N. Usher, then in Edinburgh.

On arriving at the Bank's office in Calcutta he started collecting again, and met with one of the disappointments of his life. He found a large box in the Bank labelled—

“MAURITIUS AND CEYLON LETTERS,
1848-1863.”

Visions of “Post Offices,” “Post Paid,” and strips of the rarest imperf. Ceylons passed through his mind; but, alas! on opening the box he found that, owing to the damp, the papers had sunk to pulp, and out of the thousands of letters he was only able to gather up one solitary stamp—a Ceylon 2d., green, imperf., badly ant-eaten!!

About 1888 Mr. Gwyer was promoted to Singapore, and after about a year there was transferred in turn to the Bank's branches at Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Kobe, and then to Penang, where he met Messrs. Castle and Willett, on their trip round the world.

He next went to Ceylon, and was in turn stationed at Colombo, Kandy, and Galle, and well remembers another disappointment at Colombo, where, on taking over the management of that branch, he found a room about twenty feet long packed with letters, but, on proceeding to go through them, found that the office peon had spent fully twelve months in soaking off all the stamps, and had sent them to Stanley, Gibbons, & Co. in London!!

In December, 1894, after nine years in the East, Mr. Gwyer came home on furlough, and eventually decided to remain in London, and resigned from the Bank.

In 1895 he met Mr. G. Hamilton-Smith, and they joined forces and started in business in Regent Street.

The auction season 1905-6 promises to be by far the most important of any in the history of the firm, as far as postage stamps are concerned. The season opened with the sale of the important collection of Mr. C. A. Smith-Ryland, and this has been followed up by sales of the well-known collections of Monsieur M. Schleisinger, of Brussels, Herr Alberto Philipp, of Hamburg, the late Mr. Henry Buckley, of Birmingham; and I learn that the firm have just had entrusted to them for auction the well-known and large collection of Madame la Comtesse de Vasconcellos, widow of the late French Minister to Brazil, etc.

(To be continued.)

THE IMPROVED POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM, No. 0.

One Hundred and Tenth Thousand. The best and largest Shilling Album ever published. 176 large pages. Spaces for 4700 Stamps. 48 extra pages added in this edition without extra charge. This Album is now selling at the rate of over 1000 copies a month. The demand for this Album has simply been phenomenal, and it gives universal satisfaction—not a single complaint has been received. The last edition had nearly 20 extra pages added, and now another 48 pages have been added, and all the Geographical and Historical Notes brought up fully to date. All the newest stamp-issuing countries, such as Bussahir, Canton, Cayman Isles, Hoi-hao, Dahomey, etc. etc., have been added. At the top of each page there is the name of the country, and a mass of valuable information, including date when Stamps were issued, population, area, reigning sovereign, capital, etc. Spaces of proper sizes are provided for all Stamps, and the book is bound in a superior manner in art cloth. The Album contains a pocket to hold duplicate Stamps, and fifty Stamps will be presented gratis with each Album. There is also an illustrated Frontispiece of the Rarest Stamps, with prices attached that we pay for each. Price, bound in handsome art cloth, post-free, 1s. 3d. E. S. says: “I asked a friend where the best place was to buy a Stamp Album cheap. He referred me to you, saying that he had bought one and sold it next day for 1s. 6d., after keeping the stamps.” A. A. writes: “I received your Stamp Album on Thursday, and I wonder how you can sell it so cheap; for as soon as a friend saw it he offered me 2s. for it. Please send me another.”

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

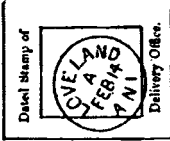
PHILATELIC VALENTINES

A CORRESPONDENT thinks there is a good deal of unworked ground in the line of stamp collecting for the compilation and publication of Philatelic Valentines. As we appeal largely to collectors of the valentine age of susceptibility, our corre-

No. of Message. *L. R. O. A. L.*

Kisses } *27, 000*
to Payer }

TRUE LOVE TELEGRAMS.



Regulation as to True Love Telegrams.

If the Receiver of a True Lover's Message doubts its accuracy, he may have it repeated on going to the sender, and vowing fidelity. No error having been made, the vow given for repetition will not be allowed to be withdrawn.

Office of Origin *Letters L. R. O. A. L.* Limited in at *L. & A. M.* Sent out at *L. R. O. A. M.*

from *Your devoted lover* So (My dearly beloved

1	1/3	Meet	me	at	Church	at
20	1/6	ten	o'clock	I	shall	die
25	1/9	if	you	wish	longer	my
30	1/12	love	consumes	me		
35	1/15					
40	1/18					

When the cost of a reply to a Telegram has been prepaid, and the number of words in the reply is in excess of the preparation, the sender of the reply must liaise the Postman for any excess of words in the reply. The reply must be handed in at the Office from which the original Message was delivered. Prepaid reply to a Telegram may be handed in within a minute from the date of the original Message, as Letters must not be kept waiting. The message may be redrafted from lover to lover at an extra charge of one-half the ordinary tariff, fifty kisses being reckoned as nothing, but in such cases they must be returned.

N.B. - It will materially assist the Department if, in sending kisses by Telegram, the Postman be not obliged to deliver them all at one time.

spondent kindly sends us for reproduction a few choice samples of what has already been done in the issue of Philatelic Valentines. The idea seems to be a good one;

and, if we may make a suggestion, we should imagine a valentine enclosing a nice little packet of acceptable stamps would tend to smooth the course of true love.

WEDDING RING SQUARE, No. 26, No. 6284.



£	s.	d.
Worth of Kisses.		

LOVE ORDER

Pay the Dear One Named in my Letter of Advice the sum of
 £.....s.....d.....
 Worth of Kisses,
 To the Post Office, Happy Land

W. CUPID, Love Master.

The dear one to whom this Order is made payable must sign her or his Christian Name. In case of Old Maids, or miserable buttonless Batchelors, a mark will do. They being known at Love's Office.

Received the above

Signature of Payee.

If this order be payable at any Office in Love's United Kingdom, and the Payee should object to receive the value on account of it, being a male or female Love Master or Mistress, the following request must be signed, and the mistake rectified, less the Commission, which will be held in reserve for Old Maids and Batchelors, who sadly need them.

B { I request this Order be changed payable to

Here state Sex.

Signature of Payee.

If the Remitter of an order issued and payable in Love's United Kingdom is desirous of delaying payment till the First of April, and the order be then presented and objected to on the grounds before stated, he or she will be fined a Pair of Gloves or some other keepsake—which must be produced at the first interview, and failing to complete such contract, will be placed on the list of Incurables, and no further Orders will be granted them from Love's Office.

LOVE

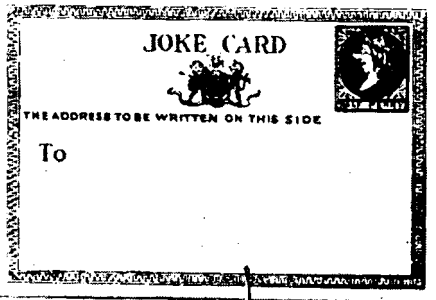
B { I request that this Order may not be payable until the First of April.

Signature of Remitter.

No further Instructions are needed.



*With St. Valentines
Compliments*



Poor Spinster thus you daily cry
 Oh why does Cupid pass me by
 On others oft he throws his chain
 And yet I'm sure I'm not to blame
 Oh spare me from this lonely fate
 I'm pining daily for a mate

POSTAGE STAMP DEVICES

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 90.)

Tutelar Deities

ONE might well expect to find amongst the countless designs on stamps some representations of a later-day symbolism which portray a country under the guise of a woman, or signalize some stirring episodes in the life of a people by picturing in human form that for which they fought.

Nor are we disappointed in our expectation. We turn to the early issues of Barbados, Mauritius, and Trinidad. They are all of one pattern, engraved and printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. Who is this figure seated with a spear in her right hand, while her left hand rests on a shield? The answer is not obvious. Mr. Overy Taylor, one of the giants of the early stamp-collecting days, declared that the figure was none other than a representation of "Liberty." The statement was made in direct contradiction to the generally received opinion that the figure was intended to represent the tutelary deity of England, viz. Britannia. He based his arguments, first on a knowledge of the ancient statues of the goddess "Libertas," and secondly on the many differences which existed between the figure represented on the stamps and the figure of Britannia as she was depicted on the coins of the realm. We need not dwell on these differences here. Any one who cares to take the trouble of comparing the stamp with the figure of Britannia on the ubiquitous penny will see the differences at once.

In spite, however, of Mr. Overy Taylor's learned discussion on the subject, we are inclined to think that the generally received opinion of his day is also the generally received opinion of philatelists to-day. Let us review the history of the said Britannia. We go back to Roman times. Minerva, the Pallas Athene of the Greeks, was a many-sided goddess. Every art and science, whether of war or of peace, were derived from her and were under her special charge. She is spoken of as the inventress of ship-building. She was generally regarded as the goddess of war and victory. In art, her ordinary attributes are the helmet, the ægis covering the breast, the lance, and the

round shield with the Gorgon's head. Now Minerva, we are told, was a favourite goddess with the Britons before their conversion to Christianity. Whether this be so or not, what better prototype for Britannia could be found than one who could so fittingly symbolize Britain's conquest of the sea, Britain's commerce, and Britain's glory?

From legend and theory we pass to historical fact. In the days of Charles II, Frances Theresa Stewart, afterwards Duchess of Richmond, was renowned as one of the most graceful and accomplished ladies of her time. So struck was the infatuated monarch that he employed Philip Rotier, the engraver to the Royal Mint, to design a gold medal with his own bust on one face, and on the other a portrait of this celebrated beauty in the character of Minerva. From this medal Charles caused her likeness to be transferred in 1672 to the copper coinage of the realm as the emblematic figure of Britannia. This figure has continued with little alteration down to the present day. The trident or three-pronged spear is a modern innovation, for, be it noted, a spear with a single head was the one which Minerva favoured, and which appeared on this original figure of Britannia.

In the stamps of Barbados, Mauritius, and Trinidad to which we are referring, we conclude that the design is meant to represent Britannia. The shield bears the triple cross of St. Andrew, St. George, and St. Patrick. The ship, Minerva's protégée, is the fitting emblem of a great seafaring nation. The bale of goods indicates the commerce of the nation. The spear probably became a trident on the introduction of copper pence, somewhere about the year 1760, but the original weapon of Minerva was retained in the designs on these colonial stamps.

Barbados. 1858.



Trinidad. 1851.



(To be continued.)

A SUBTLE TEMPTATION

By A. B. COOPER

(Continued from page 94.)

CHAPTER III

"WHY, I thought you liked keeping house for Uncle William," said Mrs. Murray, three days later, seeing her niece looking ruefully at a letter from Mr. Bryanstone, in which he told a doleful tale of Mrs. Hopkins's terrible attack of sciatica, and their inability to cope either with her or the maid or themselves. It was not by any means the first time Mary had had such a call from the same quarter, yet something made a difference this time.

"Oh, I'll go, of course, only——"

"Only what?"

"Oh, nothing, auntie, only—poor uncle! How helpless the men are! But I shall have to pack at once if I'm to catch the afternoon train."

"What ails the child?" pondered Mrs. Murray. "I should have thought nothing would please her better. She thinks so much of her uncle."

The reader of this story needs no enlightening as to the origin of Mary's newly developed bashfulness of the Barton vicarage. She had a lively dread of meeting the young man to whom she had done good by stealth. She could not rid herself of the terror of blushing to find it fame. But then, she asked herself, how could he possibly hit upon the solution of the mystery? Yet she dreaded meeting him, none the less.

A week later the dread had gone and something else had taken its place, to which, even in her most secret soul, she would not give a name. Arnold Anderton had that chivalrous manner which is very engaging to women, and especially to young and shy ones, who have never dreamt of exacting homage as their due. She learned, even in a short week, to look up to him, because he was always so helpful. Then they were both of enthusiastic temperament, the things they loved were similar, and under such circumstances friendship ripens quickly.

The very first evening the vicar blurted out the wonderful news of the bank-notes, and so that ordeal was soon over. Mary flushed, of course, but it might have been with pleasure at the good fortune of a worthy

man. The vicar, who knew that she knew the story of his temptation—a knowledge which Anderton did not share—thought he well understood the heightened colour.

"He says he does not know whether he ought to keep it. I tell him it comes from God, and it is his duty to accept it."

"Oh, indeed, indeed it is," said Mary.

"Do you think so, Miss Mandeville?" said Anderton. "Your opinion upon a problem of that sort would weigh much with me. Women have a fine sensibility in such matters. However, my hands are tied at present, for I have no idea whence it comes; but I shall wait a little."

Mary hoped he might wait long, long, before discovering the sender, but she only said: "It is not as though you were going to use the money for your own ends. It is evident the sender is fully aware of the purpose to which you mean to devote it."

"Yes, and that puzzles me, too," said Anderton; "for I had no idea I had breathed it to a soul except the vicar." Mary felt they were on dangerous ground, and adroitly turned the conversation.

Thus a week went by, the housekeeper recovered, and Mary returned to Summer-town. But she was succeeded at the vicarage by Bob Murray, who, being midway between home and Barton, had begged his mother to allow him to spend the week-end at his uncle's before returning home.

Now, had Mary known what Bob knew she would have been much more dubious of his visit than of her own. She knew that the stamp-exchange sheet went by tortuous channels, and, besides, she did not see any reason why Arnold Anderton should connect the gift of money with the stamps he had returned to some one unknown, and Bob, of course, had not heard the vicar's story. But Bob learned from his friend that "the awfully decent chap that sent the stamps back" was none other than his own uncle's curate, for it so happened that Edward Thurlow was the only recipient that came between. This was a discovery, and, though the stamps were not his, Bob wanted very much to see the stamp-collecting curate who had refused to take advantage of his ignorance.

"I say, it was awfully decent of you, sir, to send my stamp-sheet back," he remarked on the evening of his arrival, and as soon as his uncle had banged the front door and departed.

"To send your stamp-sheet back, Bob—what are you getting at?"

"Well, you sent it back to Ted Thurlow, which is all the same, for he passed it on to me, and I handed the stamps back to Mary, with your note—see? She collared them, too, but she gave me five bo—shillings. She's an awfully decent sort." "Awfully decent" was Bob's superlative of praise.

Anderton was mystified, but deeply interested. He had glimmerings, but that was all. "Are you referring to some three-cornered Cape of Good Hopes, Bob?"

"Yes, of course, they were Mary's; but she let me put them on my sheet. Some fellows would have kept them all right. What do you say?"

"And who is—Mary?"

"Mary? Well, that's good! Why, she has been here a week, and you don't know who she is."

"Oh, I see. I know her as Miss Mandeville. Although, of course, I knew her name was—Mary, because the vicar called her so. Does she live near you?"

"She lives with us. Hope she always will, too; though she's often talking of going to China. I call it tommy-rot."

"Do you? Perhaps it is," said Anderton. "By the way, Bob, did you have those stamps valued?"

"No, I gave them back to Mary, and I've been at Ted's since. I expect they're in her purse, if she hasn't lost them. I hope she hasn't though, for some stamps that sound just like them were sold last week in London for two hundred and fifty guineas."

"You don't say so! Where did you see the account of the sale?"

"In the *Philatelic Journal*. I always get it. I'll fetch it for you; it's in my bag."

While Bob was gone Anderton emulated the methods of Sherlock Holmes. First he did a little sum, with two hundred and sixty-two pounds ten shillings, the equivalent of two hundred and fifty guineas, at the starting-point. The oddness of the amount which had come to him, varying from fifty-pound notes to a postal order for five shillings, had struck him at first, and had been food for thought ever since. He was not unacquainted with auctioneers'

commissions. Yes, the result tallied to a penny. It was a sum which required only a dozen figures.

Then he hurried to his desk and took out a manuscript album wherein Mary had written at his request, "All things work together for good to them that love God," and had signed her name. He opened the book, laid it flat, and then took from his pocket the little unsigned note which accompanied the gift. He put it side by side with the page of the album. The similarity was ridiculously evident. It needed no expert in caligraphy to say that the two were written by the selfsame hand. Then, as proving the old maxim that even Jove nods, he almost laughed aloud to think that he had never once thought of the postmark. He pulled out the envelope which had contained the notes, and, sure enough, the postmark was Farnmill, a town certainly not five miles from Bob's—and Mary's—home.

He hurried to his seat as he heard Bob coming downstairs like an avalanche. "It's here," the boy announced, entering the room with the open paper. Anderton read the account of the sale, which had evidently caused quite a flutter in philatelic circles. The report said: "At Boyd and Burke's on the 13th inst. the fortnightly stamp sale was made memorable by a unique 'lot,' in fact by the sale of a hitherto unheard-of pair. This was a copy of the penny blue triangular error of colour, Cape of Good Hope, 1861. This in a pair with the normal stamp is, of course, a great rarity, and the price of two hundred and fifty guineas which it fetched is not to be wondered at. It was evident that the pair had been on an envelope, but, probably by carelessness originally, both were free from cancellation marks, and as they had all their gum they were really in prime unused condition."

"Yes, it is certainly curious," said Anderton, handing the paper back to the boy, "but it is not every stamp that goes for a sum like that."

"No fear," said Bob; "I only wish Mary's would sell for a hundredth part of it."

Next day Anderton announced that he had an engagement which would prevent him being in for lunch. The vicar was full of his own work, and asked no questions. The curate took train to Farnmill, a bus three miles farther, and walked the other mile to Summertown.

He had no difficulty in discovering the residence of Mr. Murray. He asked for Miss Mandeville, and was shown into the drawing room. Mary came in blushing, as usual, like a school-girl, but there was welcome in her eyes. She suspected nothing, even though she wondered greatly at this unexpected visit. She fondly imagined her tracks were well covered.

"Oh, how unlucky!" she said. "Aunt and uncle are both out, and I know they would like to see you. Are you returning soon?"

"I came to see you, Miss Mandeville," said Anderton.

Mary blushed again, and found herself unable to find the next remark.

"I came to say that I cannot possibly accept this"—he had her own packet in his hand now, and she gazed at it with an almost frightened fascination; "it was a kind, kind thought. I do not know how you learned of my difficulties. I presume Mr. Bryanstone told you."

"Oh, yes, yes—he did." Mary was extremely agitated. "He knows nothing of this—no one knows. Oh, why did you find out?" Mary looked as if she would cry, and Arnold Anderton took her outstretched hand without well knowing that he did so. Mary seemed equally unconscious. "It is not mine,"

she went on. "It was dedicated from the first to foreign missions, and I did not even know you when I sent it—and—I do know you now, and yet—you refuse it. Won't you let me help you?" She cast her eyes down, and for the first time seemed conscious that he held her hand. She shyly tried to remove it.

"Mary."

She looked up suddenly and saw the



"IT WAS DEDICATED FROM THE FIRST TO FOREIGN MISSIONS"

light in his eyes. Her own suddenly overflowed, and she sat down on the couch and burst into tears.

Anderton knelt beside her, and waited till she recovered, then he again secured the little hand. "Mary," he said, "will you go with me to China when I'm ready?"

She smiled through her tears. "Ask me again when the money is spent," she said.

THE BEST STAMP HINGES

We have just prepared a new stamp hinge, of convenient size, put up in *air-tight tin boxes*, each containing 1000 hinges of good tough paper, doubly gummed, and thus easily peelable. Post-free, 7d. per box.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Enterprise Philatelic Society

Secretary: A. C. Constantinides, Woodview, Archway Road, Highgate, London, N.

Meetings: Monthly, Devonshire House Hotel, Bishopsgate Street, London, E.C.

THE twenty-eighth ordinary monthly meeting was held on 17 January, 1906, at the Devonshire House Hotel, E.C. The attendance was a trifle below the average, seventeen members only signing the register.

Mr. W. Buckland Edwards, B.Sc., Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 6.30 p.m., when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and duly signed.

A letter was read from Mr. G. H. Simons, in which he requested to be released from his obligations as a member of the Committee. His resignation was accepted with many regrets, and a vote of thanks accorded him for his past services to the Society.

Mr. J. Read Burton was elected to occupy the vacant seat on the Committee.

The Hon. Librarian passed a vote of thanks to Messrs. H. V. Brand, H. J. Bignold, and W. B. Edwards, for donations of literature to the Library.

The meeting then settled down to inspect a display of the stamps of Antigua, Bahamas, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, and Dominica, kindly lent by Mr. E. Heginbottom, B.A. Amongst other notable stamps was Dominica, issue March, 1886, the rare error of surcharge one penny on 6d., green. At its conclusion the meeting accorded Mr. Heginbottom a cordial vote of thanks for his display.

Mr. Westcott then submitted a little narration which was burdened with the imposing title of "A Collection of Recollections re Collections collected for Collection by a Collating Collector during the Colligation of his Collatable Collection of Adhesive Postage Stamps." This proved to be very interesting, and, when the meeting had recovered, gained a well-merited vote of thanks for its compiler.

Members are requested to note the following:—

The auction originally fixed for 21 February has been postponed until 4 April, on account of the large number of items already in the programme for the former date. Full arrangements will be sent to members early in March.

The general display by members on 21 February has been made competitive, and the owner of the best display will be entitled to stamps to the value of five shillings, to be taken from the monthly packet. The decision will be arrived at by ballot, two votes being allowed to each member present—these, however, must not be alike.

Auction Regulations

Vendors

Members' contributions are limited to not more than ten lots for each member.

Lots must be sent in to the Hon. Sec. not later than 10 March, and must be accompanied by a stamped

addressed envelope, for the eventual reply, which will be sent as soon as possible after the auction.

A commission of 10 per cent will be deducted from the amount realized, except where a lot is withdrawn at a reserve, when 5 per cent of the reservation price will be charged and put towards the expenses of the auction. No commission will be charged on unsold lots.

The sub-committee reserve the right to refuse such lots as they may consider too common or unsuitable, and as a guidance it is suggested that no lot of less total catalogue value than 4s. be sent in.

Bidders

Any dispute regarding bids, etc., during the sale will be subject to the decision of the Hon. Auctioneer, from whose ruling there will be no appeal.

A catalogue of the lots to be offered will be issued on 24 March, and may be obtained from the Hon. Sec. upon application accompanied by two penny stamps.

Postal bids are invited from country members and those unable to attend, and should be sent early to the Hon. Sec., who will purchase at as much below limit as possible.

No commission will be charged for postal bids.

Postal bids will take precedence according to date of receipt.

The catalogue will be compiled by the sub-committee, who, while not accepting responsibility for faulty descriptions, will endeavour, as far as may be in their power, to give an accurate and reliable description of each lot, especially with regard to condition.

Complaints regarding any of the lots knocked down must be lodged with the Hon. Sec. within three days of receipt, otherwise no complaint will be entertained.

Participation in the auction is allowed only on compliance with the foregoing conditions.

North of England Philatelic Society

President: G. B. Bainbridge, J.P.

Hon. Sec.: Mark Easton, 43 Sidney Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Meetings: Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE third annual sale by auction of members' duplicates was held at the Y.M.C.A., Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Thursday, 1 February, 1906, at 7 p.m., when Mr. Jas. V. Anderson offered 202 lots for sale, and they were practically all sold.

Some of the best prices realized were:—

	s.	d.
Antigua, 1s. CA, perf. 14	6	3
Set 1d. plate numbers except 77 and 225	5	0
Jamaica, set, wmk Pine	10	0
U.S., 1 dol., Columbus, mint	6	3
Natal, 1874, 5s., rose, mint	9	6
H.S.A., ros., deep green, used	9	0
U.S., Columbus, 1 to 5 dols., used	23	0
Mulready letter sheet A.g. black	4	9
Ceylon, "On Service," 2 c. to 75 c., mint	7	6
Zululand on Natal, ½, with dot, without dot, and double surcharge	11	6

OUR PHILATELIC DIARY

FEBRUARY, 1906

We shall be glad if Secretaries of Philatelic Societies will send us their Programmes for the new year. Several Societies are omitted from this Diary for lack of Programmes.

- Junior Philatelic Society: Seventh Annual Conversazione in the Bijou Theatre, Archer Street, W., when it is hoped to present a philatelic "arce, entitled *The Lady Forger*, for the first time. Full announcements will appear in due course.
- Liverpool Philatelic Society: Display—British Guiana, Sarawak.
- Herts Philatelic Society: Display with Notes, Straits Settlements; Mr. A. Bagshawe.
- Leeds Philatelic Society: "Bordeaux Issue of France, 1870"; Mr. F. A. Padgett.
- 20 & 21. Auction: Puttick and Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London. 4.30 p.m.
- Enterprise Philatelic Society, London: Auction for disposal of Members' Duplicates, etc. Discussion—"Is Finality a Desideratum?"; opened by Mr. A. H. Harris. General Display by Members—The Far East; General Sale and Exchange.
- 22 & 23. Auction: Ventom, Bull, and Cooper, Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London. 5 p.m.
- Manchester Philatelic Society: Paper—"Outsider's View of Philately"; Mr. J. H. Abbott.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR *G. S. W.* READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "*G. S. W.*" readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

ED. "*G. S. W.*"

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

DENMARK.



1904-5. Head of the late King Christian IX.

- 5 öre, yellow-green.
- 10 „ scarlet.
- 20 „ blue.
- 25 „ bistre.

Set of four, unused, 1s., post-free.

- 50 öre, deep violet.
- 100 „ orange-buff.

The two unused for 2s. 3d.,
post-free.

If all six Stamps are ordered at one time, we will supply the two sets for 3s., post-free.

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

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 8
Whole No. 60

24 FEBRUARY, 1906

Vol. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Bremen



BREMEN is a free city of Germany on the Weser, and forms with its territory a state of the German Empire. As a seaport it is second only to Hamburg. Bremen was founded in 788 by Charles the Great. It was the seat of a bishopric in 804, but threw off episcopal rule in the fourteenth century and joined the Hanseatic League,

a confederation of German towns founded in the thirteenth century for mutual protection and for the promotion of commercial advantages. Bremen, however, seems to have been a troublesome member of the League, for it was several times expelled and readmitted. In 1810 it was annexed by France, but three years later it recovered

its independence and joined the Germanic Confederation, subsequently the North German Confederation, and finally was merged in the German Empire.

Its population in 1875 numbered 102,177, in 1890, 124,955, and in 1900, with suburbs, it had grown to 163,418. The area of the territory is about 100 square miles, and the population, including the town of Bremen, was in 1900, 224,882.

Its Philatelic History

The first postage stamp was issued in 1855, and was intended for the franking of letters within the town. According to Mr. Westoby, Bremen "early joined the German-Austrian Postal Union, and, for what may be termed outside correspondence, made use of German stamps, there being offices of Prussia, Thurn and Taxis, and Hanover in the town." He adds: "The stamps issued by the Bremen Post Office were either for local use or were created for some special purpose." Thus the first stamp issued in 1855 of 3 grothe was for franking letters within the town, the 5 grothe was for prepaying the rate of postage to Hamburg, the 7 grothe for postage to Lubeck and Mecklenburg-Schwerin, the 5 sgr. of 1861 for prepaying the ship rate to England, the 10 grothe for the rate to Holland, and the 2 grothe of 1863 for the rate between Bremen and Vegesack.

Bremen ceased to issue stamps when it joined the North German Confederation in 1868.

For the beginner and the general collector the issues may be simplified to two series, one imperforate and the other perforated, but they are all expensive.

1855-61. Four values. Design, the Arms on a shield in various framings. The prominent feature of the Arms is a large key, which figures as the central portion of the design in each stamp. The 5 gr. and 7 gr.

were of the same design. The stamps were printed in black on coloured papers, except the 5 sgr., which was printed in green on white paper. Imperforate.



Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
3 gr., black on blue . . .	20 0	20 0
5 gr. " rose . . .	10 0	20 0
7 gr. " yellow . . .	12 0	40 0
5 sgr., green . . .	15 0	16 0

1861-3. Six values. Designs, those of the previous issue with a 2 gr. and 10 gr. added of separate designs. Perforated.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
2 gr., orange . . .	12 0	20 0
3 gr., black on blue . . .	10 0	30 0
5 gr. " rose . . .	10 0	12 0
7 gr. " yellow . . .	10 0	—
10 gr., black . . .	16 0	60 0
5 sgr., green . . .	15 0	20 0

(To be continued)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

THE YOUNG COLLECTOR'S PACKET

No. 66, 500 varieties, is strongly recommended as the cheapest collection of 500 different Stamps ever offered—the Stamps could not be bought separately for three times the marvellously low price at which it is now offered. The Stamps, etc., are clean, picked specimens fit for any collection. The best 500 varieties in the trade. 4s. 1d., post-free.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

CHAPTER XI

Our American Branch

THIS—our most important branch—commenced in a very small way. In fact, we first started an agency business with Mr. E. B. Power, but we soon found

We had the luck to find the right man at the commencement.

Mr. Eustace B. Power was born at Abbey Wood, Kent, on 19 June, 1872, and went to America in September, 1890. He first settled in Denver, Col., where he found employment with J. O. Stevens, who con-



E. B. POWER

that the American business could be worked up into a big concern, and decided to have our own staff and offices, and to incorporate our business as an American concern, registered under the Laws of the State of New Jersey.

ducted a "curiostore." He moved to Chicago in 1894, where he took up stamps, and at first acted as agent for several firms.

In that city, in conjunction with Messrs. J. C. Morgenthau, Ludwig Wolf, and other Chicago collectors, he formed the Chicago



MANAGER'S OFFICE, NEW YORK



CORRESPONDENCE ROOM, NEW YORK

Stamp and Coin Company, and boldly opened a store in the heart of the city on Dearborn Street.

In 1895, with Mr. J. C. Morgenthau, he moved to New York, and worked for him until 1900, when, backed by a well-known Wall Street capitalist, he launched out "on his own," with what he often admits consisted of "a small stock of stamps and a large amount of nerve."

Mr. Power soon saw that Philately today requires vastly more capital than he could command, and he therefore came to

fireproof Gerard Building, at 198 Broadway, New York, where we are at present located in well-lighted and convenient premises.

Business having grown to such an extent that it was found too heavy for one man to manage, it became necessary to look round for another expert, and we were fortunate enough to secure the services of our old friend Mr. J. N. Luff, who joined us in March, 1905.

Mr. Luff is unfortunately in America, and I could not get at him to interview him personally, so I asked him to be good enough



E. B. POWER LOOKING FOR A WATERMARK
Henley-on-Thames, August, 1905

England, talked the matter over with us, and eventually signed agreements with our firm.

Under this arrangement we purchased all the stock held by Mr. Power, who entered our employ as manager of our New York branch, which was first started in September, 1902, at small offices in 167 Broadway, New York.

The business there proving successful, and outgrowing the accommodation, opportunity was taken of Mr. C. J. Phillips's visit to the States in 1904 to secure more commodious premises, and after careful consideration, in May, 1904, we moved to a large suite of offices on the eighth floor of the

to write himself up, and I think I cannot do better than print his reply *in extenso*.

"MY DEAR PHILLIPS,

"In a recent letter you announced your intention of showing me up in print, and calmly asked me to assist you by supplying all details of my life and deeds that were fit for publication. Your restriction reduces the available material to a considerable extent, and eliminates a number of chapters that would probably prove interesting reading. However, such poor details as remain shall be yours.

"I question if a majority of your readers bore themselves with philatelic biographies,

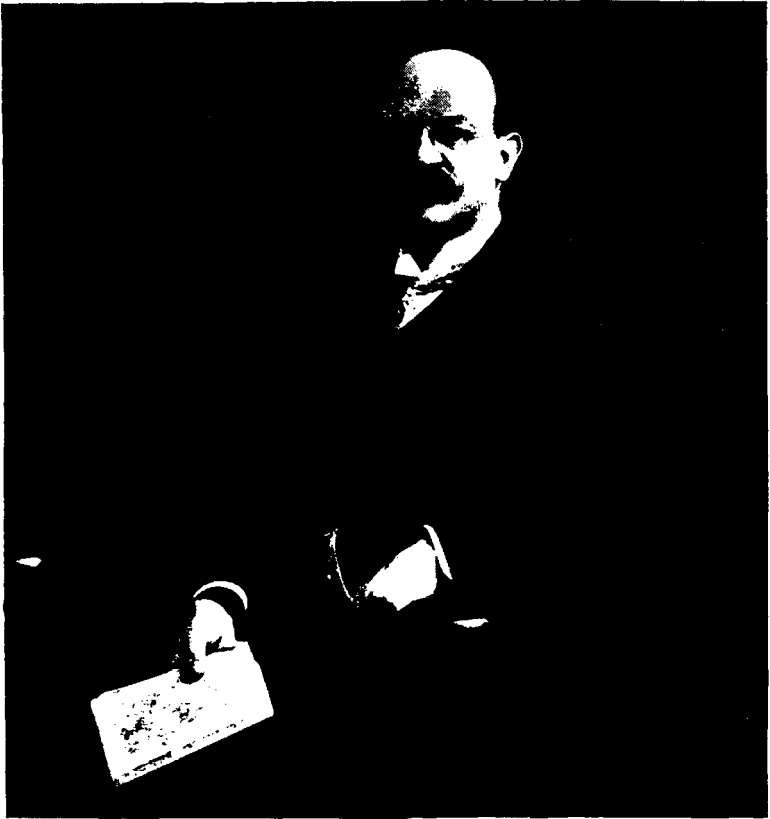
and those who do probably care little for the life of the man aside from his connexion with stamps; but, since you ask for these things, here they are.

"To begin at the beginning, I was duly born. Doubtless, the fact that I am here would make it self-evident that I *was* born. This auspicious event took place on 16 November, 1860, at a most unreasonably early hour of the morning, as I am reliably in-

"I was born at the paternal home of my mother, possibly because my parents feared the influence of city life on one very young.

"My father died when I was four years old; my mother when I was eighteen.

"Like most Americans, my education began in the public schools, followed by private tuition for a period, and then four years at the Bridge Hampton Literary and Commercial Institute, preparatory to enter-



J. N. LUFF

formed. A lifelong aversion to early rising may possibly be traced to this circumstance. The event which led up to this 'borning' was the marriage of one Nicholas W. Luff, gentleman, of New York City, and Elizabeth Carman, spinster, daughter of Samuel Carman, of South Haven, Suffolk Co., New York. Both families were of English descent, blessed with a comfortable amount of this world's goods, and socially prominent in their respective communities.

ing college. Unfortunately, near the end of this preparatory period, my last parent died, leaving me with a small fortune, of which the income was more than enough for my needs at that period. Having no friends or relatives sufficiently interested to advise me, I was left to my own devices, and, to my subsequent regret, abandoned my proposed college course, and also the intent to study and practise medicine. I travelled for a year, and then, to stop the

nagging of relatives, became a clerk in a wholesale millinery house in New York City, where I remained about two years.

"In the spring of 1882 I started 'out West' to make my fortune, in company with a friend, a very agreeable but quite impractical fellow. We finally brought up in the Santa Cruz Mountains of California and invested *my* money (the other fellow had only experience, and a pretty poor quality of that) in a vineyard and summer resort—as if either one were not sufficient of an undertaking. Incidentally, we, in our ignorance and enthusiasm, paid more for the property than it was worth, even had it been in the flourishing condition in which it was represented to be, and which it was not. These interesting facts developed in a few months, and we then settled down to hard work and efforts to rid ourselves of our elephant, which was not even a white one. This took just eight years.

"About 1 January, 1889, I stumbled into stamp collecting, through reading advertisements in a magazine, and thinking it to be a simple and inexpensive amusement which would help me to pass rainy days and long winter evenings. From the beginning I took the fever in a severe form, and was soon as deeply engaged in the pursuit as my finances would permit.

"In the spring of 1890 I at last succeeded in disposing of my mountain property, and went to San Francisco to live. A friend of mine was at that time manager of the Palace Hotel (well known to tourists throughout the world), and offered me a very good clerical position in that establishment. There I remained until the autumn of 1893.

"Soon after moving to San Francisco I was invited to join the Pacific Philatelic Society, which included in its membership many able and active philatelists. Its meetings were devoted to the study of stamps, and there was always a paper read or some subject discussed. We never met but that we learned something new. Those were the days when there were still things to learn about stamps, when everything had not been found out and boiled down into catalogue form. There were fields left to explore and countries to be studied, and we took the keenest delight in learning something new and imparting the knowledge to our friends. The labourer is worthy of his hire, and I think that we received the

reward of our diligence in the bargains that we were able to pick up. Those were the days in which the man who knew might, with a little searching and expenditure of a few pence, secure stamps for which to-day he would gladly pay pounds. I have had more than a few bargains myself, but I have earned them. At that time I had considerable leisure and a fair amount of ready money, and I lavished both on stamps. Had I not done so, I should never have secured the collection which I have to-day. I have never hesitated to sacrifice time, pleasure, and perhaps health, to the study of stamps. From the first I have taken and read all the best philatelic journals, and have followed up every hint they gave me. I have done original investigating, both that I might have subjects to write about and for the love of the thing. Friends have said to me, "Why do you work nights? You don't get any thanks for it, or any more salary." But I kept it up, to the detriment of my eyesight, I regret to say, but I feel that I have had my reward in the success that I have attained.

"In the summer of 1893 a chance remark in a letter to Mr. R. F. Albrecht, who was at that time established in New York City as a dealer in postage stamps, brought me an offer of a position with him, he having taken an agency for Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. As I had an inclination to return to my old home and be near my relatives and old friends, I accepted the offer, and on 16 October, 1893, joined Mr. Albrecht. After a few months we found that we were not suited to each other, and, by mutual agreement, on 2 April, 1894, I left him and entered the service of the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., where I remained eleven years. At first I was manager of the Approval Department, but gradually drifted into writing for the *American Journal of Philately*, and other work. After Mr. Henry Collin left the firm and returned to Europe, many of his duties devolved on me. I took up expert examinations, compiling (but not pricing) the *Standard Catalogue*, arranging auction sales, and similar work. On 1 July, 1901, I became editor of the *American Journal of Philately*, and on 1 October, 1903, I was elected President of the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., which positions I retained as long as I remained with that firm. On 1 March, 1905, I joined the forces of Stanley Gibbons, Inc., of New York.

"My especial lines of work for many years have been expert examinations and literary work. In pursuing the former line I have gathered a library which includes all the leading books and journals published in English and French, and some in German. I have also a large collection of photographs; a collection of forgeries; collections of United States Local and Russian Rural stamps, which, though not complete, are very useful for comparison; and a valuable accumulation of stamps for reference, consisting of surcharges, types, and varieties, which are essential for expert work and study. I have also an extensive collection of reprints, which ranks with the celebrated collection of Mr. C. J. Phillips, and also includes reprints of envelopes, post cards, and local stamps, which are not collected by Mr. Phillips. I regard this collection as one of my most useful assets.

"I have written for the philatelic Press almost from the time I began collecting stamps. The bulk of my writings has appeared in the *American Journal of Philately*. My most important effort was the *Postage Stamps of the United States*. In writing that work I was greatly assisted by my very fine collection of United States stamps, which was one of the most elaborate and complete that has ever been gotten together. Having served its purpose and reached a point at which additions to it could only be made

by very large expenditures, I reluctantly sold the collection to Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and it has now been dispersed. I still retain my collections of Great Britain and Colonies, Hawaii, Samoa, and Eastern Asia. The collections are strong in shades, errors of surcharge and perforation, and include most stamps of a catalogue value of £20 and under. I confess to a special fondness for the old stamps of Shanghai and Japan. There is still much to be learned about these interesting old issues. They are free from the commercial taint which hangs about so many modern stamps, and they will well repay study by the specialist. My collection of the large rectangular stamps of the first issue of Shanghai is probably the finest in existence. It is not arranged in arbitrary groups, but in the order of the printings, so far as they can be determined by the evidence presented by the stamps themselves.

"I am a member, active, corresponding or honorary, of every philatelic society of any importance in the United States, and of several in other parts of the world. I have been President of the National Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Society, New York, and at present hold that office in the Collectors' Club.

"We will now go to lunch.

"Faithfully yours,

"JOHN N. LUFF."

(To be continued.)

POSTAGE STAMP DEVICES

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 107.)

Tutelar Deities—continued

ANOTHER striking portraiture of Minerva, wearing the feather helmet, with shield and distaff, may be seen in the 1886 issue of Malta.

Malta.



The recumbent figure on the first issue of the Cape of Good Hope represents "Hope," the tutelary symbol of the colony. Certainly the design would give little indication of this were it not for the anchor, added undoubtedly to remove all doubt on the subject. As "Hope" is essentially a Christian virtue, we could hardly expect to find a prototype in ancient mythology.

In 1864 a much more elaborate design appeared. "Hope" has risen from a reclining to a sitting posture. The anchor has grown in dimensions, and furnishes a rough and uncomfortable seat. The vine leaves and the sheep portray the productions of the colony.

In 1893 a further change was made

"Hope" has arisen. She stands on her feet, and by her side, also in an upright position, is the anchor. The emblems of the colony's produce have given place to a view presumably of Table Bay and Mountain in the background.

Do these three designs represent an allegory?

Hope recumbent, the attitude one of expectancy.

Hope seated, as though some at least of her desires were realized.

Hope arisen, with eager glance she scans the wider horizon, and sees a more glorious future under the auspices of him whose head now figures on her stamps.

We know not, but this we know, that Britain's extremity is dearer to Britain's heart than ever she was before. Long may she remain for us the Cape of the Good Hope!



1853.



1864.



1893.

Of "Liberty" there are many representations. The best-known is probably that which figures on the first issues of Liberia, the land of freed slaves. In the ancient statues which stood in the temple erected for the worship of the Roman goddess Libertas, on Mount Aventine, she was represented holding in one hand a rod and in the other a cap. When slaves were freed, the rod was used by the master during the ceremony of manumission, while the "pileus," or brimless cap, was put on by the slave himself to signalize his freedom. In the design of the Liberian stamps, "Libertas" is depicted as wearing the cap of Liberty, of which mention will be made anon. The ship, doubtless, represents the

vessel which brought the freed slaves from America, in 1821, to the Pepper Coast of West Africa, through the instrumentality of the American Colonizing Society.



Heads and caps of Liberty abound in the issues of the Central and Southern Republics of America. All these nations were at one time part and parcel of the Spanish Empire. Their struggles to regain freedom and independence, which were long-sustained and successful, are fitly symbolized in the emblems of liberty, which in most cases, if we read their history aright, seem to have resulted in liberty to promote countless revolutions and internecine warfare among the inhabitants of those vast regions.

Buenos Ayres presents a good head of Liberty. Colombia incorporated the cap of Liberty, classically known as the "Phrygian bonnet," in the Arms of the country. The Argentine Republic, Brazil, Guatemala, Hayti, Nicaragua, Salvador, Uruguay, present a varied assortment of Liberty heads and caps, some of which we illustrate below.

For caps, see the centre of the Colombian shield and the centre of the Nicaraguan triangle.

Colombia.



Buenos Ayres.



Nicaragua.



Uruguay.



(To be continued.)

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Grenada.—Mr. Ewen sends us the set of the new Ship type so long heralded as forthcoming. There are only four low values, and it is understood that no stamps of a higher value than 2½d. will be issued in this type. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. write:—

“The same four denominations were issued in December of the King’s Head type with multiple watermarks, but were withdrawn on January 1st, and are no longer on sale. We believe they were only sold during a period of about a fortnight, and we understand that the remainders are to be burnt. But why burn a new King’s Head set?”

The stamps, which are of pleasing design, will be illustrated in our next issue. They are on the multiple CA paper.

Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf.

- ½d., green.
- 1d., carmine.
- 2d., orange-yellow.
- 2½d., blue.

New South Wales.—*Ewen’s Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 20s. stamp on the new paper watermarked Crown A.



Wmk. Crown A. Perf.

- ½d., green.
- 1d., carmine.
- 2d., blue.
- 2½d., dark blue.
- 4d., brown.
- 6d., orange.
- 1s., purple-brown.
- 20s., bright blue.

Siam.—We are indebted to Messrs Whitfield King and Co. for a set of the new issue of new design for this country. The King’s portrait figures in profile in a small medallion supported by two children, with

a view of Bangkok in the distance. There are six values, three of which are bicoloured.

Perf.

- 1 att, green and yellow.
- 2 atts, „ mauve.
- 3 „ green.
- 4 „ carmine and black.
- 12 „ blue.
- 24 „ red-brown.

Switzerland.—We find we have not chronicled all the issues up to date on the paper watermarked with Geneva Cross.



Wmk. Geneva Cross. Perf.

- 20 c., red-orange.
- 25 c., pale blue.
- 30 c., chestnut.
- 40 c., pearl-grey.
- 50 c., green.
- 1 fr., carmine.

Tunis.—We seem to have muddled up the values of this new issue on page 57. We hastily mistook the monogram RF for FR, and so concluded that the small stamps were high values of the franc currency. We now relist them in their proper order.

The Kairouan Mosque.



- 1 centime, black on buff.
- 2 centimes, red-brown.
- 5 „ green.

The Ruins of Hadrian’s Aqeduct.



- 35 centimes, green and bistre.
- 40 „ brown and red-brown.
- 75 „ red-brown and rose.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Our Scandinavian Letter

Current Danish Stamps *January, 1906*

SINCE I wrote last the new Danish issue has been completed with the exception of the higher values 2 and 5 kroner. I have seen several different and incorrect statements with regard to this issue, so it may be useful to record the same here complete. There are two designs, viz. the numeral type and King Christian's portrait.

Wmk. Crown ; perf. 13.

1 öre, yellow, numeral.	15 öre, mauve, numeral.
2 " carmine "	20 " blue, portrait.
3 " grey "	25 " sepia " [trait.
4 " pale blue "	50 " deep violet, por-
5 " green, portrait.	100 " yellow-brown "
10 " scarlet "	

I have seen two distinctly different shades of the 5 öre, a dark green one and a green or light green one, the former being the earlier print. Also the 20 öre, blue, appears in two shades. During the time that these stamps were being issued I noticed that the editors of the "New Issues" column in several British stamp journals were rather confused at the mixture of the numeral and portrait types. Although I have heard no explanation of this apparent "mixture," I venture to give a likely one as follows. All stamps for *inland* postage are of the plain and distinct numeral type, and the stamps chiefly used for *foreign* postal matters are of the more attractive design with the portrait of King Christian IX.

The inland minimum postage in Denmark for printed matters is 2 öre for town post and 4 öre for country post, with an additional 1 öre for heavier packets: thus the want of 1 and 3 öre stamps. For an inland money order the postage is 15 öre. Well, there you have all the numeral types. The foreign postage for printed matters is 5 öre, for a post card 10 öre, for a letter 20 öre, and for money order 25 öre.

New Norwegians

I hear from Norway that the new stamps are expected in the beginning of July next. The higher values, viz. 1 kr., 1.50 kr., and 2 kr., will be the first to be printed, so as to avoid a fresh edition of the provisional stamps of these values now in use. They are:

2 sk., buff, surcharge	1 "Kr. 1.00," in green.
2 sk. " "	"Kr. 1.50," in blue.
2 sk. " "	"Kr. 2.00," in carmine.

They are priced in Gibbons Supplement at 1s. 9d., 2s. 6d., and 3s. 6d. respectively,

in unused condition, but these stamps will be cheap at these prices in used condition before long. They are very scarce in the country itself, being chiefly used for parcel post, and stamps for parcels are affixed on a form, which is kept by the postal authorities.

A Discovery

I beg to draw your attention to the discovery of a Swedish Official surcharged 10 öre on 12 öre, blue, perforated 14. This is not recorded in Gibbons Catalogue, for the reason of its recent discovery. Only a few copies are known, but it may be worth while to examine number 443 in one's Swedish collection.

Swedish Philatelic Journals

Two philatelic journals are now published in Stockholm, the latest being the *Nordisk Filatelist Tidskrift*. There is a curious incident attached to this new competitor with the old-established and well-known *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift*—the official organ of the Philatelic Society of Sweden—and that is, that it is not a Swedish paper at all, though printed and published in the Swedish capital, but a journal owned jointly by Danes and Norwegians, or, rather, by the Northern Philatelic Society, with headquarters in Christiania. But all true Swedes will stick to their old journal, so I believe this enterprising intrusion will be of but short existence. I do not think that actions of this kind are good for Philately, or further the interest of the hobby among Scandinavians.

* *

I had hardly finished the above when the extra editions of the evening papers came out with the sad news from Copenhagen announcing the death of King Christian. This prompts me to add a few words *re* the Danish issue. The proposed 2 and 5 kroner may now not be issued. The Crown Prince Frederic is now King of Denmark, and the stamps bearing the portrait of the late King Christian will in the near future, I presume, have to give way for a new issue. The King Christian series—especially the higher values, as 50 and 100 öre—will thus experience a sensation new to Danish stamps, viz. that of never having been very cheap. Local dealers already charge a good price for these stamps; hence collectors should complete their series at once.

LOUIS ZETTERSTEN.

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

JEMIMA'S OFFICIALS

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON

THIS is to be a tale of love for the special delectation of young lady readers: of love and Philately, though 'tis perchance a seeming impossibility for two such opposites to assimilate, and blend in harmonious action to make a tale. For opposites they are! For is not love all heart, and Philately—at the moment—all head (King's, single), and do not those who love lose their head to their heart, and philatelists who cannot find their heads (King's) lose heart?

I, Philip Atterleigh, would that I could write with Cupid's dart in words of flaming fire, to infuse this tale with the glamour that surrounded my life when first I saw Jemima Helena Pennyquick. But my thoughts teem with love of her, though I shall doubtless fail to give adequate expression to them.

But, fair reader, your own imagination must conjure up that which I fail to say, and perhaps so 'twill help you to dream of the dashing young cavalry officer you mean to marry, or, perchance, of past conquests—when Algernon swore that if you would not have him he would take his misery to the duck-pond, and there—away with life and melancholy.

Or perhaps you may dream of that handsome young man you met on the promenade during the summer holidays, that interval of cooing and whispered nothings; and, alas! the dreadful agony when, upon your return home, he served you with six yards of torchon or a fringe-net at the local draper's. But forgive him for his past deception. You know you ought not to have spoken to a strange man! and what would Ma have said had she known? And yet, remember, there is many a true heart beating behind a drapery counter.

But how I met Jemima was in this way. In the town of Rewlet a coterie of budding Moguls, with budding moustaches and budding aspirations, debated upon the possibility of starting a philatelic society. Enthusiasm and energy they had, and such debate led to action. The society was inaugurated, and forged ahead with leaps and bounds.

From simple confabulations as to whether it were better to use gum or fish-glue to affix stamps in an album, were evolved, as experience and knowledge grew, learned discourses as to the fugitive colours of Great Britain Penny Red, or the art of applying benzine for the discovery of watermarks. And more than that, the society boasted a stamp exchange, a bourse, library, auction department, a stamp collection—rich in Europeans, omitting old issues, high values, and minor varieties. An agitation had been started to specialize in Transvaals. This country would afford ample scope for the specialist, one member suggested, as Transvaal was full of "miners."

Only one philatelic society, I think, has made more headway than the Rewlet Philatelic Society; but the name I will not mention. The leaders have already received their full measure of credit, and wear their laurels well. Besides, they have a talented figure-head who writes books, whereas our president only writes in books—he is ledger-keeper at the local soap-works.

One evening I had occasion to call upon the secretary, Jemima Helena's brother, in order to prepare the catalogue for a forthcoming auction, and as we were busily engaged she entered with a sheet of stamps in her hand. It was then she first entered my life, like a radiant sunbeam driving away the mists of discontent, and spreading a roseate glow over my existence.

How well I remember her! She was dressed with such exquisite taste—outward sign of her own beautiful nature. She wore a dark orange blouse, with emerald-green strappings, a square yoke of Tenerife wheels, and a scarlet waist-belt. Her hair, like wisps of fairy silk, was brushed from her neck to the top of her head, and there secured with a comb. Her skirt was of mauve taffeta, accordion-pleated, from under which peeped the most becoming and delicate carpet slippers it has ever been my lot to see. Ah me! her footsteps sounded as musical as a sunbeam on a violet.

Upon seeing me she blushed, and would

have run away; but the door was self-closing, and with it she collided, whereupon I rose and offered her my aid and sympathy. She was, however, not severely hurt; but the door having been just newly painted, a little of the paint was transferred to the most protuberant portion of her angelic face, and left a little patch of green. Even this did not spoil her beauty.

Jemima still retained the sheet of stamps in her hand, and her brother inquired as to what they were; whereupon she began to give us an enigmatical description of a hat she had seen in Queen & Morley's millinery establishment. It was such a duck, she said, and became less bashful as she lavished eulogistical praise upon it. And so the thin ice of conventionality was broken, and we chatted together in quite a friendly spirit after this.

She explained that she thought perhaps we would include her stamps in the next auction, as by so doing we might assist in buying the wonderful creation; it was only 9s. 11½d.

We asked to be allowed to look at the stamps—a sheet of sixty Army Officials, penny lilac, Queen. Her brother was about to speak, I thought perhaps adversely, as to the value of her stamps, so with a muttered ejaculation, "Keep quiet!" I pinched his knee. He did keep quiet, save for a most heathenish "Oh!"

"We will include them in the auction list," I said. "They should prove a most desirable lot." She thanked me in a most charming manner, and vanished.

That evening, as I walked home, I trod on air—figuratively speaking, mind you. Earth to me had become a pleasing habitation; all thought, save of her, was cast to the winds. My heart I felt would know no rest till I had made Jemima mine. How it beat—thump! thump! thumperty! thump! Ah! fair reader, perhaps you have experienced the same feeling when he on bended knee—but let us draw a veil.

At the next auction, the man with the hammer ultimately put up Jemima's Army Officials for sale,

A smothered laugh went round the room and uncomplimentary remarks were heard on all sides.

"What offers for this valuable and desirable lot?" said the auctioneer jocosely.

"A box of stamp mounts," said one bidder.

"Two farthings, mint condition," shouted another.

My fingers itched to thrash these adde-pated bidders. How dare they make their foolish jests about Jemima's stamps!

I thought of her waiting anxiously, no doubt in a fever of suspense, wondering whether her stamps had realized sufficient to enable her to buy the coveted hat. And what can a girl desire more than "a duck of a hat"?

"Ten shillings," I bid.

There was a flutter of excitement in the room, and a remark *sotto voce* of "Colney Hatch!"

"Any advance," said the auctioneer; "any advance on ten shillings? Going, going, gone!" And I was made possessor of the Army Officials, which I asked to be allowed to take away with me that evening.

At the conclusion of the sale, I was besieged by a knot of wondering inquirers, asking why I had bid ten shillings for such a lot. One half of the members of our society were very ignorant regarding stamps, and the other half knew virtually nothing about Philately, and so I explained with a knowing look, "Splayed Ys."

"Splayed Ys" all were saying.

"Wish I had noticed them," said one; "they are worth pounds." And so, from being considered an insane bidder, I was deemed to be a jolly cute collector.

The duck of a hat is now Jemima's, and I hope that some day Jemima will be mine.

CORRESPONDENCE

Hong Kong Cancellations

DEAR SIR,—I note the inquiry of Mr. Albrecht, in your issue of 20 January, relative to a postmark on a Hong Kong stamp in my Type IV (the upright oval of bars) which "has a figure IV in Roman numerals instead of the usual number and letter." I think I

can throw some light on it, for I believe if Mr. Albrecht will *invert* his cancellation he will find his IV resolve itself into AI, in which the cross-bar of the A shows but faintly, if at all.

Very truly yours,

C. A. HOWES, S.B.

BOSTON, U.S.A., 29 Jan., 1906.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Birmingham Philatelic Society

President: Sir W. B. Avery.
Secretary: G. Johnson, B.A., 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

FEBRUARY 1.—Display, "Seychelles." Mr. J. W. Heath. Paper, "Greece." Mr. T. W. Morris. Messrs. L. D. Leonardt and C. Piens were elected members. Mrs. Lake and Mr. F. C. Henderson were thanked for stamps given to the Permanent Collection, and Mr. H. L. Ewen for the Third Edition (Part 1) of his *Priced Catalogue of the Railway Letter Stamps of the United Kingdom*.

Mr. J. W. Heath gave a short paper on "Seychelles," with a display of nearly all the varieties in singles, pairs, and blocks of four, used and unused. This was followed by an interesting discussion on the relative rarity of the various values and varieties compared with catalogue values, and on the position in the sheet of the varying types of surcharge.

Mr. T. W. Morris then gave a short introductory paper on "Greece" (large head), followed by a display of his unique collection of this country. His method of arrangement of the various printings of each value by means of a "key sheet" of shades marks a distinct advance in simplifying the collection of these somewhat complicated issues. Further particulars will be given later on, so that members and others may have the benefit of Mr. Morris's research.

Votes of thanks to Messrs. Heath and Morris brought a long evening's entertainment to a close.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.
Secretary: H. F. Johnson, 4 Portland Place North, Clapham
Meetings: Exeter Hall, Strand, W.C. (Road, S.W.
Annual Subscription: 1s. 6d.

A WELL-ATTENDED meeting of this Society was held at Exeter Hall, Strand, on Saturday, 20 January, 1906, Mr. Fred J. Melville occupying the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been disposed of, the following new members were elected: B. A. Meadows and K. H. Rentes. The report of the Librarian was then read, announcing gifts for the Society's Library from Mr. H. Lee, Mr. S. F. Bickers, Mr. G. H. Holland, and of the following works from Major E. B. Evans, R.A.: *Postage Stamps and their Collection*, by O. Firth; *History of the Early Postmarks of the British Isles*, by J. G. Hendy; *Stanley Gibbons Catalogue of Envelopes, Post Cards, etc., 1900*; *The Stamps of Jammu and Cashmir*, Parts I and II, by D. P. Masson; *British Indian Adhesive Stamps (Queen's Head) Surcharged of Native States*, by C. Stewart-Wilson; *Stamps and Stamp Collecting*, by Major Evans; *Grenada and Barbados*, by Messrs. Bacon and Napier; *Reprints*, by E. D. Bacon; *Shanghai*, by W. B. Thornhill; *The Post Office of Fifty Years Ago*; *A Colour Dictionary*, by B. W. Warhurst. Upon the motion of Mr. E. A. Smart, seconded by Mr. R. Shepherd, a hearty vote of thanks to Major Evans and the other donors was carried by acclamation.

Mr. H. W. Westcott read an admirable paper on "The Stamps of Gibraltar and the Morocco Agencies," which was illustrated by a display of the magnificent collection of Gibraltar belonging to Mr. G. F. H. Gibson, the Hon. Sec. of the Manchester Philatelic Society, and by Mr. Westcott's collection of Morocco Agencies. A touch of local colour was introduced by Mr. Westcott handing round, prior to his paper, several views of the famous "Rock." A vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Westcott and to Mr. Gibson by Mr. R. Halliday, seconded by Mr. L. Savournin, and carried unanimously.

The fever of the General Election did not fail to

attack the home of the Juniors, for the debate, "Used v. Unused," was the subject of a poll, which resulted in a victory for the supporters of "Used." Mr. C. J. Patman handled with his accustomed conciseness the case for "Used," and Mr. Feeney, approaching the question on behalf of "Unused" in quite an unconventional style, displayed delightful originality and wit, which conduced to the pleasure both of his supporters and his opponents. The lateness of the hour alone curtailed a very interesting and spirited debate.

THE genial presence of Mr. Fred J. Melville, the President of the Juniors, was missing at the meeting of the Junior Philatelic Society, at Exeter Hall, on Saturday, 3 February, that gentleman being busily engaged in the propagation of the benefits of Philately at Liverpool.

In his absence the chair was ably filled by Mr. B. W. H. Poole, who made the gratifying announcement that at the inaugural meeting of the Manchester branch of the Society on the preceding night, when over 500 persons were present, no less than 80 had become members. In the course of the evening a telegram was received from Mr. Melville, stating that a very successful meeting was being held at Liverpool, and that 30 members had joined.

The first business of the evening was the auction, conducted by Mr. E. M. Gilbert Lodge, the Hon. Auctioneer, who by 8 p.m. had dealt with about 150 lots, the catalogue offering some good bargains.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, Mr. Alfred Barker was elected a life member of the Society, and Mr. F. B. Johnson a member.

Donations to the Society were announced as follows:—To the Permanent Collection: From Mr. Wm. Darwin, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, an interesting collection of British Colonial specimen stamps (unused), mostly King's Heads with single CA watermark, and comprising many high values and complete sets. To the Forgery Collection: from Mr. Readhead. To the Library: From Mr. F. Seward, donation to Binding Fund; from Miss Cassells, miscellaneous literature, and the current number of their periodicals from the publishers of *Le Postillon*, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, and *The West-End Philatelist*. A vote of thanks was passed to the various donors.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. C. P. Rogers, his paper on the "Stamps of Barbados" was read by Mr. Westcott, and was illustrated by Mr. Rogers' fine collection of the stamps of that colony. Mr. Rogers had been at particular pains to explain his observations on papers and perforations by samples of papers and by diagrams, and in the course of the paper he gave some useful advice as to their classification. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Rogers and to Mr. Westcott was moved by Mr. E. M. Gilbert Lodge, seconded by Mr. R. Halliday, and carried unanimously.

This was followed by a display of a portion of Mr. A. B. Kay's collection of forgeries, which appealed alike to specialist and to general collector. Mr. Kay's volumes were keenly scrutinized by the Juniors, and to judge by the merriment caused by the production of a stamp of Brunswick (the 1 gr., rose) bearing in place of the Crown above the traditional White Horse, a circus-girl engaged in that performance familiar to circus-goers of jumping from the horse's back, it was evident that whatever forgeries the members had been enabled to discover in their own collections could not have been very serious. A vote of thanks to Mr. Kay terminated the proceedings of an interesting evening.

Kent and Sussex Philatelic Society

President: Edward J. Nankivell.
Secretary: F. Wicks, The Lodge, Tudeley, Tonbridge.
Meetings: Members' Houses. Monthly: afternoons.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Kent and Sussex Philatelic Society was held at the kind invitation of the President, Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, at Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells, on Tuesday, 2 January, 1906, the attendance including Mrs. B. H. Collins, Miss R. M. Crothers, Miss A. L. Nix, the Rev. D. J. Stather Hunt, M.A., Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, Dr. W. Allan Harmer, Mr. Chas. Hepburn Scott, and Mr. Frederick Wicks (Hon. Sec.).

Correspondence

Capt. G. Loyd Courthope, J.P., M.P., and Mr. George Beale Pinyon wrote regretting inability to attend.

Mr. Clare Fordham Harriss tendered his resignation, wishing the Society continued and increased success.

Report and Balance-sheet

The Hon. Secretary presented the annual report and balance-sheet. The report stated that the committee had pleasure in presenting a report of the second year's working of the Society, which continued to make progress, and to provide entertaining and instructive afternoons for its members at its monthly meetings. Financially, the Society was sound, having a balance of £7 15s. 4½d. in hand, while in point of number there had been thirty-four members during the year, though five had now signified their intention of retiring, owing chiefly to the distance of their places of residence from Tunbridge Wells. The committee regretted this, and trusted that there would be more new members joining the Society during the year 1906.

The balance-sheet for the year ended 31 December, 1905, was as follows:—Receipts: Balance from 1904, £3 15s. 8d.; subscriptions and donations, £6 16s.; making a total of £9 17s. 8d. Expenses: Postages, etc., £1 0s. 0½d.; stationery, etc., 6s. 10d.; and printing, 15s. 5d.; making a total of £2 2s. 3½d. There was thus a favourable balance of £7 15s. 4½d.

The report and balance-sheet were adopted.

Election of Officers

The election of officers resulted as follows:—

President: Mr. Edward J. Nankivell.

Vice-Presidents: The Right Hon. the Earl Sondes, Mrs. Collins, Major E. B. Evans, R.A., Capt. G. Loyd Courthope, J.P., M.P., Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., the Rev. John Highwood, M.A., D.C.L., Mr. W. W. Blest, and Mr. Vernon Roberts.

Hon. Vice-Presidents: The Right Hon. Sir Frederick Milner, Bart., P.C., Major A. G. Boscawen, the Rev. Canon C. C. Tancock, D.D., Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., Mr. A. Paget Hedges, M.P., and Mr. Edmund Eaton.

Committee: The Misses Nix, the Rev. D. J. Stather Hunt, and Mr. Charles Hepburn Scott.

Hon. Treasurer: Capt. G. L. Courthope, M.P., of Fair View, Hawkhurst.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. Frederick Wicks, of The Lodge, near Tudeley, Tonbridge.

Paper

The President read a paper on "The Stamps of the Sudan," which dealt in detail with the varieties in the Arabic characters of the first issue overprinted on the stamps of Egypt.

A pleasant meeting then terminated.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: E. Egly, Arncliffe Road, West Park, Leeds.
Secretary: Charles W. Harding, 139 Belle Vue Road, Leeds.
Meetings: Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street, Leeds.
Annual Subscription: 5s.; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

At the meeting of this Society held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday evening, 23 January, 1906, there was a display of United States stamps. Several members, strong in the earlier issues, brought their collections, and although the very rare Postmasters' stamps (issued by the postmasters of certain cities and towns to facilitate the prepayment of postage previous to the introduction of general governmental issues in 1847) were not a very conspicuous feature, the stamps of all regular issues from 1847 were represented by some fine examples that did great credit to the exhibitors, for, as is well known, America is a "difficult" country for the philatelist to go to work upon. The heads of George Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Jackson, and Lincoln appear on the earlier stamps, and other Presidents and generals of the Great Republic have all been similarly honoured in the later issues. It would be a task indeed to enumerate the many fine things shown, but the following must be mentioned, viz. New York Post Office, 5 cents, 1845, unused, initiated by the Postmaster; the first general issue of 1847, all values, on various papers; the 90 cents, blue, of 1860, in mint condition and perfectly centred—considered one of the handsomest stamps of any issue; several of the rarer shades of other values of issues 1851-60; issues of 1867-75, with and without the rare embossing with "grille"; the scarce pictorial stamps of 1869, used and unused; also a set of rare proofs of these latter imperforate (included in the collection of Mr. H. Wade); Departmental stamps, viz. Post Office, State, Treasury, War, Agriculture, Interior, Justice, and Navy; also the general issue of 1861 for the Confederate States of America were all well represented.

The Commemoration issues of America have been plentiful of late years, the most noteworthy being the Columbus set of 1893, values 1 cent to 5 dollars, made during the progress of the "Columbian Exposition" at Chicago, commemorative of the discovery of America; these stamps are finely engraved, and depict various incidents in the career of the discoverer. Other commemorative issues of a pictorial nature were those of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition at Omaha in 1898, of the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo in 1901, and, lastly, of the International Exhibition at St. Louis in 1904, to commemorate the Louisiana purchase.

As a supplement to his paper given recently on the "Universal Postal Union," the President, Mr. E. Egly, read a short paper on the "Parcels Post," with a comparison of the regulations for working the same in Great Britain and in continental countries, and various stamped dispatch notes (delivered to the consignee in Switzerland, but not so in other countries) were passed round for inspection, along with other interesting items relating to the service.

Novelties shown were: unused pair, 1 gildi, Iceland, one stamp with short figure "1," by Mr. Fred A. Padgett; German China, 4 cents on 10 pf., 10 cents on 20 pf., and 20 cents on 40 pf., new surcharge, by Mr. Fox; German Levant, 10 para on 5 pfennig, 1902 issue, for German Empire, by Mr. Egly.

One new member was proposed for election at next meeting.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR *G. S. W.* READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "*G. S. W.*" readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

Ed. "*G. S. W.*"

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

BRITISH SOMALILAND. ALL OBSOLETE.

1903. Queen's Head Stamps of India, overprinted at bottom of stamps.

6 a., pale brown.

12 a., brown on red.

2 r., yellow-brown and carmine.

3 r., green and brown.

5 r., violet and ultramarine.

All unused and mint.

This set of five Stamps is catalogued at £1 17s. 3d.

Special Bargain price, £1 2s. 6d., post-free.

1903. King's Head Stamps of India, similarly surcharged.

1 a., carmine.

2 a., purple.

3 a., orange-brown.

4 a., olive-green.

8 a., magenta.

All unused and mint.

This set of five Stamps is catalogued at 4s. 5d.

Special Bargain price, 3s., post-free.

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

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 9
Whole No. 61

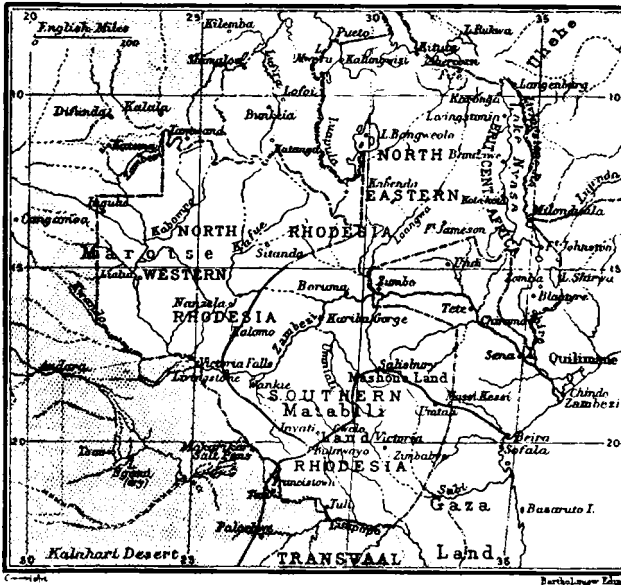
3 MARCH, 1906

Vol. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

British Central Africa



BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA is bounded on the north by the Congo Free State, on the north-east by German East Africa, on the south-east by Portuguese East Africa, on the south by the Zambesi, and on the west by Portuguese West Africa.

In October, 1889, the British South Africa Company received its charter from the Crown, and in February, 1891, the charter was extended so as to cover the territory under British influence north of the Zambesi with the exception of Nyassaland. Nyassaland, which was excluded from the Company's operations, was on 14 May, 1891, formally declared to be under the protectorate of Great Britain, and by a later modification, dated 22 February, 1893, was given the official name of the British Central Africa Protectorate.

The administration is in the hands of a commissioner acting under the Colonial Office, to which department it was in 1904 transferred from the Foreign Office. The Protectorate has no sea-coast, but by a concession from the Portuguese has a port at Chinde at the mouth of the Zambesi.

The chief towns are Blantyre, with a population of 6500; Zomba, the headquarters of the administration; Fort Johnson, Karonga, and Kotakota.

Its Philatelic History

The first stamps issued for use in British Central Africa were those of the first issue of British South Africa, then current, which were overprinted with the initials "B. C. A." In 1895 stamps of a separate and peculiar design were provided. This peculiar issue was received at first with a great deal of

septicism in philatelic circles. Major Evans, in announcing the issue in the *Monthly Journal*, said: "We regret to learn that there is, or is to be, a full set of special adhesives, etc., for this territory, which probably have to be consigned bodily to the 'unnecessary' list, and thence to oblivion." At the time there was much to justify Major Evans' strictures, but since then the *bona fides* of the issue has been fully established. The design represented the Arms of the protectorate, with a couple of negroes as supporters, one holding a pick and the other a shovel. This design was retained through various issues, and was superseded by the King's Head in 1903.

1891. Sixteen values. Design, the then current stamps of the first issue of the British South Africa Company overprinted with the initials "B. C. A." All values up to and including the 10s were of the small size, and the pound values in the larger size. Perforated.



Stamps of British South Africa overprinted "B. C. A."

	Perforated.		Unused.		Used.	
			s.	d.	s.	d.
1d., black	.	.	0	4	0	6
2d., sea-green and vermilion	.	.	0	6	0	9
4d., chestnut and black	.	.	0	6	0	8
6d., blue	.	.	0	8	2	0
8d., rose-lake and ultramarine	.	.	1	0	3	0
1s., grey-brown	.	.	1	4	2	0
2s., vermilion	.	.	2	6	4	0
2s. 6d., purple	.	.	3	3	4	6
3s., brown and green	.	.	3	9	5	0
4s., grey-black and vermilion	.	.	5	0	10	0
5s., orange-yellow	.	.	6	6	12	6
10s., deep green	.	.	12	6	—	—
£1, deep blue	.	.	90	0	60	0
£2, rose-red	.	.	120	0	—	—
£5, sage-green	.	.	130	0	—	—
£10, brown	.	.	250	0	—	—

1892-5. Provisionals. Three values, THREE SHILLINGS surcharged on the 4s., FOUR SHILLINGS on the 5s., and ONE PENNY on the 2d. of the previous issue.

B. C. A.

FOUR SHILLINGS

ONE PENNY.

	Provisionals.	Unused.	Used.
3s. on 4s., grey-black and vermilion	.	60 0	60 0
4s. on 5s., orange-yellow	.	10 0	10 0
1d. on 2d., sea-green and vermilion	.	4 0	5 0

1895. Eleven values. Design, the Arms of the colony with two negroes as supporters. This series created at the time of issue quite an outcry because of the many circumstances which seemed to justify the suspicion that it was a scheme to raise the wind in the shape of funds from stamp collectors' pockets. Its *bona fides* is, however, now conceded. The values up to and including the 1s. are of the ordinary small size and the higher values of the large size. The central portion of the design was printed in black throughout all values. These stamps were first printed on unwatermarked paper and subsequently on the usual colonial watermarked paper. Perforated.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d., black	3 0	0 6
2d., green and black	5 0	4 0
4d., brown-buff and black	5 0	5 0
6d., ultramarine	5 0	5 0
1s., carmine	12 6	2 6



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2s. 6d., mauve and black	30 0	30 0
3s., yellow	20 0	5 0
5s., olive	35 0	20 0
£1, orange	100 0	45 0
£10, vermilion	—	£10
£25, blue-green	—	—

1896. Eleven values. Same designs, but printed on paper watermarked. Small stamps Crown CA, and the large stamps Crown CC. Perforated.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d., black	0 6	0 6
2d., green and black	2 6	2 6
4d., orange-brown and black	5 0	5 0
6d., ultramarine	4 0	4 0
1s., rose	12 6	5 0

<i>Wmk. Crown CC.</i>	<i>Perf.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
2s. 6d., lilac and black	.	15 0	15 0
3s., yellow	"	15 0	5 0
5s., olive	"	40 0	30 0
£1, blue	"	100 0	80 0
£10, vermilion	"	—	—
£25, green	"	—	—

1897. Eleven values. Design the same, central Arms and supporters as in the previous issue, but on a white ground, and enclosed in a more elaborate framework. As before, the centre was printed in black in all the values. The colours of the values were also changed. Watermarks as in last issue and perforated.



<i>Wmk. Crown CA.</i>	<i>Perf.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
1d., ultramarine and black	.	0 2	0 2
2d., yellow	"	0 5	0 5
4d., carmine	"	1 0	1 0
6d., sea-green	"	2 0	2 6
1s., lilac	"	2 6	3 0



<i>Wmk. Crown CC.</i>	<i>Perf.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
2s. 6d., ultramarine and black	.	6 0	5 0
3s., sea-green	"	40 0	25 0
4s., carmine	"	8 0	8 0
10s., olive-green	"	25 0	12 6
£1, lilac	"	40 0	15 0
£10, yellow	"	—	£10

1897-8. Provisionals. Having run short of 1d. stamps, a number of the 3s. values of

ONE
PENNY



(To be continued.)

the then current issue was surcharged with the words ONE PENNY in two lines, and a further supply was provided by overprinting the fiscal one penny with the words INTERNAL POSTAGE.

<i>Provisionals.</i>	<i>Perf.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1d. on 3s., green and black	.	0 6	1 0
1d., red and blue	.	—	3 0

<i>Imperf.</i>	<i>Perf.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1d., red and blue	.	£8	4 0

1900. Three values. Design as before, but colours changed.

<i>Colours changed.</i>	<i>Wmk. Crown CA.</i>	<i>Perf.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
			<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1d., violet and carmine-rose	.	.	0 3	0 2
4d. ,, olive-green	.	.	1 0	1 0
6d. ,, brown	.	.	1 0	1 0

1903-4. Ten values. Design, King's Head. Two sizes as before, the small size for the low values up to and including the 1s., and the higher values in the large size. The small size watermarked Crown CA (single) and the large Crown CC: Perforated.



<i>Wmk. Crown CA (single).</i>	<i>Perf.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1d., grey and carmine	.	0 2	0 1
2d., purple and magenta	.	0 3	0 2
4d., grey-green and black	.	0 6	0 4
6d., grey and buff	.	0 8	0 6
1s., black and blue	.	1 4	1 0



<i>Wmk. Crown CC.</i>	<i>Perf.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
2s. 6d., grey-green and green	.	3 6	—
4s., lilac and mauve	.	5 0	—
10s., grey-green and black	.	12 6	—
£1, grey and carmine	.	25 0	15 0
£10, ,, blue	.	£12	—

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

CHAPTER XII

Publication Department

AS some of our publications now date back for close on forty years, a brief account of them may be of interest.

Mr. Gibbons was one of the earliest of the older school of stamp dealers to recognize the importance of catalogues and albums in building up a general business, and since his retirement we have endeavoured to largely extend this branch.

So successful has this department become that we now reckon on annual sales of

30,000 catalogues and 50,000 albums,

numbers that we hope to largely increase in the future.

The following are a few of our more important and well-known publications.

The Priced Catalogue

This was commenced by Mr. Gibbons in Plymouth, and was at first issued as a monthly list at the price of 2d. each.

I have no record of the earliest number published, and the older lists were not dated nor numbered.

It is of real interest to see the prices of former days, and I quote a few from a catalogue before me that was issued in November, 1872.

Bolivia. 1868. 500 c., black, used, 10s., with a note stating, "Nine or eleven stars same price."

British Columbia. 2½d., pink, unused, 6d.; used, 5d.

British Columbia. 10 c., pink and blue, unused, 1s.; used, 9d.

Canada. 12d., black, unused, 10s.

Cape of Good Hope. Woodblocks. 1d., 3s. 6d.; 4d., 3s.; both used.

Ceylon. 1s. 9d., green, used, 2s. 6d.

Great Britain. 1d., black, unused, 1s. 6d., 1d., V.R., 40s. each.

India. 1854. 4 annas, blue and red, 3d. each.

Newfoundland. 1857. 1s., orange-red, used, 10s.

New South Wales. Sydney, 1d., 2s.; 2d., 2s.; 3d., 1s. 6d.

United States. 1869. 90 c., red and black, unused, 6s.; used, 1s.

Western Australia. 2d., oct., chocolate, unused, 5s.; used, 3s. 6d.

From 1879 to 1894 the catalogue was issued in an enlarged form and greatly extended. The catalogue proper was in one portion, and an appendix was supplied containing the illustrations in a separate volume, and the two parts could either be supplied separate or bound together. In this form the catalogue ran through nine editions, the last of which, in 1894, ran to 12,000 copies.

In September, 1895, with the *tenth edition*, it was decided that a radical alteration should be made in the form of the catalogue, and that it should in future be published in pocket form in one volume.

In order to avoid the immense labour and cost of resetting each edition, it was also decided that we should purchase our own type and keep the catalogue set up, so that future editions might be produced quicker and more economically.

The outlay for capital account on this edition was £680 16s. 9d., and this has been so largely added to in every edition since this date, that I calculate that over £2000 is now locked up in capital account on the catalogues alone.

This tenth edition in its new form was very successful, and the entire edition of 20,000 copies was exhausted in a little over a year.

The *eleventh edition* appeared early in 1897, and again great alterations took place.

The stamp catalogue was divided into two parts—Vol. I, *Great Britain and Colonies*, and Vol. II, *Foreign Countries*—and a third volume was issued for *Entires*.

The *twelfth edition* appeared in 1899, and was further altered by having the

"Local Stamps" removed from Vols. I and II, and they were given in a separate volume called Part IV. This edition of the catalogue was 30,500.

The *thirteenth edition* appeared in February, 1900, and only the two volumes for postage stamps were now issued, as it was decided from this date to cease to import any more Local Stamps, or Envelopes, Post Cards, etc., and not to publish in future the portions of the catalogue relating to "Entires" or "Locals."

The *fourteenth edition* of the catalogue appeared in September, 1901, and with this edition we started an American catalogue, being an exact copy of the British one, but with the prices shown in dollars and cents, and with the illustrations of U.S. postage stamps omitted to comply with the American laws. This edition was 31,000 copies.

The *fifteenth* and *sixteenth editions* were on similar lines to the fourteenth, and appeared in 1903 and 1904 respectively.

The *seventeenth edition* appeared in 1905, and was chiefly noteworthy from the fact that the whole of the illustrations had been remade, and now appeared in the exact size of the stamps. To accommodate these new illustrations the books had to be increased about an inch in width and height.

The Improved Postage Stamp Album, No. O

This is the leading—as it is the largest—*one shilling* album on the market.

It is essentially a beginner's album, and is as good value as anything we publish.



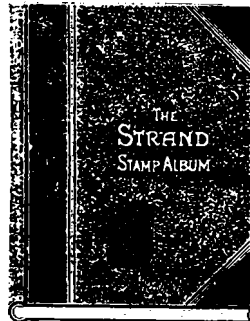
The book now contains 176 pages, and spaces for about 4700 stamps. At the head of each country there are illustrations of some of the more important stamps, and short historical and geographical notes, which are carefully brought up to date in each edition.

Fifty mixed common stamps are presented

gratis with each book sold, and as the remains of old collections and approval sheets are mixed up with the common stamps, buyers often find quite a good variety in these packets.

From the following list of editions and quantities printed it will be seen that this book has been a great commercial success.

Edition.	Date.	No. published.
1st	1891	5,000
2nd	1892	7,500
3rd	1893	10,450
4th	1895	11,500
5th	1896	15,000
6th	1898	16,700
7th	1900	20,944
8th	1902	25,000
9th	1905	25,500



The Strand Stamp Album

This album was specially designed for young collectors, who require an upright album, and it has been a great success, and has a large sale.

This album is stocked in three styles, as follows:—

No. 14. 320 pages. Spaces for 8000 stamps. Price 2s. 6d.

No. 15. 400 pages. Spaces for 11,000 stamps, and with six *maps* specially printed for stamp collectors. Price 5s.

No. 16. As last, but specially bound in half morocco, very strong and serviceable. Price 8s. 6d.

The following editions and numbers have been printed:—

1st edition	of 5,000	in December,	1893
2nd	" 5,250	"	1895
3rd	" 6,400	"	1898
4th	" 7,500	"	1900
5th	" 15,000	"	1901
6th	" 15,000	"	1902
7th	" 15,000	"	1904



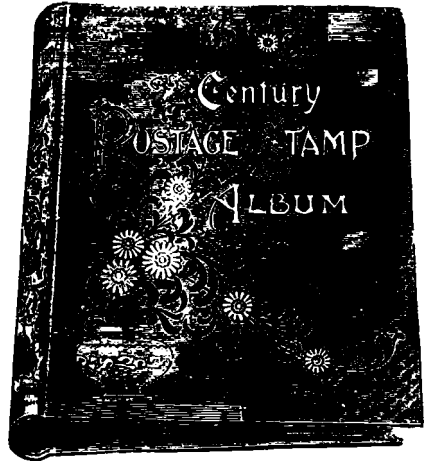
The Improved Postage Stamp Album, oblong shape

No. 2, 3s. 6d. ; No. 3, 5s. ; No. 4, 7s. 6d.

This is an album for the young collector, and I have no record as to when it was first published; but I am inclined to think it must have been in Plymouth days, as the earliest particulars I can find are about the tenth edition, which appeared in September, 1884.

11th edition, 1887	—	
12th " 1891	3500	copies.
13th " 1895	3500	"
14th " 1901	5000	"
15th " 1902	7500	"

These albums are illustrated with about six hundred cuts of stamps. They are oblong in shape, and spaces of different sizes are provided for the stamps. The size of the page is 10 by 7½ inches.



The Century Album

This album was produced to meet a demand for a spaced album of the stamps of the world in one volume.

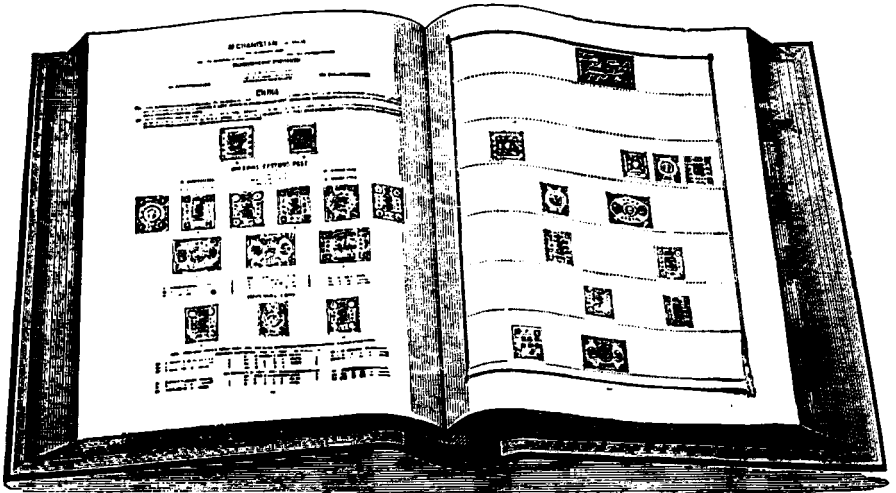
It has printed descriptions and illustrations of the stamps on the left-hand page, and spaces to correspond on the right-hand page.

All minor varieties are omitted, and only such stamps are listed as can be easily placed by the young collector.

Spaces are provided for 18,000 stamps.

A first edition of 8000 appeared in 1900.

A second edition of 5000 appeared in September, 1903.



THE CENTURY ALBUM (OPEN)

(To be continued.)

POSTAGE STAMP DEVICES

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 121.)

Tutelary Deities—continued

HELVETIA, the guardian angel of Switzerland, and possibly the modern Swiss interpretation of "Liberty," has three distinct designs in the issues of that land of freedom, hardly won. The Federal Cross stands out in bold relief on all the designs.

Switzerland.



Until the year 1900 the stamps of the German Empire were either of the Arms or of the Numeral order of design. In that year the Germania series appeared. With regard to their origin an interesting story is told. The Kaiser was present at a Berlin theatre, and witnessed the performance of a young actress who took the part of Germania. So struck was he with the part and with the acting of it by this young lady, that he is said to have expressed the wish that her impersonation of the character should find a representation on the stamps of the empire. The high-born speaks and lo! Germania appears.

Germania. 1900.



The tutelary deity of Australia appears in minute form on the famous Sydney Views of New South Wales. A general



account of the design of these stamps may prove interesting. We prefix an illustration for purpose of reference.

In the foreground an emblematic human figure, representing Australia, may be seen seated upon a bale of goods. At her back appears a beehive, or at any rate something very much like a beehive. In her right hand is a spear or whip, we know not which, while her left hand is extended to raise the kneeling figure from the ground. Of the male and female figures, the men are bareheaded, with chains attached to the left leg. The woman has no chain.

In the right background is a ship with sails furled. In the left background is a hill with houses and a church thereon. At the foot of the hill is a man ploughing. So much for the general description. As the die for each stamp on the sheet was engraved and re-engraved by hand, each design differed in some way or other from the rest. Therefore many of the stamps will be found lacking in one or other of the above-named features.

Now for the interpretation. I cannot do better than quote the words of Mr. Edward L. Pemberton, written some forty years ago:—

The left-hand figure is the tutelary deity of the New World (Australia) receiving with open hand the wretched convict, presented to her by the figures on the right, just landed in Sydney (January, 1788) from the ship represented on the right hand. From its history we learn that one ship came here first, and returned to conduct the remainder of the fleet, of which it formed a part, to this superb natural harbour. Australiana is surrounded by evidences of future greatness and prosperity, typical of the wonderful changes which resulted from the convicts' settlement therein. The plough, the town with its church, the pick, shovel, and nuggets, the bale of wool or of goods, the beehive, all seems to me to be typical of the effects of that landing which the right-hand group represents.

To one point only do we, in all deference, object. We have failed to recognize the nuggets. Probably the so-called nuggets are really meant for the chains attached to the left leg of the male convicts. The inscription below the picture reads, *SIC FORTIS ETRURIA CREVIT* ("Thus Etruria became strong"). It is taken from the second

Georgic of Virgil. We give the context for the benefit of the classical reader.

Hanc olim veteres vitam coluere Sabini,
Hanc Remus et frater, sic fortis Etruria crevit
Scilicet et rerum facta est pulcherrima Roma.
II. GEORGIC, 532-4.

After reading this long description of the famous Sydney Views, the following details, published in the *Stamp Collector's Review* somewhere about the year 1863, will afford an instructive and amusing comparison.

Amongst other remarkable and curious stamps, New South Wales has a view of Sydney and natives presenting a palm branch to some personage seated in an arm-chair on the seashore.

Down to the year 1861, those of our West Indian Islands which had issued stamps had, with the exception of Barbados and Trinidad, adopted the Queen's Head as the type of design. Nevis struck out a new line for her issues. A puzzling emblematic device appeared, and many have been the explanations thereof. First let us have a look at the illustration, and then we will proceed to the most probable explanation.



The most generally accepted account of the meaning of the design is that it represents "the goddess of health administering to a sick person, supported by a friend, the water of a celebrated mineral spring in Nevis, which is seen flowing down a cascade in the background." The words in inverted commas are taken from a letter written in 1864, three years after the stamps were first issued, in which the writer says that he received the information from the Attorney-General of Nevis.

In 1866 the Virgin Islands followed the example of Nevis and issued a series of two stamps, the designs of which portray a draped female figure bearing a lamp suspended by three chains in her right hand. She is surrounded by a number of similar lamps on a rectangular or oval background.

This seems to have been an adaptation of the armorial design of the island.



There seem to have been several mistaken notions as to the meaning of the design. I have seen it stated that the device was probably suggested by the parable of the wise and foolish virgins. If so, why are there twelve lamps, for the parable knows only ten virgins? The most amusing reason was given in a French journal, which stated that Columbus, having regard to the number of the islands, named them in commemoration of the eleven thousand virgins of Cologne. This might account for the appearance of the eleven lamps in the background. The afore-mentioned virgins, by the way, were, so legend tells us, companions of St. Ursula. A horde of Huns martyred St. Ursula and her pious virgins at Cologne, where also they were buried. Legend, however, has in this instance proved to be a "lying jade."

All doubt as to the meaning of the design was set at rest by a letter written on 27 June, 1867, by the postmaster of Tortola, the chief island. I quote verbatim:—

By the Post Office ordinance, 1860, the Governor is authorized to order and procure such number of postage stamps, of such colour and pattern as he shall deem fit, etc. Accordingly, at the end of last year the Governor directed sixpenny and penny stamps to be prepared and issued. The Virgin Islands were discovered by Columbus on the Virgin's Day, he accordingly named them after the Virgin; the twelve lamps represent the twelve primitive Christian charities.



We give two further illustrations of changes in design which occurred in the series 1867-8.

(To be continued.)

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. HANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Cayman Islands.—Our publishers send us the 1d. value on multiple C A paper, completing the series on the new paper.



Wmk. Multiple C A. Perf.

1d., green.
1d., carmine.
2d., ultramarine.
6d., brown.
1s., orange.

Lagos.—The *London Gazette* of 20 February, 1906, contained an Order in Council, dated 16 February, placing the administration of the Southern Nigerian Protectorate under that of the Colony of Lagos, and changing the name of that colony to that of the Colony of Southern Nigeria.

Philippines.—We quote the following from the Washington correspondent of the *Metro-politan Philatelist* (New York):—

“Mr. Forbes, the representative of the Manila Post Office Department, has left for the Philippines, and the question of the new designs for the Philippine stamps still remains in the air.

“It will be recalled that die proofs of the entire series were sent to the Philippines early in the Fall with the request that if the proofs were approved that a cable message be sent. Nothing was heard for months; then it was announced that Mr. Forbes would be in Washington the latter part of December and take the matter up with the department. He arrived about the middle of December, but nothing was done, and he went to Massachusetts for the holidays, returning early in January. Then it was announced that he would remain until the arrival of Governor Wright of the Philippines, and that the matter would be disposed of. Governor Wright has been here and gone. Conferences have been held and still nothing has been done, and Mr. Forbes now returns to the Islands to consult with officials there before giving the final O. K. It is almost certain, however, that the stamps will be printed as they appear in the die proofs, with a single exception.

“The design for the Special Delivery Stamp will surely be changed—that much has been

decided upon. It is declared to be offensive to good taste, in as much as it represents a Philippino in abbreviated garb, his costume being confined to a garment something like a Chinaman's outer coat. Aside from this piece of apparel and a hat the swift-footed messenger is devoid of clothing. It has been decided to change this design and place upon the stamp a native uniformed.

“The objection to the regular stamps was that the word ‘postage’ has been omitted entirely from the design. The words ‘Philippine Islands’ appear in one corner and ‘United States of America’ in the other upper corner. At the bottom is the denomination in letters and figures in the lower corners, with the name of the subject under the central portrait, but nowhere is there anything, except by implication, on the stamp to indicate that it is a postage stamp.

“It is not known whether this omission was by design or through oversight. Of course, it will be possible, if so decided, to find a place somewhere to put on the word ‘postage,’ although, as a matter of fact, the stamp is sufficiently crowded now. It is understood that the officials canvassed the matter very carefully, and while pretty well satisfied that the omission of the word ‘postage’ would not work prejudice to the stamp or the service, it was decided not to give a final answer until consultation could be had with the people at home. Mr. Forbes will probably reach the Islands about the first of March.

“Captain McIntyre, at the Insular Bureau, said yesterday that the requisition for the new Philippine stamps is in the hands of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The numbers and denominations ordered are as follows:—

12,000,000	2 centavo stamps.
5,000,000	4 centavo stamps.
80,000	6 centavo stamps.
35,000	8 centavo stamps.
2,000,000	10 centavo stamps.
20,000	12 centavo stamps.
500,000	16 centavo stamps.
800,000	20 centavo stamps.
14,000	26 centavo stamps.
400,000	30 centavo stamps.
200,000	1 peso stamps.
100,000	2 peso stamps.

“Of course it is understood that 2 centavos equal one cent.”

Southern Nigeria.—See notice under the head of Lagos.

GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Exit Lagos!

ANOTHER country is to be added to the list of those that no longer issue stamps of their own. The colonies of Lagos and Southern Nigeria have been combined for administrative purposes, and I am told that the fiat has now gone forth that henceforth there are to be no more issues of Lagos, for the newer stamps of Southern Nigeria are to serve for both territories. Some change of this sort has been foreseen for some time, but most of us thought that it would be the stamps of Southern Nigeria that would be retired in favour of those of Lagos.

The Stamps of Lagos

The stamps of Lagos have been, and are, great favourites with many of our leading specialists. The issues are all straightforward; there is only one provisional, and there are several rare stamps that want a lot of hunting. The 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. of the 1884-6 issue always fetch long prices at auction, for they are regarded as being among what a stockbroker would call the gilt-edged securities of Philately. The King's Head single CA's are also running up into long figures. The 5s. is priced at 10s. in Gibbons, but it is not to be had for anything near that amount now; and the 10s. is a very difficult stamp to get at any price.

A Two Hundred Years' Order

But there will be plenty of the last Queen's Head issue of Lagos for many a generation—unless there is an official bonfire—for by some strange and inexplicable slip or misunderstanding the authorities ordered a two hundred years' supply! Nevertheless, it is an interesting issue. The first printings show the old style of control numbers on the sheets of a figure enclosed in a lined frame. The later printings had, of course, the current control number in a circle of solid colour.

Southern Nigeria

Few recent British Colonials are more promising from the popularity point of view than the attractive issues of Southern Nigeria. They are blessed with a neat and separate design of their own, marking them out from the long procession of stereotyped colonials, and a few values are already ripening into rarity. The 10s. of the

first issue promises to be a good stamp; although issued in 1901, it is catalogued at 30s. But it is distanced by the £1 King's Head, single CA, which now fetches £8 at auction. Most of the lower values are still cheap, and should be secured while they are so, especially those of the first issue, Queen's Heads.

The Outlook

THE outlook from a stamp point of view allows scope for interesting anticipation. There are to be new stamps for Norway, and, of course, Denmark will want its new King on its stamps. Then the States of the Commonwealth of Australia are playing odd pranks with the watermarks of their issues, all of which should be closely watched. In fact, it would be sound advice to say to both young and old collectors, secure everything new when it comes out, and as soon as possible. The next novelty may be a common thing for years, or you may get a copy of a small and only supply of some passing freak. For instance, the Morocco Agencies, King's Head, single CA, one week was selling at ordinary new-issue rates under 3s. each, the next week it was hard to get even at 20s.

The New Grenadas

It would take a Philadelphia lawyer to quite understand what this colony is up to with its stamps. We have heard for months that we were to have a special Ship design, but instead of the Ship design we get a supply of King's Heads on the multiple CA paper, and then come the Ship stamps, and we are told that the King's Heads are withdrawn in favour of the Ships. I hope my young friends won't go plunging into speculation over this business, for those King's Head multiples that seem to have a short life may be restored as the permanent issue later on after the Ships have had their commemorative run.

Lord Crawford at Tristan da Cunha

LORD CRAWFORD and his party on board the *Valhalla* reached Tristan da Cunha on 17 January, but were unable to land there. They sent the mails ashore in some native boats, intending to go ashore and explore next morning; but a gale got up, and the yacht had to go on to Cape Town.

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SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

News from Calcutta

CALCUTTA, 29 January, 1906

The Prince of Wales and Indian Stamps

THEIR Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales paid their long-looked-for visit to Calcutta early this month, and never-to-be-forgotten pageants and functions succeeded each other with bewildering precision, filling our thoughts and charming our senses for many days. This is not the place, however, in which to enlarge upon the glories of the Royal progress, but I may perhaps mention that the Prince did not forget the stamps of India throughout the strain and stress of his many duties, and that I have good reason for knowing that his own private stamp collection of the issues of the British Empire will be the richer for his all too brief stay among us. Long may it flourish!

Prince of Wales's Collection to be an Heirloom

With regard to this same collection, I was authoritatively informed that it is no secret that His Royal Highness has already by will left it as an *heirloom* to his heirs and successors. It will thus be seen that there is at least one collection in England in addition to the Tapling Collection which cannot be dispersed. Would that those to whose keeping the Bloomsbury Collection has been entrusted were as alive to the charm of an *ever-growing* collection as is our future King!

Stamps for the Calcutta Victoria Memorial Hall

The Royal Indian tour undoubtedly reached its culminating point in Calcutta, and the most important of the many ceremonies that entranced the capital city was the laying of the foundation stone of the Queen Victoria Memorial Hall, the marble "Gallery of all the Glories" now rising in monumental splendour at the southern end of the Maidan, the erection of which is due to the spirited advocacy of Lord Curzon and the generosity of the princes and people of India. Space does not permit me to expatiate on this the most costly and superb the world will ever see of Victoria memorials, in which will be handed down to future ages the records, the trophies, and the mementoes of whatever has been great or remarkable in the making of India; but I feel sure all readers of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* will be really glad to learn that to the statues, paintings, engravings, miniatures, maps, manuscripts, treaties, sanads, coins, medals, arms, flags, models, and personal relics, now being gathered together for the Hall's permanent adornment, have now been added stamps. The enlarged exhibition of these and many other objects was inaugurated a week ago in the Imperial Museum, Chowringhee, by the Excellencies Lord and Lady Minto, and on that occasion a collection of India's stamps, for the first time in the history of the memorial, was on view, and attracted pleasant attention.

The making of the Collection

I need not detain your readers with the story of the making of this collection, the nucleus of which is the Government Collection of Indian stamps of all classes, with the arrangement of which I was entrusted several months ago, but it is worthy of note that the first intimation I had that the trustees had resolved on accepting stamps as objects for permanent exhibition, came from the Prince of Wales personally.

The intended scope of the Collection

The following *communiqué* has been issued by the trustees to the Press of India, and indicates the intended scope of the collection:—

"A new departure has now been made by the trustees in the admission of a collection of the stamps of India and the Native States as a permanent feature of the exhibition, and their decision is one that will doubtless commend itself to those interested in the Victoria Memorial Collections. The charm of Philately is now so widely appreciated, that no apology is needed for the recognition of the stamps of India as objects worthy of the memorial and its aims. The bringing together of a complete collection will be a matter of time, but there seems no reason why that now in course of formation should not eventually rank as the most important of known Indian collections. An excellent beginning has been made from available Government sources with the ready assistance of Sir Arthur Fanshawe and Mr. Cogswell, and the stamps contributed have been carefully and scientifically arranged by Mr. Wilmot Corfield, who has kindly undertaken to continue his services as others are received. The collection, as at present designed, will cover a fairly wide field, and will embrace, not only the postal, but also the telegraph and fiscal adhesive issues of Imperial India and the Native States. It will include essays, post cards, envelopes, and wrappers of both the Victorian and Edwardian periods, together with all else of a philatelic nature acceptable to the serious Indian specialist. Two copies of the famous $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, red, of 1854 are already *in situ*. The well-known 'Lion and palm tree' essay of 1853 is also represented, and the early essays have been accepted. The trustees would be specially grateful for the donation of the notable red, white, and blue trio of 1851, known as the 'Scinde District Post' stamps, the first philatelic emissions in India, and issued under the authority of the late Sir Bartle Frere. The several handsome series of Telegraph stamps are already shaping themselves towards completion, the many Fiscals are showing up well, and will be classified as Receipts, Foreign Bills, Customs, Share Transfers, Special Adhesive, Petitions, High Court and Small Cause Court, Calcutta Small Cause Court, Court Fees, Notarial, Forests, Postal Notes, and Postal Service, and it is hoped

that the beginning already made with the quaint and curious labels of the many Native States will be speedily and steadily added to. If Indian coins and medals are rightly considered by the lover of the past as finding a well-deserved resting-place in the cases of the Hall, the same may surely be said for India's 'paper medals,' as her stamps have not inaptly been termed. The earliest stamps did yeoman service in the fifties, and, regarded merely as mechanical efforts, reflect great credit on the skill and resourcefulness of the postal officials of those far-off days. They represent, too, the first attempt to print in colour made in India. The changes in the form of government indicated by inscriptions borne on later labels from time to time have their own tale to tell to students and historians alike, and it would be difficult to conceive of a fitter epitomized memorial of the spacious days of the great Queen-Empress than that which may be enshrined in an exhaustively representative range of the stamps of her reign. The collection at present is being arranged in album form. This is inevitable until its evolution is more advanced; later on the adoption of a system of preservation in a cabinet, similar to those in which the Tapping Collection is placed in the British Museum, will be considered.

"It may be mentioned that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, President of the London Philatelic Society, and an earnest philatelist, interested himself in the Hall's stamps during his recent visit to Calcutta.

"With a view to the ultimate completion of the collection, the trustees would heartily welcome donations of stamps of all classes from the Governments of Native States and from collectors and dealers generously disposed to assist them; all such gifts will be acknowledged in the *Philatelic Journal of India*. Intending donors are invited to communicate with the trustees through Dr. Denison Ross, Calcutta Madrassah, or Mr. Wilmot Corfield, 25 Mangoe Lane, Calcutta."

Indian Plates and Dies

To this it may be added that a copy of the *Delhi Durbar Postal Guide*, with the specially obliterated stamps, has been placed on view with other Durbar relics, and that it has been suggested that the original stones, plates, and dies now with the Survey of India Office and the Mint, from which the earlier stamps and essays were printed, should find a final resting-place in the cases of the Hall.

The arrangement of the Collection

I need not state how pleased I have been with the labour of love that the arrangement of the first public stamp collection for India has imposed upon me. Stamps are still coming in,

and some of those of the Native States are quite new to me, in defiance of all that is laid down in Gibbons, Part I, and the Crofton-Corfield handbook of the Postage Stamps of India.

Other Philatelic News

Apart from this, philatelic news is scarce this season. The Indian Society is quiescent, and Mr. Crofton, its Honorary Secretary, is about to take a trip to England. He contemplates, I hear too, the early publication of a work on the Fiscals and Telegraphs of Ceylon, and should he accomplish it he will do it well.

The new Combined Postal-Revenue Stamps

The new combined postal-revenue stamps have not yet appeared; they will be of the values of $\frac{1}{2}$ a. and 1 a., the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. not having been legally authorized for fiscal use. I am told another printing of the provisional $\frac{1}{2}$ a. on $\frac{1}{2}$ a. Edwardian stamp is necessitated for temporary use, but do not think it will differ from its predecessor of a year or so ago.

Forgeries of the Provisionals

Collectors should be on their guard against clever forgeries of the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. on $\frac{1}{2}$ a. Queen's Head provisional, some genius having hit upon the remunerative dodge of finding it with *inserted* surcharge. A strong glass, however, betrays the manipulation.

Mr. Stewart-Wilson Indian P.M.G.

I understand that Mr. Stewart-Wilson has completed the collection of information in England upon the long-discussed question of the amalgamation of the departments of posts and telegraphs, but that the matter has to be considered by the Government of India before any decision can be arrived at regarding it.

Should the amalgamation be decided upon, separate telegraph stamps would presumably cease to be necessary.

Sir Arthur Fanshawe will proceed on leave at the beginning of April, preparatory to retiring from the service, and Mr. Stewart-Wilson, who returns to India next month, will probably succeed him as Director-General of the Post Office. Sir Arthur has well earned his rest, and philatelists of all men will welcome the coming chief as the best man possible to follow him.

The Indian Handbook

I hope in my next letter to make an important announcement as to the arrangements for the publication of Messrs. Hausburg and Stewart-Wilson's handbook on the Postal and Telegraph Stamps of British India. It will be in the nature of a pleasant surprise if things go as at present anticipated.

WILMOT CORFIELD.

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THE STAMP MARKET

By AN ODD LOT

The £30,000 Collection

THIRTY thousand pounds for a collection of postage stamps! Think of it! Dream of it! And note the fact that it is for a collection of despised Europeans, and Europeans only. Such is the announcement by the firm of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, as to their latest purchase. It is housed in eighty splendid volumes, and is almost exclusively confined to unused copies. It represents a combination of the celebrated Castle Collection and the Mann Collection. Mr. Mann paid Mr. Castle a price for his lot that surprised most people. He had been quietly collecting Europeans for twenty years, so that with Mr. Castle's little lot and his own he got together a superb and matchless array of the stamps of Europe. But it was too good. It represented finality, and there was no more collecting to be done. Ergo, the owner has parted with his great collection, and he intends to find new fields for his energies in British Colonies. When Mr. Mann has completed the Australian Colonies in unused condition on the same scale as the Europeans with which he has parted, I fancy he will be gaily approaching the age of Methuselah.

A tempting Show

I dropped in at 391 Strand on the off-chance of getting a peep at the wonderful show, and I found the managing director in a most amiable mood. He trotted out several volumes, and gave me a corner to myself. I had a real feast. I am a bit gone myself on condition, but the glorious mint state of nearly every copy I examined of the greatest rarities was an eye-opener. Every copy seemed to be perfect as to centring and gum and bloom. Yes, there is such a thing as bloom in stamps, and you will realize what it means if you compare an ordinary thumb-ed copy of a scarce stamp with such matchless mint copies as are the rule in this grand collection.

How it will be Sold

My young friends will be curious to know how on earth even such a firm as Stanley Gibbons, Limited, will be able to dispose of such an accumulation. Well, they don't go out on approval

sheets, you bet. First, above each stamp, and pair, and block, is written the selling price. This work is personally done by Mr. C. J. Phillips himself, and will take him some months. When priced they are ready for selling. It is not a case of first come first served. There are certain eminent collectors who are entitled to first pick. The qualifications for first pick are a fathomless pocket and unlimited specialism. A gentleman of Paris answers to these qualifications, therefore he gets, from all over the world, the first pick of everything in really fine first-class rarities. He will only want the rarest of the rare, so that even after he has had first pick there will be plenty to satisfy many well-known millionaires who now dip deeply into stamp collecting, and who think nothing of paying £500 or £1000 for a fine block or even a single stamp. When the millionaires have done, then the favoured student specialist who can, when needs be, spend a few hundreds on a country or group, gets his turn. Next comes the average specialist, and after him the general collector gets a chance of the cheap remnants that are left.

Europeans on the Rise

As everybody knows, Europeans have been under a cloud for years. There was a time, not long ago, when they were even a drug in the market. That day has gone by, and at last we are really in sight of the long and industriously prophesied rise in Europeans. The overplus has been absorbed and many stamps are now fetching more than catalogue price, even amongst dealers. The consequence is that dealers can no longer replenish their stocks at prices which will enable them to sell at catalogue quotations. Hence collectors may expect a rise of prices all along the line in Europeans in the next Gibbons Catalogue. The rise, however, will be almost exclusively confined to *unused* stamps. Later on I may have something to say as to the particular countries that are likely to show the greatest advance. Meanwhile, my friends who go in for unused Europeans will do well to pick up all the nice copies they can of what they want at current catalogue quotations.

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PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Leeds Philatelic Society

*President: E. Egly, Arncliffe Road, West Park, Leeds.
Secretary: Charles W. Harding, 139 Belle Vue Road, Leeds.
Meetings: Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street, Leeds.
Annual Subscription: 5s.; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.*

At a meeting of the Leeds Philatelic Society, held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, 6 February, 1906, Mr. F. J. Melville, President of the Junior Philatelic Society of London, gave a display of the postal issues of Sarawak. Although until quite recently he had no thought of specializing this country, he has succeeded in collecting all the issues on a large scale, consisting mainly of complete mint sheets of the earlier stamps, with the advantage that all the minor varieties and peculiarities of surcharge can be seen for comparison, and so authenticated. The rarest stamp of all is the inverted 2 c. on 12 c. of the 1899 provisional issue. The first issue of 1869 consisted of one stamp only, value 3 cents, brown on yellow, perforated 11, and this shows the head of Sir James Brooke, an Englishman, who in 1842 was appointed Rajah of Sarawak by the Sultan of Borneo, in return for distinguished services, and under whose mild yet vigorous administration the country and its people made considerable progress in civilization. After Sir James's demise, the sovereignty was succeeded to by his nephew, Sir Charles Brooke, the present Rajah, whose portrait appears on all the stamps except the 3 c. of the first issue; these have been very finely engraved and printed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. and Perkins Bacon and Co., of London, on unwatermarked paper, since 1888, in which year Sarawak was placed under British protection.

Noticeable in Mr. Melville's fine collection were imperforate, rouletted, and pin-perforated varieties (uncatalogued) of two or three values of the 1875 issue, in blocks and pairs, and the 3 cents on laid paper, all of which must be very rare. There were also some interesting proofs for colour and printing, and altogether it was evident Mr. Melville had secured all material necessary for serious investigation, so that he was able to answer questions on points about which collectors had hitherto been uncertain. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Melville for his display and very lucid notes, proposed by the President, Mr. Egly, and seconded by Mr. Morten.

An interesting feature of the evening's entertainment was provided by Mr. W. Harrison Hutton, who gave the members a concise and instructive account of his experience as a printer. As the various branches of the subject embraced both copperplate and lithographic work and embossing, there was a considerable analogy to the different processes used in the production of stamps, and the description was of correspondingly increased interest. There was a tradition that the lithographic process was first discovered by the checktaker of a theatre, who happened to

put some tickets into his pocket while the ink was still "tacky," that the imprint transferred itself on to a whetstone on which he had just been sharpening his knife, and that thereby the capability of the stone to receive impressions was demonstrated. Notwithstanding the immense capital sunk in machinery for both lithographic and plate work, Mr. Hutton doubted whether up to the present day any radical improvement at all had been effected upon the original principle of working, and instanced the processes as remarkable in being still carried out practically as when invented. Mr. Hutton accompanied his remarks with specimens of stones, and the other items alluded to in his notes. Plates in different stages, and the proofs of same, together with impressions of lithographic work in progressive stages, were exhibited, and assisted the members in their appreciation of the subject. Mr. Hutton was cordially thanked for his lecture.

Several novelties were shown, including the 1 öre, ochre, Denmark, new issue; and Dr. Kaye presented for the Forgers Book a forged "Board of Education" 1s., King's Head.

Mr. C. B. Oswald Brown, of York, was unanimously elected a member of the Society.

Scottish Philatelic Society

*President: John Walker.
Secretary: R. W. Findlater, 30 Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh.
Meetings: Edinburgh. Monthly: 8 p.m.
Annual Subscription: Ord. 5s.; Cor. 2s. 6d.*

The usual monthly meeting of the above Society was held on Monday, 12 February, at 8 p.m., at 26 Frederick Street, Edinburgh, with an attendance of fourteen members. Mr. William Norfar, C.A., Edinburgh, and Mr. Fred R. Ginn, London, were unanimously elected ordinary and corresponding members. The Secretary reported that the October, 1905, packet returned from circulation on 10 January, 1906, with net sales £41. 15s. 6d.; all sheets were returned to members on 11 January, 1906. The November, December, January packets still in circulation, with excellent sales to date. The February, 1906, packet was sent out on the 1st inst., containing fifty sheets, value £244. 14s. 6d. net.

The President, Mr. John Walker, read an interesting paper on the "Stamps of Norway and Sweden," and at the same time his fine collection of the stamps of these two countries was handed round for inspection by the members.

Mr. N. M. Berrie also read a paper on the "Stamps of Denmark and Iceland," and gave a fine display of the stamps of Iceland. Mr. Berrie's collection of the stamps of Iceland is probably one of the finest collections of this interesting country ever shown, containing many whole sheets mint, and including almost all the varieties of surcharge of the 1888 and 1882-1902 issue, in mint and finest used condition.

OUR PHILATELIC DIARY

MARCH, 1906

We shall be glad if Secretaries of Philatelic Societies will send us their Programmes for the new year. Several Societies are omitted from this Diary for lack of Programmes.

1. Birmingham Philatelic Society: Display—British North America; R. Hollick.
North of England Philatelic Society, Newcastle-on-Tyne: T. D. Hume and members, U.S.A.
- 1 & 2. Auction: Plumridge & Co., 64 Chancery Lane, London. 4.45 p.m.
2. London Philatelic Society: H. J. Duveen, a Display of the Stamps of Switzerland.
Manchester Philatelic Society: Elementary Discussion—St. Vincent. Opened by W. W. Munn.
3. Junior Philatelic Society: Auction. Display—The Fiscal Stamps of the United States and Crete; W. Schwabacher, Chairman of the Fiscal Philatelic Society. Paper—"Philately in the Police Courts"; C. B. Purdom.
5. Kent and Sussex Philatelic Society, Tunbridge Wells: Methods of Arrangement; by E. J. Nankivell. Display—Brazil.
Liverpool Philatelic Society: Paper—"Sarawak"; by H. Woods. Display—Belgium.
- 6 & 7. Auction: Puttick & Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London, W.C. 4.30 p.m.
8. Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society: St. Vincent.
- 8 & 9. Auction: Ventom, Bull, & Cooper, Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London, W.C. 5 p.m.
9. Manchester Philatelic Society: Display with Notes—English Officials; J. Bernstein.
10. Junior Philatelic Society: Third visit to Tapling Collection of Stamps at the British Museum.
12. Scottish Philatelic Society, Edinburgh: Paper, T. A. McIntyre.
- 13 & 14. Auction: Glendinning & Co., 7 Argyll Street, London, W.C. 4.30 p.m.
14. International Philatelic Union: Display, J. C. Sidebotham.
- 15 & 16. Auction: Plumridge & Co., 64 Chancery Lane, London. 4.45 p.m.
16. London Philatelic Society: Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg. A Paper on "Perforations of Victoria," with Display.
Manchester Philatelic Society: Elementary Discussion—Trinidad. Opened by G. F. H. Gibson.
17. Junior Philatelic Society: Bourse. Paper and Display—"The Colledge Stamps of Great Britain"; L. Savournin. Display—African Colonies VI; North and South Nigeria, Niger Coast, and Oil Rivers.
19. Liverpool Philatelic Society: "Some Old Post Office Regulations"; by A. Phelps. Display—St. Vincent, Southern Nigeria.
- 20 & 21. Auction: Puttick & Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London, W.C. 4.30 p.m.
21. Enterprise Philatelic Society, London: Display with Notes—Grenada, Jamaica; E. Heginbottom. Ten minutes paper, selected. Display—A selection of British Colonies; T. W. Lake. General Sale and Exchange.
22. Birmingham Philatelic Society: Paper—"China"; P. T. Deakin.
- 22 & 23. Auction: Ventom, Bull, & Cooper, Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, London. 5 p.m.
23. Manchester Philatelic Society: Sicily; W. D. Beckton.
29. Herts Philatelic Society, London: Display with Notes—Tasmania; R. B. Yardley.
30. London Philatelic Society: C. F. Dendy Marshall. Notes on Used British Stamps, with a sketch history of postmarks from earliest times.
Manchester: Elementary Discussion—Turks Islands and Virgin Islands. Opened by W. W. Munn.

Editorial Address—EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING. *By Major E. B. EVANS*

The young collector is irrequently perplexed by the meaning of the various terms used in stamp collecting, and the fullest explanations of these will be found in this book. 2s. 9d. in Paper Cover, or 4s. 6d. strongly bound in Cloth.

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OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "G. S. W." readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

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These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

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ED. "G. S. W."

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**5 c., deep green,
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We have just bought a small parcel of these stamps, and according to our custom, herewith beg to offer them to *G. S. W.* readers at the following great reduction on Catalogue price:—

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1s. 6d. each, post-free.**

*The Catalogue price
is 3s. 6d., unused or used.*

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED
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VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Buenos Ayres

BUENOS AYRES—now generally spelt Aires (good air)—the capital of the Argentine Republic, is situated on the south bank of the estuary of La Plata, about 150 miles from the sea. It was founded by Don Pedro de Mendoza, was destroyed by Indians and abandoned. It was refounded by Don Juan Garcia de Garay. In 1775 it was, under the Spaniards, made the seat of a Viceroyalty. Till 1882 it was the capital of the province of Buenos Aires, but in that year the town, with the district round, eighty-three square miles, was placed under the general government of the Republic.

During the last twenty years the town has been rebuilt in the best European style. It has its public park on the banks of the La Plata, its "Rotten Row" of fashion, and its Zoological Gardens.

Of the whole trade of the Argentine Republic, it is credited with 84.7 per cent of the imports and 41.6 of the exports passing through its port. The population, which in 1853 was 91,500, had risen in 1903 to 891,000, of whom one-third are said to be Italians.

Its Philatelic History

The philatelic history of Buenos Ayres is a brief one,



and is confined to two issues of stamps. The decree authorizing the issue of postage stamps was dated 9 April, 1858, and provided amongst other things that "whoever shall employ a stamp that has already been used shall be fined 5 pesos, in addition to the postage, the first offence; and 200 for the second, 300 for the third, and so on in proportion." It further enacted that "the forgers of stamps and their accomplices shall be liable to all the penalties fixed by the laws."

Specialists revel in the many varieties which resulted from the alteration of the dies of one value for the printing of other values. But the beginner, if he feels inclined to venture on these interesting and quaint little stamps, may well be content with our simplification of the issues. It may be remarked in passing, that the seemingly high values were in reality low values, for at the time of issue the currency, a writer in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* in 1865 says, "depended upon whether it was in paper or silver currency. A peso in paper currency would only be worth about 2d. of our money, whereas a silver peso is worth 4s. 2d., or one dollar. Eight reales are equal to one peso. The postage stamps of Buenos are according to the paper currency in value, and are not used for foreign postage."

1858. Four values. Design, ship in an oval enclosed in an oblong frame. Imperforate.



Imperforate.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
Dos ps. (2 pesos), blue	90 0	35 0
Tres ps. (3 "), green	£10	£7
Cuatro ps. (4 "), rose-red	—	£18
Cinco ps. (5 "), orange-yellow	—	£20

1858-9. Four values. Design as in previous issue. Imperforate.

Imperforate.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
Cuatro ps. (4 reales), chocolate	70 0	45 0
In ps. (1 peso), brown	70 0	35 0
In ps. (1 "), blue	30 0	15 0
Tops. (1 "), blue	70 0	45 0

1860. Three values. Design, head of Liberty in a circle, enclosed in an oblong frame. Imperforate.



Imperforate.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
4 reales, green	20 0	10 0
1 peso, blue	8 0	3 0
2 pesos, vermillion	30 0	12 6

1863. Two values. Same type, but colours changed. Imperforate.

Imperforate.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 peso, rose	12 0	8 0
2 pesos, blue	17 6	7 6

1859. It may be well to put young collectors on their guard against a type often met with and offered as a Buenos Aires stamp. It represents a horseman in an oval, enclosed in an oblong frame. It is only an essay, and was never put into use. We illustrate the type.



(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

A VERY HANDSOME PRESENT

Packet No. 69, 2000 varieties. A grand packet, every stamp being different and genuine, and thus forming a choice collection in itself. £3, post-free and registered.

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

CHAPTER XII—*continued*

Publication Department—*continued*



The Ideal Album

This is an entirely new album that we have just prepared at great expense.

Hitherto British collectors have had to buy books of German make if they wanted

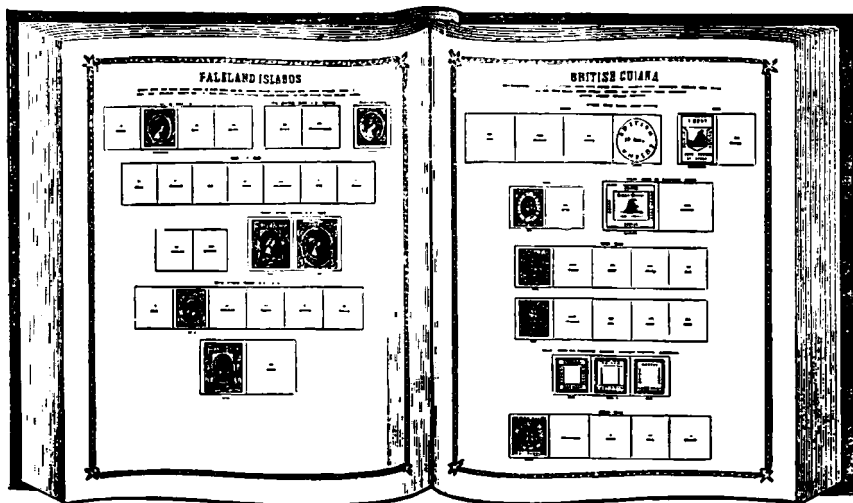
the postage stamps of all the world in one volume at the price of ten shillings, and with spaces of the proper size for each stamp; but we have had so many inquiries for such an album that we decided to try to produce one to sell at this price.

It is essential that an album of this description should be in one volume, and in order to make this possible we have had to print it upon both sides of the paper, and to rigidly cut down varieties.

With the aim before us of producing a book to suit the great bulk of *general* collectors, we have, after much consideration, decided to limit the Ideal Album to the *Postage Stamps of the World*, and to omit all such varieties as Postal Fiscals, Official or Service Stamps, Postage Due or Unpaid Letter Stamps, etc. etc.

This album is *arranged strictly alphabetically*: thus Vathy will be found under the V's, and not in French Consular Offices; Aitutaki under the A's, and not after New Zealand, etc. etc.

In order that the beginner may not have any trouble in arranging his stamps in this album, we have made a complete set of illus-



THE IDEAL ALBUM (OPEN)

trations of all the stamps in the *full actual size*, an important point in arranging the stamps correctly.

About 600 pages. Size, $9\frac{1}{4}$ by $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches, royal 4to. Plenty of room left for new issues. New issues included up to February, 1906. 200 postage stamps, all different, presented free with each Ideal Album. On the inside of the front cover there is a permanent linen pocket for duplicates, and in this pocket the above packet of stamps will be placed in the first 4000 Ideal Albums.

The first edition will be in March, 1906, and consist of 4000 albums.

The Ideal Album is now being bound, and will be ready about 20 March.

Price, 10s. 9d., post-free; or interleaved, and better binding, 15s. 9d., post-free.

The Imperial Album

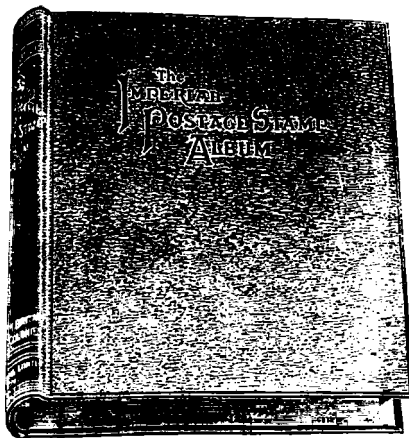
This is, beyond all doubt, the best-known and most popular stamp album in the world.

The earliest records I can find are of the fourth edition, which appeared in 1881, and I think it probable that the first edition was about 1870, so that this album has now been established for about thirty-six years.

The books were designed and edited for many years by Mr. E. S. Gibbons. About 1891 Major E. B. Evans kindly prepared an edition; and since 1894 until the time of his death, Mr. Gordon Smith had sole charge of these albums.

From 1870 to 1880 the Imperial was in one volume.

From 1880 to 1897 two volumes were used, the first for Europe and Asia, the second for the rest of the world.



In 1898 the volumes were divided into:—

Vol. I. Postage Stamps of Great Britain and Colonies.

Vol. II. Postage Stamps of the rest of the world.

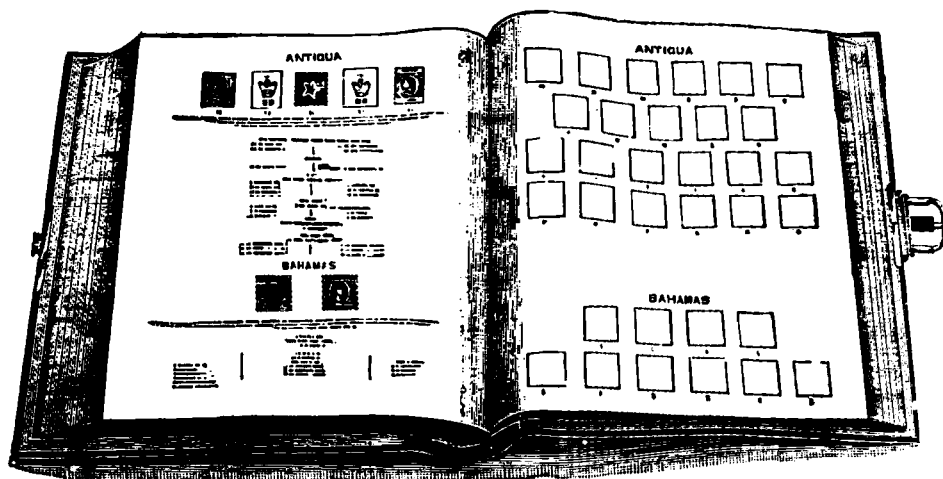
And two extra volumes were issued:—

Vol. III. Local Stamps.

Vol. IV. Envelopes and Wrappers (cut square).

In 1903 the Imperial had to be divided into three volumes, viz:—

Vol. I. Stamps of the British Empire.



THE IMPERIAL ALBUM (OPEN)

Vol. II. Stamps of Europe and Colonies of European States.

Vol. III. Foreign Countries.

The following editions have appeared:—

Edition.	Date.	No. printed.
1st to 3rd	1870-80	—
4th	1881	—
5th	1885	—
6th	1891	5,200
7th	1893	6,500
8th	1898	13,750
9th	1901	11,800
10th	1903	18,200

Blank Albums with movable leaves for advanced Collectors

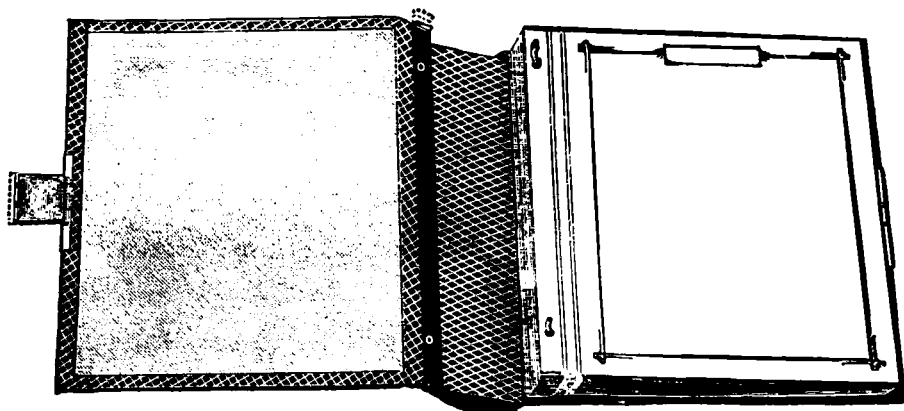
For nearly thirty years many of our greatest and most advanced collectors have

These albums are now stocked in five different varieties; three of these have 100 leaves each of very fine quality white card paper, and the other two have the body of the leaf sunk in and a raised mount all round, thus protecting the stamps from all friction.

The Oriol Album is another blank album which we introduced about 1891, and of which many thousands have been sold all over the world.

This is also an album with movable leaves, but made of the best hand-made paper, and each leaf is backed with fine Japanese tissue paper, so as to prevent all friction. Each album is contained in a cloth drop-in case lined in lamb's-wool, thus keeping out all dust.

Quite a number of our clients have over



used blank albums with movable leaves, so that they could arrange their treasures as they wished, and not be tied down to certain spaces as in the simpler album.

Probably the oldest and one of the best-known of these books is *The Philatelic Album*, introduced by Mr. Stanley Gibbons about 1880, since which time many thousands have been sold.

100 blank albums, and at least two have upwards of 200.

Blank Album with fixed leaves for postage stamps. This album has been specially designed for those collectors who either commence a collection with the postage stamps of King Edward VII, or who collect these stamps as a supplement to a general collection.

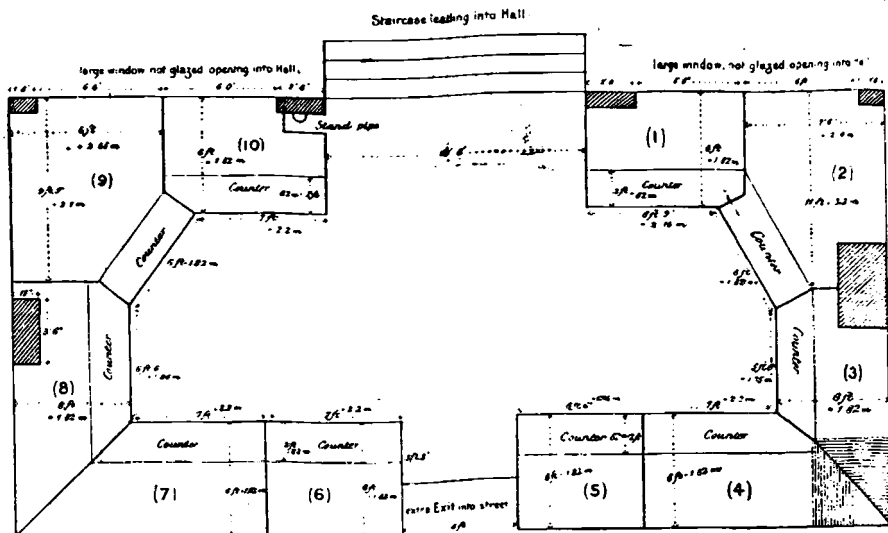
(To be continued.)

APPROVAL SHEETS AND COLLECTIONS

New Sheets of Stamps for beginners and medium collectors. We have just been arranging our Approval Sheets of Stamps on an entirely new and much simpler plan than formerly. The Stamps are mounted on Sheets, containing an average of 100 Stamps per Sheet. They are all arranged in the order of our New Catalogue. First, Great Britain and the Colonies, then all Foreign Countries. These Sheets contain about 5000 different Stamps, and a Sheet of any particular country will be sent on demand. The Sheets arranged to date are over forty in number, and contain all Great Britain and the Colonies, and all Foreign Countries.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION LONDON, 1906



WE are getting to close quarters in the matter of the great International Philatelic Exhibition which is to be held in London in May next.

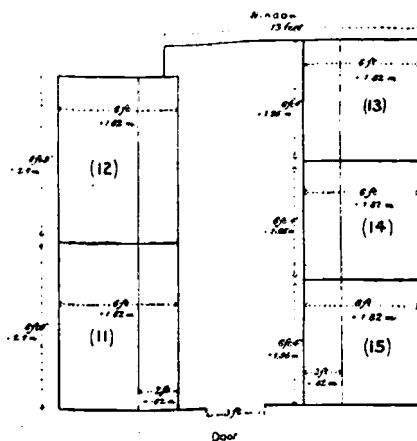
As our readers have already been informed, there are to be several stalls for the leading stamp dealers.

On Friday, 23 February, 1906, those stalls were sold by auction at the Covent Garden Hotel, W.C.

The principal dealers were invited to attend and compete. Each stall was started at what is

termed an "upset price," that is, the lowest price which would be accepted, and in every case the "upset" price was exceeded, and for what were considered the best stalls the bidding was brisk and sharp.

Mr. Wm. Hadlow was the chosen auctioneer, and his powerful voice might have echoed through the halls of Westminster as he repeated and emphasized the bids. The stalls fell to the bidders as follows:—



On the ground floor.

Lot	Upset price.			
1.	£65.	H. L. Ewen	£100	
2.	£65.	Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.	£75	
3.	£25.	Marsh	£50	
4.	£35.	Pemberton	£55	
5.	£45.	Griebert	£60	
6.	£45.	Bright & Son	£60	
7.	£40.	Bridger & Kay	£55	
8.	£30.	W. T. Wilson	£52 10s.	
9.	£65.	D. Field	£85	
10.	£65.	W. H. Peckitt	£90	

Upstairs.

Lot	Upset price.			
11.	£20.	Nissen & Co.	£27 10s.	
12.	£20.	W. Morley	£27 10s.	
13.	£15.	Bridger & Kay	£20	

Lot Upset price.

14.	£15.	Bridger & Kay	£22 10s.
15.	£15.	Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.	£22 10s.
		Total sum realized	£802 10s.

We may add that our publishers, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., have taken an upstairs stall entirely in the interest of the young collector, and will at this stall make a speciality of cheap stamps in packets and sets, and new issues suitable for the young collector, and we need hardly add that the new *Ideal Album*—the new album for beginners—will be there in the full glory of its handsome cover.

POSTAGE STAMP DEVICES

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 136.)

Heraldic Designs

THE figure or bust of the reigning sovereign naturally suggests itself as suitable for representation on postage stamps. Of late, however, I have been amusing myself by tabulating the designs on stamps under different headings, and the resulting figures have come somewhat as a surprise. I find that no fewer than ninety-six countries or States have favoured armorial bearings on some or all of their issues. Views of places come out an easy second with forty-three countries. Animals hold the next place in the list. Commemorative views and pictures of inventions such as ships, engines, etc., have been favoured by upwards of a score of countries. Maps and representations of vegetable products, trees and fruit, are least in evidence. The comparison is instructive, for it clearly shows what fascination armorial bearings have had on those whose work it is to produce designs suitable for postage stamps. Effective and pleasing they are to the eye in most cases undoubtedly. But they are something far more than that. They are links with a never-to-be-forgotten past. They tell of wars and conquests and additions of territory. They speak of alliances by marriage, of changes in the hereditary successions of kingdoms. In short, the study of these armorial bearings is an aid to the study of history. The heraldic emblems of a kingdom are a record whose nice distinctions indicate to all who understand their lan-

guage a number of natural facts regarding that kingdom. This being so, it has occurred to me that a few notes on the science and meaning of heraldry will not be without interest to the readers of these pages. It is not my purpose, however, to write a treatise on the ancient device of heraldry. Such a task is beyond me. Moreover, it is unnecessary for the object in view, viz. the enabling of the ordinary collector to take a more intelligent interest in the various coats of arms which figure among his stamps.

Let us, then, for our text take the case of the stamps of the British South Africa Company. They are of the "Arms" type. Here is an illustration:—

British South Africa, 1897.



Readers of Hardy and Bacon's *Stamp Collector* will probably remember the description of these arms in orthodox phraseology: "Gules, the chief semée of bezants, the base semée of ears of wheat, Or, on a fesse wavy Argent, between two bulls statant in chief proper, and in base, an elephant, statant proper, three galleys, sable. Crest: A lion gardant passant, Or, supporting with

its dexter fore-paw an ivory tusk erect proper. Supporters: Two spring-boks proper. The motto is 'Justice, Freedom, Commerce.'

What a relief to have done with it! I picture the face of the puzzled reader. "However am I to understand such a jargon as that?" says he. Well, I admit that it sounds a bit quaint, but a little patience and a few definitions will make the matter as plain as the proverbial "pikestaff." First let me briefly explain the meaning in this particular example, and then my hands will be free to deal with the general question. The first thing to name in blazoning a coat of arms is the colour of the field or background of the shield. In this case Gules, the heraldic name for red, is the colour of the field. The chief is the upper part of the shield and contains about one-third of its space. "Semée of bezants" signifies that the upper part of the shield is strewn with gold disks. The base is the lower part of the shield, which is semée with ears of wheat. The "fesse" is the space occupied between two parallel lines drawn horizontally across the centre of the shield. Here the "fesse" is wavy, i.e. the parallel lines take the form of a wave. "Argent" indicates its colour, viz. white. "Or" is the heraldic term for gold, and is represented by dots. Therefore, "Or on a fesse wavy Argent," translated into common language, means "A white band across the centre of the shield, on which are represented gold dots." The "two bulls statant in chief

proper" are bulls represented standing in the upper portion of the shield. The "elephant statant proper" indicates an elephant standing upright in the lower portion among the ears of wheat. The "three galleys sable" on the fesse are "three black vessels." The crest appears above the shield:—"A lion gardant passant," i.e. a lion on the watch with face full to the front, and the right paw uplifted in the act of walking, and holding an ivory tusk. The lion is coloured gold (Or). Such, then, are the heraldic emblems of the British South Africa Company. Think how fitly they symbolize the land to which they belong. Its products of gold and corn, its wealth of cattle, its rivers represented by the wavy fesse, the wild animals which are native to the land, all are fitly represented in the coat of arms which figures in the illustration.

"But however can you tell the colours of the shield and of the object portrayed thereon, when the stamp is printed in black and white?" says another critic. Take up your magnifying glass and have a look at the background. Don't you see that it is made up of vertical lines, except for the bar across the centre? Well, those vertical lines are known in heraldry as "Gules," and they indicate a red ground. And similarly the seven principal colours, or "tinctures" as they are properly called, in heraldry are represented by the particular direction in which the lines on the background are drawn.

(To be continued.)

BRITISH AFRICA POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

Owing to the fact that the war in South Africa has caused great attention to be drawn to the stamps of the British Possessions on that continent, and to the enormous increase in the number of collectors that has ensued from the issue of the War Provisionals in Mafeking, Bloemfontein, Pretoria, etc., we think this a good time at which to place before the public a new and very complete Album, designed for the British Possessions, etc., on the African Continent. The Album is designed upon the well-known plan of the Imperial Albums—the stamps in numbered spaces of the correct sizes on the right-hand page, and the description, full particulars, and illustrations on the opposite page. In order to make this a *permanent* Album we have provided from one to four blank pages *after each country*, thus making the Album available for the issues of many years to come. 220 pages. Size, 8½ × 11½ inches. Post-free in Great Britain, 10s. 7d.

A FINE BIRTHDAY GIFT

No. 68, 1500 varieties. Each specimen is in perfect condition, and the 1500 different Stamps form a splendid start for any one. A large number of really rare and valuable stamps are contained in this collection; but it is impossible to enumerate them, as we are constantly adding New Issues and Older Stamps when purchased. Satisfaction is guaranteed. £1 15s., post-free and registered.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 39, Strand, London, W.C.

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Imperium.—We have been thumbing our gazetteers and encyclopedias and other likely authorities for any stray British island, or any other corner of the earth likely to be called or known by the name of "Imperium," but in vain. We might federate the Boers of South Africa and nickname them "Imperium," or the Malay States, or we might issue a series of stamps for philatelically neglected Burmah under that sonorous and high-sounding term. But we have not done any one of these things.

And yet there lies before us a series of authentic De La Rue productions in the shape of designs of the Seychelles type, gummed, perf. 14, bearing on the name label the mystic word "Imperium."

What does it mean?

Does it mean that we are to have one series of Imperial British stamps for the common use of all portions of the British Empire, including even the mother country? If so, what a sensation it will create!

British Somaliland.—We seem to have overlooked the multiples of this protectorate, which we now list.



Wmk. Multiple C A. Perf.

- ½ a., green and dull green.
- 1 a., carmine and grey-black.
- 2 a., purple and dull lilac.
- 2½ a., bright blue.
- 3 a., green and chocolate.
- 4 a., black and green.
- 6 a., bright violet and green.
- 8 a., pale blue and grey-black.
- 12 a., orange-yellow and grey-black.

Canal Zone.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist* says:

"The status of the Canal Zone stamps is once more involved and the attention of the public directed to the subject by testimony given before the committee on canals in the Senate last week by Auditor Benson, of the Canal Commission. In the course of a hearing, with Mr. Benson on the stand, it developed that the postage stamp question was a new one to the members of the committee, and they plied Mr. Benson with all manner of questions. Mr. Benson was evidently not as well prepared to answer the questions as he might have been had he supposed the questions would take that course. He did say, however, that the United States officials bought stamps of the Panama Government at 60 per cent. of their face value, and then sold them to the people in the Zone at 100 per cent., making a profit of 40 per cent., which up to December last had netted the

Government \$14,000. The committee did not seem to be fully satisfied with the testimony, and it is said that Mr. Shonts, the chairman of the commission, will be asked for further light on the subject."

New South Wales.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., send us the 9d. and 2s. 6d. of the current series on paper watermarked Crown A.



Wmk. Crown A. Perf.

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| ½d., green. | 6d., orange. |
| 1d., carmine. | 9d., brown and blue. |
| 2d., blue. | 1s., purple-brown. |
| 2½d., dark blue. | 2s. 6d., green. |
| 4d., brown. | 2os., bright blue. |

Transvaal.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., send us the ½d. and 2s. on the multiple paper, and we are told that the 3d. has also appeared on this paper.



Wmk. Multiple C A. Perf.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| ½d., green. | |
| 1d., carmine. | |
| 2½d., grey-black and ultramarine. | |
| 3d., " | sage-green. |
| 4d., " | chocolate. |
| 6d., " | orange. |
| 1s., " | red-brown. |
| 2s., " | yellow. |

Victoria.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., send us the 9d. on the Crown A paper.



Wmk. Crown A. Perf.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| ½d., green. | 3d., orange. |
| 1d., rose. | 6d., green. |
| 2d., violet. | 9d., rose. |

GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The New Norwegians

THE competition for the designs for the new Norwegian stamps closed in January, as announced, and the *Illustrated London News* has published reproductions of the prize winners. I am indebted to that journal for the loan of the designs. Here are the six stamps which have been awarded the first prize:—



If these are the best that the designers of Norway can do, they had better try our own Waterlow. The junior at Waterlow's would get the sack without mercy for such freaks.

To my mind, the stamp that has been awarded the second prize, which I have also borrowed from the *Illustrated London News*, is a far more passable design, with its neat drawing of a Viking ship. It will be recognized as showing signs of being from the hands of the designer of the low values of the new Danish stamps.

It is expected that the new stamps will be ready some time in July next. The krone values, it is said, will be issued first to avoid the necessity of another provisional supply.

Barbados Tercentenary Issue

BARBADOS is going to let us down lightly over the long-announced issue of a series of stamps to

celebrate the tercentenary of the British possession of the island. The series is to be confined to one stamp of the face value of one penny, and, according to a correspondent of *Evening's Weekly Stamp News*, the design will be the ship *Olive Blossom* off the shore, with bearded fig trees on each side of the stamp. The *Barbados Advocate* says the design is the work of Lady Carter, the wife of the Governor, Sir G. J. Carter.

The "Olive Blossom"

Here is the history of the *Olive Blossom* and the British connexion with the island from Mr. E. V. Lucas's West Indian volume:—"In 1605 the *Olive Blossom* was fitted out by Sir Olave Leigh, a worshipful knight of Kent, with stores and settlers for his brother's colony in Guiana. The ship touched at Barbados, and the sailors, finding the island unoccupied, set up a cross near the spot, where Jamestown, now Huletown, was afterwards built, and left the inscription—'James K of E and of this island.' In this wise Barbados was first claimed as British territory. No settlement, however, was made at the time, or for some twenty years afterwards, till good reports of the island attracted the attention of a rich London merchant, Sir William Carton."

That "Bearded Fig Tree"

Barbados "is said to have been called" after the bearded fig trees found on the island by its first discoverers. I have been trying to run that "bearded fig tree" to earth, and at last found it under the heading "Ficus," the old Latin name, in Nicholson's *Dictionary of Gardening*, thus: "Ficus barbata (bearded). Leaves dark green, cordate, about 3 in. long; apex elongated; edges clothed with long brown hairs. East Indies, 1832. A handsome plant for covering the walls of stores; it has a creeping and rooting habit, similar to ivy." Nicholson says nothing of its being found anywhere in the West Indies.

Philatelists in Parliament

I WONDER how many stamp collectors there are in the new Parliament. I know a few, but I wonder how many there are that we do not know. May I suggest to the Competition Editor of *G.S.W.* that he might have a competition for the most complete list of Philatelic M.P.'s; and as a tip how to win, my friends might circularize the M.P.'s with the following questions:—

1. Are you a stamp collector?
2. If not, why not?
3. If a stamp collector, what do you go in for?
4. How many "Post Office" Mauritius have you got?
5. How much, per year, do you spend on your collection?
6. Have you any duplicates to give away?

The Gibbons Jubilee

I HAVE been reading the very interesting history of the Gibbons firm being told in *G.S.W.*, and I have been trying to think of some way in which we might celebrate that jubilee in proper style. As *G.S.W.* is run solely in the interests of the readers, and for the consequent impoverishment of the said Gibbons firm, a judicious choice may be made from the following suggestions:—

1. A dinner to the readers of *G.S.W.* at the Hotel Cecil.
2. A trip round the "countries of the world," to be balloted for, each reader to have one free chance.
3. A gratis first pick from the £30,000 collection to the first hundred applicants.
4. Penny dips into what is left of those Gibbons sacks of Cape woodblocks.

Consulting his own Catalogue

I STROLLED into 391 Strand a few days ago, and was duly shown into the Managing Director's sanctum. The boss of the concern was turning over the pages of his own Catalogue, and frowning and growling. Said I, "What's the matter? Indigestion? Carter's Little Liver Pill!" "Hawaii! Hawaii! Hawaii! Blowed if I can find it!" said he. He was hunting through Part I, British Colonies. Said I, "Try Part II!" He turned over the book, and looked at the colour of the cover, and then—But I had better not repeat a strictly private conversation.

A Scottish "Taping" Collection

THE *Scotsman* announces that the bequest by the late Rev. J. A. Dunbar-Dunbar of the large and valuable collection of postage stamps, which has now been handed over to the Edinburgh Museum by the executors, has led the way to the gift of another and almost as extensive collection.

"Mr. W. Rae Macdonald, F.F.A., Wester Coates Avenue, Edinburgh, has generously presented the whole of his stamps, numbering nearly

15,000 specimens, arranged in sixty volumes, and representing the gatherings of over forty years. The two collections, which have been examined and valued by an expert from London, are fortunately to a large extent complementary to each other, for while Mr. Dunbar-Dunbar specialized very thoroughly in the case of several countries, Mr. Rae Macdonald has secured some very rare individual specimens which are not to be found in the Dunbar-Dunbar Collection. To meet the interest which by their inquiries at the Museum philatelists evince in these collections, arrangements are now being made to show at least a portion of them in temporary casing. The permanent housing of the stamps will probably be carried out, with a view to bring out their geographical and political relations, on the plan of sliding frames adopted at the British Museum for the display of the Taping Collection."

Epidemic of Ship Stamps

ARE we to have an epidemic of ship designs on stamps? We have just received the ship series from Grenada, we are shortly to have a ship design from Barbados, and we have the current ship series of Turks and Caicos Islands. Now the *Pall Mall Gazette* puts in a "plea for a maritime stamp" among our own stamps, contending that there should be one issue of British stamps adorned with a ship, "fitly indicating the nation's pride in all those who 'go down to the sea in ships.'"

Lagos King's Heads to be used up

IN my last contribution I announced that Lagos is to be incorporated with Southern Nigeria, and that there would, therefore, be an end of the stamps of Lagos. I now learn that the supply of Lagos King's Heads on hand is to be used up, and then when they are done with there will be an end of separate stamps for Lagos. Meanwhile the question is, what is to be done with all those remainders of Queen's Heads? I think they had better make a bonfire of them, and have done with the business.

THE KING'S OWN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

This Album has been specially designed for those collectors who either commence a collection with the Postage Stamps of King Edward VII, or who collect these stamps as a supplement to a General Collection. The King's Own Album contains 100 pages of heavy white plate paper outlined with a neat border of neutral grey, with quadrillé background inside the grey border, and name space at the top of each page. Exact size of leaves from the outer edge, $7\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$; available for mounting stamps, $6\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$. The title-page is printed in the Royal Colours, with the King's Cypher Monogram and Crown. Strongly bound in cloth, bevelled boards, with the Official Cypher Monogram and Crown in gold on cover. Post-free, 8s.; abroad, 8s. 9d.

THE CENTURY ALBUM

Including a full Descriptive Catalogue, and illustrated with several thousand full-sized reproductions of the stamps. In one volume, 622 pages. Size of each page, 10×13 inches. Printed on one side of the paper only, catalogue and illustrations on the left, and spaces to correspond on the right-hand pages. All minor varieties of perforation, watermark, and type are omitted, and only such varieties are included as can be distinguished by the young philatelist. Space has been provided for some 18,000 stamps, and provision made for new issues by the insertion of numerous blank pages. Post-free, 13s. 4d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

American Notes and News

New Salvadors

In my last letter I spoke, briefly, of the recent surcharges coming up from Salvador, and it was my good fortune not long ago to receive a call from the Consul for Salvador, himself a collector, and this gentleman very kindly informed me that the new and permanent issue is now in use. It consists of the following values:—1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., 6 c., 10 c., 12 c., 13 c., 24 c., 26 c., 50 c., and \$1. For full measure we can also include Officials—envelopes and cards: and probably, later on, when the postal department realizes its failure to grasp the opportunity, the Postage Dues will trot along merrily. I really believe the latest outburst of surcharging was *de necessito*. The new plates had not arrived from London, and there was a genuine dearth of stamps down there. The new issue is a large rectangular stamp with a lathe-work design in green. The centre is in black, and contains the portrait of Don J. Escalon, Salvador's President. The contract for the work has been let to a local contractor, and there are slim chances of any further work in the line of remainders or surcharges.

Fine things in Canadians

It was my fortune to secure for our firm some rather fine things in Canadian stamps not long ago. A gentleman living in the Dominion, after going through the proverbial old papers, brought in to me in New York a block of fourteen *gd.*, imperf., a magnificent unused *6d.* on wove in a very peculiar brownish shade tint, and—oh! tell it in whispers—a superb mint strip of three of the *6d.* purple on thick soft paper. A strip of three, mark you, and I had never seen or even heard of even a pair before! This superb piece was quickly housed in our best American collection, and the owner is correspondingly tickled.

U.S.A. Buffalo 8 c.

In the *Monthly Journal* for December, my friend Major Evans notes the 8 c. U.S. Buffalo in the newly discovered shade, and says, "What is it? Why is it?" etc. If the Major will read the *Minor* publication in general, and my last letter—priceless epistle—in particular, he will find all particulars about this said 8 c. United States stamp. R.I.P.

Mr. C. A. Howes and Koreans

It was my pleasure and privilege to have the opportunity of entertaining that genial and studious philatelist Mr. C. A. Howes of Boston—Bawston, I beg pardon—last Saturday week. Mr. Howes came out to my country home over Sunday, and together we studied Korea, filled the acetylene gas plant, washed the dog, fed the children's rabbits, and generally did the strenuous. Mr. Howes is a philatelic student—one of the few we have on this side of the pond. Just now he is engaged in trying to straighten out what is genuine and what is bogus in the black *TAL HAN* surcharge of Korea, and it is, indeed, a puzzle. If any of my readers (if I have any) are interested in this country, I'm quite sure they will find a ready correspondent in Mr. Howes. Oh! I nearly forgot to tell you where he may be found. I suspect U.S.A. will find him, but if you're in a hurry, try 55 Kilby Street, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

Illness of Mr. Francis E. P. Lynde

I am indeed pleased to chronicle the improvement in the condition of that well-known New York collector Mr. Francis E. P. Lynde. Mr. Lynde has been very, very ill with a complication of troubles—so ill, in fact, that at one time I despaired of seeing him amongst us much longer; but he is slowly but surely gaining ground now. He must be considerably better, because he's grumbling about the New Zealand Waterlow-Cowan-Basted perforations and my American Notes—two things which he says are "the limit." Maybe he's right. However, I'm real glad to find "Frank" is on the mend, and, with other members of the Collectors' Club, wish him a quick and permanent recovery to health.

Purchase of Mr. J. M. Fiske's Collection

It is with pleasure I am able to announce another purchase for our firm. This time it is the splendid unused collection of Great Britain formed by Mr. J. M. Fiske, my old-time friend and banker. Mr. Fiske has lately shown but little interest in stamps, having caught that dread disease "automobiliousness." Amongst other superb things—all unused—I may mention the "V.R.," nearly a dozen unused octagonals, *4d.* small garter, both the medium garters, *2s.* brown, *10s.* cross, and other good to rare stamps. The collection cost close on fifteen hundred dollars, and will be broken up, and offered to our clients in this country.

EUSTACE B. POWER.

THE YOUNG COLLECTOR'S PACKET

No. 66, 500 varieties, is strongly recommended as the cheapest collection of 500 different Stamps ever offered—the Stamps could not be bought separately for three times the marvellously low price at which it is now offered. The Stamps, etc., are clean, picked specimens fit for any collection. The best 500 varieties in the trade. *4s. 1d.*, post-free.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

THE STAMP MARKET

By AN ODD LOT

Europeans on the Rise

I HAVE the best of reasons for saying that collectors must be prepared for a rise in unused Europeans in the new Catalogue. I have been nosing round of late for unused Europeans in the shape of a couple of countries I am going in for myself, and I was growling considerably at the limited choice of many issues, when my eyes were opened to what has been going on. As a few years back Germans were unloading their gems on to our English market, I expected to still get a nice choice of the glut; but, to my regret, I learned that the German collectors had long since recovered from stress of circumstances which compelled them to sell, and had been buying back all they could get. Hence, there is an unquestionable scarcity of many stamps that were quite plentiful when Gibbons issued their last edition of Part II. Some, I am told, cannot now be bought, even by dealers, at full catalogue price. My remarks apply only to unused.

High Prices for Transvaals

My friends of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* are not likely to be collectors of early Transvaals, especially at their latest prices. Nevertheless, they will be interested in hearing how the great sale of the gold medal collection of Mr. Alberto Philipp went off.

It was one of the best sales held by Glending and Co., but if you had been in the auction room, as I was, you would not have thought from the small attendance that half the stamps would have sold, and yet, to my knowledge, there were enough bids present to have bought the collection at high prices over and over again.

The eye-openers in high prices were as follows, all unused:—

Gibbons Cat. No.	Description	Realized £ s. d.
5.	1869. 1s., deep green, imperf.	13 0 0
16.	" " " fine roul.	12 0 0
36.	1870. 6d., blue, block of four, lower left-hand stamp inverted, forming the <i>lête-bêche</i> variety from the Nankivell Collection . . .	140 0 0
35.	1870. 1s., green, fine roul.	16 0 0
52.	" id., carmine, thin transparent paper, fine roul.	12 0 0
96.	1876. 6d., blue, pelure paper, block of four, upper left stamp inverted, forming the <i>lête-bêche</i> variety from the Nankivell Collection . . .	150 0 0
99.	1876. 3d., lilac, pelure paper, fine roul.	16 0 0

Gibbons Cat. No.	Description	Realized £ s. d.
111.	1876. 6d., blue, hard stout paper, vertical pair, printed <i>lête-bêche</i> . . .	27 0 0
131.	1877. V. R. TRANSVAAL, 6d., blue, red surcharge, no gum, imperf. . .	22 10 0
140.	1877. Ditto, 3d., lilac, red surcharge	36 0 0
148.	" Ditto, same stamp, surcharged on back . . .	22 0 0
151.	1877. Ditto, id., red, pelure, fine roul.	21 0 0
153.	" Ditto, id., red, surcharge inverted . . .	18 10 0
155.	1877. Ditto, id., red, hard-surfaced paper, fine roul., block of four . . .	32 0 0
204.	1877. "V. R. Transvaal," id., red on blue, error "Transvaal," imperf., used . . .	60 0 0
205.	1877. Ditto, 6d., blue on blue, surcharge omitted, imperf., used . . .	50 0 0
218.	1877. Ditto, same stamp, fine roul., used . . .	51 0 0
223.	1877. Ditto, 6d., blue on green, wide roul., used . . .	30 0 0
230.	1877. Ditto, 6d., blue on blue, surcharge omitted, used . . .	28 0 0

Chalky Paper

Little is heard of the chalky paper variety of King's Heads now. I have not met with even a single specialist who does not scout the idea of making it a variety. I was talking to a very wealthy specialist the other day, and he ridiculed the idea of making a separate variety of it; and lurching later on with leading dealers, they agreed emphatically in not according it catalogue rank. So that it is certain to fall into the rank of minute varieties of the microscopical order.

The Exhibition Stalls

There seems to be a great difference of opinion as to the value of a dealer's stall in a great philatelic exhibition. Not a few dealers assert that, apart from the advertising importance of being so represented, a dealer's stall rarely pays for itself. To begin with, the rent is an enormous item. To pay from £50 to £100 for the rent of a little corner hard y large enough to swing a cat in, and face the other attendant expenses, means a liberal turnover. But there is another side to the question. A business acquaintance may be started with a new and wealthy customer, whose continued purchases may pay for a dozen stalls. Such things have happened to my knowledge, and may happen again. There is also the possibility of damaging inferences being drawn from a "conspicuous absence," if I may use an expressive Irishism.

A SPLENDID START. THE FINEST PACKET

Packet No. 67, 1000 varieties. This packet contains 1000 different Stamps (and no Envelopes, Bands, and Cards), and is the cheapest packet ever offered by S. G., Ltd., satisfaction being absolutely guaranteed. The price it is offered at is the lowest ever quoted for such a collection, embracing as it does scores of scarce varieties, provisionals, new issues, and many very fine and obsolete varieties. 15s., post-free and registered.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 39, Strand, London, W.C.

FRENCH PENNY POSTAGE

THE *Times* correspondent, telegraphing from Paris on 28 February, 1906, says:—

"By 139 votes to 92 in the Senate, and by a unanimous vote in the Chamber of Deputies, the French Parliament adopted at a late hour last night a Bill establishing penny postage throughout France and the French colonies. The reform, which will come into operation on 16 April, has been long claimed by the public. Some months ago a monster petition was organized by the *Matin* in favour of it, and in the Chamber itself the lowering of letter postage from three sous to two sous was urged eloquently by the president of the commission of posts and telegraphs, M. Marcel Sembat. Platonic votes in favour of the reform have been several times passed by the Chamber, but the Senate, whose main active function in the legislative machinery of France is control of the estimates as fixed by the Chamber, has always hesitated in a spirit of financial prudence to sanction this reform.

"Already, as was pointed out yesterday by M. Poincaré, the eminent reporter of the Senatorial Finance Committee, the French Budget is balanced only by recourse to loans and to exceptional resources. This year's Finance Bill has been seriously dislocated by the insistence of the Chamber, acquiesced in by the Prime Minister, to grant the thousands of private distillers (*bouilleurs de cru*) the privilege of preparing for their own purposes a certain amount of untaxed brandy. M. Rouvier, in forcing this measure on the Senate, demanded of it a real sacrifice. When, therefore, within twenty-four hours he once more appeared in the Senate with an appeal to it again to follow the Chamber and to vote the postal reform which

was bound in the opinion of the Senate to create a fresh deficit, implying new taxes, the conservatism of the Upper House was sorely tried. The president of the Finance Committee, expressing the real sentiment of his colleagues, opposed the introduction of the postal reform into the Bill sanctioning the grants on account. A violent debate ensued, in which this purely fiscal question became a political one. Three times M. Rouvier put the question of confidence. Some of the Prime Minister's oldest and most intimate friends, men such as the life Senator M. Magnin, ex-Governor of the Bank of France, earnestly begged him not to oblige the Senate to choose between its conscience and the overthrow of the Government.

"These appeals were of no avail, since, as a matter of fact, if M. Rouvier had not stood firm in the Senate and had allowed it to reject the postal reform just voted by the Chamber, not only would he not have had his two months' grants on account—if they were not promulgated this morning the taxes could not be collected—but he would have allowed a dangerous conflict to arise between the two Houses, than which nothing could be more unfortunate at the present juncture. M. Rouvier's resistance left the Senate no alternative, considering the foreign situation, but to give way. Algieras haunted the House and M. Rouvier won the day. Thus within two months France will have penny postage. The new vignette reproduces the well-known figure of M. Roty's *semouse*. The public, heedless of the possibility of fresh taxes, is naturally crying victory; and the Prime Minister himself contends that this postal reform will not necessitate fresh taxation."

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Durban and District Philatelic Society

President: J. Wallace Bradley.
Secretary: W. P. Williams, 93 Club Arcade, Durban.
Meetings: Bristow's Buildings, Durban.
Annual Subscription: Seniors, 5s.; Juniors, 2s. 6d.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of the Durban and District Philatelic Society was held on 23 January, when a good attendance of members was present. The business consisted of passing the revised rules, as submitted by the new committee as instructed at the previous meeting, and the drawing up of a syllabus to the end of our year as follows:—

Syllabus for 1906

- 6 February. Auction. Display of the stamps of Orange River Colony. Mr. T. J. Miljoen.
- 20 February. Paper, "Reminiscences of Stamp Collecting." Mr. H. Roberts.
- 6 March. Auction. Display of the stamps of Australia. Mr. C. W. Jewitt.
- 20 March. Display of the stamps of Zanzibar and British East Africa. Mr. M. Saphir.
- 3 April. Auction. Display of the stamps of Portugal. Mr. C. H. McKean.
- 17 April. Display of the stamps of Cape Colony. Mr. W. P. Williams.

1 May. Auction. Paper, "Noted Philatelists I have Met and Rare Stamps and Collections I have Seen." Mr. H. Roberts.

15 May. Display of the stamps of Uganda, British East Africa, etc. Mr. R. K. Watkins.

5 June. Auction. Display of the stamps of Great Britain. Mr. T. J. Miljoen.

19 June. Annual meeting.

Two new members were elected. Copies of the rules may be had from the Secretary.

Herts Philatelic Society

President: F. Reichenheim, Esq.
Secretary: H. A. Slade, Esq., "Nine-Fields," St. Albans.
Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.
Subscription: 5s. annually.

IN spite of the inclement weather and the attractions of electioneering a very successful meeting was held at 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, 16 January, 1906, at 7 p.m.

Among those present were Messrs. H. L. Hayman, L. E. Bradbury, A. H. I. Giles, R. Frenzel, C. H. Garnett, Baron Anthony de Worms, F. F. Staff, M. Z. Kuttner, A. W. Maclean, A. Bagshawe, J. B. Neyroud, W. Mair, B. W. H. Poole, K. Wielen,

D. Thomson, H. A. Slade, and two visitors. The Vice-President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 December, 1906, were read and signed as correct.

Messrs. H. Fielitz and H. Wade were elected ordinary members of the Society.

Donations to the Permanent Collection were received from Dr. Webster.

At the conclusion of formal business Mr. Frenzel gave a display, with notes, of a few of the varieties from his wonderful collection of the stamps of Mexico. The completeness, the knowledge, and the care shown in the arrangement of these stamps thoroughly deserved the hearty vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Stafford, seconded by Mr. Garnett, and carried with acclamation.

Another treat was afforded to the members by the exhibition by Baron Anthony de Worms of his collection of the earlier issues of Ceylon. "Good wine needs no bush," and the Baron's Ceylons are so well known as to need no description. In reply to a vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Giles, seconded by Mr. Kutner, and carried with acclamation, the exhibitor promised to show the later issues on some future occasion.

The meeting terminated at 9.20 p.m.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: Herbert Woods.

Secretary: W. Halfpenny, 28 Dacey Street, Liverpool.

Meetings: Angel Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool. 7 p.m.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held at the Angel Hotel, Dale Street, on Monday, 19 February, 1906. In the absence of the President Mr. Savage occupied the chair, and after the usual preliminaries a paper on the stamps of "Saxony" was read by Mr. Crowther. The lecturer first dealt with the early history of this small kingdom, and then proceeded to give a detailed and interesting account of its postal issues. He made special mention of the first stamp of the series, and exhibited a specimen (which was the only one shown). He also referred to the rare "error" of the $\frac{1}{2}$ neu-groschen in blue, and informed the members that a specimen had lately fetched £56 at auction, and then read some of the early postal notices and instructions, which were curious. At the conclusion a cordial vote of thanks was given to Mr. Crowther for his excellent paper. An exhibition of the stamps of Saxony and Ceylon followed, and in the latter country some fine collections were on view, notably that of Mr. Rockliff.

CORRESPONDENCE

Victoria

DEAR SIR,—Handbook for the Philatelic Society, London. Victoria—2s., green, 1858, perf. and imperf.; 2s., black-green, 1864; watermark 2. I have been endeavouring to plate these stamps for some years, and should be glad to see pairs, strips, and singles, used or unused, in bad as well

as good condition. Perhaps your readers who possess any of these would be good enough to lend them.

Yours faithfully,

LESLIE L. R. HAUSBURG.

Rothsay, Weybridge.

OUR PHILATELIC DIARY

MARCH, 1906

We shall be glad if Secretaries of Philatelic Societies will send us their Programmes for the new year. Several Societies are omitted from this Diary for lack of Programmes.

10. Junior Philatelic Society: Third visit to Taping Collection of Stamps at the British Museum.
12. Scottish Philatelic Society, Edinburgh: Paper, T. A. McIntyre.
- 13 & 14. Auction: Glendining & Co., 7 Argyll Street, London, W.C. 4.30 p.m.
14. International Philatelic Union: Display, J. C. Sidebotham.
- 15 & 16. Auction: Plumridge & Co., 64 Chancery Lane, London. 4.45 p.m.
16. London Philatelic Society: Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg. A Paper on "Perforations of Victoria," with Display.
- Manchester Philatelic Society: Elementary Discussion—Trinidad. Opened by G. F. H. Gibson.
17. Junior Philatelic Society: Bourse. Paper and Display—"The College Stamps of Great Britain"; L. Savarmin. Display—African Colonies VI; North and South Nigeria, Niger Coast, and Oil Rivers.
19. Liverpool Philatelic Society: "Some Old Post Office Regulations"; by A. Phelps. Display—St. Vincent, Southern Nigeria.
- 20 & 21. Auction: Puttick & Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London, W.C. 4.30 p.m.
21. Enterprise Philatelic Society, London: Display with Notes—Grenada, Jamaica; E. Heginbottom. Ten minutes paper, selected. Display—A selection of British Colonies; T. W. Lake. General Sale and Exchange.
22. Birmingham Philatelic Society: Paper—"China"; P. T. Deakin.
- 22 & 23. Auction: Ventom, Bull, & Cooper, Loudon Hotel, Surrey Street, London. 5 p.m.
23. Manchester Philatelic Society: Sicily; W. D. Beckton.
29. Herts Philatelic Society, London: Display with Notes—Tasmania; R. B. Yardley.
30. London Philatelic Society: C. F. Dendy Marshall. Notes on Used British Stamps, with a sketch history of postmarks from earliest times.
- Manchester: Elementary Discussion—Turks Islands and Virgin Islands. Opened by W. W. Munn.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR G. S. W. READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "G. S. W." readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

Ed. "G. S. W."

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

SWITZERLAND.



1900. Type 11. Issued to commemorate the twenty-fifth year of the Universal Postal Union.

5 c., green.
10 c., rosine.
25 c., blue.

These stamps have been obsolete for some time, and are getting very scarce.

Special Bargain price for the three stamps, 1s., post-free.

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

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 11
Whole No. 63

17 MARCH, 1906

Vol. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

British New Guinea



NEW GUINEA, the second largest island in the world, lies between Australasia and the Malay Archipelago. It is divided between the Dutch, Germans, and British. In 1884, under pressure of foreign competition, and in deference to the wishes of the Australians, a British protectorate was proclaimed over the south-eastern part of the coast and over the adjacent islands, so securing a new field for the future expansion of the Australian colonies, and in 1888 it was definitely annexed. British New Guinea embraces 90,000 of the 305,000 square miles of the island. It is separated from Queensland by Torres Strait.

In November, 1901, the Australian Commonwealth took over the responsibilities of administration, and the transfer was com-

pleted in 1903. It is administered by a Governor residing at Port Moresby, and the country, according to Hazell, is being gradually settled. The population is small. The aborigines are Papuans mixed with Malays.

The interior of New Guinea is still a *terra incognita*. It is described as essentially a mountainous, and even an Alpine region, being traversed in its entire length by lofty ranges, by far the largest in the Oceanic world, in some places rising 2000 to 3000 feet above the snow-line.

According to the *International Geography*:

The chief industry worked by Europeans is alluvial gold mining. The gold-bearing country is extensive, but very difficult to prospect. There are indications of auriferous reefs. The valuable mineral osmiridium has been found from the Gira River to the Owen Stanley Range, and coal exists

in the Purari sandstone district. The pearl and pearl-shell fishery is of considerable importance, the shell being widely distributed over the eastern seas of the colony. *Bêche-de-mer* is found on most of the reefs, and turtle-shell is common. Sandal-wood is sometimes found in the form of large trees, and is exported. The rubber industry is important and promising. There are some good varieties of timber, including cedar and ebony.

Its Philatelic History

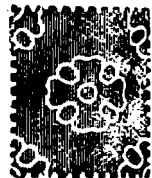
The Queensland Government at first administered the postal systems of British New Guinea, and Mr. Basset Hull tells us that "Queensland postage stamps were used without any distinguishing mark or surcharge, the postmarks B.N.G. in bars, or the names SAMARAI or PORT MORESBY, being the only indication of the tropical sphere in which the stamps were used." He adds, "Doubtless the 'book-keeping' system necessitated under the Australian constitution is responsible for a separate issue for British New Guinea, which is a Crown Colony."

There has been only one issue, and that was made in 1901. The stamps are of handsome appearance, having as a central design a pearl-fishing boat. They were first shown to the public at the Glasgow Exhibition of 1901, in a case exhibited by the Government of Queensland. The design is the same for all values, the centre being printed in black, with a coloured frame. The paper is watermarked with quatrefoils, as in the case of the then current stamps of Zanzibar. The first issue comprised seven values, ranging from $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s., but last year a 2s. 6d. value was added to the series.

Our young friends who want a simple country that has not yet started any per-

plexing varieties might annex the first and still current issue of British New Guinea. With the changes in prospect under the Australian Commonwealth there may any day be developments that may open out this young colony in a philatelic direction, and render its first issue, now so cheap, a very desirable possession.

1901. Seven values. Design, a pearl-fishing boat. Designed, engraved, and printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. Printed in two colours, the centre always in black. Watermark, Quatrefoils. Perforated.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ d., yellow-green, centre black	0 1	—
1d., lake	0 2	—
2d., violet	0 3	—
$2\frac{1}{2}$ d., ultramarine	0 4	—
4d., sepia	0 6	—
6d., myrtle-green	0 9	—
1s., orange	1 6	—

1905. One value. Design as in previous issue. Watermarked and perforated as before.

Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2s. 6d., brown, centre black	3 3	—

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

THE IMPERIAL ALBUM

Tenth Edition. Size of pages, $8\frac{3}{4} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The present edition is arranged in three volumes. Two causes have acted to bring about this result. First, the ever-increasing number of new issues, for which accommodation must be provided; and secondly, the demand by collectors that space shall be found for varieties of perforation and shade, errors, etc., to conform as closely as possible to the lists given in the publishers' Catalogue. Vol. I. The Stamps of the British Empire; post-free, 10s. 9d. Vol. II. The Stamps of Europe, and the Colonies and Possessions of European States; post-free, 12s. 9d. Vol. III. Foreign Countries, except Europe and Possessions; post-free, 10s. 9d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

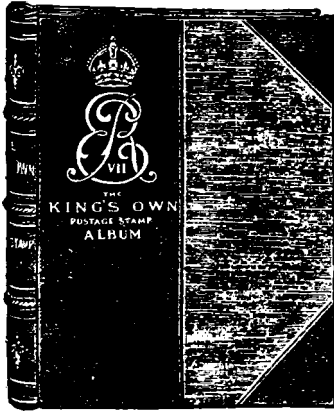
FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

CHAPTER XII—*continued*

Publication Department—*continued*



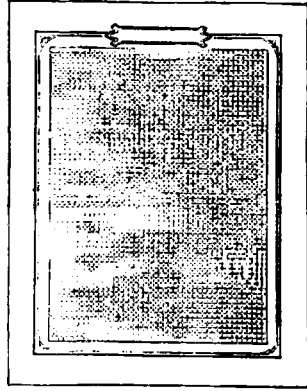
The King's Own Album contains 100 pages of heavy white plate paper outlined with a neat border of neutral grey, with quadrillé background inside the grey border, and name space at the top of each page.

The size of the leaves is $7\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ inches. This album was introduced in 1904, and already nearly 2000 have been sold.

In response to the demand for *cheap* blank albums, we have produced two different ones with fixed leaves which will be found of great use to those who wish to collect pairs, blocks of four, corner numbers, stamps on letters, etc. etc.

Blank Album No. 31 has 100 leaves, size $9\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and is sold at 8s. post-free. *Blank Album No. 32* has 150 leaves, size $11\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ inches, price 11s. 3d. post-free.

This latter album, being similar in size and get-up to the "Imperial Album," is largely used for new issues as a supplement to that album.



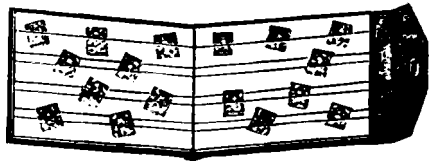
Blank Album No. 31

Duplicate and Stock Albums

We publish several albums of this class; the smaller ones are much used by collectors as pocket-books to carry about loose stamps for exchange, or to hold stamps they may purchase in their walks abroad.

The larger books are sold largely to dealers to arrange loose stock in, and many collectors use them to hold unsorted stamps and duplicates.

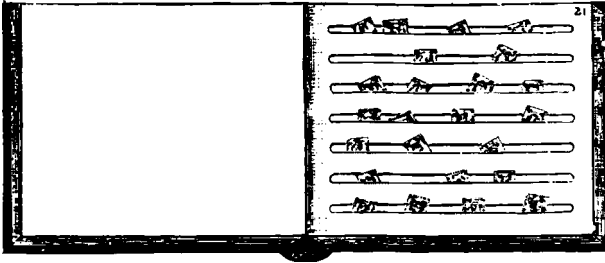
The following are the best-known of these books:—



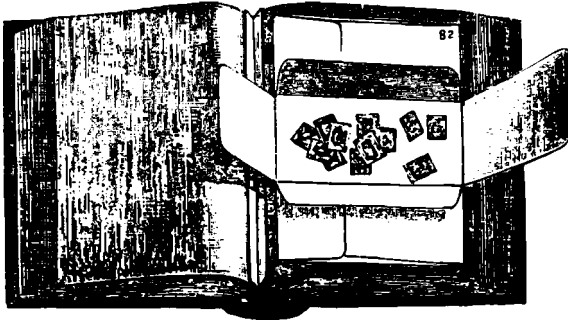
The Philatelist's Collecting Book for the coat pocket. The size is $6\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and each book contains twelve pages, with strip of linen fixed at the bottom edge and forming receptacles for loose stamps.

We also publish a larger size of this book, containing twenty-four pages, and measuring $8 \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Stock Album. This is $10\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and contains sixty leaves, each leaf having seven horizontal slits across the page. Both dealers and collectors make great use of these albums, and they are quite blank and contain no printing of any kind.



Duplicate Stamp Album. This book is $6\frac{1}{2} \times 9$ inches, and the arrangement is that of a series of pockets, numbered for reference, and securely attached to the leaves, on one side only. The pockets are made so that they can be opened out flat and the contents easily inspected. This is a very



handy method of keeping stamps in groups or countries ready for insertion in the albums when time permits.

This album is sold in two sizes, one of which has 72 pockets, and the other 144 pockets.

The Stanley Gibbons Philatelic Handbooks

Some fifteen years ago we planned out a scheme for issuing a set of handbooks, under the above general title, from time to time as we could secure the best philatelic writers on the different subjects.

We wished these books, as far as possible, to be the most complete and exhaustive history of the stamps of each country, and even those issued ten to twelve years ago are

still recognized as the chief and most reliable books on the countries with which they deal.

These books are published at prices which practically only just repay the heavy costs of authors' fees, printing, plates and binding, but I must say that their sale is not so large as I could wish.

Each book as issued sells well for a few months until 300 or 400 copies have gone, and all the chief societies, collectors of philatelic literature, and specialists are supplied; but the general run of collectors seem too busy to buy and read such books. However, I am sure that they make a great mistake: there are many minor little things in every country that do not get into the priced catalogue, and a collector who will study such books as these will very soon be able, by his greater knowledge, to pick up bargains that his less well-read friends will know nothing about. The really first-class collectors recognize this, and read all they can about their pet countries, and are well repaid by so doing.

The first of these books that we issued was *Portuguese India*, which appeared in 1893, and was compiled by the late Mr. Gilbert Harrison and Lieut. F. H. Napier.

This work will be found of great use to collectors of the early issues of this interesting and difficult country. The types are all well illustrated, and the differences between the issues clearly defined.

The next book was entitled *South Australia*, issued in 1894, and written by Lieut. F. H. Napier and the late Mr. Gordon Smith.

This work simplified the collecting of these most interesting stamps to a wonderful degree, and properly classified the numerous printings and perforations. The history and reference lists of the little-known Departmental stamps were also thoroughly elucidated.

There are three full-sized plates of illustrations, showing the six types of surcharges used on the 10d. stamps, etc.

Shanghai, by Mr. W. B. Thornhill, was issued in 1895, and no less than eight full-page illustrations are given, showing the varieties of the early issues, etc.

St. Vincent, by Lieut. F. H. Napier and Mr. E. D. Bacon, was issued in 1895, and groups correctly, for the first time, the perforations, and contains a mass of useful information.

Barbados, by Mr. E. D. Bacon and Lieut. F. H. Napier, appeared in 1896, and has three full pages of autotype illustrations, and full lists of all the Perkins Bacon and Co. stamps, and also correct illustrations of the different star-watermarked papers.

Reprints, by Mr. E. D. Bacon, was issued in 1899, and will be found of the greatest value as a standard work of reference in all cases of doubt and obscurity appertaining to reprints and stamps of a similar kind, such as official imitations of obsolete stamps and special printings, etc.

Grenada, by Mr. E. D. Bacon and Lieut. F. H. Napier, appeared in 1902, and is one of the most important handbooks we have published, as it gives not only a complete history of the stamps of Grenada, but also a full and reliable account of all the stamps that have been perforated by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co.

Sicily, by Dr. Emilio Diena, issued in 1904, is the largest and most important handbook we have issued, and gives the fullest particulars about the stamps, retouches, plates, essays, postmarks, etc. This work is superbly illustrated by means of twenty full-page autotype plates.

Album Weeds, by the Rev. R. B. Farcé, is in two volumes. The first volume contains from Afghanistan to Luxemburg, and was published in December, 1905.

This work is an absolute necessity to the careful collector who is anxious to ensure the absence of forgeries from his collection.

Mr. Farcé accurately and most carefully describes all forgeries known to him, and indicates how they may be detected from the genuine stamps.

The first volume is nearly 600 pages, profusely illustrated with cuts of stamps and postmarks.

The second and final volume is now being compiled, and we hope to publish it at the end of this year.

Various Publications. A history of the publications of the firm would not be complete unless I noticed the following books, all of which will be found of great use to the student.

Stamps and Stamp Collecting, by Major F. B. Evans, is a glossary for stamp collectors, and contains full explanations of all terms used in connexion with our hobby. Much interesting information is also given about the manufacture of paper, perforating, rouletting, printing, embossing, etc. This work has already run to three editions, and upwards of 10,000 copies have been sold.

Stamp Collecting as a Pastime, by Mr. E. J. Nankivell, has been a huge success, both in Europe and America. It is written in a light and chatty vein, and explains how, after half a century of existence, stamp collecting has never been more popular than it is to-day.

A Colour Dictionary, by Mr. B. W. Warhurst, is of great use in identifying shades of colour. It is printed in ten different-coloured inks, on ten different-coloured papers, and is illustrated by fifty-eight colours and diagrams, and has a very large sale.

The Mulready Envelope and its Caricatures, by Major F. B. Evans, is a book of 240 pages, and has forty-five full-page illustrations of the most curious caricatures, by Leech, Mulready, Cruikshank, Doyle, Phiz, T. Hook, etc. The book is printed on special paper, with extra large margins.

The Stamp Collector, by Messrs. Hardy and Bacon, is a most interesting handbook, originally published by Mr. G. Redway, from whom we bought his whole stock. The contents of the book are most interesting, and there are chapters on History in Postage Stamps—Stamps with Stories—Famous Collections—The Stamp Market, etc. etc.

The Philatelic Society, London. In 1905 this Society entered into an agreement with our firm by which we undertook to publish certain works for them. These works will all be, in general arrangement and get-up, uniform with former publications of the Society, such as Oceania, West Indies, etc. etc.; but I hope that many improvements will be introduced in the illustrations, plates, etc.

The first of these books that we are publishing is:—

Africa, Part III, edited by Mr. E. D. Bacon, assisted by Messrs. W. D. Beckton, C. J. Daun, T. W. Hall, A. de Reuterskiöld, and R. B. Yardley. This book has thirty full-sized plates of illustrations, and includes the fullest history of such important countries as Orange Free State, St. Helena, Transvaal, Uganda, Zanzibar, etc. etc.

The Philatelic Society of India. In addition to the London Society, I am pleased to be able to announce that my firm has made arrangements to publish for the well-known Indian Society a monumental work which is now in preparation on the stamps of *India*, by Messrs. C. Stewart-Wilson and L. L. R. Hausburg. By consent of the postal authorities in India, this

book will be illustrated by numerous plates of postage stamps, essays, proofs, etc., a number of which will be printed in India from the *original* plates and dies. This book will be published in the autumn of this year, and will contain a full history of the Postage and Telegraph Stamps, proofs, essays, and reprints of the great Indian Empire.

(To be continued.)

POSTAGE STAMP DEVICES

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 152.)

Heraldic Designs—*continued*

NOW, granted that the reader's appetite is whetted to follow me in my meanderings through a few of the principal points in heraldry, let me hark back to the beginnings of things and trace a little of the history of the rise of this same science which to-day is known to few, but which formerly constituted an essential part of what was then known as a liberal education.

Early Days of Heraldry

The history of the origin of coats of arms is lost in the mists of antiquity. Some have seen the germ of the idea in the marks of distinction which the twelve tribes of Israel bore on their ensigns, and which were suggested by the similes of the patriarchal blessing of Jacob. In classical times the heroes of Homer, Virgil, and Ovid had divers figures on their shields, as every schoolboy knows; while the Romans bore the eagle on their standards as the ensign of their Empire, fit token of their strength and keenness of insight, as well as their lofty soaring and wide-reaching ambition. In like manner we find divers nations adopting the figures of living creatures as fitting symbols of some prevailing trait in the national character. The Athenians favoured the owl as a symbol of learning. The Goths took the bear, with its massive frame and strength, as their ensign. The Danes found a place of honour among the Danes, while the Saxons chose the horse as the national emblem, which, by the way, is still borne in the coat of arms of the King of England. The Crusaders are said to have worn a cross as a symbol on their shields, yet until the twelfth century there appears to

have been no systematized attempt to differentiate between the various shields of those who were privileged to wear armour.

In the latter half of the twelfth century, emblematic figures on shields began to assume the permanent and hereditary character which is essential to the idea of armorial designs. France and Germany took the lead. The custom travelled to England. The rest of the European nations followed suit. That which had been gradually introduced became established, and was perfected in the time of the later Crusades, and by the tournaments of the Middle Ages. In the twelfth century appeared the fleurs-de-lis of France and the lions (or leopards) of England.

So much for the rise of heraldic devices. Whence came the name "Coat of Arms"? It arose from the custom of embroidering the armorial designs on the tunics and surcoats which were worn over the armour.

Different Sorts of Arms

Kingdoms, feudal lordships, episcopal sees, colleges, corporations, and families may, by heraldic usage, bear "Arms." These are divided into Arms of Dominion, Pretension, Concession, Patronage, Family, Alliance, and Succession.

Arms of Dominion are those borne by kings and sovereign states, e.g. the fleurs-de-lis of France, the lions of England.

Arms of Pretension are those of a kingdom, province, or territory to which a prince or lord has some claim, and which he adds to his own, although the said kingdom be possessed by another. For example, the Kings of England quartered the Arms of France with their own from Edward III's day down to 1801. This was because Edward III laid claim to France on account

of his being the son of Isabella, sister to Charles the Fair, who died childless.

Arms of Concession are either entire coats of arms, or one or more figures given by princes as a reward for some eminent service. In 1782, Sir George Eliott, Governor of Gibraltar, when created Lord Heathfield for his memorable defence of the Rock, was granted the armorial ensign of that fortress as an honourable augmentation to his arms.

With the other kinds of Arms we will not deal further, except to say that every change in the hereditary succession of a kingdom, every union of two houses by marriage, occasions a corresponding change in the coat of arms.

Honourable Ordinaries

(2) The pale consists of two vertical lines drawn from the top to the base of the escutcheon. The band, enclosed, contains a third part of the field. A similar band of half the width is known as a pallet. The endorse is the fourth part of the pale. The only example in heraldic postal devices known to me is the 1874 series of Spain. The third quartering is made up of these vertical bars or endorses.



(3) The bend is a band crossing the shield diagonally from the dexter chief or right-hand top corner to left base. If plain, it occupies a fifth part of the shield. When charged with heraldic emblems it takes up a third of the field.

Baden, in her issues from 1860 to 1868, gives us interesting examples of the uncharged bend, which is gules or red in colour, on a golden field.

Baden.



Saxony.



Another example may be seen in the 1851 issue of Saxony. The field is made up of bars, mention of which will be made further on.

(4) The fesse is a horizontal band across the middle of the shield. We have already had one example of this in the case of the stamps of the British South Africa Company. Other examples may be seen in the issues of Colombia.

The bar is a narrower fesse. It is never found singly. The Arms of Luxemburg present a good example of the use of bars in the shield.



Both the fesse and the bar are said to represent the scarf of a warrior, or a belt of honour, given by the King as a reward for eminent services.

(5) Of the chevron, which has the appearance of two rafters of a house joined together at a right angle, there does not seem to be one example among the heraldic stamp devices.

(6) The cross, on the other hand, has many representations. According to the usual heraldic law, it takes up only the fifth part of the field if uncharged. Otherwise it takes up a third part. Examples are found in the stamps of British Central Africa, Jamaica, South Australia, Dominican Republic, Italy, Mozambique, Serbia, and Switzerland. We give illustrations showing the difference between the charged and the uncharged cross.

Jamaica.



Italy.



The cross, the symbol of Christianity, was the reward for religious exploits.

(7) The saltire is a St. Andrew's Cross. It is often borne along with a chief on the heraldry of Scotland. No example of this, as far as I know, appears on postage stamps.

Subordinates are many and varied. They consist of figures of shapes different from those enumerated above, but similar in

character. Confining myself within the narrow limits of the heraldic designs of

Mozambique.



Spain.



stamps, I will give two examples only. The 1894 issue of Mozambique presents us

with the inescutcheon, i.e. a small shield borne within a shield.

Spain, in her 1854 series, gives us an example of the roundel, a small disk within the shield. In this case, the roundel becomes a shield of pretence, for on it are depicted the Arms of the House of Bourbon. Queen Isabella belonged to the Bourbon family. Her dethronement in 1868 cut short the reign of the family. In 1875 the dynasty was restored by the accession of her son, Alfonso XII, whose son, Alfonso XIII, is now the Spanish sovereign.

(To be continued.)

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1906

Design of the Medals

THE design of the medals which are to gladden the hearts of the fortunate exhibitors in the forthcoming Stamp Exhibition has been quite settled, and, moreover, we understand it has been approved by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. On one side of the medal will be a portrait of H.R.H. with the inscription "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., President of the Philatelic Society, London," and on the other side will be the Arms of the city of London, with an inscription of the name of the successful exhibitor and the class for which the medal is awarded.

The Prince of Wales offers Two Medals

The Prince himself offers two medals, and both of them are reserved for the ladies: one gold and one silver for the best exhibits by ladies. After this there should be an influx of lady collectors. Several ladies collect jointly with their husbands. For the purposes of this exhibition they will need to have a separation in favour of the lady.

Latest Day for Entries

The time for entries is getting very short. By the rules and regulations, which were published in full in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* on 7 October, 1905, it will be seen that the 20th of this month of March is the latest day for sending in entry forms. The necessary entry forms and rules and regulations can be had from the Hon. Secretaries, 13 Wallbrook, London, E.C. No time should be lost.

Cards for Exhibits

The exhibits must be mounted on cards of a size to fit into the glass cases. The following are the sizes recommended as the most suitable:—

Height, 10 inches; width, 8 or 12 inches.
 " 15 " " 12 inches.

Cards measuring 10 inches by 8 inches can be supplied at a trifling cost on application to the Hon. Secretaries.

Hints on Mounting

Effective mounting is one of the secrets of successful exhibits. Those who have really fine collections, and can afford the time and money, will have their own cards prepared with a neat border by an artistic printer, and they will decorate their cards with neatly written explanations, such as date of issue, watermark, perforation, or other distinguishing characteristic. They will thus not only get into the good books of the judges, but they will attract and instruct the sightseer.

Entries Received

We hear that already entries of exhibits have been received from the United States of America and the Continent. Of course, all the leading English collectors will be in evidence. It is anticipated that many fine collections will be shown by Continental collectors. Men of the great Republic of the American continent are said to be preparing some eye-openers for us Britishers.

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells

Grenada.—We now illustrate the Ship type of the new issue, chronicled on page 122.



Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf.

- ½d., green.
- 1d., carmine.
- 2d., orange-yellow.
- 2½d., blue.

Montenegro.—*Even's Weekly Stamp News* says: "The people of this country having been granted a Constitution, it became necessary to commemorate the event, and accordingly the current set of postage stamps was overprinted 'Constitution — Ustav — Nikoljdan — 1905.' (the two latter words signifying 'Constitution — Nicholas—given'). The stamps were apparently not sold to the public unused, but could only be attached to letters on their being taken to the post offices."

YCTAB
Constitution
1905
BANKS

Commemorative Series.

1 h., blue	surcharged red.
2 h., mauve	black.
5 h., green	" "
10 h., rose	" "
25 h., blue	red.
50 h., grey-green	" "
1 krone, purple-brown	" "
2 " bistre	" "
5 " dull orange	black.

New South Wales.—The watermark on the 20s., Crown A, which we chronicled on page 122,



differs from the ordinary Crown A in being enclosed in a circle or ring, presumably to suit the larger size of stamp.

Siam.—In addition to the values chronicled by us on page 122, in the new design, we now hear of 5 and 8 atts, and 1 tical.



Perf.

- 1 att, green and yellow.
- 2 atts " mauve.
- 3 " green.
- 4 " carmine and black.
- 5 " carmine-rose.
- 8 " grey-black and yellow.
- 12 " blue.
- 24 " red-brown.
- 1 tical, blue and orange.

Switzerland.—We quote the following from *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*:—"The Swiss Federal Council has just adopted two types of stamps which have been welcomed with a severity that is deserved. The uglier type of the two is that chosen for the low values, 2, 3, and 5 centimes; it is the work of M. Welti, of Munich, and depicts Tell junior, to whom Tell senior has handed his crossbow while the boy holds in his left hand the apple pierced by the arrow. Nothing uglier or more unequal can be seen. The design destined for the 10, 12, and 15 centimes is by M. Eplat-telier, of La-Chaux-de-Fonds. It depicts the bust of a Swiss woman of strong features; the lady has both hands clasped on the hilt of an enormous sword (why?), and in the background are the tops of snowy mountains. The *Patrie Suisse* says that this latter design ought to be touched up, and that it was admitted only under condition of being retouched. In fact, the Federal Council has found that Helvetia was represented by a lady whose features are too severe, and that her face ought to wear a less forbidding look. Moreover, the chain of the Alps forms too much of a serpentine line, which is too regular in its waviness; in a word, it is too uniform, and it will have to be touched up so that when the design has been reduced to the size needed for the postage stamps, the mountains may yet stand out sufficiently clearly. The stamps of 20 c. and of the values above that value will continue to be of the present type; that is, Helvetia standing up in the middle of her garland of twenty-two stars. We congratulate them."

GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Federation in the Air

FEDERATION is of slow growth, but there is no question that it is a growing question in all parts of the British Empire. Canada has federated her several states, and will some day round up with Newfoundland. The Australian Colonies are being merged into one great Commonwealth, South Africa is discussing Federation as its ultimate aim, and even the scattered colonies of our West Indian islands are seriously considering the matter.

West Indian Federation

The West Indian islands of the empire, with their small revenues and their struggle against adverse circumstances, have everything to gain and little to lose by federation, and they will, probably, be the next lot of loosely connected possessions to be rounded up into a strong and assertive Commonwealth. The matter was discussed at a recent meeting of the Colonial Section of the Society of Arts in London, and it is interesting to read the *Times* report of what was said. Here is the report :—

Sir Neville Lubbock, in the course of a paper on "Imperial Questions in the West Indies," said the idea of federation amongst the West Indian Colonies had not been lost sight of, and events were moving in that direction as fast as circumstances permitted. He could conceive that something might be done towards that end by the gradual assimilation of the laws of the different colonies, and by the assembling from time to time of delegates from all the colonies to confer together upon subjects of general interest, such as postal or telegraphic services, quarantine regulations, exhibitions, and possibly in time to come tariffs. However much federation might be a desirable aim, it was a process which must not be hurried, and still less rushed. There were, he said, great natural difficulties in the way of a federation or unification of the West Indian Colonies, and the same difficulties would exist in regard to their unification in such a way as to enable them to become a province of Canada. They might perhaps postpone the serious consideration of such a proposition until there was some evidence that it would be welcomed in Canada. It would seem that whilst the United States market was a shrinking one for West Indian products, the Canadian market, on the contrary, was an expanding one, and these circumstances seemed to indicate that the day was not far distant when some mutually satisfactory commercial arrangement would be possible between Canada and the West Indies. It was gratifying to feel that the great bar to the prosperity of the West Indies—that was to say, the sugar bounties on the Continent—had now ceased, and he had no doubt if this state of things continued that the future history of the West Indies would be of a more satisfactory character than that of the past. The chairman said he had been pleased to hear the reference to the relations between the West Indies and Canada. A good deal had been done within the past four or five years that was of advantage to both countries, and Canada now took two-thirds at least of the whole of the sugar produced by the West Indies. Its population

was increasing yearly, being largely augmented by settlers from the United States, and he looked forward to its present six millions increasing within ten years to ten millions. Then the Dominion would be able to take the whole sugar produce of the West Indies, in which islands the people of Canada had for years past taken considerable interest.

Federation Philatelically Considered

From the philatelic point of view federation can scarcely be regarded as other than an unmixed blessing. Every enthusiastic collector of British Colonials would like to include all our colonies in his activities, but only the favoured few can keep abreast of so many active multipliers of issues, even if they limit their energies to modern issues. But if the multitude of stamp-issuing colonies can be gathered together into half a dozen groups of federations, an undoubted impetus will be given to the collecting of British Colonies.

Opportunities for Beginners

These federations will also afford excellent opportunities for beginners who want to take up some country with an ultimate view of following it up as a specialized country. Such opportunities have been frequent of late years. Many new colonies and protectorates have been started, and some are already ripening into rarity. The Nigerias, North and South, are a case in point. They are not yet out of reach of a moderate purse, but they are steadily trending in that direction. The beginner, who took them up when they started only some five or six years ago, may to-day congratulate himself on the promise and the wisdom of his choice. On the other side of Africa much the same thing has happened. British East Africa, Somaliland, Uganda, British Central Africa, are all, more or less, of recent philatelic growth. To-day it would need a long purse to cover British East Africa.

The Great Exhibition

WE may expect to be hearing more about the forthcoming great Exhibition in the next few weeks. The sale of the Dealers' Stalls was an undoubted success. £800 in rents for a few stalls for a few days is no mean item, and it emphasizes the faith that dealers have in the trade to which they are wedded. The uses and advantages of a great exhibition are many, and they are neatly summed up by one of our shrewdest collectors, and one of the most experienced of exhibition judges, Mr. Castle, in his editorial in the February number of the *London Philatelist*. He says :—

The unvarying results of all the Philatelic Exhibitions during the past quarter of a century have been :—1. The increased vitality and interest in stamps by those who are already collectors. 2. The creation of new collectors—from 'Juniors' to 'Specialists.' 3. The great encouragement given to the pursuit generally by an enormously extended publicity.

The Rendezvous for G.S.W. Readers

MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., have taken an extra stall in the upstairs room at the Exhibition as a special rendezvous for G.S.W. readers and young collectors. At that stall will be shown everything of interest to them in stamps and publications, and I hope to meet a great many of my G.S.W. friends at that spot; they will recognize me from my portrait published on page 27 of Vol. I.

Those Badges

I AM asked what has become of those badges, and if I have quite forgotten all about them. I have not! But my hope lies in their being taken up and properly manufactured by the firm of

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and I have not been able to get a word in edgeways about them with the managing director. I have taken him out to lunch at the Hotel Cecil. I have waylaid him in his motor, and I have even cornered him in his sanctum, and I have said, "Now then, those badges," and it has always been, "Can't go into that now, Cornelius; too many other things to attend to; that must wait." And, really, since poor Gordon Smith's death he has had to work like a navvy, and if it were not for the improved prospect of the old-age pension scheme I should begin seriously to consider the necessity of passing round the hat to give him a few days' rest in one of the Salvation Army Shelters. It would be grand if we could get out those badges for sale at the Exhibition. I'll have a try at it.

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

THE FUGITIVE CAPE

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON

THE mate of the *Seacat* sat in his bunk, with knees to chin, to catch the last flickering light of day which filtered through the porthole into his cabin. He had been writing hurriedly, and the much-bitten stump of pencil which he held in his hand clearly indicated that he had often paused to think and ponder deeply. As he revised his manuscript footsteps were heard in the alleyway, and a lively and tuneless whistle, purporting to be the chorus of that pathetic ballad, "Won't you come home, Bill Bailey?" sounded shrilly without.

"Ere, stop that row," said the mate. "Who is it?"

"Me, sir," responded a voice.

"Who's me?" asked the mate. "Let's 'ave a look at yer." And Henry, the ship's boy, presented himself before his senior.

"Oh, it's you, is it?" said the mate.

"Course it is, sir, can't be no one else, can it?" responded the boy saucily.

"Look 'ere, we don't want none o' that sort o' talk aboard this craft, understand. Smart boy, ain't yer?" replied the mate.

"Compared to some blokes what I've seen aboard a ship, I believe I am," was the boy's rejoinder.

"Well, as you're such a clever sort o' monkey, tell me how to spell 'unnecessarily'."

And over this perplexing question the two meditated for some time, until they decided upon a way of spelling the word the antithesis to the correct one.

"Tain't all 'oney being a hauthor," said the mate philosophically. Henry opened his eyes wide at this remark, and gazed at him with a look akin to wonderment.

"What!" said he. "You a hauthor? You ain't wrote a book, 'ave yer?"

"Well, not 'xactly that," replied the mate. "But I have a taste that way, you know, and literary ambition, which is 'alf the battle, and I 'opes some day I might see my name in gold on the cover of some novel or book of adventure."

And, opening his manuscript, said, "Henry, wot d'you think o' this?"

"Postage stamps are wonderful things, manufactured to carry letters and things all over the world, and which is cheaper and handier than having to use a bill of lading or a parcel ticket, which would have to be done most likely, that is likely as not, if stamps were not."

"Ow's that so far?" inquired the mate.

"Fine," said the boy. "But wot d'yer mean by 'if stamps were not? Were not what?"

"Why, were not," replied the mate testily.

"Were not, er—nothing at all, unthought of—not invented—like a sextant before it was ever thought of, don't you see?"

"Oh, yes, I see," said the boy. And the mate continued with his philatelic treatise.

"Stamps, as every one knows, or those what don't ought to, seeing as they are everywhere, are bits of paper with gum on one side—this in stamp collecting is called original gum—and a picture on the other, and holes at the side to help tear them apart, when they are called in stamp collecting perfs. Stamps are square."

"Is it going on all right?" inquired the mate.

"Yes," responded Henry cautiously, with an upward inflexion of his voice.

"Funny sort o' yes that. Anything you object to?" solicited the mate.

"Well, ain't stamps sometimes oblong, and sometimes triangular?" said the boy questioningly.

"Yes, they are," mused the mate. "I might as well put that in."

Henry, emboldened by the knowledge that his suggestion had been acted upon, added, "Ow would it be to say that stamps were sometimes isogonolenes triangles, sometimes equilaudanums, and sometimes scalenes?"

"Not a bad idea that," responded the mate;

"I'll put it in; make it sound a bit learned, as though in my young days I went to Eton, eh!"

"More like as if you went a-drinkin'," responded the imp of mischief, vanishing before a well-thrown missile had time to reach its intended destination.

The captain of the *Seacal* had invited a friend who had been suffering from nervous debility, or some kindred ailment, to take a trip on his clipper. This friend in question, Mr. Singleton, being an ardent philatelist, had oftentimes relieved the monotony of the voyage by explaining all about stamps, their history and their worth, in a manner which had led all on board to fall "victims to the habit." And at the first port of call each of the crew had taken the earliest opportunity of procuring some stamps and the requisite accessories to form the nucleus of his own collection.

The mate and cook followed the cult more closely than the others perhaps. The former, fondly imagining that his daily records in the log-book, which often gave play to his imagination, had given him sufficient status to claim to be an author, had more sympathy with the journalistic or anecdotal side of stamp collecting, while the cook, being a Scotchman (forgive me, friends across the border), dreamt by night and day of the finds he might make in some foreign clime, and had mapped out a course of living when such dreams were realized and the finds turned into ready cash.

Henry's duties were multifarious, consisting of a diversity of jobs ranging from washing saucepans to taking a turn at the wheel.

One day, while he was assisting the cook in the galley, Mr. Singleton entered.

"Ah! cook; good morning," he said. "I have brought you a triangular Cape of Good Hope stamp to look at, as you seemed so interested in my narration regarding them last night."

The cook's hands were covered in dough, so Mr. Singleton placed the stamp on the pasteboard so as to afford a better view of it.

"And some o' them is worth fifty puns?" asked the cook.

"Yes," responded the proud exhibitor. "I have another with me, I think"; and while he searched in his wallet to bring to light a further specimen, a gust of wind swept through the galley and carried the stamp away.

"Gracious me," said Mr. Singleton. "Where did it go?"

"Dunno," said the cook. "Wasn't lookin' that particularwise at the moment." And a thorough hunt amongst cooking utensils and refuse bins failed to enable the searchers to discover the missing stamp.

"Must have blown away to sea," said the cook.

"It is most evident the specimen is irrevocably lost," responded Mr. Singleton, and left the galley.

"Sorry the old josser has lost his stamp," said the cook to Henry. "But I don't think it was one of the fifty pun ones. 'Ere, I'll go on deck,

get a bit o' fresh air, and peel some taters. You can get on with the currant suet pudding."

And Henry, being left alone, made the suet concoction into three rolls. With a knife he cut a piece of white paper to the shape and size, as near as he could guess, of a triangular Cape of Good Hope stamp, and slipped it into one of the rolls. An hour or so later, when the puddings were boiled, Henry at an opportune moment transferred one to a disused pan.

"Think the puddings are about done now, cookie?" said he to this worthy, who had returned to the galley.

"Let's have a look at 'em," responded the cook. Lifting the lid and looking into the pan, he said: "What! all that confabulation of suet and currants and things only made two little puddings?"

"Don't seem much, do it?" replied Henry.

"Perhaps they've been boiling too long."

"Queer," said the cook.

At a favourable opportunity Henry surreptitiously transferred the purloined pudding under his coat, and walked out of the galley into the crew's quarters.

"Been 'aving a talk to old Lantern Jaws about stamps," said he nonchalantly.

"Lumme!" said one. "Did he say much?"

"Not much that you'd understand. Showed me a stamp, though, that might 'ave bin worth 'undred and fifty quid."

"Lor!" responded several voices.

"Tain't lor, but lorst. Cookie and he couldn't find it. I know, perhaps, where it is," said Henry, with a knowing wink.

The crew, one and all, gazed at him with open-eyed astonishment, and would have questioned him further; but one of them, noticing the unusual dimensions of Henry's coat, said, "Wot ye got there?"

"Oh, this?" the boy replied. "This is the lost stamp; or rather it's in 'ere, and as you're all philantharists, I'll tell yer what I'll do; I'll sell the pudding for threepence a slice, and the one wot gets the stamp can keep it."

The crew, being eager to a man to secure such a valuable stamp, lost sight of the fact that it would not be lawfully obtained, and would still be the property of Mr. Singleton, and the slices sold quickly.

"I've got it," said one, seeing in his portion of pudding some paper, and producing a three-cornered piece. "'Ere, lumme! where's the design gone?" he said, showing his find, blank on both sides.

"Funny," replied Henry. "It must have washed out in the boiling."

At this juncture the cook appeared. "Seen Mr. Singleton about anywhere?" inquired he of Henry.

"No," replied the boy.

"Well," continued the cook, "just go and get hold of him, and tell him I've found his three-cornered Cape of Good Hope stamp after all."

STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING. By Major E. B. EVANS

The young collector is frequently perplexed by the meaning of the various terms used in stamp collecting, and the fullest explanations of these will be found in this book. 2s. 9d. in Paper Cover, or 4s. 6d. strongly bound in Cloth.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W. C.

THE STAMP MARKET

By AN ODD LOT

Grenadas

If it is true, and I have no reason to think otherwise, that the King's Head ½d., 1d., 2d., and 3½d. values have been withdrawn in favour of the new stamps of the Ship design, it is possible that those King's Heads may get scarce. Anyway, they should be secured without delay while they may be had at new-issue rates. It won't do to count upon their being restored later on, for if the Ship stamps should be treated as a temporary commemorative issue, the restoration of the King's Heads may take place under some altered conditions as to watermark, colours, or other disturbing but distinguishing variety. It may not be amiss to gather up in list form the issues of King's Heads, and to emphasize the advisability of securing them at to-day's prices.



Wmk. Single C.A. Perf.

	Perf.	Unused.
		s. d.
½d., purple and green	.	0 1
1d. " carmine	.	0 3
2d. " brown	.	0 3
2½d. " ultramarine	.	0 4
3d. " orange	.	0 5
6d. " green	.	0 8
1s., green and orange	.	1 4
2s. " ultramarine	.	2 8
5s. " carmine	.	6 6
10s. " magenta	.	12 6

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf.

	Perf.	Unused.
		s. d.
½d., purple and green	.	0 1
1d. " carmine	.	0 2
2d. " brown	.	0 3
2½d. " ultramarine	.	0 4
3d. " orange	.	0 5
1s., green and orange	.	1 4

Denmark

The current issue of this country will also need to be taken while they are still in circulation, as



they must in the ordinary course be superseded before very long by the new King's portrait. Whether the figure design will be replaced at the same time remains to be seen; but as the design

is said to be unpopular it is quite possible, one might almost say probable, that any new series will be inclusive of all values. Here again it may be useful to gather up the issue.

Figure Series. Perf.

1 øre, orange.
2 " carmine.
3 " green.
4 " blue.
15 " violet.



Portrait of late King Christian IX. Perf.

5 øre, green.
10 " scarlet.
20 " blue.
25 " sepia.
30 " violet.
100 " orange-buff.

Danish West Indies

The low values of the current series with profile of the late King will, of course, follow suit with the mother country. The values with the late King's profile are as follows:—



Profile of late King Christian IX. Perf.

	Perf.	Unused.
		s. d.
5 bit, green	.	0 1
10 " brick-red	.	0 2
20 " blue and emerald	.	0 4
25 " blue	.	0 5
40 " grey and red	.	0 8
50 " yellow	.	0 10

Iceland

The current series is all of the King Christian portrait type, and, of course, must also soon be



relegated to the list of obsolete stamps. The series is as follows:—

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
Portrait of late King Christian IX. Perf.				
3 aur, orange	0	1	0	1
4 ,, rose and grey	0	1	0	2
5 ,, green	0	2	0	2
6 ,, brown and grey-brown	0	2	0	2
10 ,, carmine	0	2	0	2
16 ,, reddish brown	0	3	0	4
20 ,, blue	0	4	0	2
25 ,, green and brown	0	5	0	8
40 ,, mauve	0	8	—	—
50 ,, slate and grey	0	9	—	—
1 krona, brown and blue	1	6	—	—
2 ,, blue and brown	3	0	—	—
5 ,, slate and brown	7	6	—	—

Obsolete Stamps

I fear the tendency in the near future will be in the direction of higher prices for obsolete stamps, and greater difficulty in getting them. The growing burden of carrying a full stock of current

issues for which there is a ready sale is a serious one, and to add the still greater burden of a full stock of obsolete issues calls for a lock-up of capital that few, if any, can now pretend to face. Hence my insistence on the wisdom of getting any current series before it is placed in the obsolete category.

Nigerias

Nigerias are being put up rapidly. One dealer the other day doubled his prices for all single CA's of the Northern issue. All the multiples are not yet out, but all the same, he protects his stock in advance by doubling prices, and the joke is, that in all probability there will be an even greater rush for the stamps at the doubled prices than when they could be had at ordinary new-issue rates. So if you have any blanks in Northern Nigeria single CA's, fill them, if you can, at the old new-issue rates.

PHILATELY IN PARLIAMENT

ON 1 March, 1906, the question of franking letters was raised in the House of Commons. We quote the questions and answers from the *Times* report:—

Franking Letters

Mr. Barnes (Glasgow, Blackfriars) asked the Postmaster-General whether he was aware of the tax imposed on members by having to pay postage on the enormous correspondence they were obliged to deal with in the discharge of their public duties, and whether he would consider the desirability of returning to the old system of franking the letters of members, or in some other way relieving them of this financial burden.

Mr. Buxton (Tower Hamlets, Poplar).—The Act 3 and 4 Vic., c. 96, expressly abolished the privileges of franking which members of Parliament had previously enjoyed. I hardly think it would be expedient to revive it even under the circumstances mentioned by the hon. member.

Mr. Keir Hardie (Merthyr Tydvil) asked whether Cabinet Ministers had not a right to frank their letters, and if so, why private members should not have the same privilege. (Cheers.)

Mr. Buxton.—The privilege is confined to those in office, and to their official correspondence.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain (Worcestershire, E.).—Is it not also confined to such official correspondence of Ministers as is written from their offices or from this House?

Mr. Pirie (Aberdeen N.) asked whether in 1840, when franking was abolished, the penny postage did not exist.

Mr. Belloc (Salford, S.).—Is it not the fact that the greater number of members of Parliament were in those days very wealthy men, as, thank God, at present they are not? (Laughter.)

Mr. Buxton.—Circumstances have altered very much since 1840. No doubt penny postage has greatly increased the amount of correspondence, while the average wealth of members is not so great. But the real difficulty in regard to franking is this, that if it is allowed generally to 670 members it is almost impossible to prevent other persons from tracing signatures. Even under the strictest conditions which prevailed before 1840 this was the case. It was chiefly on this ground—the difficulty of preventing fraud—that the system of franking was brought to an end.

Mr. Keir Hardie asked whether the right hon. gentleman would agree to the appointment of a small committee to consider and report on this matter. (Hear.)

Mr. Pirie asked why the privilege could not be confined to letters posted in the House of Commons.

Mr. Buxton.—I, for one, have very great sympathy with this view, because correspondence is a very heavy burden on hon. members of this House. If the hon. member will give me notice of a question, I will see whether I cannot meet him. (Cheers.)

THE BEST STAMP HINGES

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PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

London Philatelic Society

President: H. R. H. The Prince of Wales.

Hon. Sec.: J. A. Tilleard, 10 Gracechurch Street, E.C.

Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W. Alternate Fridays at 7.45.

Annual Subscription: Town, £2 2s.; Country, £1 1s.

THE sixth meeting of the season 1905-6 was held at 4 Southampton Row, on Friday, 5 January, 1906, at 7.45.

Members present: Robert Ehrenbach, Herbert R. Oldfield, Rudolph Meyer, W. Schwabacher, T. Maycock, H. M. Hansen, A. R. Barrett, L. W. Fulcher, A. W. Maclean, Thos. Wm. Hall, C. Stewart-Wilson, L. L. R. Hausburg, R. Frentzel, and two visitors, Alfred H. L. Giles, and T. Chapman.

The chair was taken by Mr. Ehrenbach, and the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December, 1905, were read and signed as correct.

A letter was read from the Swedish Philatelic Society, accompanying a copy of the *Postal Issues of Sweden, 1855 to 1895*, which was presented to this Society, and such presentation was directed to be acknowledged by the Honorary Librarian in the usual way.

The members were informed that copies of this work could be obtained at a cost of 13s. 6d., post-free, on application to Herr H. Djurling, Grefvaregatan 24A, Stockholm.

Letters were read from the Honorary Vice-President and the Honorary Secretary, regretting their inability to attend, the latter in consequence of ill-health.

The following members of the Society tendered their resignations, and the same were accepted with regret: Messrs. H. Barber, E. B. Greenshields, C. F. Larmour, F. A. Larmour, D. M. Jacobs, O. Pfenniger, Capt. St. George Ord, Dr. Hetley, and Dr. A. G. Paterson.

Mr. Frentzel then read some notes upon the earlier or surcharged issues of Mexican stamps, illustrated by enlarged photographs and a selection of specimens from his collection of this country. Attention was called to various types, which were fully described and illustrated, to the spacing between the stamps of the different printings, which varied from 1½ to 6 mm.; and also some varieties in the figures of value were indicated.

A cordial vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Ehrenbach to Mr. Frentzel for his notes and display, and, after being seconded by Mr. R. Meyer, the resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Frentzel responded, and the proceedings soon afterwards terminated.

THE seventh meeting of the season 1905-6 was held at 4 Southampton Row, on Friday, 19 January, 1906, at 7.45.

Members present: M. P. Castle, R. Ehrenbach, Herbert R. Oldfield, W. N. Usher, T. Maycock, C. J. Daun, J. C. Sidebotham, C. Neville Biggs, Leslie L. R. Hausburg, L. W. Fulcher, C. M. McNaughtan, J. A. Tilleard, B. D. Knox.

The chair was taken by the Honorary Vice-President, and the minutes of the meeting held on 5 January, 1906, were read and signed as correct. There being no special business, Mr. H. R. Oldfield then read a paper upon the stamps of Servia, illustrated by a display of his collection of this country, and subsequently a vote of thanks to him was moved by Mr. Castle, and, after being seconded, was carried unanimously, and the proceedings then terminated.

Herne Bay Philatelic Society

8 Promenade Central.

A MEETING of the Herne Bay Philatelic Society was held in Newton's Saloon, 8 Promenade Central, on Wednesday evening, 28 February, 1906. The following

gentlemen attended: The President (R. Maclachlan, Esq., J.P.), Major P. F. Brine, Messrs. B. Banbury, G. Adams, C. V. Brocklehurst, F. H. Barwood, J. Dukes, C. S. Greenhead, R. M. Jonas, J. J. Moffat, T. Ridout, and the Secretary.

After the business on the agenda had been disposed of Mr. C. S. Greenhead, R.A.M., gave his paper on "Stamps of Great Britain," describing all the various issues, watermarks, perforations, errors, etc. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Greenhead for the great trouble he must have taken to get together so many interesting facts.

Herts Philatelic Society

President: F. Reichenheim, Esq.

Secretary: H. A. Slade, Esq., "Nine-Fields," St. Albans.

Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.

Subscription: 5s. annually.

A GENERAL meeting was held at 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, 20 February, 1906, at 7 p.m. Present: Messrs. F. Reichenheim, H. I. Hayman, L. E. Bradbury, A. Bagshawe, W. T. Standen, T. H. Harvey, J. C. Sidebotham, F. Read, A. H. L. Giles, J. B. Neyroud, W. Field, C. J. Daun, K. Wielen, R. Frentzel, F. J. Melville, J. E. Lincoln, C. H. Garnett, H. Thompson, L. P. Walker, C. Nissen, M. Z. Kuttner, W. G. Cool, M. Simons, D. Thomson, H. A. Slade, and two visitors.

The President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 January, 1906, were read and signed as correct.

The President presented copies of Vol. I, Edition III, of *Album Weeds* (Faricé) and *Stamps of the Duchy of Modena and Modena Provinces* (Diena) to the library, and Capt. Ord and Dr. Webster sent donations of forgeries and stamps for the Society's collections.

Mr. A. Bagshawe then exhibited a portion of his collection of the stamps of Straits Settlements. The exhibit is so complete that practically nothing is wanting. The stamps included were those issued from 1867 to 1904. The Indian surcharged of 1867 were very strong, and several mint copies and some fine used specimens of the 96 c., grey, of 1868, perf. 12½, were also shown. Both mint and used copies of the surcharged 10 on 30 c. of 1879-82, types *d*, *e*, and *f*, were amongst the collection, as also were the various types of the 10 on 30 c. with "Cents" below and the 3 on 5 c. of 1885. Throughout the collection the variety of shades was as perfect as could possibly be gathered together, but the undoubted gems of the whole collection were absolutely mint specimens of the 32 c., carmine, of 1894 with the surcharge "3 Cents" omitted, and the 5 c., carmine, of 1899 with "Four Cents" omitted. Both these stamps are more or less priceless, and two such fine specimens of undoubted rarities are not often exhibited in a display of a single country—and a portion only of that. With Mr. Bagshawe as owner it is superfluous to say that poor copies were very conspicuous in the collection—by their absence.

At the close of the display the President paid a well-deserved compliment in hoping that Mr. Bagshawe would afford the members another evening's instruction and entertainment by showing the remaining portion of Straits, with the Native States. Mr. Sidebotham seconded the vote of thanks, which was carried with acclamation. Mr. Bagshawe promised to give another evening next season.

The date of the Annual Dinner was discussed, and a definite arrangement will shortly be published, but it will probably be held on 29 May, when last year's success will be repeated, judging by present signs.

The meeting terminated at 9.10 p.m.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR *G. S. W.* READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "G. S. W." readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

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In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

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Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

British Levant

THE Levant is a term applied generally to the eastern parts of the Mediterranean Sea, but for our present purpose we are only concerned with what is postally known to us as British Levant, which may be narrowed down to British post offices in Turkey. By way of explanation of the issue and use of English stamps in Turkey, I cannot do better than repeat the excellent account given in the first volume of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* by its correspondent at Constantinople, Mr. A. Yaremджи. He says:—

Every collector knows that there are foreign post offices in Turkey, and I think some details, for example, concerning the various British post offices in Turkey will please my readers.

England has six post offices in Turkey; two are in Constantinople, one of them at Galata, the business centre, and the other at Stamboul on the left bank, one at Smyrna, one at Beyrouth, one at Salonica, and one at Bagdad. All these post offices use at this moment the following stamps surcharged in paras and piastres:—

2½d.,	surcharged	“ 40 paras.”
3d.	..	80 ..
10d.	..	“ 4 piastres.”
2s. 6d.	..	12 ..

An envelope for a registered letter surcharged “40 paras,” and stamps of ½d. and 1d. without surcharge, and cards of 1d. and of 1d. by 1d. without surcharge.

Anybody can send letters at will by the British post, which, between eight o'clock in the morning and six o'clock in the evening, receives and gives out letters, money orders parcels, etc. It is the same with the other foreign post offices in Constantinople, and they are four in number—French, German, Austrian, and Russian.

Greece and Egypt also used to have their post offices formerly in Constantinople and at Smyrna, but they have been abolished. As to Italy, it has

never had a post office in Constantinople; it has had one only at Tripoli, in Barbary, on the African coast, but it exists no longer. Italy at present has three post offices in Albania, the south-east shore of the Adriatic Sea between Montenegro and Greece, at Durazzo, Janina, and Skodra.

To return to the British post offices. As I have said above, anybody can post his letters now at these offices, and it is no longer the case as it was formerly, when the Embassy, the Consulate, and a few English people alone could make use of them. The postal service is carried on by English officials, who sell at first hand English stamps to the public, and give out letters. The letters handed in by the public at these offices are dispatched in *through bags* to other post offices in the world, but without being handled by Turkish officials.

Now my readers will like to know, perhaps, the reason why all these foreign post offices exist in Constantinople. As it would be too long a story to recount the origin of all of the post offices held by the other foreign nations, I will confine myself to speaking of the post office which will interest us to-day, that is, of the English post office. The office was opened here at the time of the Crimean War to deal with the correspondence of the British armies, as the Turkish postal service was then very defective. From 1854 to 1885 it employed only English stamps belonging to the mother-country, without surcharge. It is these stamps which bear as obliteration the letter “c” with some parallel lines, and which one finds sometimes on old letters. Then, in turn, were opened new post offices at Stamboul, at Smyrna, Beyrouth, Salonica, and lastly at Bagdad. In 1885 these offices began to make use of English stamps surcharged with the value in Turkish currency, and they continue to do this to this day.

The Turkish Government has protested several times to the foreign Governments with regard to the opening of these post offices upon its territory, as they absorb the greater part of a large revenue, and it has demanded their suppression. But the Powers have turned a deaf ear to this, and these post offices have continued to exist on the plea that the Turkish post offices are so defective.

Its Philatelic History

The first stamps for these British post offices in the Turkish Empire were provided in 1885 by overprinting our then current Queen's Head stamps with Turkish currency. Three values—2½d., 5d., and 2s. 6d.—only were overprinted. In 1867 the then current English 2½d., 5d., and 10d. were similarly overprinted. In 1902-3 the current 2½d., 5d., 10d., and 2s. 6d. values of the King's Heads were overprinted as before; but last year all the values of our current King's Head stamps from ½d. to 1s. were overprinted with the word "Levant."

1885. Three values of the then current stamps of Great Britain, viz. 2½d., 5d., and 2s. 6d., overprinted with Turkish currency.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
40 paras, lilac (on 2½d.)	5 0	1 3
80 ,, green (on 5d.)	10 0	3 6
12 piastres, lilac (on 2s. 6d.)	6 0	4 0

1887-96. Three values—2½d., 5d., and 10d.—of the then current Queen's Head stamps of Great Britain overprinted with Turkish currency.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
40 paras, purple on blue (on 2½d.)	0 5	0 1
80 ,, lilac and blue (on 5d.)	0 9	0 5
4 piastres, purple and scarlet (on 10d.)	3 0	3 6

1893. *Provisional.* 40 paras on the then current Great Britain ½d., vermilion. Stanley Gibbons Catalogue has the following note

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

THE IMPROVED POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM, No. 0

One Hundred and Tenth Thousand. The best and largest Shilling Album ever published. 176 large pages. Spaces for 4700 Stamps. 48 extra pages added in this edition without extra charge. This Album is now selling at the rate of over 1000 copies a month. The demand for this Album has simply been phenomenal, and it gives universal satisfaction—not a single complaint has been received. The last edition had nearly 20 extra pages added, and now another 48 pages have been added, and all the Geographical and Historical Notes brought up fully to date. All the newest stamp-issuing countries, such as Bussahir, Canton, Cayman Isles, Hoi-hao, Dahomey, etc. etc., have been added. At the top of each page there is the name of the country, and a mass of valuable information, including date when Stamps were issued, population, area, reigning sovereign, capital, etc. Spaces of proper sizes are provided for all Stamps, and the book is bound in a superior manner in art cloth. The Album contains a pocket to hold duplicate Stamps, and fifty Stamps will be presented gratis with each Album. There is also an illustrated Frontispiece of the Rarest Stamps, with prices attached that we pay for each. Price, bound in handsome art cloth, post-free, 1s. 3d. E. S. says: "I asked a friend where the best place was to buy a Stamp Album cheap. He referred me to you, saying that he had bought one and sold it next day for 1s. 6d., after keeping the stamps." A. A. writes: "I received your Stamp Album on Thursday, and I wonder how you can sell it so cheap; for as soon as a friend saw it he offered me 2s. for it. Please send me another."

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

on this stamp: "This provisional was in use three days only, and, as forged surcharges were made by the same hand-stamp, it is impossible to distinguish originals, and we therefore do not sell them."

40 paras, vermilion (on ½d.).

1902. Four values of the current King's Heads of Great Britain were overprinted as before in Turkish currency.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
40 paras, ultramarine (on 2½d.)	0 4	0 2
80 ,, purple and blue (on 5d.)	0 7	0 6
4 piastres, purple and scarlet (on 10d.)	1 1	—
12 ,, lilac (on 2s. 6d.)	3 3	3 3

1905. Ten values of the current Great Britain King's Head issue overprinted with word "Levant," and two values overprinted in Turkish currency as before.

Overprinted "Levant."

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., pale green	0 1	—
1d., scarlet	0 2	—
1½d., purple and green	0 3	—
2d., green and scarlet	0 3	—
2½d., ultramarine	0 4	—
3d., purple on yellow	0 5	—
4d., green and brown	0 6	—
5d., purple and ultramarine	0 7	—
6d., purple	0 8	—
1s., green and scarlet	1 4	—

Overprinted with Turkish Currency.

2 piastres on 5d., purple and blue	0 6	—
4 ,, ,, 5s., carmine	6 6	—

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

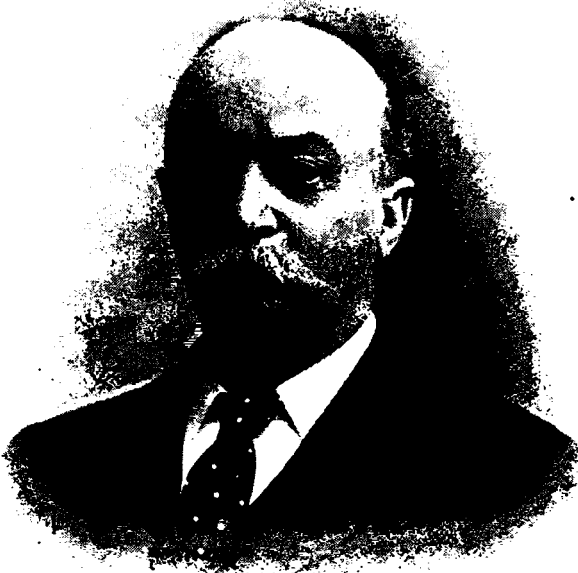
CHAPTER XII—*continued*

Publication Department—*continued*

OUR JOURNALS. The firm publishes two journals, one monthly and the other weekly.

The Monthly Journal, the first number of which appeared on 20 July, 1890, under my editorship.

In January, 1891, the day of publication was changed to the last day of each month, and so continues to the present time. In



MAJOR E. B. EVANS, R.A.

The Monthly Journal. When Mr. Gibbons retired in 1890, I found the firm were joint publishers of *The Philatelic Record* in conjunction with Pemberton, Wilson, and Co., and when I left Birmingham the same year, I also published a monthly paper. On my removal to London I at once decided to discontinue the above-mentioned papers, and to issue a new magazine under the name of

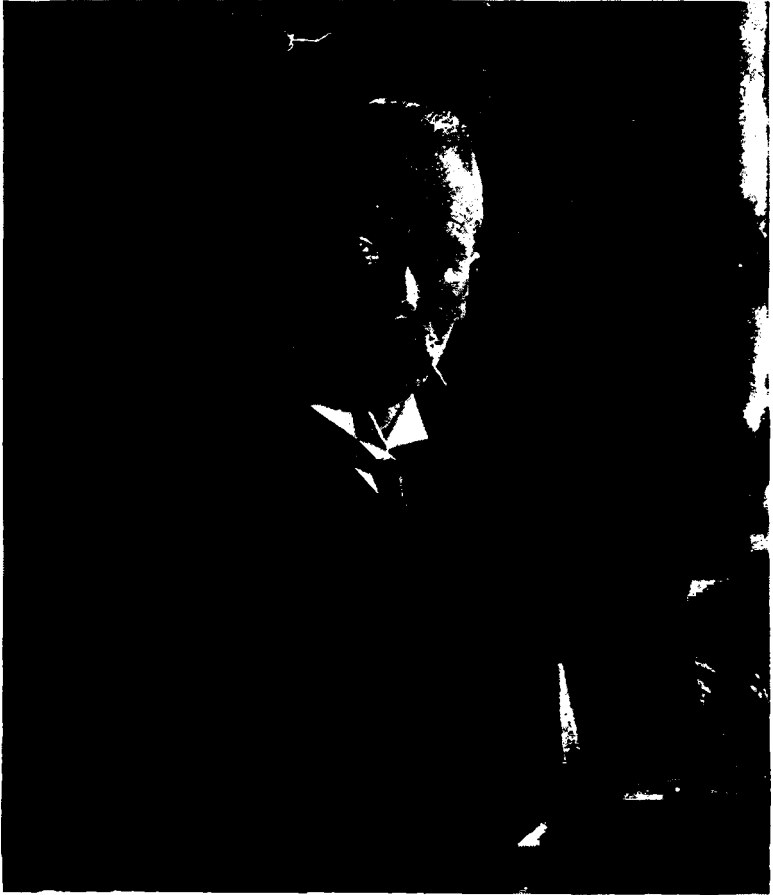
September, 1890, however, a far more important change took place, and that was in the editors, the post being taken by that well-known philatelist Major Edward B. Evans, R.A.

Major Evans was born on 3 November, 1846, and commenced collecting stamps when a student at Uppingham Grammar School in 1861. In 1867 Major Evans

received his commission in the Royal Artillery and went to Malta. On returning to England some years later he was stationed at Plymouth, and in 1873 made the acquaintance of Mr. Gibbons. In 1876 he went to Mauritius, and while there formed a superb collection of the stamps of that

In 1890 he retired from the army and, as before stated, in September of that year he undertook the editorship of *The Monthly Journal*, which in his able hands has risen to the rank of the first philatelic journal in the world.

Major Evans takes great pride in the list



From a Photo by "The Captain"

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

country and wrote the standard monograph on the Mauritius early issues.

Major Evans returned to Great Britain in August, 1879, and was for five years stationed at Wicklow, in Ireland, during which time he compiled the first *detailed* catalogue that had appeared in English.

Major Evans went abroad again in 1885, and this time was stationed in Bermuda, where he also made many important discoveries.

of *New Issues* in the *M. J.* and usually, has to give from four to seven pages to this subject, and it is generally admitted that this list is the most complete and accurate one published.

The *M. J.* caters for fairly advanced collectors and makes a speciality of *original articles* by the best writers of the day, and collectors will find in the files of this journal a great mass of information of the first importance.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly, edited by Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, is a popular weekly stamp journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

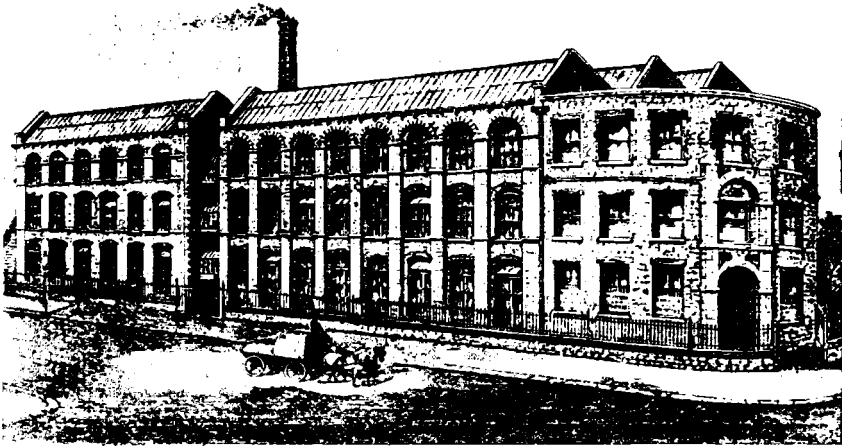
G. S. W. is stocked by Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son at their agencies and bookstalls, and this one firm alone uses 5000 copies of the paper each week.

Collectors in Great Britain will find this a great advantage, as they can order the paper from the bookstall or their regular newsagent and receive it every Thursday morning, unfolded and not creased.

of the *Reporter's Magazine*, and is a well-known and prolific writer on stamp matters.

I cannot conclude this brief chapter on our Publication Department without acknowledging the great assistance and courtesy we have invariably received from our printers, Messrs. William Brendon and Son, Ltd., West Hoe, Plymouth.

The business of Messrs. Brendon & Son was established in 1841 by the late Mr. William Brendon; it grew steadily year by year, and in 1891 was moved to the new premises shown in the subjoined illustration.



W. BRENDON AND SON'S PRINTING WORKS, PLYMOUTH

In *G. S. W.* we have numerous prize competitions, and twice a month a stamp is given away with each copy sold.

Our editor, Mr. E. J. Nankivell, was born at Perranzabuloe, on the north coast of Cornwall, on 17 September, 1848; educated privately, mostly in Ireland; took up shorthand when he left school, and eventually drifted into journalism, his first engagement being on the *Central News* in London, and his first professional note being of a great speech of Disraeli's at the Crystal Palace.

Mr. Nankivell is a Fellow of the Institute of Journalists, was formerly City Editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, is proprietor and editor

Messrs. Brendon and Son make their own type, stereotypes, etc., to meet the various requirements of their extensive business; and their establishment is so thoroughly equipped that they are enabled to execute all classes of book and general printing by the best of present-day methods.

I am unable to say when our connexion with Messrs. Brendon commenced, but they tell me they can trace entries in their books with Mr. E. S. Gibbons back to 1871, when he was in Plymouth. Certainly for thirty-five years this firm has done all our work with the exception of a short break when its premises were burnt down.

(To be continued.)

STANLEY GIBBONS PRICED CATALOGUE OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD

Vol. I. Great Britain and Colonies; post-free, 2s. 9d. Vol. II. The Rest of the World; post-free, 2s. 9d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 39, Strand, London, W.C.

POSTAGE STAMP DEVICES

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 168.)

Heraldic Designs—continued Common Charges

THERE are representations of a countless number of objects, animate and inanimate. The knights, in the early days of heraldry, ransacked the animal and vegetable kingdom, and the whole range of objects natural and artificial, for charges that would be distinctive. An example of their rise is seen in the paternal coat of arms of the house of Dalziel, which is 'sable, a man naked with his arms and legs extended proper.' This bearing was given as a reward to perpetuate the memory of an exploit performed in taking down, from a gallows, the body of a favourite and near relation of King Kenneth II, hung up by the Picts.

One of the charges on the 1858 issue of Naples is three human legs with Medusa's head in the centre. This is said to be symbolical of the three promontories of Sicily. Naples, at this time, formed with Sicily the united kingdom of the Two Sicilies. The horse is the charge of Naples, while the three fleurs-de-lis denote the connexion with the House of Bourbon which gave a king to Spain in 1700. Charles of Bourbon, son of the King of Spain, ascended the throne of the Two Sicilies on the conquest of the kingdoms in 1734. This stamp, therefore, gives us, in heraldic form, a vivid outline of the vicissitudes through which the kingdom had passed.



Charges drawn from the animal world include (1) the fabled monsters of heraldry, such as the griffin and the dragon; (2) beasts, birds, fishes, reptiles, and insects.

Of beasts, the most important, both in earlier and in later heraldry, is the lion. The lion was by the ancients looked upon as the king of beasts, and the title has continued down to our own time. He is looked

upon as the ideal of boldness and courage, and has therefore been chosen to represent the greatest heroes. His commanding and majestic presence suggests sovereignty, and, for this, the charge of a lion was borne by a large number of the rulers of Europe. In the heraldic devices on stamps, the lion figures in the issues of Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Holland, Finland, Luxemburg, Paraguay, Persia, and Tuscany. The common attitude of the heraldic lion is rampant, i.e. in an erect position with the left hind leg resting on the ground, the head in profile, and the tail elevated over the back. He is "gardant" when the head looks out of the shield, "regardant" when the head is turned back over the left shoulder. "Passant" represents the lion walking, with three paws on the ground, the right forepaw raised, the head in profile, and the tail elevated over the back. A lion "sejant" is rising to prepare for action, while a lion "couchant" is stretched on the ground in an expectant attitude. We give an illustration of each of these different attitudes.

Rampant.



Couchant Gardant.



Passant Gardant.



Sejant.



Forms of Shields

A shield with arms on it is properly called an escutcheon, a word derived from the French *écusson* (Latin *scutum*). Escutcheons have been, and still are, of different forms, according to different times and nations. The earliest form known is of a pear-shaped design. This was followed in

the twelfth and thirteenth centuries by a shield of the flat-iron shape, a form which is very often depicted on postage stamps. In the Middle Ages the form became more florid in design. A return to the simpler outline became general in the nineteenth century. French and German shields grew wider in the base to admit of space for the display of additional arms on the shield. Oldenburg, in her 1855 issue, gives us a good example of this bulging shield. The favourite type of shield in Spain has always been one with rectangular sides and a curved base, as seen in her issue of 1854.

Oldenburg.



Spain.



Colours

The field of a shield may be of one or more colours. The technical name for colour in heraldry is tincture, because the surface of the shield may be of metal or fur, or of a colour properly so called. The names of these tinctures spring from the Norman-French. Two metals are in use, viz. gold, termed "Or," and silver, "Argent." There are five principal colours. These are known as gules, azure, vert, purpure, sable, and are red, blue, green, purple and black respectively. About the seventeenth century it was found necessary to invent some means of representing these colours in black and white engravings. The following convention was therefore adopted. "Or" was represented by dots on the shield. "Argent," being white, was fitly depicted by the plain white surface. Gules (red) found expression by means of perpendicular lines; while azure (blue) was expressed by horizontal lines. For vert (green) lines were drawn diagonally from the right upper corner to the left of the base. Purpure was represented by lines drawn diagonally from the left upper corner to the right of the base. Note, however, that "right" and "left" are here used in relation to the wearer of the shield and not to the spectator, so that the left side of a shield is on the right hand of a person who is looking straight at the shield. Sable was represented by lines perpendicular and horizontal, crossing each other.

Now let us apply this convention to a few examples of heraldic devices on postage stamps. In the case of the Spanish stamp just illustrated, the background of the first and fourth quarters is filled in with vertical lines. Therefore the colour is gules, or red. The lion rampant, in the second and third quarters, is on an argent or white ground.

The Arms series of Mauritius (1895) provides us with one of the best examples.

From the illustration, it will be seen that the shield is divided into four parts. The fourth quartering is subdivided by means of a narrow white bar. In the first quartering appears a ship; the background is composed of horizontal lines which represent azure, or blue—the blue sky, the dark blue sea. The dots in the background of the second quartering represent "or," i.e. gold. The third quartering is of the same colour as the stamp. The upper half of the fourth quartering is sable, or black, with a brilliant star shining out of the darkness. Its rays shed their light on the lower half of the quartering, which, with its diagonal lines from right to left (of the shield), represents the "vert" of heraldry, and the verdant green of nature.

Here, then, is expressed in heraldic language something of the position and natural products of Mauritius. The ship suggests its accessibility to the sea, though, as a matter of fact, a girdle of reefs renders the island somewhat difficult of approach. The three branches of sugar-cane represent the one great industry of the island. A key commonly represents possession or clue to possession. I must, however, confess that its significance here is altogether outside my ken. The brilliant star may very well represent a new era of prosperity under British rule after a somewhat chequered history of annexation and abandonment by Portugal, Holland, and France. It is only common justice to add that the foundation of the colony's prosperity was laid by a French Governor, Mahé de Labourdonnais (1735-46), by his introduction of the sugar-cane.

For other examples the reader is referred to some of the issues of Baden, Labuan, Peru, Stellaland, and Tonga.

The other principal tinctures take their name from the furs in use on the shield, viz. Ermine and Vair. Ermine is represented by black spots, three dots forming a triangle and an arrow-head, similar to those of the

fur of the animal called the ermine. Vair is said to have been taken from the fur of the squirrel, bluish grey on the back and white on the belly, and is represented by blue and white bells in horizontal rows. As these, however, find little or no place in the heraldic devices which appear on stamps, we do not propose to deal further with them.

(To be continued.)

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1906

Nota Bene. Official Circular

TWO International Exhibitions of Postage Stamps have, during the past twenty years, been held in London: the first in May, 1890, at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street; the second in 1897, at the Institute of Painters in Water Colours in Piccadilly.

Preparations are now in a forward state for a Third Exhibition to be held in May next at the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W.

This fine new building, centrally situated, is only ten minutes' walk from Victoria Station and seven from St. James's Park Station, on the Metropolitan Railway.

The Exhibition will comprise the Postage, Telegraph, Railway, and College Stamps of Great Britain, and the Postage Stamps of the British Colonies and all Foreign Countries.

Stamp Collecting is undoubtedly one of the most popular pastimes of the present day, and it will be seen by referring to a list of the Patrons and of the Committee that many well-known people are taking part in this Exhibition.

H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc., the President of the Philatelic Society, London, who is known to possess one of the finest collections of stamps in this country, has honoured the coming Exhibition by his Patronage.

The Vice-Patrons comprise: The Duke of Norfolk, K.G., The Marquess of Londonderry, K.G., The Lord Stanley, K.C.V.O., The Rt. Hon. Austen Chamberlain, M.P. (former Post-masters-General).

The Chairman of Committee is the Earl of Crawford, K.T.

The Exhibition will be opened on Wednesday, 23 May, and will be closed on Friday evening, 1 June.

We learn that not only will the Prince of Wales show a portion of his treasures, but that an entry has been received from Prince Edward of York, who takes a keen interest in his collection of postage stamps.

Exhibits are expected, not only from the leading collectors in this country, but also from France, Germany, Russia, Sweden, Italy, United States, etc. etc.

CORRESPONDENCE

Heraldry of British South Africa Stamps

DEAR SIR,—The science of heraldry is not a simple one at any time, and when applied to the complicated designs adopted by some of our colonies and protectorates, it becomes very difficult. I therefore notice with more regret than surprise that Mr. Walton has gone somewhat astray in his explanation of the coat of arms of the British South Africa Company in your number for 10 March.

The first portion of the technical description ends with "Or," thus: "Gules, the chief semée of besants, the base semée of ears of wheat, Or," meaning that the lower

part of the shield is strewn with golden ears of wheat, in the same manner as the upper part is strewn with gold coins.

Practically the shield here is divided into three parts, horizontally, the central division narrower than the other two. In the upper are two Bulls, in their natural colour (proper), on a red ground strewn with gold coins or disks; in the central division, which has a wavy outline above and below, are three black ships on a ground of white or silver; in the lower is an Elephant, in its natural colour, on a red ground strewn with golden ears of wheat.

Yours truly,
EDW. B. EVANS.

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Liberia.—A new issue comprises a very unique series of thirteen values, from 1 cent to 5 dollars, all save one being bicolour, designed, engraved, and printed from steel plates by Perkins Bacon & Co., Ltd., so well known for their beautiful productions since they engraved the first British postage stamps in 1840.

Sir Harry Johnston, formerly High Commissioner for Uganda, has furnished some of the designs from illustrations in his new book *Liberia*, which give lifelike reproductions of birds, animals, and reptiles found in the Republic of Liberia. Another, from the same source, shows two of the native "Mandingoes," and makes one of the prettiest stamps of the series.

The Republican Flag, with the motto, "The love of Liberty brought us here," and a minute portrait of President Barclay, with a view of the Executive Mansions at Monrovia, serve for two of the stamps, but probably the 25 cent, with a beautifully engraved reproduction of the quarter-dollar coin with Head of Liberty, will be considered the gem of the collection. A Head of Mercury and another of Liberty, and a one-colour stamp of line-machine work, complete the list. The frames surrounding the vignettes are mostly treated in a novel and unconventional manner, producing a decidedly pleasing effect, and the "Lone Star" of the Republic appears on every design without exception.

The printing and the gumming are of the high class to be expected from the firm mentioned, while the perforation is from comb-machines, being 14 both for the ten smaller values and for the three dollar values, which are slightly larger.

The colours chosen are very effective.

The 1, 2, and 5 cents, being most largely used, are printed in sheets of fifty, the others being in sheets of twenty.

Altogether the Republic, as well as the engravers, may be congratulated upon the issue of a most artistic series of postage stamps.

We append a list of the designs and colours.

- 1 cent, black and green, African Elephant.
- 2 cents, black and carmine, Head of Mercury.



- 5 cents, black and dark blue, Chimpanzee.
- 10 ,, black and maroon, Plantain-eater.



- 15 cents, dark green and purple, Agama Lizard.
- 20 ,, black and orange, Great Egret.



- 25 cents, grey and Chinese blue, coin of same value.
- 30 ,, violet, figures of value.



- 50 cents, black and dark green, Liberian Flag.
- 75 ,, black and chocolate-brown, Liberian Hippopotamus.



- 1 dollar, grey and pink, Head of Liberty.
- 2 dollars, black and dark green, Mandingoes.



- 5 dollars, dark grey and maroon, Head of President Barclay and Executive Mansion.



GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Exhibition Festivities

ALREADY we are beginning to hear of preparations for Exhibition Festivities. It is expected that there will be an exceptionally large number of philatelic visitors from the Continent and from the United States, and of course the week will be crowded with dinner-parties. The first actual announcement comes from that real live philatelic body the Herts Philatelic Society. It intends to give a special dinner and grand entertainment to the judges and distinguished visitors. This dinner will take place on Tuesday, 29 May, 1906, at the Regent Room of the Café Monico. The President of the Herts Society is Mr. H. L. Hayman, and the Vice-President is Mr. Franz Reichenheim, and the arrangements are being made by these gentlemen on a very lavish scale. Mr. Hayman is a past master in the art of entertaining, and those who are fortunate enough to be invited guests on the occasion may look forward to a high old time. A sample of each of the animals portrayed in the new issue of Liberia would yield a fine range of dishes.

New Postal Stamp Books

THE handy stamp books, containing twenty-four penny stamps, which have been sold for 2s. 0½d., have not met with the absolute approval of the public—no doubt on account of the extra half-penny.

This objection is to be removed in the new issue of books which is now being prepared. The books will contain twelve penny and twenty-three halfpenny stamps for the sum of 2s., but they will not be on sale for two months yet.

Australian Commonwealth Issues

THOSE readers of *G.S.W.* who collect Australians should take special care to secure every new issue as soon as possible, because of the changes which are being made throughout the various States in the watermarks. There is no news yet of the new Commonwealth issue, but it may come any day and catch us napping over some recent issue of the separate stamps.

New Zealand

SOME readers of *G.S.W.*, I know, pay particular attention to current issues of the Waterlow series of New Zealand stamps and annex all the shades

they can. They will find the 6d. and 1s. values the most prolific in distinct shades. In the 6d. there are what may even be classed as changes of colour, including lake, rose, and pink.

International Penny Postage

THE Postmaster-General has directed the following reply to be sent to a correspondent:—

“GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON,
“8 March, 1906.

“SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 23rd ult., I am directed by the Postmaster-General to inform you that the question of a penny rate of postage for letters exchanged between this country and the United States of America has not yet formed the subject of any definite proposals to this department. Should the United States at any time be included in the penny postage scheme, due notice would be given to the public.

“I am, Sir,

“Your obedient servant,
“PERCY L. ROUSE.”

Opening of the Sudan

STAMP collectors will have noticed that the Sudan, which has been practically closed to all but Government officials and railway contractors, is now being thrown open by the opening of the Nile Red Sea Railway. The postal developments which must follow can scarcely fail to affect the postage stamps, and I should not be surprised to hear before long of a new issue of the ordinary size of De La Rue colonial postage stamps superseding the present inconveniently large size stamps. Some of these fine days the first issue of Sudan will be wanted badly by those who are neglecting it at the old prices which still rule.

Great Age of Philatelic Journals

THE great age of our English philatelic journals is worth noting. Here is a list:—

Philatelic Record, twenty-seven yearly volumes completed.

Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, fourteen yearly volumes completed.

Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal, fifteen yearly volumes completed.

The London Philatelist, fourteen yearly volumes completed.

THE CENTURY ALBUM

Including a full Descriptive Catalogue, and illustrated with several thousand full-sized reproductions of the stamps. In one volume, 622 pages. Size of each page, 10x13 inches. Printed on one side of the paper only, catalogue and illustrations on the left, and spaces to correspond on the right-hand pages. All minor varieties of perforation, watermark, and type are omitted, and only such varieties are included as can be distinguished by the young philatelist. Space has been provided for some 18,000 stamps, and provision made for new issues by the insertion of numerous blank pages. Post-free, 13s. 4d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

THE "WATERFALL" ERROR

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON

"YUS," said Jim Sprawley, as he energetically munched some cheese and bread in the forecastle of the *Seacat*, "I thinks as 'ow we oughter git ahr own back from young 'Enry for puttin' it on us wiv a bit o' paper, and a-tellin' of us as it was a valuable three-cornered Cape o' Good 'Ope stamp."

Bill Michael then spoke: "I endorses what my friend Jim 'as spluttered."

"'Ere, chuck it," said the sailor to whom reference was made; "I don't splutter, and don't you go a carvin' aspersions on my honourable name, or else yer gits done in, and no error."

"Beggin' my right honourable pal's parding," continued Bill, unmoved, "I should 'ave said uttered; what 'e 'as uttered, I 'umbly endorses, and finks also as 'ow we oughter 'ave a go at 'Enry and git ahr own back. I votes we all try, while we are on duty this arternoon, to fink aht a way o' doing 'im in, and compare notes later on. All them as approves o' what I have just said, kindly signalize in the usual way."

But the rest of the crew made no visible signs of approving of what Bill had just said. They simply stared at him; and he repeated in a more forcible manner, "All them as approves o' what I 'ave just said, kindly signalize in the usual manner."

But the crew still remained staring at one another.

"Don't none o' yer signalize, none o' yer approve? Don't none of yer fink nothink?" asked the speaker in aggrieved tones.

"Well, tell us 'ow to signalize, and we'll do it," retorted Jim Pascoe.

"Why, if yer thinks what I 'ave just said is common sense and orright, put up yer hands, and sing, 'For 'e's a jolly good fellow'. That's 'ow it's done."

And with one accord the crew raised their stentorian voices in a discordant rendering of "For he's a jolly good fellow," as each held up both his hands, until compelled to drop them from sheer fatigue, and continued with their voluble song until the captain sent word that he would chuck them all overboard if they went on with that — row any longer.

That afternoon the crew worked in a sort of stupefaction, performing their duties in silence, save that some, a little more muddleheaded than the rest, had to resort to the expedient of mumbling their thoughts to keep them flowing and get a clear grasp of them.

The captain was in a quandary. The conduct of the men—doing their duty so stoically and silently—and the occasional hushed utterances, alarmed him. He spoke to the mate about it; but this did not help to elucidate the inexplicable attitude of the crew.

"Seems to me we're go'ng to have a mutiny on board," said the skipper, and straightway went to his cabin to load a couple of revolvers in case of emergencies.

"P'raps they've turned anarchists," suggested the mate.

So unaccustomed were the crew to think deeply, that to do so was indeed an effort; but so immersed did they become in vain endeavours to give birth to a plan whereby they might be revenged on Henry, that they became oblivious to all surroundings; to such an extent, that one man tripped over a coil of rope into the sea, of which perhaps he would have remained blissfully unconscious, had not the water been so horribly salty and cold. While yet another sailor, a whilom coalman, tipped a sack of flour amongst the coal in the forepeak, and called out "Coal!"

Meanwhile, the innocent cause of all this perturbation whistled gaily as he carried out his duties.

When the labours of the day had ceased, the stolid sailors sat and smoked in silence, until Jim Sprawley broke the ice by asking, "Any o' yer thought o' anyfink?" But no response was offered.

Accepting the silence for a polite negative, he added, "I ain't thought of a proper way of gitting at 'Enry; yer can't 'ang 'im up by one leg, or do nothink o' that sort as you could when I was a lad, so what shall we do mates, eh?"

Alf Chipping, the ship's carpenter, had during this speech been busy making elaborate drawings on the back of an old envelope. "That'll do," he muttered, eyeing critically the mass of lines and circles which he had drawn, and then added loudly, "By gosh! that's it." And he was called upon to explain.

"Well, mates, young 'Enry is a thieving rascal, and no error. What I say is this 'ere: whenever the young varmint is knocking round, let's talk of a stamp as being worth a lot o' cash. I have such a one; it looks worth a lot, but it ain't worth that," said he, snapping his fingers.

"What is it?" he was asked.

"It's a Jamaica stamp wiv a waterfall on it; it looks a reg'lar good un, but it ain't."

"Yus," said Michael; "I knows it. Stamps is like 'uman bein's—them as makes a show, and dresses up in a reg'lar blaze, ain't worth a snap; so it is wiv mankind."

"And womankind," suggested another.

"Yus," continued Michael; "and stamps like women what is modest and retiring like, them is the ones what is worth the botherin' of. Look at yer old Mauritius twopenny blue, it looks as modest as a violet, but it's worth thousands of pounds; and look at yer triang'lar Cape sixpenny, with its drab appearance, it looks like a woman wot 'as spent 'er time in sorrowin' and weepin', and wants to git away from the sight o' men. But go on, Alf."

"Well, what we 'ave to do is to kid young 'Enry that the Jamaica stamp is worth money, leave it lying abaht on that old chest in the corner there," said Chipping, indicating one in a remote corner of the forecastle with a backward jerk of his thumb.

"And then, Chips?"

"This is where the joke comes in. I'll arrange a contraption like, that if 'e goes up to the chest and attempts to take the stamp, dahn comes a waterfall on 'is 'ead, see?"

"By Jiminy, that is orright!" said Jim, to which all agreed. "But we must be sort o' actor chaps, and be careful not to give the game away, mates."

"Yer must pin the stamp dahn, or else it might blow away like 'Enry's trang'lar stamp," suggested one of the crew. "Or tack it dahn, to make sure on it. 'E might think the tack 'ead was a error, or like the dot in the tail of a lion on a stamp wot I 'ave 'eard on, and worth more."

And so by a simple string, an old can, and a square of board, the arrangement was rigged up.

That night the captain, bearing in mind the strange behaviour of his crew, carefully bolted and locked his cabin door, barricaded it with a washstand and a chair, and slept with a couple of loaded revolvers under his pillow.

On the following morning, when he went on deck he found to his dismay and alarm that the crew still worked with an unaccustomed quietness. He also noticed that they kept making signs to one another—this when Henry was about—and occasionally whispering by stealth.

"I'm certain it's a mutiny job this," mused the captain, and tapped his revolvers to see that they were quite safe. "I'll take a look round the fore-castle, and see if I can spot anthing suspicious there." And at a moment when he thought he was not observed, he started off to the crew's quarters. Arriving at the booby hatch, he was just about to descend the ladder, when the bos'un stepped up to him.

"Excuse me, sir; anyfink I can fetch you, sir?" The captain turned round in surprise. "No, I'll do what I want myself."

"I'd sooner yer didn't go down just yet, sir," pleaded the bos'un. "Won't this arternoon do as well?"

"What's your objection, eh? Out with it?" questioned the captain.

"Well, sir," said the bos'un, as he fumbled nervously with his belt, "it—er—that is, we ain't—no, I mean that it ain't quite so nice and clean as you like to see it down there, sir; but we'll clean up this arternoon, straight, sir, if you'll only wait."

This engendered in the captain a firm conviction that it was a case of mutiny, and there was something to conceal in the fore-castle, so he decided to investigate. Although he felt a slight fear, he said manfully, "No, I go now—forward," and jauntily descended the ladder. At the bottom

step he slipped, fell forward on to the contrivance arranged for Henry. There was a sound of a falling tin, a splash of water, and the drenched captain ran on deck. Placing his back to the foremast, he whipped out both his revolvers, and said in a loud and commanding voice, "The first man that advances I shoots through the head!"

It was the crew's turn to feel some alarm, and first one and then another made a dash for the hatch, down which they went helter-skelter, and closed the doors after them.

Little Henry looked on in amazement, and the captain, setting the mate on watch, went to his cabin to change his clothes. Henry walked to the booby hatch, and knocked.

"Who is it?" said a quaking voice.

"Me," said Henry.

"What, is it you, Henry?"

"It is."

"Ow's the captain now?" asked the same quaking voice. "E oughter see a doctor, I'm sure: 'e's gone clean off. Is 'e all right now?"

"Right as rain now," said Henry mischievously: "but 'e wants a written account of 'ow 'e got drenched with that water."

"All right; wait a few minutes," said a voice from within; and in a short space of time Henry was given a written account of how the crew had endeavoured to arrange a trap for him.

The boy retired to read the document, in a pretence to deliver it to the captain. He shortly returned, and said, "The captain says the carpenter, bein' gentle and kind, 'as to attend on im, simply dressed in his trousers and a shirt, so as he can't conceal no firearms, and take a written apology, signed by all of you, for trying to take advantage of little me."

In a short time the carpenter emerged, dressed as instructed.

"Sure he's safe?" inquired he.

"Quite safe now," replied Henry. "Safe as 'ouses and this 'ere ship. Go on; be a man." And into the captain's cabin the carpenter vanished.

Soon after he returned, looking red and furious.

"It's orright, mates," said he sullenly: "you can come aht, and git on wiv yer work," and then espied Henry in an uncontrollable fit of laughter.

"What yer laughing at, eh, idiot?" said the carpenter to Henry.

"Why," said the boy, "instead o' you makin' a fool o' me, I've made a fool o' you! So long, Chippie, boy!" and away he ran to avoid further complications.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Birmingham Philatelic Society

President: Sir W. B. Auery.
Secretary: G. Johnson, B.A., 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

ON 1 March, 1906, Messrs. H. B. Carslake and W. E. Johnson were elected members.

Mr. R. Hollick then gave a display of his fine collection of the stamps of British North America with notes on them. This was followed by an interesting discussion on the shades of the pence issues of Newfoundland, of which a large number was on view, and then on the reissued series of 1890-7 of the same colony.

The packets for March, in spite of the counter attractions of fine weather, are well up to the average, the B packet alone reaching the total of £1722.

Boston Philatelic Society

President: C. A. Howes.
Secretary:

Meetings: Third Tuesday, Elk's Hall, 26 Hayward Place, Boston.

Report of Entertainment Committee for 1906

BOSTON, 1 January, 1906.

To the Members of the Boston Philatelic Society.

GENTLEMEN,—Your Committee appointed at the November meeting of last year to provide an interesting and instructive series of entertainments for the meetings of our Society during the present year offer you the following programme, which we surely trust will meet with the approval of all the members of our Society, and help to increase interest in Philately and attendance at our meetings.

We believe that we have been confronted with more difficulties in arranging our programme than have any former committees. This is the sixth consecutive year that our Society has had a standing committee appointed to provide its entertainment, and during these five years no less than forty competitive exhibits have been held. Therefore, as we do not wish to intrude upon the field already covered by our predecessors, our scope is somewhat limited, and we have made no provision for competitive exhibits of some of the more popular countries, such as United States, United States Colonies, etc. etc.

After much careful thought and deliberation we have provided for five competitions (not including the "Uncatalogued Varieties" competition, open to all philatelists), four exhibitions, two general discussions, and two addresses by prominent philatelists. The annual jollification meeting will be held in February as usual. Due notice of time and place will be sent to every member and printed in the official organ.

Your Committee hopes that it will not require urging and personal solicitation on our part to induce members to exhibit their stamps in the competitive exhibitions. We hope for the earnest co-operation of every member of the Society to make this programme a successful one, and this can only be done by members exhibiting in all the competitions possible.

Respectfully submitted,

H. WESLEY LEGG,
FRANK P. BROWN,
F. APTHORP FOSTER,
Committee.

Rules for Competitors

- Members of the Society only will be eligible to compete, except in the "Uncatalogued Varieties" competition, which is open to ALL PHILATELISTS.
- All stamps entered for competition must be the absolute property of the exhibitors.
- All exhibits must be in the hands of the Committee by 2 p.m. on the day of the meeting, and the Committee will be responsible for the safety of any collection whose owner is unable to be present.
- Exhibits may be left with Mr. James H. Lyons, 9 Bromfield Street, or with any member of the Committee.

Prizes Offered for Competitions

Blue ribbon for first, red ribbon for second, and white ribbon for third; but in every case there must be at least one more competitor than the number of ribbons awarded.

Programme for 1906

- Jan. Auction Sale. Competition of general collections in printed or blank albums in which *condition and arrangement* will only be considered.
- Feb. Annual jollification meeting. Refreshments and remarks by Mr. C. H. Fowle (Undooley). Due notice will be given of time and place.
- Mar. Exhibition of United States revenue stamps, including the private proprietary issues of the Civil War period, the property of Mr. C. H. Eagle of Brooklyn. Mr. Eagle will supplement the exhibit with a few remarks. All members are earnestly invited to attend. Mr. Eagle's collection of United States revenues is world-famous, and without doubt the finest in existence.
- April. Exhibition of reprints, with notes, by Mr. John N. Luff, of New York. We have no doubt that Mr. Luff's collection of reprints is the finest in this country, and all members will be well repaid by coming to this meeting.
- May. Competitive exhibit of French Colonies in America—St. Pierre et Miquelon, Guadeloupe, Martinique. Competitors may exhibit all or any one of the above colonies, though but one colony will be considered by the judges in making the award in the case of competitors exhibiting all three.
- June. Competitive exhibit. The twelve most artistic stamps, for medal offered by the J. M. Bartels Company. Discussion: "The advantages to be derived from membership in a Philatelic Society." Address by Mr. W. C. Stone, of Springfield, President of the American Philatelic Association.

- Sept. Competitive exhibition—Straits Settlements or Hong Kong, for medal offered by the New England Stamp Company.
- Oct. Exhibition of Korea, with talk by our President, Mr. C. A. Howes. Let us hope that every member who can possibly do so will be present at this meeting. Mr. Howes' collection of Korea is second to none.
- Nov. Competitive exhibition—Curaçao and Surinam, or Dutch Indies. Discussion: "The respective advantages of a Collection of single Specimens as opposed to Shades, Pairs, Blocks, etc., in a specialized Collection."
- Dec. Competition of "Uncatalogued Varieties" for Silver Cup, donated by Mr. A. H. Weber, of San Francisco. Open to all collectors. Display of Counterfeits with Notes, by Mr. J. M. Bartels. This will be a most interesting feature.

Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society

President: P. J. Lloyd.

Secretary: Henry Alsop, 25 Alma Road, Clifton, Bristol.

ON 8 March, 1906, a meeting was held at 25 Alma Road, Alderman Gardner in the chair. The members present had a great treat in viewing the fine collections of Bardados and St. Vincent, also Turks Islands, which Mr. E. Heginbottom very kindly sent the Hon. Sec. for display, and they passed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Heginbottom for his kindness. The next meeting will be held 5 April.

Enterprise Philatelic Society

Secretary: A. C. Constantiniadis, Woodview, Archway Road, Highgate, London, N.

Meetings: Monthly, Devonshire House Hotel, Bishopsgate Street, London, E.C.

THE twenty-ninth ordinary monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, 21 February, at the Devonshire House Hotel, and was well attended, as usual.

The chair was taken by the President, Mr. F. W. Lake, at 6.30 p.m., when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and duly confirmed.

After a little preliminary business regarding auction announcements, etc., had been gone into, the first item on the programme was taken in hand. This was a discussion entitled "Is Finality a Desideratum?" and was ably opened up by Mr. A. H. Harris. The pros and cons of the matter were carefully sifted and gone into, but in the little time available no final decision could be arrived at. After several good-tempered arguments the question was indefinitely shelved, and the next and concluding item entered upon.

This was a competitive display by members of a collection of any country comprising what is known as the Far East, and attracted a very fair show of these stamps. The most notable, amongst others, were the collections shown by Mr. D. H. Jackson and Mr. A. H. L. Giles, R.N. Mr. Jackson's stamps were accorded the most votes by a majority of one over Mr. Giles, and were accordingly awarded the small prize of stamps offered as an incentive to display. The winning exhibit was a fine lot of Hong Kong which, although somewhat incomplete, was remarkable for the extremely fine and well-centred condition of the copies. It was apparently this that carried weight in the voting, for it is well known how very difficult it is to get these stamps in perfect condition.

The collection shown by Mr. Giles embraced nearly all countries in the area under display, and contained many good stamps, especially in the early issues of Japan and China.

At 9.30 p.m. the meeting was reluctantly brought to a close after a very enjoyable time.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.
 Secretary: H. F. Johnson, 4 Portland Place North, Clapham
 Meetings: Exeter Hall, Strand, W.C. [Road, S.W.
 Annual Subscription: 1s. 6d.

A CHAPTER of accidents at the eleventh hour prevented the carrying out of the programme originally arranged for the meeting of the Junior Philatelic Society on Saturday the 3rd instant. Such emergencies are apt to test the mettle of the executive of even a philatelic society, but if the Juniors were tried they were not found wanting.

The chair was taken at 8 p.m. by Mr. Fred J. Melville, the President, and, the formal business having been dealt with, the following new members were elected: Charles D. Wyatt, E. Melh, H. Cooke, E. J. Allen, J. S. Griffith, John Leask, J. J. Cook, F. Gregory, Captain Corsellis, and Rev. F. W. Wait.

The undermentioned donations were announced:—To Permanent Collection: A set of ten Official stamps of the Somaliland Protectorate from H. L'Estrange Ewen, Esq. To Library: From Mr. Walter Morley, *Morley's Philatelic Journal*, 1905 (bound); Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., interleaved edition of the *Standard Catalogue* for 1906; Miss Cassells, miscellaneous literature; the current numbers of *Le Postillon*, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *The West-End Philatelist*, and *De Nederlandsche Philatelist*, from the publishers. A vote of thanks to the respective donors was passed.

Votes of thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who had assisted in the production of *The Lady Forger*, and to Mr. Melville for writing the play, were unanimously carried.

Mr. C. B. Purdom had been announced to give a paper on "Philately in the Police Courts," but in lieu gave a thoughtful little study on the future of Philately. He emphasized very strongly the pressing need for vitality in philatelic societies, the importance of their enlisting the interests of the young, since youth is eternal, and the wonderment natural to it clothes all its pursuits with enthusiasm; and he warned his audience of the danger of falling into grooves. A vote of thanks to Mr. Purdom was proposed by Mr. Melville, seconded by Mr. H. Lee, and carried.

After this Mr. Darwin's recent gift to the Permanent Collection was passed round and much admired. The King's Head stamps will form a particularly valuable means of reference for the members.

The next item was the reading of Mr. L. W. Crouch's paper on the "Carlist Stamps of Spain," which recently obtained the Society's diploma for the best paper sent in for competition in the junior section. The production of a Junior nineteen years of age, the solid information it contained is a token of the earnest work of a student, and augurs well for Mr. Crouch's future as a philatelist of promise, who will not be content to wander along beaten tracks.

A small but interesting collection of Sarawak was then displayed by the President.

Junior Philatelic Society of Scotland

THE first general meeting of the above Society was held on Wednesday, 28 February, at 7.30 p.m., at 562 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.

The following office-bearers were elected: President, Sir John Ure Primrose, Bart.; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Robert M. Mann and J. Wilson Paterson; Exchange Secretary, Mr. J. L. Thomas, 4 Warrender Park Terrace, Edinburgh; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Robert Borland, "Lochside," Milngavie, N.B.

Meetings will be held at above address on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, September to April inclusive, at 8 p.m.

Annual subscription 2s. 6d., and 1s. for juniors under twenty-one years of age.

Any further particulars may be obtained on application from

ROBERT BORLAND, *Hon. Sec.*

"LOCHSIDE," MILNGAVIE, N.B.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: E. Egly, Arncliffe Road, West Park, Leeds.
 Secretary: Charles W. Harding, 139 Belle Vue Road, Leeds.
 Meetings: Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street, Leeds.
 Annual Subscription: 5s.; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

AT a well-attended meeting of the above Society, held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday evening, 20 February, Mr. Fred A. Padgett read a paper on "The Bordeaux Issue of the Postage Stamps in France." He gave an interesting account of the various expedients which the beleaguered inhabitants of the city of Paris had recourse to in order, if possible, to maintain communication with the outside world during the investment by the Prussians in 1870, and showed how invariably their different projects were rendered abortive by the inventive Germans. The service of pigeons lent by the Sociétés Colombophiles of Roubaix and Tourcoing was so defeated by the employment of trained hawks and German guns that out of two hundred birds entrusted with messages only seventy-three reached their cotes, and out of this number five had no dispatches, three brought insulting messages from the enemy, and ten had been stripped of all news of importance. The foot messengers fared scarcely better; out of eighty-five dispatched on postal service nine were made prisoners, one was set at liberty after arrest, one disappeared altogether, and one arrived at Tours without dispatches. Only five were able to deliver their letters, but out of that number two even succeeded in bringing dispatches back. The rest, after vainly endeavouring to pass the cordon, were compelled to relinquish their mission. Balloons, both captive and free, were used, but aerostatics in that day were not understood so well as at present, and this method was only partially successful. The current of the River Seine was enlisted, but nothing either floating or submerged could evade the Prussian nets. Cattle-drovers' dogs were suggested and tried, but served only to increase the scanty rations of the besiegers, and the plunging apparatus, "The Vaucasour," invented and used by M. Dilenr, was, together with its exploiter, never heard of after its first essay. But while these efforts were being made in the city, postal communication in most parts of France was tolerably free, though an important fact soon made itself felt. The stock of stamps on hand at the post offices soon became exhausted, and further supplies could not be obtained from Paris. It was then arranged to print an issue at Bordeaux, and the 20 centime stamp, being the ordinary letter rate and as such most needed, was provided first. Owing to the difficulties which were experienced in the production of the initial plates, no fewer than five types of this stamp are to be found; other values followed, and the issue consisted of nine denominations and one Unpaid Letter stamp. The total number of stamps printed was over a hundred and twenty-five millions, and the value of same was nearly sixteen million francs.

Mr. Padgett illustrated his notes with specimens of the stamps referred to, and by means of a lantern of his own design and construction the various details of the stamps were thrown upon a screen before the members.

Mr. W. V. Morten gave a short supplementary paper on the introduction in 1884 of the postal order, the credit for which was due to the late Mr. E. W. Chetwynd, C.B., who was the first to propose the present simple and efficacious plan for working the scheme.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Padgett and Mr. Morten for their papers.

Mr. J. Myers, jun., presented some forgeries for the Society's "black" book. Novelties were shown by Mr. P. M. Knight—new issues for Tunis and Grenada.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to Edward J. Nankivell, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Correspondence.—The Editor regrets that he has no time for direct correspondence. All letters requiring a reply will be dealt with under the head of "Answers to Correspondents."

Examination of Stamps.—This work is done by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., whose terms for the examination of stamps sent to them for their opinion are, cash in advance: 2s. 6d. per dozen; a minimum charge of 1s. being made if less than twelve stamps are sent. Postages extra. The stamps should be sent lightly fastened on sheets, with sufficient space above each stamp for the insertion of the desired information.

The following abbreviations are used in giving an opinion:—B. Bogus, i.e. never existed; F. Forged; G. Genuine; G.F. Stamps genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark. The charge for marking the forgeries in a collection in its entirety is at the

rate of 10s. per 1000 stamps examined, the minimum fee being 5s. Postages extra. If a correspondence is desired, the charge is 1s. for each letter written.

Subscriptions.—Subscriptions must be sent to the publishers as set out on the front page of cover, or to booksellers or railway bookstalls, but never to the Editor.

Covers for Binding Vol. II.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. II of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d. post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. I. January to June, 1905, including the rare early numbers. 400 pages, 10s. 9d., post-free. Vol. II. July to December, 1905. 444 pages, price 4s. 9d., post-free.

Philatelic Societies.—We wish to make a special feature of the prompt publication of the reports of Philatelic Societies, and trust we may have the kindly co-operation of the honorary secretaries in this matter. Reports should be written on one side of the paper, and dispatched to the Editor by the earliest post.

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Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

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VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Brazil



IN the eyes of the philatelist Brazil is one of the most important countries of South America. It was the first country to follow the lead of Great Britain in the issue of adhesive postage stamps. Its early issues are much prized by the specialist.

As to the history of the country, we cannot do better than quote the excellent sum-

mary of its past from the pages of Mr. C. E. Aker's admirable *History of South America* :

Brazil boasts a more chequered history than any other South American republic. It was originally taken possession of in the name of the Spanish Crown by Vincent Yanez Pincon. In 1500 Pedro Cabral annexed a portion of its territory to Portugal, but attempted no settlement. A little later Amerigo Vespucci was sent to found a colony in the vicinity of the district now known as Bahia. Between 1500 and 1578

some progress in the work of colonization was made, but in the latter years these territories passed under the control of Spain, and remained under Spanish jurisdiction until 1640. It was during this period of sixty-two years that Brazil was subject to constant attacks from English, French, and Dutch adventurers. The Dutch took possession of Bahia in 1624, and for more than a score of years Holland was the dominant power over the provinces of the north. In 1649, however, an expedition commanded by Vieira was dispatched from Portugal, and after severe fighting for half a dozen years Portuguese authority was re-established. No further foreign invasion of a serious character took place until 1710, when a French squadron under Duclerc attacked the city of Rio de Janeiro, but half the invading force were killed, and the remainder, to the number of five hundred men, captured. In the following year a French fleet under Admiral Duguay Trouin appeared, and Rio de Janeiro was occupied in September, 1711, after four days of desperate fighting. But the French admiral merely levied substantial ransom and withdrew, and from thenceforth no attempt was made to wrest the colony from Portugal.

In 1789 a movement was set afoot to establish the independence of Brazil from Portuguese dominion, but the conspiracy failed, and Tiradentes, the leader of the plot, was arrested and hanged, while other prominent persons implicated were banished to Africa.

The Peninsular War brought a crisis of far-reaching importance in Brazilian affairs. To begin with, the invasion of Portugal by Napoleon in 1807 forced King Joao VI to fly the country. The monarch, with a following of prominent Portuguese, including the cabinet ministers, left Lisbon in November, 1807, and reached Bahia in January, 1808, thence proceeding to Rio de Janeiro. Consequently for some years the colony became the seat of the parent Government. As retaliation for the invasion of Portugal, Joao ordered an expedition to attack French Guiana, obtaining possession of that territory, which, however, was restored to the French by the Treaty of Vienna in 1815. The same year saw the title of Brazil changed from a colony to that of the kingdom of Portugal, Brazil, and Alagoas. In 1817 Brazil entered upon a war of aggression in the south, and succeeded in capturing Montevideo, but lost it again in 1823.

Additional taxation had been imposed by King Joao to obtain the necessary funds to sustain his court, and this led to dissatisfaction. Nor was the subversive spirit thus generated allayed when the king threw Brazilian commerce open to the world. An agitation for independence sprang up and rapidly gained ground. In 1821 King Joao went to Portugal, leaving his son Pedro as Regent of Brazil. For a few months Pedro was able to stay the progress of the revolutionary movement, but in the following year the leaders decided to offer the Regent the title of Emperor, provided that independence from the mother country was accepted. The proclamation of Pedro as first Emperor of Brazil took place on 12 October, 1822, and from that date Portuguese dominion in Brazil was ended, notwithstanding efforts from Lisbon to enforce re-establishment of colonial authority. In 1825 the independence of Brazil was recognized by King Joao VI.

The reign of Pedro I was not happy. His autocratic administration of public affairs was unpopular. The question of republic or monarchy was discussed openly, while matters drifted generally from bad to worse. On the death of Joao VI the crown of Portugal descended to Pedro, but was renounced by him in favour of his daughter Maria. The popularity he gained by this act was only temporary, and in 1831 the political situation became more complicated, and as a result the Emperor abdicated in favour of his five-year-old son, and embarked for Europe.

A Regency was formed to administer the Government during the minority of Pedro II. The Council

was elective, and based on thoroughly democratic principles, but was not a success. Bitter jealousy arose against the men who controlled the central power, and it was decided to proclaim Pedro II as Emperor, although he was only fourteen years of age. On 23 July, 1840, the solemn announcement of his accession to the throne was made—the beginning of a reign destined to last for nearly half a century.

In 1889 a revolutionary movement, largely occasioned by dislike of the Emperor's daughter Princess Isabel and her husband, the Conde d'Eu, deposed the Emperor Pedro II, and a republic was established, Dom Pedro and his family being sent to Portugal.

Its Philatelic History

As I have said, Brazil was the first country to follow the example of Great Britain in the use of adhesive stamps for the prepayment of postage. The first adhesive postage stamp was issued in Great Britain in 1840, and in 1843 Brazil adopted the same expedient, and issued strange-looking labels with very large figures, and no other inscription of any sort. These figure stamps, with modifications in size, remained in use till 1866, a long life of twenty-three years, and the reason why some of the values may still be had for a few pence.

In 1866 was issued the first of a long list of portraits of Dom Pedro II, continued till 1884, when the introduction of other designs, including the southern cross, seemed to presage the coming change.

In 1890 the United States of Brazil sent out its first postage stamps with the simple design of the southern cross in an oval enclosed by scrollwork. The laurel-wreathed head of Liberty and other republican symbols followed and are still current.

A very large proportion of the stamps of Brazil, more especially those of the republic, are so badly perforated that really well-centred copies are very scarce in many issues.

1843. Three values. Design, large white figures of value on a dark background in an oblong oval. We are told that the first idea was to reproduce, as in England, the sovereign's features; but a respected and zealous director of the Rio Janeiro mint, fearing the respect due to his Emperor would be wounded were the postage stamps bearing the sacred effigy obliterated, made representations to that effect in a letter dated 13 February, 1843. The minister yielded to his reasoning, and the figure

design was adopted. The stamps were engraved by MM. Carlos Custodia de Azevedo and Guintino José de Faria, the mint engravers, and printed at the mechanic press under the direction of MM. Clemintino Geraldo de Gonvea and Florentino, in the workrooms of the National Treasury. The stamps were nicknamed "Bull's eyes"; they were printed on unwatermarked paper, and were not perforated.



Imperforate.

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
30 (reis), black	—	10 0
60 (") "	18 0	4 0
90 (") "	—	40 0

1844. Seven values. Design, smaller figures of value and smaller labels, the figures sloping on an engine-turned background in an oblong oval. The decree substituting these stamps for those of the preceding issue ordered that "the stamps shall be printed on very thin paper, and attached to the letters by means of some glutinous substance for rendering it impossible to detach them without injury." Imperforate.



Imperforate.

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
10 (reis), black	3 6	0 6
30 (") "	2 6	0 6
60 (") "	3 6	0 8
90 (") "	15 0	6 0
180 (") "	—	90 0
300 (") "	—	110 0
600 (") "	—	£9

1850. Eight values. Design, upright figures of value in an oblong rectangle. The size of the label was still further reduced. The new value of 20 reis was first issued and used for a surcharge imposed on foreign letters when delivered at home, but they were afterwards employed to make up the postage on letters after the postal convention with France. Imperforate.



Imperforate.

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
10 (reis), black	1 6	0 6
20 (") "	5 0	4 0
30 (") "	0 4	0 1
60 (") "	0 6	0 2
90 (") "	2 6	0 4
180 (") "	5 0	2 6
300 (") "	10 0	3 6
600 (") "	20 0	6 0

1854-61. Four values. Design, upright figures as before in a small oblong rectangle. The 10 and 30 reis were changed in colour from black to blue. The 280 and 430 reis were new values, introduced "for correspondence sent by intermediation of the French ports," according to a postal convention of 7 July, 1860.



Imperforate.

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
10 (reis), blue	0 6	0 4
30 (") "	1 0	3 0
280 (") "	20 0	8 0
430 (") "	25 0	20 0

1866. Twelve values. Design as in two previous issues. Colours as before, only perforated instead of imperforate. These perforated varieties are very scarce.

Perforated.

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
10 (reis), black	—	—
20 (") "	50 0	50 0
30 (") "	—	—
60 (") "	10 0	4 0
90 (") "	20 0	20 0
180 (") "	30 0	—
300 (") "	—	30 0
600 (") "	—	35 0
10 (") "	12 0	—
30 (") "	—	—
280 (") "	60 0	60 0
430 (") "	70 0	70 0

1866. Seven values. Design, portraits of the Emperor Dom Pedro II. The 10, 50, 80, 100, and 500 reis present the same full-face portrait, and the 20 and 200 reis a profile. The framing of the portraits varies in each value. These stamps were engraved and printed by the American Bank Note Co. of New York.

1878-80. Ten values. Design, more portraits of Dom Pedro II, each value enclosed in a different framework. Perforated.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 reis, vermilion-red	0 1	0 1
20 " rosy brown	0 2	0 1
50 " blue	0 4	0 2
80 " slate-purple	1 6	0 3
100 " green	0 6	0 1
200 " black	1 0	0 2
500 " orange	2 6	0 6

1878. One value. Design, portrait of Dom Pedro II enclosed in an elaborate frame of engine-turning and scrollwork. Perforated.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
300 reis, green and orange	6 0	1 6



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 reis, vermilion-red	0 1	0 1
20 " mauve	0 2	0 2
50 " blue	0 4	0 1
80 " lake-rose	1 6	0 3
100 " green	1 0	0 1
200 " black	7 6	0 6
260 " sepia	7 6	5 0
300 " bistre-brown	2 6	0 2
700 " brown-red	10 0	1 0
1000 " slate	7 6	2 0

1881-85. Four values. Design, portraits of Dom Pedro II on a smaller size stamp, each portrait as before enclosed in a different framework. These stamps were produced locally, and the portraits are weak reproductions of the portraits on the American Bank Note Co.'s stamps.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 reis, orange-vermilion	0 1	0 1
20 ,, green	0 1	0 1
100 ,, lilac	0 6	0 1

1887-88. Six values. Design, various and curious further local attempts of more or less indescribable types. This is the final issue of the Empire, and ominously does not include a single portrait of the Emperor. Perforated.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 reis, grey-black	0 1	0 2
30 ,, blue	0 4	0 2
100 ,, olive green	1 0	0 4
200 ,, brown-rose	2 6	0 2

1883. One value. Design, portrait of Dom Pedro II. The 100 reis of the previous issue of local manufacture evidently did not give satisfaction, hence this new design, which can scarcely be termed a success. Perforated.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
50 reis, blue	0 3	0 1
100 ,, lilac	1 0	0 1
300 ,, dull blue	1 6	0 4
500 ,, olive-green	2 0	0 2
700 ,, violet	2 0	1 0
1000 ,, blue	10 0	0 9

1884-85. Three values. Further local attempts to evolve a satisfactory series. Perforated.

The stamps of the republic will be dealt with in our next week's number.

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

CHAPTER XIII

Our Stock and How it is Arranged

I HAVE thought that a short account of our stock of postage stamps may be of some interest to my readers, and I will endeavour to make it as concise as possible.

When I took charge of the business in 1890 I found that the stock was so spread about that when we wanted a scarce variety we had to search through a number of books. We had remnants of thirty or forty collections, some of them in twenty volumes: the used stamps were kept in a multitude of small drawers just deep enough to hold a stamp placed on edge sideways; the unused were in envelopes in alphabetical order.

After a very short time I decided that we must have our stock kept in such order that at a moment's notice a client could have a large selection of any country he desired placed before him for selection.

I engaged the services of some of the best experts of the day to help in arranging these books and sorting and classing the stamps correctly, and amongst those to whom my firm is much indebted I must mention the late Mr. Gilbert Lockyer, the late Mr. W. E. Jeff, the late Mr. Gordon Smith, Lieut. Napier, Mr. S. C. Skipton, Mr. B. W. Warhurst, etc.

Our system of

Stock Books of each Country

is well known to many clients, but for the information of those who have not seen those books I will briefly describe them.

When we decide to rearrange a country we first gather together all the stock we have on hand of that country, wholesale and retail. We then send this stock and the old book to one of our experts, who sorts the stamps into a series of white envelopes for unused stamps and blue envelopes for used stamps; each envelope is numbered in the upper left-hand corner with the current catalogue number.

The new stock book is then commenced; where we have them in stock we put in unused blocks of four and two to three rows of

single stamps, and follow these by two rows of used stamps. *The best copies* in stock are put in these books, and it is from these books that we make our catalogue prices for the ensuing year.

Before we compile a new catalogue we go carefully through the stock of each country: where we note that last year we had a fair number of stamps and that there has been a run on such stamps, our stock being thereby much reduced, we raise our prices somewhat: on the contrary, if we find that during a year we have sold practically no copies of a certain stamp, that stamp comes down, and continues to do so each year until we reach a price at which it sells.

By these means, which we have now employed for ten years, we have been able to get at the real value of almost all stamps, but my readers must bear in mind that our business is world-wide, *our* demand is from all parts of the world, and the experience of a dealer who makes a speciality—say of the London market—would be totally different; such a man might (and often does) justly say that Gibbons' prices, say for Chili, Peru, etc., are too high and that *he* could not sell them unless he practically gave them away, and from his point of view he would be quite correct. He did not know the buyers in South America, etc., for such goods, and had no outlet for them.

The stock books have been and are of the greatest use to really serious buyers—such men get a choice of the finest goods in the market, and to large buyers my firm is now making important concessions.

We think it only right that the man who places large and important orders in our hands should have the goods at the lowest possible prices.

When our turnover was comparatively small our expenses were heavy, but since the enlargement of our business we have been enabled to increase our sales to such an extent that our expenses are now much smaller in comparison with those of former years.

We are now aiming to do a much larger

turnover, and we are convinced that the finest business rule is "small profits and quick returns," and an excellent maxim has it proved.

From this, our jubilee year, and onwards we shall allow the following discounts on stamps ordered from the catalogues, or selected from our approval books.

Small purchases under £10 at a time will be strictly net.

Purchasers of over

£10 and under £100 will get 10% discount.
 £100 " £500 " 15% "
 £500 will have 20% discount.

Many regular, almost daily, clients buy a pretty large amount during a year, and such regular clients can be dealt with on a basis of their yearly purchases on the following scale:—

Buyers during a year

Of under £100, no discount.
 Of over £100 and under £200, 10% discount.
 " £200 " £500, 15% "
 " £500, 20% discount.

By this scheme the big buyer will have the choice of the oldest, largest, and most complete stock in the world, and be able to obtain the very large *rebate of one-fifth* from all that he buys.

Well, all this has arisen out of notes on our stock books; they are important, and I wish collectors to know our ideas, and to avail themselves of opportunities such as no other firm can place before them.

Now I must proceed to describe other portions of our stock, especially that branch where we mostly come in touch with young collectors. I do not mean young in years, but young in our hobby.

I refer to the

Approval Sheet Department

This is an important branch of our business, and one to which we give much attention.

The stamps are arranged on sheets holding ten rows of ten stamps, that is, one hundred stamps to a sheet; from sixty to one hundred of each sheet are made up at a time, and the stamps are all arranged in exact catalogue order. For instance, "A" sheet contains stamps of Great Britain and Antigua; "B" sheet contains Barbados, Bangkok, Bahamas, and Bermuda; and so on.

In our stock we have over sixty different sheets, so a collector who goes through them will have had the chance to buy six thousand

different stamps, by no means a bad start for a pretty good collection.

No collector ever has the same sheet sent to him twice, as by means of a card index system we keep an exact record of which sheet a collector has had, and to test this I once turned up our old books and found which sheets I had when I was a boy at school in Birmingham.

We always keep a duplicate sheet of each one sent out, and if there is any changing of stamps it is at once detected.

No stamp goes on these sheets unless we have upwards of two hundred in stock, and on such sheets made up of stamps that we have in quantities we allow on

British Colonials : } 10% discount.
 Foreign Countries : }

Now the next step is that of the collector who has been through these sheets and wants something better, and this we provide by a selection of

Blue Approval Books

Of these books we have some thousands; most of the books contain stamps of one or two countries, both used and unused, and it is these books that we use mostly for our foreign approval business.

We have a further lot of blue approval books of *mixed stamps*; one book may have stamps in it priced from 1d. to 4d. each, another book stamps from 6d. to 5s., and other books stamps up to 40s. each. We are, however, not extending this branch of the business, as we find that collectors much prefer to receive selections of stamps properly arranged and classed.

Discounts on the "blue books" same as on approval sheets.

The value of these cheap approval selections sent out on sheets and in small books now amounts to over £1000 daily.

So much for approval books, sheets, and stock books; now I must proceed to describe how we keep our loose stock.

First of all there is the

Catalogue Order Department

This is where we execute all the orders sent in from our catalogues. In the winter season it takes six clerks all their time to keep pace with orders from the current catalogue.

We have in use a perfect system—everything is arranged by *numbers*. The stamps are all numbered in the catalogue, and the stock is all numbered to agree with the

last catalogue. The unused retail stock is kept in white envelopes, the used in blue envelopes.

These envelopes are kept in boxes holding about two hundred filled envelopes, and the several hundred boxes, representing a

valuable stock, are every evening placed in a large Milner's safe.

All that a client who has our last catalogue has to do is to quote the name of country, the number of the stamp, and say if wanted unused or used.

(To be continued.)

POSTAGE STAMP DEVICES

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 184.)

Heraldic Designs—continued

Charges

THE charge is that which is contained in the field, or surface of the shield. There are three main divisions of charges:

- (1) Honourable Ordinaries, consisting of lines only.
- (2) Subordinate Ordinaries, consisting of geometrical designs.
- (3) Common Charges, consisting of celestial, natural, artificial, and even imaginary figures.

"Ah!" says the reader, "now comes the treatise." Let me hasten to reply: "Not so. I intend to confine my remarks within very narrow limits, and to refer only to such charges as are found in our Stamp Devices."

Honourable Ordinaries

(1) The chief is an ordinary determined by a horizontal line. It is placed in the upper part of the field, and contains, in depth, the third of its space. In the accompanying illustration, the chief is "or," with a lion passant gardant.



North Borneo.

The chief is said to signify dominion and authority; and to have been granted also as a reward for eminent instances of wisdom. Whether the wisdom of the above colony has been shown in flooding

the stamp world with beautiful but worthless labels, history does not relate.

Common Charges

Next in importance to the lion comes the horse. The design of the first issue of the Duchy of Brunswick was the horse of Brunswick galloping to the left on an oval shield. Above the horse is the ducal coronet, and the colour of the shield is gules (i.e. red), denoted by the vertical lines.



Brunswick.

The only other animals which, as far as my knowledge goes, appear as charges on a philatelic shield are the bull and the buffalo. The face of a bull, a five-pointed star, and a posthorn formed the Arms of Moldavia. Among all horned animals the bull was held in the greatest esteem. His patience in enduring labour is exceeded by none. Tertullian records that the Athenians, in order to express their gratitude for this estimable quality, had his form stamped on the didrachma (a coin of the value of about fifteen pence in English money). The Arms of Moldavia appear within a circle or a rectangle with rounded corners.



Roumania.



Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

The head of the buffalo appears in the Arms of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. See illustration of first issue above.

Of heraldic birds, the eagle takes first rank. By the ancients it was dedicated to Jupiter on account of its generosity, strength, and courage. Being the noblest of birds, it has been chosen by several great European sovereigns as their armorial bearing. The imperial eagle had at first only one head. The two-headed eagle appeared sometime during the middle of the thirteenth century. The conventional heraldic attitude is known as "displayed," i.e. with expanded wings. Examples of the single-headed eagle are seen in the issues of Corea, Prussia, German Empire, general issue of French Colonies in 1859-62, Modena, Kingdom of Italy 1901, and Venezuela 1863-4. The double-headed eagle appears on the issues of Austria, Lubeck, Russia, and Poland.



German Empire.



Austria.



The Bergedorf issue of 1861 is interesting from the fact that the central design depicts half the Arms of Lubeck on the left, and half those of Hamburg on the right.

Some centuries ago, according to Mr. Westoby, Bergedorf was the seat of a nest of pirates. The burghers of Hamburg and Lubeck drove them out, and the place sank into oblivion, until its inhabitants once more achieved notoriety by issuing a series of postage stamps.



Of flowers, the charge most frequently met with in coats of arms is the fleur-de-lis. It is the emblem of wisdom, fidelity, and candour. Many volumes have been written

about the nature of this charge on the royal French escutcheon. Some hold that it represents a garden lily, others declare it to depict the top of a sceptre, while others see in it a representation of an iron javelin-head used by the ancient French. In the days of Edward III the Arms of France were: "Azure semé of Fleurs-de-lis Or," i.e. the golden lilies were scattered over a blue shield. Henry IV of France reduced the number of fleurs-de-lis to three.

Parma is the only stamp-issuing State which has presented us with an example of the fleur-de-lis. In 1847 this duchy passed into the possession of Charles Louis of Bourbon, Infante of Spain. This explains the appearance of this French charge on the stamps of a duchy which was afterwards absorbed in the Kingdom of Italy.

Other charges to be found on stamps are the crown of Portugal, the three crowns of Sweden, the towers of Cordoba, Hamburg, and Lubeck, the key of Bremen, and the stars of Brazil.

Conclusion

There are many other points which would require very careful explanation ere the beginner could be said to have a smattering of the science of heraldry. Of these, however, the parted fields, the marshalling of arms, external ornaments and supporters, I do not propose to treat. My object in writing these brief notes has been to make the heraldic designs which appear on stamps a little more intelligible to the average beginner. Those who are interested enough to pursue the subject further will find all the information they need in books such as Woodward and Burnett's *Heraldry*, or any Encyclopædia.

STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING. By Major E. B. EVANS

The young collector is frequently perplexed by the meaning of the various terms used in stamp collecting, and the fullest explanations of these will be found in this book. 2s. 9d. in Paper Cover, or 4s. 6d. strongly bound in Cloth.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Gambia.—The 2d., 4d., and 6d. values have been received on multiple CA paper. The current series of this colony is running into a formidable list. The 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 3s. remain to be issued on multiple CA paper.



Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf.

- ½d., green.
- 1d., carmine.
- 2d., orange and violet.
- 3d., ultramarine.
- 4d., magenta and blue.
- 5d., chocolate and blue.
- 6d., grey and black.
- 7d., sage-green and carmine.
- 10d., green and carmine.
- 15d., olive-brown and carmine.
- 1s., violet and green.
- 2s., black and orange.

Salvador.—We illustrate what is presumably the forerunner of a new series.



Perf.

1 centavo, green.

Transvaal.—We have received the 2d. stamp on multiple CA paper.

Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf.

- ½d., green.
- 1d., carmine.
- 2d., grey-black and mauve.
- 3d., " " ultramarine.
- 4d., " " sage-green.
- 5d., " " chocolate.
- 6d., " " orange.
- 1s., " " red-brown.
- 2s., " " yellow.

Tunis.—Our publishers send us some further values, which presumably complete the series of new designs. Four middle values, 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 25 c., have a ploughing scene as their central design, and three high values, 1 fr., 2 fr., and 5 fr., a native boat with sweeps. We recapitulate to include the complete series.

Perf.



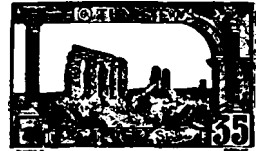
The Kairouan Mosque.

- 1 centime, black on buff.
- 2 centimes, red-brown.
- 5 " green.



Ploughing Scene.

- 10 centimes, red.
- 15 " violet.
- 20 " brown.
- 25 " blue.



The Ruins of Hadrian's Aqueduct.

- 35 centimes, green and bistre.
- 40 " brown and red-brown.
- 75 " red-brown and rose.

Ship with Sweeps.

- 1 fr., red, centre brown.
- 2 fr., bistre, centre olive-green.
- 5 fr., violet, centre blue.

Victoria.—We have received the 4d. on Crown A paper from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.



Wmk. Crown A. Perf.

- ½d., green.
- 1d., rose.
- 2d., violet.
- 3d., orange.
- 4d., bistre.
- 6d., green.
- 9d., rose.

GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Encouraging Philately!!

MR. LABOUCHERE in *Truth* has been showing up a curious stamp competition. He says:—

"A schoolmaster sends me a leaflet headed 'To Encourage Philately,' issued by the Stamp Prize Bureau, of 17 Coventry Street, Kidderminster. The leaflet gives particulars of a stamp competition in which this firm offers cash prizes from £5 downwards 'to the sender of the largest number of different used postage stamps, sent to our bureau by 30 June, 1906.' 'All stamps sent in must be different,' which means, I suppose, that duplicate stamps will not count towards the prize; and 'all stamps sent in will become the property of the Stamp Prize Bureau.' In other words, the whole object of the scheme is to set people to work collecting stamps which are to swell the stock-in-trade of this firm. This is what the Stamp Prize Bureau call 'encouraging Philately'; and they have the impudence to send a batch of these circulars to a schoolmaster for distribution among his pupils in the hope of setting these children to work for their benefit. I wonder whether there really is a single schoolmaster in the country who would allow his pupils to be fooled in this way."

A Rival Scheme

I am thinking of starting a rival scheme to this Stamp Prize Bureau business. I shall make it a competition for chalkies, to test the ability of young flats in separating chalkies from ordinary surface paper. Only unused stamps to be sent in for this competition, and no values under 1s. All stamps sent in to become the property of yours truly, and the flat sending in the largest number of stamps to receive the prize of five bob.

Another scheme occurs to me, the only objection being that the churches might suffer. I propose to have a competition for the largest number of threepenny-pieces in mint condition, all the dear little coins sent in to become the property of yours truly, and the flat sending in the largest number of threepenny-pieces to receive a whole five-shilling piece.

See how they rave!

ACCORDING to the editor of the *West-End Philatelist*, somebody is getting into a pretty bad way over those stamps on chalky paper. He says a writer in a contemporary "nearly goes into a fit of hysterical raving on the point." Can't you fancy the scene? Said writer foaming at the mouth, eyeballs fixed and staring, hands clenched, and said editor cowering in a corner, shivering, pale, and tears of agony watermarking his sweet, pale face. Ugh! it gives me the creeps!

Where do you buy your Stamps?

THAT is the question that was recently asked by the impertinent writer of the advertisements on the cover of our *G.S.W.*

When I read that, says I, "Go and hang your-

self! What has it got to do with you where I buy my stamps? I don't spend more than a thousand (pence!) a year on stamps, and I ought to be allowed to spend that thousand in peace."

"Not so fast, Cornelius," said an old crony of mine; "you are working yourself up into an unnecessary rage."

"What the editor of a contemporary calls 'a fit of hysterical raving,' eh?"

"Just so; and if you'd only be rational you would understand that it is a very important question to ask. Let me try to get you to understand——"

"Sir!"

"Calm yourself and listen. A collector recently sold his fine collection for some hundreds of pounds, and the buyer told him the amount would have been very much more if it had not been so plentifully sprinkled with forgeries. Then the question arose where he had been buying his stamps to get such an unusual lot of forgeries mixed up with such a fine lot of genuine stamps, and it turned out that he had bought them in the seaside town in which he lived. Inquiries which were then set on foot cleared up the mystery. A plausible continental had visited that town and sold all the local dealers large bargain parcels of saleable stamps—all fakes. Such stuff could, of course, be sold at the most tempting prices under Gibbons, and at a fine profit too, but how about the final lap, Cornelius?"

I agreed that the question might be more pertinent than impertinent after all.

The New Liberia

THE new Liberia set is the talk of the town. It is the handsomest set of stamps that has been produced since the Waterlow New Zealand Pictorial issue. As a Pictorial issue it is reliably correct in its delineation of types of the country. Sir Harry Johnston, the great African traveller, has seen to that. And the engraving is the work of our old friends Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., the engravers of the first English stamps, and of the only creditable postage-stamp portrait of King Edward VII.

The Canadian Portrait

TALKING about Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.'s neat and effective portrait of the King on the current Canadian stamps, it is no secret that the American Bank Note Co. of New York, who print the Canadian stamps under an old contract, have not improved the design in their rough-and-ready manipulation of it; they have even interfered with the beauty of the design itself, and in the case of the 1 c. have altered and redrawn the neat corner figures of the die stamp. It is a matter for general regret that the beautifully simple design of the original could not have been preserved intact, and the stamps printed by the original engravers, instead of by an American company.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

American Notes and News

198 BROADWAY, NEW YORK,
10 March, 1906.

Auctions

AUCTIONS! nothing but auctions—and such a lot of mixed-up material I have never seen. I believe I am correct in saying there were no less than fourteen last month at the Collectors' Club, and offerings were no more than well taken. The same old story about condition, of course; the fine things brought high prices, and the mediocre stuff was given away at prices commensurate with this class of material.

We're Busy Now

It is just a year since we had the pleasure of Mr. Luff's joining forces with us, and it has indeed been a very busy one. We have literally been swamped with work, and work means money, increased patronage, and a generally healthy expansion in all philatelic lines. I have seen the time when a Saturday's mail was being opened on Tuesday, which is not an altogether unhealthy sign, and trade in general is tip-top. We are not rich enough to give away the first issue of Reunion to every prospective or actual client just yet, but I will say that such things as fine rare stamps in good condition, gum or no gum, will look pretty cheap at to-day's prices a few years from now. There are more real bargains to be found in Gibbons Stock Books than anywhere else this side of eternity, in my humble opinion.

Lost

A fine specimen of an early Austrian stamp, it having been cracked by its original gum. Collectors will please take due notice thereof, and come to their senses in time. [Let 'em crack.—E.N.]

G.S.W. American Readers

I'm very glad to note the steady increase in subscriptions to this little paper from American collectors—perhaps I had better stop writing any more letters before they rue their generosity. No. 1 says these notes are all right as far as they go, but they don't go far enough; No. 2 says there's only 10 per cent. philately, the other 90 per cent. being ginger; and No. 3 tells me they are not worth powder to blow them to—Costa Rica is said to be contemplating a new issue of postage stamps.

Clever Fakes of Old Swiss

American collectors are warned against some very clever fakes of the rare 4 c. Vaud Switzerland. The fakers are using the genuine five cent value, scratching out the five and reducing its face value by a centime, but enhancing, or trying to enhance, its philatelic value several thousand per cent. Look out—and if you are offered any particularly rare stamps at Hester Street prices, it will probably be money in your pocket to consult the oracle. The fee of 50 cents and \$1.00 is cheap enough, and the total received by us in a year for this expert work wouldn't pay 1 per cent. on the money invested in genuine stamps kept on hand solely for reference work.

That Photo of Me

Contrary to the statement in a recent number of the *Weekly*, printed underneath the reverse view of my elongated anatomy, I beg to deny looking for any watermark in the River Thames. The Thames isn't large enough to accommodate a real big watermark. As a matter of fact, I was thinking what a very superior way of navigation a tow-line attached to a motor boat was, as compared to physical strenuousness with the sculls. I did not need to sit up and take notice, as the scenes were all very familiar to me.

Our Little Trip

Nevertheless I do enjoy going up the Thames with the Czar of the Strand; he arranges things so nicely, and bosses the job so thoroughly, that even the little flag on the motor boat is afraid to blow out except on a special permit.

Recent Issues on the Rise

The Southern Nigeria £1, single watermark, lately offered at auction in this city, brought \$55.00, and the Lagos 10s. brought \$30.00. These are pretty convalescent prices for stamps which could be bought for \$10.00 or so about eighteen months ago. Speaking of King's Heads reminds me that the Cape of Good Hope 2d., muchly run after and eagerly speculated in, is again in issue. The Postmaster sent us a supply two or three weeks ago, and kindly hinted that the 2½d. will shortly again be trotted out to do its duty. The latest supplies from Trinidad show the ½d. ordinary multiple, the 1d., 2½d., and 1s. all on chalk multiple.

On Examining a Collection

It is hinted that a certain New York dealer always takes his glasses off when examining a collection offered for sale, and some collectors have even rudely hinted he does so in order that he may not see the good stamps! Of course, this is not so. If a New York dealer finds a rare stamp he at once tells the vendor, of course, but it is a funny coincidence that no less than three of our well-known dealers can examine a stamp with greater precision when they take off their glasses.

We're going in for Rare Transvaals

I'm very glad to note that several of the tit-bits from Glendining's recent sale of rare Transvaals came over to this side of the pond—"for keeps," as the boys say. America is fast coming to the fore as a buyer of great rarities, and we know of several philatelic graveyards over here that seem ready to accommodate any rarities that may be looking around for permanent residence. You fellows have had it all your own way for a very long time, and now that this country is making a dollar or two we're going to invest *some* of our surplus in good stamps. They're better than your blooming old Consols, and superbly superior to your old debentures with 1s. in the pound pared off to enable the working man to have his full-sized cottage loaf. Protection for mine, and that spelt with a big P.

Unless shot, poisoned, or removed to Colney Hatch, more anon.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Enterprise Philatelic Society

Secretary: A. C. Constantinides, Woodview, Archway Road, Highgate, London, N.
Meetings: Monthly, Devonshire House Hotel, Bishopsgate Street, London, E.C.

All arrangements for the auction sale to be held on Wednesday, 4 April, are now complete.

The Lincolnshire Room at the Great Eastern Railway Co.'s hotel, Liverpool Street Station, has been reserved, and it is hoped that members will turn up in strong force to support the bidding. Very many extremely nice lots are in for disposal.

A catalogue has been prepared, and may be had upon application to the Hon. Secretary. The description of lots has been entered into in great detail by the Auction Committee, special stress being laid upon the question of condition, so that country members may have full confidence in sending postal bids, which will be faithfully executed by the Hon. Secretary.

All members are earnestly invited to bring their friends, who will be heartily welcome. The disposal of the lots will commence at 6.30 p.m. prompt.

The following are four of the most prominent lots: Chili, a superb collection of perfect stamps; New Zealand, S.G. 7, a magnificent used copy, also a complete mint set of 1898 London prints; Montserrat, 2½d., red-brown, CA, a nice used copy of this, and also of Tobago, 1880, ½d., purple-brown.

Applications for catalogues should be accompanied by postage, and be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, A. C. Constantinides, Woodview, Archway Road, Highgate, N., or Dixon's House, Lloyd's Avenue, E.C. (Tel. 6185 Ave.)

Herts Philatelic Society

President: F. Reishanheim, Esq.
Secretary: H. A. Slade, Esq., "Nine-Fields," St. Albans.
Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.
Subscription: 5s. annually.

The eighth annual dinner of the above Society will be held in London on Tuesday, 29 May, 1906. The Committee feel this day to be particularly appropriate, owing to the International Philatelic Exhibition then being held. The Executive Committee and Judges of the Exhibition will be invited to attend as the Society's guests, as also will the most prominent foreign collectors. Altogether a glittering array of philatelic devotees should be present, and it is hoped that many country members of the Society who have hitherto been unable to make the journey will take the opportunity of coming up to town to aid their officers' endeavours to do honour to whom honour is due. The Society itself was never in a more flourishing condition than at the present—a remark, though, that would hold true every week since its inception. Further details as to the time and place of the dinner will be announced in due course.

The general meeting will be held on 15 May.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: E. Egly, Arnccliffe Road, West Park, Leeds.
Secretary: Charles W. Harding, 139 Belle Vue Road, Leeds.
Meetings: Leeds Institute, Coleridge Street, Leeds.
Annual Subscription: 5s.; Ent. once Feb, 2s. 6d.

Stamps of British India

At the meeting of this Society held in the Leeds Institute on 6 March, 1906, the centre of attraction was

the display of postally used Indian stamps belonging to Mr. Ernest Heginbottom, B.A., of Rochdale, whose generous spirit, in submitting for inspection this further section of his superb collection of used Colonials, was much appreciated. The stamps were representative of British India only, none of those overprinted for use in Native States (or the independent issues of the Native Feudatory States) being included; and these, rich in shades, proved a host in themselves.

The first postage stamps used in India were the three ½ anna embossed stamps, coloured respectively white, blue, and scarlet, issued in 1851 under the authority of Sir Bartle Frere, then Governor of the Province of Scinde, for the Scinde District Post, and these were suppressed in 1854 on the introduction of the general issue for British India under the Hon. East India Company. This issue of 1854 consisted of three values, ½ anna, red, ½ anna, blue, and 2 annas, green, of somewhat primitive design, with diademed head of Queen Victoria in profile enclosed in a rectangular frame, inscribed "India" in the space at top and with the value at foot, and was lithographed and printed in Calcutta, at the office of the Surveyor-General, on white wove paper watermarked with the Arms of India covering an entire sheet. The ½ anna, red, is a great rarity, whilst the ½ anna, blue, is quite common. The explanation of this value being printed in two different colours is, that as soon as a few hundred sheets had been printed, they were, at the request of the Director-General, sent to Bombay; meanwhile, during further printing, it was discovered that the red ink had so deteriorated the plates that a new die had to be engraved, and it was decided to print the stamps in blue. The stamps printed in red were recalled, but not until some of them had been put into circulation, for postally used specimens are known. A variety of the 1 anna value exists with pointed bust, from a lithographic transfer made after the original die had been retouched. In 1854-5 a further value of 4 annas was added, the design being an octagon with the head enclosed in a circle; this stamp was printed in varying shades of red and blue, and is fairly scarce in an unused state.

In November, 1855, appeared the 4 and 8 annas values on blue glazed paper, unwatermarked, and perforated 14; this was an entirely new design of stamp, and, like the following issues of 1856-64 of similar type, ½, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas, were engraved and printed by De La Rue & Co., the inscription being "East India Postage." The rarity of this set is the 2 annas, yellow-green, of which a fine used specimen is included in Mr. Heginbottom's collection. In 1865 a similar set, watermark Elephant's Head, was issued, followed in 1866 by the large 6 annas stamp, overprinted in green with the word "Postage" in a curve at top, and the 4 annas, green, for which two different dies were used; other values added later were the 6 annas 8 pies, and (in 1874) 1 rupee.

Queen Victoria assumed the title of Empress of India in 1877, and the change is marked by the next and all subsequent issues being altered from "East India" to "India." The present watermark on all British India stamps is a Star, first introduced with the new issues for all values made up in 1882-8.

A remarkable fact in connexion with the postal issues of India is that it has only been found necessary to issue two provisional stamps, viz. the 2½ annas sur-

charged on the $\frac{4}{3}$ annas, yellow-green, in 1891, and the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna on $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, green, in 1894.

Three large bicoloured stamps, values 2, 3, and 5 rupees, exceedingly effective in design, were issued in 1895, and in 1902-3 appeared the current set of stamps with head of King Edward, the previous designs being closely adhered to for the new issue.

On the motion of the President, Mr. Egly, seconded by Mr. Harding, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Heginbottom for his display.

Mr. J. H. Thackrah also showed his collection of Indian stamps for the purpose of comparison, and Mr. Oswald Brown, of York, brought his collection of British and Colonials.

Amongst the novelties shown were the following by Mr. Egly: Germany, 1902, 5 and 10 pfennig values on watermarked paper (Lozenges), also Kiautschou, 1905, $\frac{3}{4}$, 1, $1\frac{1}{2}$, and 2 dollars, the latter two on the new watermarked paper (Lozenges).

Leicester Philatelic Society

President: Dr. R. Milbourne West.

Meetings: Winn's Cafe, Market Place.

Hon. Sec.: J. H. W. Goddard, Church Avenue, Glenfield Road.

THE usual monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, 7 March, 1906, at the Winchester House Board Room. There was a good attendance of members. The chair was occupied by Dr. Musson for the first part of the meeting and afterwards by the President (Dr. West). The minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed, one new member was elected (Miss Douglas). Mr. T. B. Widdowson then explained the method that had been adopted for the arrangement of the forgery collection, and further donations were solicited. Mr. E. Heginbottom's collections of Leeward Islands, Grenada, and St. Lucia were then shown, which included Grenada, 1s., no G, 1875, also the OSTAGE of 1881, and the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 4d. of same year with broad-pointed Star watermark, all in fine used condition. Mr. J. G. Boulton showed his very fine display of Persia and the fine collection of British South Africa belonging to T. W. Everard, Esq., kindly lent for the occasion. Votes of thanks to the three gentlemen for their kindness terminated a most enjoyable evening.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: Herbert Woods.

Secretary: W. Halfpenny, 28 Dacey Street, Liverpool.

Meetings: Angel Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool. 7 p.m.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held at the Angel Hotel, Dale Street, on Monday evening, 5 March, 1906. There was a good attendance of members, and after the preliminary business had been concluded a paper on the stamps of Sarawak was read by the President, Mr. Herbert Woods. The lecturer first dealt with the history of this small colony, making special mention of the Brooke family, with whom it has always been so closely and happily associated, and then went into its philatelic issues very thoroughly. He brought forward much information which was quite new to the bulk of the members present, and gave minute particulars of many minor varieties, some of which are uncatalogued. The whole paper gave evidence of extensive research, and, considering the difficulty of obtaining much information about these stamps, a large amount of time and trouble must have been spent in its preparation. At the conclusion a sincere vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Woods for his excellent paper. An exhibition of the stamps of Sarawak and Belgium followed, and some nice collections were on view.

Scottish Philatelic Society

President: John Walker.

Secretary: R. W. Findlater, 30 Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh.

Meetings: Edinburgh. Monthly: 8 p.m.

Annual Subscription: Ord. 5s.; Cor. 2s. 6d.

THE monthly meeting of the above Society was held on Monday, 12 March, 1906, at 8 p.m., at 26 Frederick Street, Edinburgh, with an attendance of fifteen members and one visitor. Mr. A. W. McGregor, w.s., Edinburgh, and Mrs. Brayshaw, Keith, Banffshire, were unanimously elected ordinary and corresponding members. The Secretary reported that the November, 1905, packet returned from circulation on 17 February, 1906, with excellent sales; sheets returned to members on Monday, 19 February, 1906. The December, January, February, and March packets still in circulation, with very satisfactory sales to date.

Mr. T. A. McIntyre read an interesting paper on the "Standardizing of Philately," which was followed by an animated debate. Mr. J. Humphries' fine collection of the stamps of Somaliland was on view.

THE IMPERIAL ALBUM

Tenth Edition. Size of pages, $8\frac{3}{4} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The present edition is arranged in *three* volumes. Two causes have acted to bring about this result. First, the ever-increasing number of new issues, for which accommodation must be provided; and secondly, the demand by collectors that space shall be found for varieties of perforation and shade, errors, etc., to conform as closely as possible to the lists given in the publishers' Catalogue. Vol. I. The Stamps of the British Empire; post-free, 10s. 9d. Vol. II. The Stamps of Europe, and the Colonies and Possessions of European States; post-free, 12s. 9d. Vol. III. Foreign Countries, except Europe and Possessions; post-free, 10s. 9d.

BRITISH AFRICA POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

Owing to the fact that the war in South Africa has caused great attention to be drawn to the stamps of the British Possessions on that continent, and to the enormous increase in the number of collectors that has ensued from the issue of the War Provisionals in Mafeking, Bloemfontein, Pretoria, etc., we think this a good time at which to place before the public a new and very complete Album, designed for the British Possessions, etc., on the African Continent. The Album is designed upon the well-known plan of the Imperial Albums—the stamps in numbered spaces of the correct sizes on the right-hand page, and the description, full particulars, and illustrations on the opposite page. In order to make this a *permanent* Album we have provided from one to four blank pages *after each country*, thus making the Album available for the issues of many years to come. 220 pages. Size, $8\frac{3}{4} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Post-free in Great Britain, 10s. 7d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

OUR PHILATELIC DIARY

APRIL, 1906

We shall be glad if Secretaries of Philatelic Societies will send us their Programmes for the new year. Several Societies are omitted from this Diary for lack of Programmes.

2. Liverpool Philatelic Society: Discussion—Specialism (opened by Mr. C. S. Milner) v. General (opened by J. A. Gordon). Display for Special Prize.
- 3 & 4. Auction: Puttick & Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London. 4.30 p.m.
4. Leicester Philatelic Society: Address—Perforations; by Dr. R. Milbourne West. Display of St. Vincent, Antigua, Dominica, and Cayman Islands.
- 5 & 6. Auction: Ventom, Bull, & Cooper, Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London. 4.30 p.m.
5. Birmingham Philatelic Society: Paper—"St. Vincent"; Mr. W. Pimm.
Bristol Philatelic Society: St. Lucia, Trinidad, Turks Islands.
Leeds Philatelic Society: Display of South Australian Stamps, with Notes, by Mr. H. Wade.
6. Manchester Philatelic Society: Display with Notes—Holland; Mr. R. F. Chance.
7. Junior Philatelic Society: Ladies' Night—5.30. Auction. 8.0. Display: Cape of Good Hope; Mrs. D. Field. 9.0. Paper: "Philately in Fiction," the President.
9. Scottish Philatelic Society: General Display.
Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society: "Points for Collectors," W. C. Taylor.
- 10 & 11. Auction: Glendining & Co., 7 Argyll Street, London. 4.30 p.m.
11. International Philatelic Union: Display with Notes—Japan Telegraphs and Fiscals; Mr. L. W. Fulcher.
17. Herts Philatelic Society: Display with Notes—Uruguay (second part); Mr. T. W. Hall. Display—Colonials; Mr. Robert Reid.
18. Enterprise Philatelic Society (London): Display with Notes—Leeward Islands, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts. F. Heginbottom, B.A. Paper: "Fiscal Notes and Indications," accompanied by Display of the United States and Philippines; W. Schwabacher. General Sale and Exchange.
- 19 & 20. Auction: Ventom, Bull, & Cooper, Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London. 4.30 p.m.
20. London Philatelic Society: Mr. A. Bagshawe. Paper on the "Stamps of the Straits Settlements," with Display.
- 24 & 25. Auction: Glendining & Co., 7 Argyll Street, London. 4.30 p.m.
Auction: Puttick & Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London. 4.30 p.m.
24. Leeds Philatelic Society: Paper by Mr. W. D. Roebuck.
30. Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society: Paper on "Stamps of Spain," by Mr. J. H. M. Savage.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to Edward J. Nankivell, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Correspondence.—The Editor regrets that he has no time for direct correspondence. All letters requiring a reply will be dealt with under the head of "Answers to Correspondents."

Examination of Stamps.—This work is done by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., whose terms for the examination of stamps sent to them for their opinion are, cash in advance: 2s. 6d. per dozen; a minimum charge of 1s. being made if less than twelve stamps are sent. Postages extra. The stamps should be sent lightly fastened on sheets, with sufficient space above each stamp for the insertion of the desired information.

The following abbreviations are used in giving an opinion:—B. Bogus, i.e. never existed; F. Forged; G. Genuine; G.F. Stamps genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark. The charge for marking the forgeries in a collection in its entirety is at the

rate of 10s. per 1000 stamps examined, the minimum fee being 5s. Postages extra. If a correspondence is desired, the charge is 1s. for each letter written.

Subscriptions.—Subscriptions must be sent to the publishers as set out on the front page of cover, or to booksellers or railway bookstalls, but never to the Editor.

Covers for Binding Vol. II.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. II of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d. post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. I. January to June, 1905, including the rare early numbers. 400 pages, 10s. 9d., post-free. Vol. II. July to December, 1905. 444 pages, price 4s. 9d., post-free.

Philatelic Societies.—We wish to make a special feature of the prompt publication of the reports of Philatelic Societies, and trust we may have the kindly co-operation of the honorary secretaries in this matter. Reports should be written on one side of the paper, and dispatched to the Editor by the earliest post.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR *G. S. W.* READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "*G. S. W.*" readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

ED. "*G. S. W.*"

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

TASMANIA.



1857-70.

Wmk. Numeral. Imperf.

1d., brick-red.

1d., vermilion.

1d., carmine.

The set of three stamps is catalogued at 9s. the three.

Special Bargain price for these fine unused stamps, with portrait of Queen Victoria,
5s. the three, post-free.

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

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 14
Whole No. 66

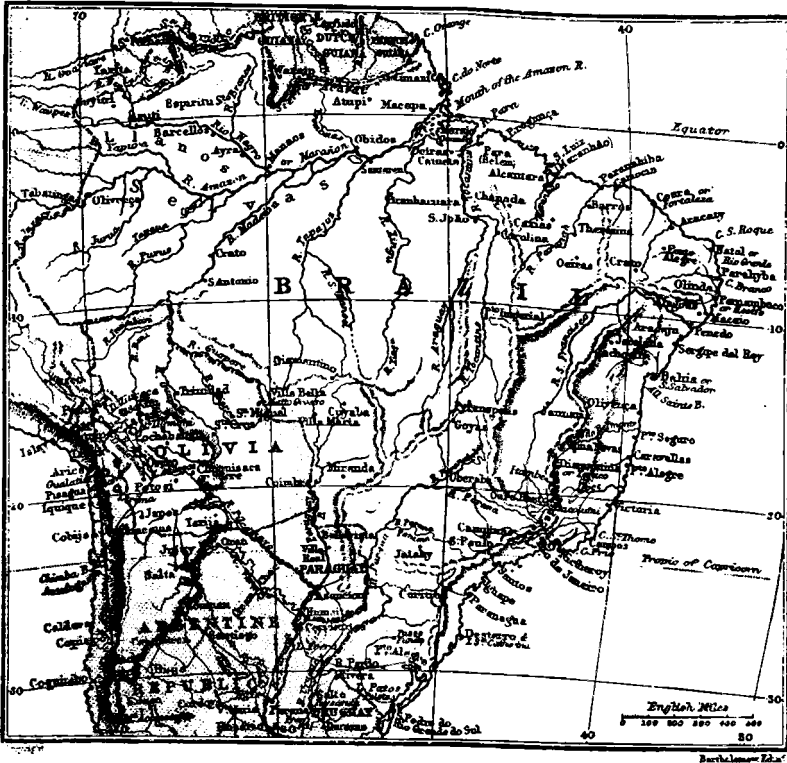
7 APRIL, 1906

VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Brazil



(Continued from page 197.)

The Republic

1890. In 1889 Brazil was changed from a monarchy into a republic under the new title of the United States of Brazil, and in the following year the portraits of the late Emperor Pedro II were superseded by a representation of the constellation familiarly known as the Southern Cross, one of the principal star groups of the southern

hemisphere. The simple inscription of BRAZIL gave place to the new development E.U. DO BRAZIL. There were eight values. The design was simple and effective, but the printing was somewhat crude, resulting in the cases of the 20 r., 50 r., 200 r., and 300 r. in very wide divergencies in shades. The perforation was also very bad, so much so that well-centred copies of some of the values are very scarce.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
20 reis, green	0 2	0 1
30 " olive-green	0 2	0 2
100 " mauve	0 6	0 1
200 " violet	0 9	0 1
300 " dull blue	1 6	0 4
500 " olive-buff	1 6	1 0
700 " brown	1 6	0 9
1000 " olive-yellow	2 0	0 9

1891. One value. Design, a female head decorated with the cap of liberty. This design does not seem to have given satisfaction, for only one value was issued.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
100 reis, blue and carmine	0 3	0 1

1893. One value. Design, another unsuccessful attempt to evolve a satisfactory stamp, even more disappointing than the last, and once more confined to the 100 reis value.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
100 reis, rose	0 2	0 1

1894-1904. Nine values. Designs, low values, representation of the bay of Rio de Janeiro; middle values, laureated head of Liberty; and 1000 reis, winged head of Mercury. The whole series was printed in

two colours. The stamps were crowded so closely together on the plate that there was scarcely room between for the perforation; as a consequence it is very difficult to find copies in which the perforation does not cut into the design on the top or bottom or sides.



Perforated.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
100 reis, rose and blue	0 2	0 1
20 " orange and blue	0 2	0 1
50 " blue and pale blue	0 2	0 1



Unused.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
100 reis, rose and black	0 3	0 1
200 " orange and black	0 4	0 2
300 " green "	0 6	0 1
500 " blue "	0 9	0 3
700 " lilac "	1 0	0 6



Unused.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1000 reis, green and mauve	1 3	0 3

1898-9. Provisionals. Seven values.

100
1898
100

Design, Newspaper stamps surcharged for ordinary postal use.

Perforated.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
100, in violet, on 50 r., dull orange	5 0	—
200, in black, on 100 r., mauve	0 4	0 2
300, in violet, on 200 r., black	0 6	0 4
500, in black, on 300 r., rose-red	1 0	0 9
500, in blue, on 300 r.	1 6	1 0
700, in black, on 500 r., blue-green	1 0	1 0
700, in green, on 500 r., orange	1 0	1 6
1000, " on 300 r.	1 6	1 6
1000, in red, on 700 r., ultramarine	1 6	1 6
2000, in green, on 1000 r., orange	3 0	3 0
2000, " on 1000 r., brown	3 0	2 0

**200
1898**

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
200, in black, on 100 reis, mauve	0 4	—
200, in blue	0 6	0 6

**1898
50 RÉIS 50**

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
20 reis, in black, on 10 reis, blue.	0 2	0 6
50 " in blue, on 20 reis, green.	0 2	0 3
100 " in red, on 50 reis "	0 3	—

£1899. Provisionals. Five values surcharged on remainders of the Southern Cross series of 1890.

1899

50 RÉIS

Perforated.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
50 reis on 20 reis, green	0 1	—
500 " 300 " blue	0 6	0 3
700 " 500 " olive-buff	—	1 0
1000 " 700 " brown	1 3	0 9
2000 " 1000 " olive-yellow	—	—

1900. A Commemorative series of four values. Designs, various and extraordinary, in celebration of the four-hundredth anniversary of the discovery of Brazil.



(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.



Perforated.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
100 reis, red	0 3	—
200 " blue and yellow	0 6	—
500 " blue	1 0	—
700 " green	1 0	—

1900. Three values. Designs of 1894-1904, but colours changed and printed in one colour instead of two.

Perforated.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
50 reis, green	0 1	0 1
100 " carmine	0 2	0 1
200 " blue	0 3	0 1

1905. A reissue of the series of 1894-1904 on paper watermarked CORREIO FEDERAL REPUBLICA DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DO BRAZIL, in single-line capitals, in the sheet.

Perforated.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
10 reis, scarlet and blue	—	—
20 " orange and blue	0 2	—
50 " green	0 2	—
100 " carmine	0 3	—
200 " blue	0 6	—
300 " green and black	—	—

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

CHAPTER XIII—*continued*

The Wholesale Department

THE stamps of which we have under five hundred of a kind are kept in unfolded sheets in large envelopes, and the envelopes are kept in a nest of about two hundred and fifty drawers, each having a heavy piece of tin at the top to keep the stamps flat.

Stamps of which we have large stocks are kept in safes in our strong-rooms.

During the past few years we have found our retail business has increased so rapidly that we have neglected the wholesale, in which the profit is now very small, and we only publish a wholesale list for the trade about once a year.

Sets and Packet Department

This is a branch to which we give a great deal of attention. Our list of sets is by far the largest in the trade, and at the present moment we carry a stock of more than *two thousand different sets*. The sets are made up of more or less surplus stock, which we are able to offer at big discounts on catalogue prices, and beginners will, I think, find sets an advantageous method of buying.

Our Packets

Are known wherever stamps are collected, and from the immense numbers of repeat orders and letters of thanks that we receive they must be well liked everywhere.

We have packets to suit all purses, packets at 6d. each, and packets up to £14 each, always in stock.

The number of packets that passed through our hands *last year* was but little short of

Thirty Thousand,

and at a rough estimate they must have contained fully

Six Million stamps,

equal to about twelve large sacks packed full—truly a colossal number.

The stamps for all our packets are carefully selected, and torn and heavily cancelled ones are always rejected.

The small packets have the stamps put loose in them; but packets containing five hundred stamps each and upwards have all the stamps carefully mounted on thin sheets of paper in alphabetical order, and this greatly facilitates their removal to collections.

I presume I need hardly say that every stamp included in our packets is fully guaranteed genuine.

We do not include such things as reprints, bogies, locals, cut cards, etc., such as figure in such large quantities in cheap packets coming from certain places on the Continent.

CHAPTER XIV

Our Reference Collections of Reprints, Forgeries, Photographs, Postmarks, Books, etc.

FROM early days in the history of our firm its chiefs have recognized the necessity of having on hand for ready reference all kinds of material that would be of use to assist in detecting forgeries, reprints, etc.; and during the past ten years I have given a good deal of time to the formation of such collections, which I estimate have cost us close on *three thousand pounds*. But in these collections we have a mass of material possessed by no other firm, which we find of the greatest value in assisting us in our expert work, and in keeping our stock free from forgeries, fakes, reprints, etc.

In this connexion I think I may venture to say that the Philatelic Society, London, has for the past three years recognized the value of our reference collections, for

The Expert Committee

of that Society (consisting of Messrs. Bacon-Castle, Ehrenbach, Hausburg, and Yardley) meet once a fortnight at 391 Strand to examine stamps sent in for their opinion during the preceding two weeks.

The reference collection of stamps, etc., is now being rearranged in Oriel Albums, of which at present twenty-one volumes have been filled. When all our loose material is mounted I estimate that we

shall have at least forty volumes; and I value this collection so highly that I have recently purchased one of Milner's best fireproof safes, specially built to my order, to contain it.

The material in this collection is arranged in the exact order followed by our priced catalogues, and the stamps, etc., of any country can be referred to in a moment.

The scope of the collection is somewhat as follows:—

Reprints

These are very complete, but few known reprints being lacking. I collect reprints in singles in all varieties, and where I can obtain them, in entire sheets or in blocks of four. A block is often useful, the difference in the margin of a stamp being often almost essential in determining its character, e.g. old Wurtemberg stamps.

In reprints I also collect as a separate set those having forged postmarks, such as are so common in Heligoland.

Forgeries

Our collection of these is very complete, and is kept as up-to-date as possible; and I am always anxious to secure new and dangerous fakes of all kinds, and willing to pay a fair price for any that are likely to deceive stamp collectors.

Forged stamps can be classed into two broad groups, the one—and by far the smaller—being composed of forgeries made to deceive the authorities, such as are rather common in early issues of Austria, Spain, etc.

The larger group by far is that of forgeries made to deceive stamp collectors, and these are to be subdivided into a good many classes, of which I will briefly note a few:

First, there is the forgery out-and-out, the whole stamp imitated, and often the postmark, perforation, and sometimes, though rarely, the watermark.

Secondly, and becoming rather common, is the penmarked fiscally used stamp, with the penmarks removed and the stamps offered as unused. This is very frequently done with such stamps as the £2, £5, and £10 British South Africa, etc.

Thirdly, removing the word SPECIMEN, and offering the stamp as unused, or by applying a forged postmark as a genuine used copy.

Fourthly, forgeries of a surcharge on a genuine stamp. This is much in vogue with the Paris forgery-monger, and is a trick not unknown in London. Surcharges that are frequently forged in this manner are those on the rarer British Officials, French Colonials, etc., and none of these should be purchased except from experts.

Fifthly, forged perforations, made from unperforated copies, or from common perforated stamps with extra large margins, etc.

Now in our reference collection I have collected material that helps us in exposing all these classes of frauds.

Photographs

An important branch of these collections consists of our photographs, and this is a portion that is being largely extended since my son Frank Phillips (who is an expert photographer) joined the firm.

I now make a rule of keeping a photograph of any really rare stamp that passes through our hands, all being in the *exact* size of the stamp. In this section I have reproductions of most of the rare Confederate Locals, U.S. Postmasters' stamps, and numerous other rarities that no firm can have in stock at all times, and which might not be on hand when wanted for comparison.

Books

The firm's collection of stamp literature is very important, and is pretty complete in all the standard works in English, French, German, and Spanish. The old catalogues are exceptionally complete and very valuable. Many years ago we were luckily able to purchase the philatelic library of Dr. Gray (of the British Museum), and only last year we bought more than half of Judge Philbrick's stamp books, and have obtained many rare works from American and other sources.

In concluding these short notes on our reference collections, I wish to state that my firm has formed them, not only for its own use, but for the use of stamp students in general, and we shall at all times be willing and pleased to allow any real philatelist access to our collections for the purposes of study or comparison, when he may wish to clear up any doubtful points in which these collections may be of use to him.

(To be continued.)

HISTORICAL LINKS

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

FROM the earliest days of stamp collecting it has been advanced as a strong argument in favour of our hobby that a knowledge of history may be diffused in a pleasant and agreeable way by the study of postage stamps. As a matter of fact, however, when we make a full investigation, we find that the statement needs a little revision. Of the history of the world during the last sixty years, as far as it relates to the reigns of different sovereigns, the length of rule of republican presidents, the struggles between states and their absorption into the more powerful state, postage stamps have many interesting indications. But references to historical events prior to the year 1840 are very few in number. Such references appear for the most part, as we should expect, on Commemorative stamps, and centre round the names of a chosen few, the great navigators who discovered the lands the postage stamps of which in these later times do honour to their names. Thus, American States rediscovered Columbus, Portugal did honour to Prince Henry, Newfoundland looked back to the great Cabot, and New South Wales paid her tribute of respect to the memory of Captain Cook.

With these limitations in view, let us consider what links our postage stamps have forged with the never-to-be-forgotten past.

Our first is presented to us in the 2 cents, carmine, of the 1897 issue of Newfoundland. Cabot, "hym that found the New Isle," as the quaint inscription has it, is depicted. First, let us have a glance at the venerable navigator, and then we can pass on to a short survey of his life.

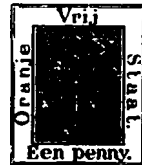


Giovanni Cabotto was a Genoese. He settled about 1490 as a merchant in Bristol. Henry VII granted him a charter to discover new lands on 5 March, 1496. In

1497, with three sons, he set sail from Bristol. Cape Breton Island and Nova Scotia were sighted on 24 June. In the account of the privy purse expenditure of Henry VII the following entry referring to this event occurs: "1497, August 10. To hym that found the New Isle, £10." John Cabot is said to have died about 1498. His second son, Sebastian, spent his life in the service of England and Spain. In 1526 he examined the coast of Brazil and La Plata, where he endeavoured to plant Spanish colonies. In 1553 the opening up of important commerce between England and Russia was due to Sebastian Cabot. The portrait of Henry VII, who granted the charter to John Cabot, is seen on the 60 cents, black, of the 1897 Newfoundland issue.



The earliest stamps of the Orange Free State were engraved and printed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in 1868. The country, annexed to the British Crown in 1848 as the Orange River Sovereignty, had been given up to the Boers in 1854, and had become the independent Republic of the Orange River Free State. Its President, Sir J. H. Brand (1863-83), seems to have cherished the friendliest relations with Britain, one example of which is seen in his contracting with the above-named firm for the first issue of postage stamps in the Republic, an illustration of which is here given.



This first series with its multitude of surcharges continued down to March, 1900. President Steyn's alliance with the Trans-

vaal, his ultimatum to Britain on 9 October, 1899, the joint invasion of Natal and siege of Ladysmith, are matters of recent history. The British Army of Occupation overprinted the previous issues of the State with V.R.I. and the value in figures in March, 1900. On 28 May, 1900, the Orange River State was formally annexed by Britain as a Crown Colony under the name of Orange River Colony. Accordingly, we find that the V.R.I. printings, with their plethora of varieties in type and stops, became obsolete, and Cape of Good Hope stamps were issued with the overprint ORANGE RIVER COLONY on 10 August, 1900. • A 6d., blue, of the original type had been prepared for use, but had not been issued up to the time when the stamps were seized in Bloemfontein. These for the most part were overprinted V.R.I. In 1902 the need of a further supply of stamps of this value caused the appearance of the overprint E.R.I. 6d. Early in 1903 the type now in use appeared, an illustration of which we append.



The stamps of the Transvaal present an even more interesting series of links. The first issue of the Boer Republic was made in 1869. These stamps were printed by Mr. Adolph Otto, in Mecklenburg-Schwerin.



The design shows the Arms of the Republic. In 1871 the eagle with wings outstretched over the Arms appears with the wings closer to its body.

In 1877 an exhausted public treasury and accumulated debts brought about the intervention of the British Government. The appearance of the British on the scene was marked by the surcharge V.R. TRANSVAAL on the issues in use. The following year saw a complete change of design. Queen

Victoria's head in profile appeared with English inscriptions.



Friction between the governing and the governed led to the Boers declaring war on Great Britain.

The first Transvaal war, with its final and humiliating fight on Majuba Hill, led to the signing of terms of peace and the Conventions of 1880 and 1884. The tables were reversed. Boer surcharges appeared in black and red, printed over the portrait of her late Majesty. Complete control of internal affairs was followed by a new series in 1885. The Arms reappeared in a new frame.



We pass on to 1894. The Transvaal Arms appeared in an octagon frame. This series had a short life, owing to a curious mistake on the part of the designer or engraver. The wagon appeared with two shafts, but the Cape wagon knows only one shaft or pole. A correct design was issued in 1895.

In 1895 the Republic issued a 1d. oblong red stamp to celebrate the introduction of a uniform penny postage. On 11 October, 1899, war was declared against Britain. After considerable successes, the tide of war turned against the Boers, and Lord Roberts entered Pretoria on 5 June, 1900. V.R.I. again appeared on the Boer stamps, followed by the overprint E.R.I. in



1901. Now the head of the British Sovereign again appears on the Transvaal stamps, signifying the fact that the late South African Republic is a British colony.

Brazilian stamps are not without historical interest. The first issue appeared in 1843. Dom Pedro II was Emperor of Brazil at this time. His desire for the progress of his country is evidenced by the fact that the Brazilians were among the first to follow England's lead in the matter of postage stamps. The design was of the simplest. "Numerals on a dark background" sums up the main features of the first issue, as will be seen from the illustration.



This kind of design continued until 1866, when a series appeared bearing the portrait of His Majesty Dom Pedro II. The name of the Emperor and the expression of values on the stamps suggest connexion with Portugal. The history of this connexion presents us with one fact which is unique in the history of America, viz. a state of the Old World governed from a state in the New World. First, let us glance at Dom Pedro's portrait, and then we will peep behind the scenes and see how it all came about.



(To be continued.)

EXHIBITION NOTES

The Official Banquet

AN official banquet will be held on Friday evening, 25 May, at the Imperial Restaurant, Regent Street, W., at which the Vice-Patrons and Judges will be invited to attend. The speeches will be strictly limited in order to allow sufficient time after the banquet for a special entertainment which is now being arranged.

The Herts Dinner

The dinner is to be held at the Café Monico on Tuesday, 29 May, 1906. If you are a member of the Herts Society and you take your ticket before 1 May you get it for 5s., but if you waste time in rumination, and don't make up your mind till after the said 1 May, then you will have the pleasure of paying the piper to the tune of 10s. 6d. If you are not a member, but only a common variety of visitor, you pay 7s. 6d.

Invitations will be issued to the Executive Committee and Judges of the Exhibition, and to distinguished foreign collectors then in London.

The dinner will be a short one, but the menu and the decorations are to be something to be remembered.

The speeches are to be short, and sweet, and few, and there will be a novel musical entertainment afterwards.

Messrs. Hayman, Reichenheim, and Slade are the Dinner Committee, and they will spare no efforts to make the dinner a feature of Exhibition week.

Young Collectors' Free Days

In order that all young collectors may have an opportunity of inspecting the superb collections of postage stamps that are coming from all over the world, the Committee have decided that Saturday, 26 May, and Wednesday, 30 May, shall be free days, admission being by tickets, which may be obtained from the Hon. Secretaries, or from the leading stamp dealers.

Ministerial Recognition

We have the pleasure of announcing that the Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, M.P., the Postmaster-General, has consented to become one of the Vice-Presidents. This fairly completes the formidable list of Postmasters-General past and present who accord the influence of their names to the great show.

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Barbados.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., have sent us the long-talked-of Commemoratives in celebration of the Nelson Centenary. But instead of bearing as their design the promised representation of the ship *Olive Blossom*, from a sketch by Lady Carter, the wife of Sir G. T. Carter, they give us a picture of the local Nelson monument, which an inscription on the stamp claims to be the "First Monument erected to Nelson's Memory, 1813." The design is said to be the work of Mr. G. Goodman, Solicitor-General of the colony. The stamps are of the same large size as the Jubilee issue sent out by the same colony in 1897, and they are printed on the old Crown CC paper. The values begin with a ½d. and stop at the 1s. The stamps are all bi-coloured. The ½d. and 1s. are practically in the same colours, and will, we imagine, give trouble. The initials "G G" of the designer appear in the lower corners of each stamp.

Wmk. Crown CC. Perf.

½d., black centre and grey	frame.
½d. " " green	" "
1d. " " carmine	" "
2d. " " yellow	" "
2½d. " " ultramarine	" "
6d. " " mauve	" "
1s. " " carmine	" "

France.—We are indebted to Mr. W. Frank for the following extract from *Le Figaro* of 20 March, 1906:—

On April 16th next we shall have the new 10c. The design of the stamps will in consequence have to be modified, and we shall see a new interpretation of the "Sower" by Roty.

The opportunity is taken to improve it, and to abolish certain details which, without constituting blemishes to those who know, yet were nevertheless difficult for the public at large to understand.

Thus, the stamp being designed in bas-relief, it happened that the sun shone from behind, so that an artistic error was apparent where there was merely an art phase awkward of comprehension to the un-initiated. Also the Sower was on a dark background, and did not show up sufficiently clearly.

We do not take account of the reproach that has been levelled against her of sowing against the wind. It is not the wind so much as the action of stepping forward which blows the hair in the direction shown, and, furthermore, the Sower sows now with, now against the wind, according as he goes up or down the furrow.

The new Sower, at least, will no longer invite comment from the above-named critics, and one can judge from the reproduction shown (in the *Figaro*) of the differences between the new and the old stamp.

The Sower now stands out from a clear background. The ground she treads on "ises somewhat, and the sun, instead of lighting from behind as before, now rises on the horizon in front of her, illuminating her form and her face.

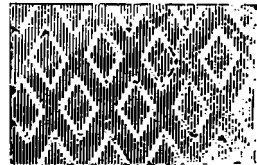
The new work had been suspended by M. Georges Trouillot, Minister of Posts in the Rouvier Cabinet,

before his departure from the Ministry. It is the result of his collaboration and that of M. Bérard, Under Secretary of State for Posts, and M. Dujardin-Beaumetz, Under Secretary of State for Fine Arts, with Roty and the engraver Mouchon, who has just completed his work. M. Dujardin-Beaumetz, with his well-known skill, himself made a sketch, which has served as a basis for the interpretation of the engraver.

From now onward the Postal Services are making every effort in the short time at their disposal, up to April 16th, to put the new type into circulation, which, both in conception and in execution, embodies all those conditions requisite to proclaim it the most beautiful stamp in the world, and to spread far and wide the fame for taste and art which our France has happily known to preserve under all forms of government.

GEORGES HELLOUIN.

Germany.—The current stamps are now being printed on paper watermarked with a design described as a multiple diamond, which we illustrate. We list the values already issued.



Wmk. Multiple Diamond. Perf.

2 pf., grey.
3 pf., brown.
5 pf., green.
10 pf., carmine.
30 pf., black and orange on buff.
40 pf. " carmine.
50 pf. " lilac on buff.

Transvaal.—We have received the 2d. value on the multiple CA paper, thus completing the series up to and including the 2s.



Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf.

½d., green.
1d., carmine.
2d., grey-black and purple.
2½d. " " ultramarine.
3d. " " sage-green.
4d. " " chocolate.
6d. " " orange.
1s. " " red-brown.
2s. " " yellow.

GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Barbados Nelson Series

THE long-talked-of Commemoratives promised by Barbados have been received. The stamps are of the same size as the Jubilee issue which the same colony sent out in 1897. As the stamps are printed on the old CC paper, they have apparently been printed for some time by Messrs. De La Rue and Co.

The claim of Barbados to the right to issue a series commemorative of the Nelson Centenary is set out on the stamp, on which is inscribed under a presentation of a local Nelson monument, "First monument erected to Nelson's memory, 1813."

The Late Lamented "Olive Blossom"

WE were assured that we were to have only one Commemorative stamp, and that the design was to be the ship *Olive Blossom*, as being the first British ship that touched at the island and claimed it as British territory. A Barbados paper led us to believe that the design was quite settled, and even named the designer as Lady Carter, the wife of the Governor of the colony. What has become of the late lamented *Olive Blossom* design? Will some one tell us? Evidently the history of the business is just this. They decided to milk stamp collectors somehow. First, they thought of the *Olive Blossom* incident; then, as a more paying prospect, they trotted out their Nelson monument.

A Risky Game to Play

I question very much whether the colony of Barbados is not playing a losing game with its postal issues. The desire to pay tribute to Nelson's memory is probably all bunkum. The Nelson monument is doubtless only a mere pretext to issue a series of labels for the sole purpose of collecting revenue from too gullible stamp collectors. But the game is a risky one. Whilst a colony issues stamps to meet its actual postal needs it may rely on a steady revenue from sales to stamp collectors; but when a colony starts the production of labels for sale to collectors it learns, sooner or later, that in the perplexing choice that collectors now have, those colonies which treat them as gullible flats, who will buy any pretty rubbish, "get left," as our American friends phrase it. The short-sighted noodles who egg on a country to collect revenue from those crazy stamp collectors, in the belief that they will buy anything in the shape of a postage stamp, get a rude awakening when they find that their country has forfeited its popularity and lost the confidence and paying purchases of stamp collectors.

The Record of Barbados

The record of Barbados, though not yet a really hopeless one, is trending in that direction. In 1897 it issued a Jubilee set—a purely non-postal speculation; and now after more or less worrying

changes in the CA watermark, which have been a great expense to stamp collectors, it asks them to stump up for an absolutely unnecessary issue. If stamp collectors in return say, "We cannot afford to take your postal wares at this rate, Mr. Barbados and shall drop your stamps, the short-sighted authorities of the colony will have themselves to thank for the consequent loss of revenue."

Some Dealers say, "Go Ahead!"

There are some stamp dealers who tell our colonies to go ahead with changes in their stamps, for they can sell them like hot cakes. But by and by those dealers will be in the same boat as the foolish colony that responds to their suggestions. The dealer who wishes to build up and preserve a sound and growing business cannot effect his purpose by helping to gull his customers. It will pay him infinitely better to protect them, and our best leading dealers recognize this fact. Barbados is a bit of a favourite of mine, and I should be sorry to see it placed on the list of neglected colonies. That list is growing, for there are now so many claimants for choice that collectors are getting even supersensitive in their limitations.

A Word for the Bicoloured Stamp

BARMASH, the notorious forger of Bank of England notes, has just been released on ticket-of-leave after having served only a third of his sentence of ten years. The explanation is that he has helped the authorities by revealing the secrets of his trade and putting them on the right method of circumventing the forger; and as what he says applies equally to stamps, I quote his words from an interview in the *Daily Mail*:—

"The old-fashioned way of printing bank-notes in a dull single colour should," he said, "be changed, and each note printed in many different colours. This would prove too difficult to imitate, and forgery would cease to pay and thus stop."

"Even the much vaunted, secretly prepared watermarked paper on which bank-notes are printed can be copied to deceive an expert, and secret marks, of which we hear so much, are now known to the public and the majority of bank cashiers. Rainbow colour printing is the only real remedy."

London Postal Error

ACCORDING to the Allahabad *Pioneer*, a letter, addressed to a gallant officer with "Poona Horse" writ large beneath his name and a London address, was returned through the Post Office recently with "No public-house of this name known" as the reason of the return.

That Herts Dinner

OH, dear! I have put my foot into it over that Herts Dinner, which is to be the talk of the town during the International Philatelic Exhibition week. I unwittingly elected Mr. Hayman to the

presidential chair already so worthily occupied by my friend Mr. Reichenheim, and now the said Mr. Hayman threatens me with the direst consequences for my little slip. I am to be relegated to a side table and dine off chimpanzee. I hope it will be a nice tender one. They don't live to any great age in this country, so the chances are against a tough bite; and if Mr. Hayman will have my chimpanzee menu lightly printed on the back of a sheet of the new Liberia Chimpanzee stamp with inverted centre, even the side-table repast may not be so bad after all.

Exhibition Week

From all I can hear, Exhibition week is going to be a pretty gay time. All sorts of dinners and other entertainments are being talked about. Of course there is an Entertainment Committee, and that Committee will have to justify its existence; but the outside shows, I hear, will beat the record.

More U.S. Show Labels

It seems pretty certain that the postal authorities of the great Republic are going to issue another lot of local show labels for sale to stamp flats, and what is truly lamentable is the fact that a certain class of dealers push this sort of rubbish for all they are worth. Some fine day there will be an hour of settlement for all this stuff, when it will be weeded out of the general catalogue.

The Ever-swelling Catalogue

The day is rapidly arriving when any and every excuse will have to be seized for rigidly limiting the ever-swelling pages of the catalogue. Then rubbish will have to be thrown overboard. The first to go will be Officials and Unpaid. That will lighten the cargo sufficiently for a while, but further weeding will be absolutely imperative later on. Those who expect the present swelling to go on indefinitely, do not realize the enormous cost of the production of such a catalogue as our Gibbons. Some day I intend to interview the Managing Director on this interesting matter for *G.S.W.* readers.

Roumanian Rubbish

ROUMANIA is one of those countries that lay themselves out for helping their stunted revenues out of stamp collectors' pockets. From the clever way in which it incessantly rings the changes on colours, perforations, watermarks, and papers, one would probably not be far out in

hazarding the suspicion that they keep some sort of philatelic adviser on the premises. The latest idea is to work the charity dodge, with a set of charity stamps, *à la Russe*, the funds to be devoted, not to deserving widows and orphans of brave soldiers, but to other purposes into which it would probably not be wise to inquire too closely.

Death of dear old Dr. Viner

I SINCERELY regret to note that our dear old friend Dr. Viner died at Bath on 14 March, 1906. This good old philatelic patriarch was a lively old soul in his day. At one of the philatelic exhibitions some ten years ago his age was given in the daily Press as ninety. He pointed out the error to me and chuckled, and I assured him that we all hoped to be able to celebrate his centenary yet. The last time I was at Bath, a year or so ago, I called at his house, but he was out enjoying himself. He dearly loved a good play. His frame was slight and anything but robust-looking, but he was always as lively as a cricket. I believe it is a fact that up to eighty he rarely, if ever, spent a day in bed. One day his household insisted that he had a bad cold and ordered him to stay in bed. The moment their backs were turned he was out and downstairs.

The Prince of Wales's Indian Gatherings

If we are to believe *Modern Society*, the Prince of Wales has been having a feast of things philatelic during his Indian tour, and is going to place his gatherings on exhibition when he comes home. As a born philatelist he knows wheat from chaff, and if some of the native rulers—and others—have tried to tickle him on his weak side with all sorts and conditions of native labels, more curious than real, they will find them all correctly classified in due time.

Indian Stamps

One possible result of the Prince's Indian tour may be to further popularize Indian postal issues. They are not nearly so popular as they deserve to be, but they are coming to the fore. Try to get well-centred mint copies of the issues from 1856 to 1876, and you will soon realize what a dance it will be. When the promised *magnum opus* on Indian postage stamps comes out the dance will be even more extended, and the price of copies that will satisfy the fastidious will probably be heart-rending.

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Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 39t Strand, London, W.C.

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

OUR PHILATELIC CLUB

By E. G. GILLARD

CHAPTER I

GERALD FOSTER, Ralph Trollope, myself, and several other fellows were lounging on the banks of the River — discussing the future prospects and developments of the "Philatelic Club" that was about to be formed at — College. The club at present was only being talked of, but there was to be a meeting of all those fellows that were interested in the fascinating hobby this evening in the Long-room, after "Prep." We were idling the time away arguing as to the likely choice of officials, etc. I myself had only just begun collecting, so of course my opinion was not worth very much; but still I did my share of the shouting, if it was only to praise my chum's, Gerald Foster, knowledge of Philately. I did this because it was my sole desire to see him elected to the secretaryship of the future club.

Gerald Foster, I may say, possessed the largest and finest collection of stamps in the whole college, numbering some 12,000 varieties. His father, the late Lieut.-Col. Foster, had been an ardent collector, and having travelled a great deal abroad, he had accumulated a superb collection of unused Colonials, ranging in face value from $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to £5. On his father's death, Gerald became sole possessor of his father's property and estates. He was the only child; his mother died in his infancy, leaving him on his father's death an orphan. His father's trustees and executors, after the funeral of his father, and after all the affairs had been settled, sent him to — College to complete his education.

I remember well the day he came here. I was sent to meet him at the station; he was then a big fellow, but since he has been here he has developed nearly as big again. I found him seated on top of an immense trunk, his hat stuck on the back of his head, and both hands thrust in his pockets; he looked the picture of health and contentment, and any one would not have thought that he had only two months previously lost his father. I introduced myself to him, and by the time the fly had reached the college gate I knew all his history, the contents of his trunks, and also the mysteries of his pockets.

He informed me that he had brought with him a large hamper filled with all sorts of delicacies, on which I very kindly informed him that, if he desired to make himself popular amongst his new friends, he would have to invite some of the chaps to partake of the goodness of his hamper to-night in the dormitory.

Contrary to my expectation, he not only

willingly agreed to my proposals, but he also said that he would stand treat to any of those fellows outside our "click."

I will not go into the details of the "glorious feast," but I must say this, that Gerald Foster that night was voted one of the best fellows in our form, and I might add that a compact was formed between Gerald, Trollope, and myself of a true and everlasting friendship.

CHAPTER II

GERALD FOSTER was a splendid athlete and boxer, and it was through the last gift that he made a mortal enemy in Anthony Dixon, a great hulking fellow, the cock of the whole school. I must relate the occasion how this enmity occurred, because it was through this that all the trouble came. Dixon, I may say, was an ardent collector, and possessed a fairly decent collection. It was his habit and practice to make all the little chaps pay tribute to his album, and he had, times out of number, deliberately helped himself from their albums.

Well, like all bullies, he had his check at last, and it came from a quarter where he least expected it.

It appears that one Wednesday afternoon, about six months after Gerald came here, he had occasion to walk into the town to make some purchases, but hearing shrieks and loud cries which seemed to proceed from the other side of the "Fives Court," he turned from his course and made his way to the scene of the disturbance, and (so he afterwards told me) he found Dixon thrashing a little chap named Thompson. As I said before, Gerald was a splendid boxer and a hater of all bullies, and without waiting for any explanation he landed Dixon a left-hander under the chin, causing him to stagger backwards on to the grass.

In the meantime young Thompson had crept away, and by the time Foster and Dixon were coming to close quarters, the whole college had heard the news.

Now there is nothing like a good fight; it settles all disputes, and it was the custom of our college to settle things in this way.

Boys came hurrying to the spot from all directions, a ring was made and seconds appointed, and the tussle proceeded.

I will not worry you with details of the fight, but let it suffice that Dixon received one of the biggest hidings that he ever experienced here. He vowed revenge on Foster, and said that if ever he could do him a bad turn he would—and he kept his word, as I will tell you later on.

CHAPTER III

I MUST NOW go back to the little group of fellows mentioned at the beginning of the story. It only wanted an hour to the meeting, and we were slowly wending our way to the Long-room, still discussing and suggesting opinions. Ralph Trollope, a senior boy, was trying to explain the rules that were necessary for the coming enterprise. He knew and understood a good deal about stamps, but he did not possess the knowledge of Foster, who remained very modest and quiet during the arguments.

Pritchard, Dixon's crony, was "spouting" about the qualities of his chum, and suggested that we could not do better than to elect him as secretary. We did not take much notice of his babble, so he soon tired of singing Dixon's praises.

At last we reached the room which had been prepared for us. Mr. —, our Latin master, a very enthusiastic philatelist, had very kindly offered to take the chair, and then the balloting began.

There was a great deal of noise attached to this proceeding, but when the last paper had been folded and thrown into the box, we all quieted down to await the results of the ballot. The results were as follows:—Doctor — was elected president, Mr. — vice-president and chairman, Foster (thirty-two votes) was elected secretary (amidst great cheering from our partisans, and loud groans from Dixon's party), Dixon (thirty votes) assistant secretary, together with Trollope and myself to form the executive.

The results caused a great deal of jealousy between Dixon and his "click," and Gerald's preference to his own did not tend to lessen his hatred towards him.

Seriously looking on the result, I cannot help thinking that the election of Dixon as assistant secretary and Gerald's right-hand man would not prove very pleasing or beneficial to Gerald; but, as he remarked after the meeting, he would have to make the best of a bad job. I do not think that Foster bore any malice towards his new colleague—far from it; but still, at the same time, I think that he would have preferred some one whom he could honestly confide in, and to share his duties.

I give a few rules of the club so that the reader may have some idea how we fellows benefited by it. There were to be committee meetings once a week for the election and proposals of desiring members; general meetings were to be held regularly once a fortnight during the winter months, and once a month during the summer season. There were to be lectures and demonstrations from time to time on various subjects connected with Philately, and also all members were to bring their collections with a view of comparing notes, etc. There were to be exchange sheets and packets circulated round, and above all the Doctor had very kindly promised to give £5 at the end of each half-year to the member who possessed the neatest and best arranged collection (not necessarily the rarest).

CHAPTER IV

ONE month had passed since the general meeting, when Gerald pinned a notice on the board saying that the first exchange sheets and packets were now ready, and could be had on application either to him or to the assistant secretary.

Owing to Gerald's generosity, some of the sheets contained some really valuable stamps, duplicates presented by Gerald himself.

It was the secretary's duty to send the sheets out to the fellows, and to register them in the club books, and then on their return it was Dixon's place to receive them, count the stamps removed and check the amounts, and then hand them back again for the secretary's signature as to their safe return.

Well, time passed, and our little club grew both in numbers and prosperity, until we numbered over a hundred members, and the value of our sheets and packets was something over £200.

The winter months came to a close, and our first half-yearly meeting was to be held this evening in the Long-room, and, little dreaming or the thunder-clap that was about to fall, we all adjourned to the room with light hearts, lighter pockets, but heavier albums.

The meeting opened in the usual way—chairman's speech and agenda, and then the secretary's report. The first part of the performance passed off all right, and it was not until Foster rose from his chair to speak that we knew something was wrong.

He had a worried look of anxiety, and hesitated considerably before he attempted to address us; but when he did begin his voice was loud and clear, and could be heard very distinctly at the other end of the room.

"Gentlemen," he said, "doubtless you are all eager to hear my report, but when I have told you, you will not wonder why I hesitated to speak. Before I tell you the bad news, I will tell you the good. Since the foundation of this club back last October, our membership has increased enormously, and the total number of members' names on the books exceeds one hundred. Our sheets are now to the number of two hundred, valued at £215; and the club, I may say, is certainly a success as far as members and money are concerned. Now I have acquainted you with the growth and wealth of the club, I have a painful duty to perform, both to myself and to those that trust me. I must inform you that last night, when I opened my trunk which contained the stamps, with a view to running through them once again before this evening, I found that no less than six sheets were missing. The sheets contained some of our best stamps, and are valued in my books at £20. I asked Dixon, who had accompanied me to my room, if he could suggest anything as to their disappearance, but he emphatically denied that he could throw any light upon the subject. Now, as I am the only one that possesses a key to the trunk, things must look very suspicious against me, and I can only say, gentlemen, that I did not know that the sheets were missing until last night, and I must throw myself upon your

confidence and trust. In the meantime, I beg to hand you my resignation from the club, until I can prove my innocence or find the whereabouts of the missing stamps."

Here Foster broke down entirely.

Of course the news came on us unexpectedly, and it was really a great shock to think that there was one amongst us who was a thief.

Mr. — was the first to recover his senses. When he had done so, he walked straight up to Gerald, held out his hand, and said—

"Foster, my boy, there is my hand—take it, and take with it my complete trust and confidence. I for one know that you would not be guilty of such an act, and I trust that we shall soon be able to clear up this mystery, both for your sake and the honour of our school. Gentlemen," he said, "we cannot accept Foster's resignation under such circumstances, and on behalf of the entire company I ask you to retain your position, Foster, until such time as we have any cause to doubt you."

However, Mr. —'s speech did not make the same impression on all the fellows. Some declared that if Foster were allowed to remain in the club after what had happened they would most assuredly resign; others vowed they would stand by Gerald: so there was a split in the company. Dixon was among the discontented. He said he could not possibly act as Foster's assistant any longer, as he did not wish his name to be mixed up in the affair.

Well, the end of it all was Foster retained his post, and Dixon resigned from the club, together with twenty of his cronies. Trollope was elected as assistant secretary, and I must say the result gave great satisfaction to us all. We agreed that we would keep the unpleasant affair from the "head," as he had such a horror of anything like this; but the matter did not end here, as you will see.

CHAPTER V

Time passes very quickly, and the affair was soon forgotten by most of the fellows. But really I have never seen such a change in a fellow in such a short time as there was in Gerald. He shunned our company whenever it was possible, took long walks by himself, absented himself from the cricket field and sports, and in fact was disagreeable to every one he came into contact with. Schoolfellows can put up with a great deal, but Gerald's unsociable ways and moods began to tell upon them, even his own

chums, and goodness knows how things would have ended had it not been for the following incident.

It was about three months after the "split" that young Thompson made an application to become a member of the club. He was proposed by Trollope and seconded by myself, and consequently became a full-blown member, much to his delight.

Now it was usual for new members to submit their collections for the committee's inspection and criticism, so young Thompson's album was duly presented before the executive.

We were very busily engaged in discussing the merits of the album, when all of a sudden Gerald jumped clean out of his chair: he was very excited, and shouted, "By Jove, Trollope, there is one of the identical stamps that were on the missing sheets. I can swear it is the one, because it was damaged, and I stuck some transparent tape on the back, and then wrote on the back of the stamp the date when it was repaired. Send for the youngster at once—send for him, so that we may question him."

Naturally we were all very excited, for undoubtedly that was the very stamp Gerald had spoken about; in fact, Trollope confirmed the statement by saying that he happened to be with Gerald in his room on the night that he repaired the stamp.

I fetched young Thompson. Poor little chap, how frightened he was! I pacified him, however, telling him that no harm was meant, and we only wanted to ask him some questions regarding a certain stamp he had in his collection. On being assured that no harm was intended, he quieted down, and prepared to answer Mr. —'s question.

"Sit down, my boy," he said, "and listen very carefully to what I have to say to you." He pointed out the stamp in question, and asked the youngster how he came into the possession of it.

Thompson hesitated a moment, and then replied that he had had the stamp given to him. "Yes, yes," said Mr. —; "but who gave it to you?"

The youngster answered that he had promised not to say who gave it to him.

"Gentlemen," said Mr. —, "allow me to take the boy in hand, and to try by persuasion to discover the person who gave him the stamp"; and with that he led young Thompson into an adjoining room.

To be continued.

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For the coat pocket. With patent fastening to flap. Size, 6½×4½ inches. Handsomely bound in Art Cloth. Each book contains 12 pages, having four strips of linen, ½-inch wide, arranged horizontally, glued at the bottom edge and with the upper one open, for the safe retention and preservation of recent purchases or duplicates. A large pocket is also provided at the back for Envelopes or Stamps in bulk. In daily use by leading London Collectors. No. 17, post-free, 2s. 7d. No. 18—oblong, 24 pages, 6 strips on each page, interleaved with strong glazed paper to prevent rubbing—post-free, 5s. 4d.; abroad, 5s. 6d.

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PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Junior Philatelic Society

Manchester Branch

THE third meeting was held at the Y.M.C.A., Peter Street, on 15 March, 1906, forty members being present; Mr. Bernstein in the chair. Mr. F. J. Melville was present and expressed his pleasure at the success of the branch. It was decided to commence a forgery collection for the use of the members; also an exchange packet, Mr. Brooks accepting the office of Superintendent. Mr. Gee read a paper on the stamps of Jamaica, accompanied by a display; he mentioned that the Jamaica Post Office was under the control of the British Government up to 1 August, 1860. By a notice issued 8 May, 1858, the use of the 1d., 4d., and 6d. stamps of Great Britain was authorized for packet correspondence (i.e. letters sent out of the island). Soon after the transfer to the Colonial Government, viz. on 23 November, 1860, the first issue of Jamaica stamps proper took place. In 1861 a decree was issued in the *Government Gazette* authorizing the use of half of the penny stamp as half-penny; it is known used divided both diagonally and vertically. And about six specimens of the 2d., rose, divided into four and used the same way; this is not listed in any catalogue, as it is quite unofficial. The division of the penny stamp ceased to be recognized on the issue of the halfpenny stamp of 1872. On 6 October, 1897, postage stamps and certain fiscal stamps were made interchangeable for either postal or revenue purposes.

Herts Philatelic Society

President : F. Reichenheim, Esq.

Secretary : H. A. Slade, Esq., "Nine-Fields," St. Albans.

Meetings : 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.

Subscription : 5s. annually.

THE March, 1906, meeting of this Society was held at head-quarters on the 20th, when the President in the chair was supported by Mr. H. L. Hayman, Vice-President, Mr. J. C. Sidebotham, Librarian, Messrs. W. A. Boyes, T. H. Harvey, L. E. Bradbury, A. Bagshawe, W. T. Standen, A. G. Wane, R. Frentzel, R. B. Yardley, D. Thomson, M. Z. Kuttner, S. Chapman, J. L. Lincoln, A. H. L. Giles, F. Read, L. Magnee, G. Becuea, M. Weinberg, and others, besides the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. A. Slade. The President handed the Librarian the beautiful work recently published on the Swedish stamps, and also a most ingenious Colour Chart by Dr. Ohrt, which aroused much interest when handed round. Both these works had been presented to him on behalf of the library, and a copy of the recently published *Priced Catalogue of Railway Stamps of the United Kingdom 1841-1905* was also given. Hearty votes of thanks were tendered to the donors. The Committee have made practically all arrangements for the dinner, owing to the kind services rendered by the President and Vice-President. Full particulars will shortly be published, but members wishing to attend are reminded that a considerable increase will be made in the price of tickets in regard to all those not taken and paid for by 1 May. The dinner will be held at the Café Monico on 29 May, and at the unanimous request of the meeting the President consented to take the post of honour on that day. Mr. B. W. K. Smith, of 4 Southampton Row, was elected a member of the Society on the proposition of Mr. Hayman.

Business being concluded, the meeting proceeded to examine a remarkable collection of Tasmanian stamps by Mr. R. B. Yardley, who, though without a "paper" of any sort before him, gave a most exhaustive and interesting description of each issue as

the sheets were passed round. The collection was especially strong in mint unused copies of the older issues. Fine copies were shown of the Courier issue of 1853, particularly the 4d., with a specimen of the rejected "laid paper" variety. Some magnificent specimens of the succeeding issues were much admired, and both as regards colour and condition the 4d., blue, and the 1d., carmine, called forth tokens of warmest praise. More than once was the thought uttered, "Why can't we have such stamps now?" Both as regards the varieties of printing and of paper and the various perforations, both local and governmental at Hobart and local at Launceston, little was missing, all the rarer compounds being represented, as also was the 1d. carmine, with two watermarks, of 1869. The "borrowed paper" variety was also kindly explained. Coming to the later varieties, the collection was just as complete, though the stamps were not sufficiently aged to possess that peculiar charm possessed by early issues. Errors of the "Half-penny" surcharge of 1880-91 were eagerly scanned, and few had previously seen the 2½d., blue surcharge, and the double surcharge, one inverted. The 1900 issue strikes one's admiration as pictures, but as stamps they fail. A fine show of the Postal Fiscals terminated the display, for which a most hearty vote of thanks was accorded on Mr. Chapman's proposition, which Mr. Bradbury seconded with a few remarks on the pitfalls that beset the unwary owing to the prevalence of washed copies of the older stamps. These remarks Mr. Yardley endorsed in replying. After the display a very fine collection of English Proofs by Dr. E. Webster, of Brighton, was handed round, and was much appreciated, and for which a hearty vote of thanks was also passed. The meeting broke up shortly before 9 p.m.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President : Herbert Woods.

Secretary : W. Halfpenny, 28 Dacey Street, Liverpool.

Meetings : Angel Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool. 7 p.m.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held at the Angel Hotel, Dale Street, on Monday evening, 19 March, 1906. In the absence of the President, Mr. Savage took the chair, and after the preliminary business a paper was read by Mr. Phelps on "Some old Post Office Regulations." This proved exceedingly interesting, as the lecturer went fully into the old system of letter carrying, when this was in the hands of private individuals, and gave particulars of their curious list of charges, etc. He also dealt with the same under Government control both before and after the introduction of adhesives, and made special mention of the method adopted by firms in the United States in corresponding with Italy. This had to be done by remitting the letters through agents in London and Marseilles, who had to place on the letters the various stamps for franking, there being no through charge. Messrs. Whitfield and Burrow, who afterwards spoke, supplemented the paper with a lot of further information which proved most interesting, and added materially to the success of the evening. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Phelps for his excellent paper, and to the other speakers thanks were also expressed. An exhibition of the stamps of St. Vincent and Southern Nigeria followed, and a magnificent show was made.

In St. Vincent Mr. Rockliff showed a splendid lot, and Mr. Milner also exhibited some valuable stamps; while in Southern Nigeria Mr. Phelps' collection was much admired, and Mr. Hughes had also a fine lot on view.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR G. S. W. READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "G. S. W." readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

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These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

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FIFTY YEARS ANNIVERSARY.

Overprinted as above.

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- 4 c. " on grey.
- 5 c., green on pale green.
- 5 c., bright yellow-green.
- 10 c., black on lilac (carmine surcharge).
- 10 c. " (gold surcharge).
- 15 c., grey.
- 1 c. on 2 c., purple-brown on buff.
- 2 c. on 4 c. " on grey.
- 4 c. on 5 c., green.
- 4 c. on 5 c., yellow-green.
- 10 c. on 15 c., grey.
- 15 c. on 20 c., red on green.
- 20 c. on 25 c., black on rose.

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Special bargain price for the set of fifteen stamps, unused, 2s., post-free.

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391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

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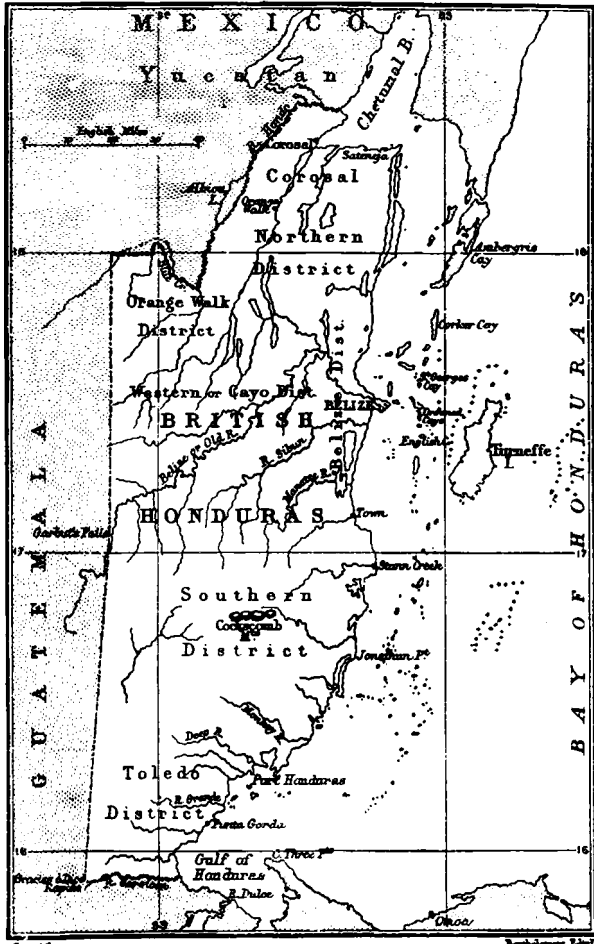
THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

British Honduras

BRITISH HONDURAS is a Crown Colony in Central America, and is the only land that Great Britain owns on the mainland of America between Canada and British Guiana. On the north and west it is bounded by Mexico, and on the west and south by Guatemala, and its coast on the east is in the Bay of Honduras, which opens out into the Caribbean Sea. Early British settlers were received in a friendly manner by the Mosquito Indians, who voluntarily placed their country under the protection of the authorities at Jamaica. But Spain long disputed the possession, and endeavoured to put an end to the growth of the settlement. According to Mr. C. P. Lucas:

The turning-point in its history came in 1798. The Spaniards had determined once for all to drive this persistent band of settlers out of territory which they deemed their own; and in September of that year a fleet from Campeché, with a force of some 2000 men on board, commanded by O'Neil, the Governor of Yucatan, bore down on the colony. The year before, the Baymen, in a general assembly, had by a small majority only rejected a proposal to evacuate their settlements for ever; and now they prepared to meet the invaders in boats and schooners, burning their houses on St. George's Cay lest they should be a foothold for the enemy. Backed by one British ship and a handful of British troops, helped by the shoals, and with their slaves fighting by their sides, they conquered in a miniature Salamis, and, beating off their assailants, they once for all established their colony by right of



conquest, not by indulgence of a foreign power. Henceforward British Honduras had a right to its name; from this date it was a British possession, not a Spanish district where British subjects had certain treaty rights. Its limits were gradually

extended, and the settlers who had fought so hard for their trade followed it up without let or hindrance from a foreign foe.

The little colony grew and prospered, and in 1853 "the system of government was defined by ordinance, the legislature being made to consist of the Superintendent and a Legislative Assembly, eighteen members of which were elected and three nominated. In 1855," continues Mr. Lucas, "the law of England was finally and formally adopted as the law of British Honduras. In 1862 the 'settlement' of British Honduras was declared to be a colony, the governor of which was to be the Governor of Jamaica, locally represented by a lieutenant-governor, who took the place of the Superintendent. At the end of 1870, in answer to a petition by the Legislative Assembly, the principle of popular representation was abolished, and British Honduras became a Crown Colony; and finally, in 1884, its connection with Jamaica, which had for some time been nominal, was completely severed, and it was given a governor under the immediate control of the Colonial Office."

The country is described as low-lying from an inland range of mountains to the sea, with a rich soil and a climate not unfavourable to Europeans.

The area is 7562 square miles, its coast line 184 miles, and its average breadth forty to fifty miles.

It has immense tropical forests which yield large supplies of logwood and mahogany. Its population numbers 39,688, of whom only a few hundred are said to be Europeans. The chief towns are: Belize, the capital, with a population of 6972; Corosal, 1514; and Orange Walk, 1967.

Its Philatelic History

The philatelic history of British Honduras commences with a no-watermark issue of three values in 1866, followed by four values on Crown CC paper in 1872, and four values on Crown CA paper in 1882. Then there was a change of currency from pence to cents and a regular epidemic of provisionals. These were superseded by an issue of Queen's Heads in the cents currency in 1891 and King's Heads in 1900.

1866. Three values. Design, head of Queen Victoria, with profile turned to the left, and wearing her coronation crown. This first issue was printed on unwatermarked paper. Copies of the 1d. value are

fairly common, but the 6d. and 1s. are very scarce. Perforated.



	No wmk.	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
			s.	d.	s.	d.
1d., blue	5	0	5	0
6d., rose	25	0	30	0
1s., green	40	0	15	0

1872-9. Five values. Design as in previous issue, but printed on paper watermarked Crown CC. The 3d. and 4d. are new values. The 6d. and 1s. in this series are even scarcer than those of the previous issue.

	Watermark Crown CC.	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
			s.	d.	s.	d.
1d., blue	5	0	5	0
3d., red-brown	15	0	15	0
4d., mauve	25	0	3	6
6d., rose	35	0	15	0
1s., green	50	0	15	0

1882-7. Four values. Design unchanged, but printed on Crown CA paper. The colours of all values but the 4d. were changed, but a supply of the 1d., blue, on CA paper seems to have been sent out to the colony before the change of colours was decided on, for we get the 1d., blue, on CA as well as in carmine, the new colour. The 6d. was changed from rose to yellow, and the 1s. from green to grey. Perforated. The 6d. and 1s. of this issue are again up in price.

	Wmk. Crown CA.	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
			s.	d.	s.	d.
1d., blue	5	0	5	0
1d., carmine	1	0	1	6
4d., mauve	7	6	1	6
6d., yellow	80	0	80	0
1s., grey	80	0	50	0

1888-91. Provisionals. The currency of the colony was changed on 1 January, 1888, from pence to cents, and as a consequence the postage stamps had to be changed from pence to cents; but as the stamps with the new currency had not arrived when the change was made, supplies of stamps on hand had to be overprinted, in black, with the new values. Some Crown CC as well as Crown CA were overprinted.

2
CENTS

	Perf.		Used.
	s.	d.	
2 c. on 1d., rose (CA)	1	6	—
2 c. on 6d., " (CC)	15	0	17 6
3 c. on 3d., brown (CC)	17	6	20 0
10 c. on 4d., mauve (CA)	3	6	3 6
20 c. on 6d., yellow (CA)	3	0	3 6
30 c. on 1s., grey (CA)	60	0	—

	Unused.		Used.
	s.	d.	
10 c., mauve and green	1	6	—
12 c., violet and green	1	0	—
24 c., yellow and blue	3	6	—
25 c., brown and green	12	0	—
30 c., green and red	2	8	—

2 CENTS



Larger figures. Wmk. Crown CA. Perf.

	s. d.		s. d.	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
1 c. on 1 c., dull green	0	2	1	0
2 c. on 1d., carmine	0	2	0	4
3 c. on 3d., brown	0	5	0	5
6 c. on 3d., ultramarine	1	0	0	9
10 c. on 4d., mauve	1	0	1	0
20 c. on 6d., yellow	5	0	5	0
30 c. on 1s., grey	6	0	8	6

	s.	d.	s.	d.
\$1, green and red	5	0	—	—
\$2 " ultramarine	10	0	—	—
\$5 " black	25	0	—	—

6 CENTS **1 CENT** **FIVE CENTS**

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
"6," in red, on 10 c. on 4d., mauve	0	6 1 0
"6," in black, on " " " "	0	6 1 0
"Five," in black, on 3 c., brown	0	4 1 0
"15," in red, on 6 c. on 3d., ultram.	1	9 —

1899. Four values overprinted with the word REVENUE in small capitals. The 5 c., 10 c., and 25 c. are of the last issue, but the 50 c. is the provisional of 1888-91, i.e. the 1s., grey, overprinted "50 cents."

	s.	d.	s.	d.
5 c., ultramarine	0	6	2	0
10 c., mauve and green	1	0	—	—
25 c., brown	1	6	—	—
50 c., grey	17	6	—	—

1891-9. Thirteen values. Design, small head of Queen Victoria to left, with values in cents currency. Some of the values were printed in two colours, the name at the top and the value at the bottom of the stamp being in one colour and the rest of the stamp in another colour. Paper water-marked Crown CA, and perforated.

1900. Two values. Design of the 1891-9 series. A change of colours, the 5 c. from ultramarine to grey-black and ultramarine on blue paper, and the 10 c. from mauve and green to lilac and green.

Wmk. Crown CA. Perf.

Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. Unused. Used.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
5 c., grey-black and ultramarine on blue	0	6	—	—
10 c., lilac and green	0	8	—	—



1902-4. Four values. Design, head of King Edward VII substituted for that of the late Queen.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., dull green	0	1	0	1
2 c., carmine-rose	0	2	0	1
3 c., brown	1	0	1	0
5 c., ultramarine	1	6	—	—
6 c. " "	0	5	—	—

Wmk. Crown CA single. Perf. Unused. Used.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., bluish green	0	1	—	—
2 c., lilac and black on red	0	3	—	—
5 c., grey-black and blue on blue	0	4	—	—
20 c., violet	1	3	—	—



1904. One value. Design as before, but the watermark changed from single CA to multiple CA.

Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
2 c., lilac and black on red	0	2	—	—

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY

THE HISTORY OF STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

CHAPTER XV

Our Staff

A HISTORY of our firm would not be complete without mention of the loyal body of employees who have done so much to make this firm a success.

The Officers are as follows:—

Chairman and Managing Director :

Mr. Charles J. Phillips. (See Chap. V.)

Assistant Manager :

Mr. William H. Phillips. (See below.)

Directors :

Mr. G. Hamilton-Smith. (See Chap. IX.)

Mr. S. E. Gwyer. (See Chap. X.)

Mr. D. W. Glendining. (See Chap. X.)

Mr. W. P. Barnsdall. (See p. 229.)

Literary Editor :

Major E. B. Evans, R.A. (See Chap. XII.)

Editor Gibbons Stamp Weekly :

Mr. E. J. Nankivell. (See Chap. XII.)

Short details of the history of some of the above gentlemen have been given in earlier chapters, so here I have only to mention Mr. W. H. Phillips and Mr. W. P. Barnsdall.



W. H. PHILLIPS

Mr. William Henry Phillips is my only brother, and was born in Cherry Street, Birmingham, on 15 September, 1864. He was educated partly at Castle Bromwich School, and later on was for some years at King Edward VI's Grammar School, in New Street, Birmingham.

After leaving school he entered the employ of Mr. W. H. Thornbery, consulting engineer, Birmingham, as mechanical

a Director of the Company, a position he holds at the present time. He has charge of a large portion of the correspondence, entire charge of the cash and banking department, and in my absence acts as general manager of the head office.

Mr. William Percy Barnsdall was born in South London on 8 March, 1867, educated at Thanet College, Margate, and King's



W. P. BARNSDALL

draughtsman, and remained there from September, 1881, to February, 1883. In March, 1883, he entered the employ of the Birmingham Machinists Company, and remained there until the middle of the year 1885, when he joined Messrs. Thomas Astbury & Son, of the Smethwick Foundry, as draughtsman and estimating clerk. In 1889 he again joined the Birmingham Machinists Company as works manager, and left there to remove to London and join our firm in April, 1891.

In 1895 Mr. W. H. Phillips was appointed

College, London. Matriculated at London University and passed the Intermediate Examination for the B.Sc. degree. After leaving school he was engaged first at a Greek merchant's office, and later as manager of a French import and export house. In 1891, on his father meeting with an accident, he joined him in business in the wholesale hosiery trade and as a side issue took up accountancy, which gradually absorbed the greater part of his time. He was appointed Secretary of our Company on its enlargement in 1898, and in January,

1900, the whole of his services were engaged. He was appointed one of the Directors of the firm in February, 1905, a position he still holds.

Mr. Barnsdall is chief of the permanent literary staff and prepares the numerous albums and catalogues published by the firm.

Mr. T. Fletcher Fullard, M.A., is head of the Foreign Correspondence Department, and is a linguist of great ability, having a thorough knowledge of—and being able to correspond in—French, German, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese, besides having a fair knowledge of Dutch, Russian, and modern Greek.

Mr. Fullard was born at Birkenhead and educated at King Edward VI's Grammar School, Norwich, Exeter College, Oxford, and Göttingen University, and took his M.A. degree in 1888. From 1892 to end of 1894 he acted as private secretary to the Hon. Andrew D. White, the American Minister at St. Petersburg, and travelled extensively with him in the Russian Empire and on the Continent.

In June, 1895, Mr. Fullard joined our firm as senior foreign correspondent.

Mr. Norman Thornton is chief assistant to Mr. Barnsdall in literary work on albums, catalogues, etc., and makes up most of the American stock books, and is one of the most willing and able workers of the younger generation.

Mr. Stanley Mann is assistant manager and book-keeper at the City Branch; he also arranges the City stock books, and is rapidly obtaining a good knowledge of our business, in which he takes a keen and intelligent interest.

Mr. Frank Phillips is my elder son, and joined the firm only a year and a half ago. He has been three years abroad to complete his education, and has a thorough knowledge of French and German. At present he is going through each department of the business, so that he may learn it in every branch. He is an expert photographer, and prepares a large number of photographs and enlargements, etc., for our reference collection, as well as taking all the photographs for the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Society, London.

Mr. W. H. Hiscox is the manager of our shop at 391 Strand, London. He joined me when I was in Birmingham, and for

about a year acted as a clerk and came with me to London in 1890, and has therefore been with us about sixteen years.

Mr. W. H. Andrews entered our employ as book-keeper, but has recently been placed in charge of the *Foreign Approval Department*, which he has already greatly extended. He is also Secretary to the Company, having been appointed in succession to Mr. Barnsdall.

Mr. T. Cope joined us about fifteen years ago as errand boy, but rapidly worked his way up to be a senior corresponding clerk, and later on took charge of the *Home Approval Department*, which is still under his charge.

Mr. James Gahagan joined us in 1890, and is our senior corresponding clerk, and an expert shorthand writer and typist.

Mr. F. Godden came to us in 1891 as errand boy, but has worked his way up to the position of salesman in our Strand shop. He has also made a speciality of window dressing, and the good effects obtained by our Strand and City shops are entirely due to his artistic taste and arrangements.

Mr. G. A. Stevens only joined us last year as book-keeper. He is also fully acquainted with the methods of reproduction of stamps for illustrations, etc., having been formerly with firms who made this a speciality.

In addition to the above there are four errand boys, none too many for the dispatch of the numerous parcels and letters sent out daily.

Our Lady Assistants

From the earliest days in Plymouth our firm has employed girls in several departments, and our business is one for which they are specially suited; they handle stamps quickly and neatly, and easily learn the making up of packets and sets, sorting of common stamps, and general office work. There is, however, one decided drawback, viz. that having such a nice and good-looking staff there are frequent resignations on account of marriage; last year alone we lost five ladies in this manner.

Our senior is Mrs. Bruce, who joined the firm over twenty-five years ago, and who thoroughly understands every branch of the business.

Mrs. Cannon is our senior saleswoman, and has been with us nearly twenty years.

Miss Bolton is senior of the catalogue order department, and joined us in 1893.

Miss Welsh is our senior lady typewriter.

The entire permanent staff consists of twenty-four men and thirty-two ladies,

(Concluded.)

not counting the employees of Messrs. Glendining & Co., Ltd. In addition to these fifty-six employees we have several able helpers who assist in making up stock books, arranging special collections, etc. etc., but as these are not on regular salaries I do not include them in our staff.

HISTORICAL LINKS

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 216.)

IN the year 1500 a Portuguese named Cabral was sailing to India. On his way round the Cape of Good Hope he stood out more than usual towards the west, and discovered the land which he named "Tierra da Vera Cruz" (the land of the true cross), and which we now know by the name of Brazil. This land Cabral claimed for the Portuguese, and with the exception of sixty years (1580-1640) when Portugal was subject to Spain, Brazil was governed by the Portuguese until the year 1889. Owing to the invasion of Portugal by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1808, the Prince Regent of Portugal, João VI, transferred his Court to Rio de Janeiro. In 1821 this John returned to the throne of Portugal, and his son Dom Pedro I was left behind as Regent. At the instance of the British Government the independence of Brazil was recognized in 1825. An attempted revolution caused Pedro I to abdicate in favour of his son Dom Pedro II in 1831. A change from the portrait design to the numeral series in 1884 and 1887 indicates a growing aversion to the monarchical rule, which aversion culminated in the proclamation of a Republic in November, 1889, the deposition of Dom Pedro II, and the banishment of the House of Braganza.

The stamps of the United States of Brazil appeared in 1890. The design is a representation of the Southern Cross

constellation in an oval with inscriptions above and below.

This "Southern Cross" series was not considered satisfactory. It was accordingly replaced in the following year by a series bearing the effigy of the Republic.



A commemorative series of labels was issued in 1900. The 200 reis value represents a scene in the time of Pedro I. Ordered in 1821 to return to Portugal by the home Government, Pedro refused and took steps to expel the Portuguese troops. In the following year he received the title of "Perpetual Defender of Brazil," and was acclaimed "Constitutional Emperor" after a decree of 1 August had completed the rupture of every bond of dependence between Brazil and the Portuguese nation.



Bulgaria commemorated the twenty-fifth year of the War of Independence in 1876 by the issue of two stamps in 1901.



This revolt of 1876 against Turkish rule led to Bulgaria's existence as a principality under the suzerainty of Turkey. The Ruler is chosen by the National Assembly. Prince Alexander of Battenberg was elected in 1879. He was kidnapped on 21 August, 1886, and forced to abdicate. On 7 July, 1887, Prince Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg was elected. His portrait appears on the 1902 issue.



A characteristic picture of the revolt of 1876-7 is seen in the commemorative labels which were issued in 1902, one of which we illustrate below.



The first issue of France depicts the head of Ceres and the inscription *REPUBLIC FRANCAISE*. This was in 1849. Louis Philippe's government had proved unpopular in 1848. Paris proclaimed a Republic. The rest of France accepted the change of government, and Louis Napoleon Bonaparte was chosen President for four years. At the end of the third year, in December, 1851, he seized all the reins of office, and appointed himself President for ten years.

Accordingly the 10 centimes and 25



Presidency (1851).



Empire.

centimes of 1852 have the portrait of Louis Napoleon as President. In December, 1852, the title of President was merged in that of Emperor, and the next issue presents the same portrait as that of Napoleon III, Emperor of the French.

The quarrel between Russia and Turkey in 1854 led to France and England joining forces against Russia and the latter's reverses in the Crimea. In 1859 France declared war on Austria, with the avowed object of freeing Italy from the Alps to the Adriatic. The treaty of peace which followed freed Italy only as far as the Mincio. France received the two provinces of Nizza and Savoy. In commemoration of these French successes, the stamps of 1862-70 presented the Emperor's head crowned with a wreath of laurel.



The fear that the Crown of Spain would be given to a distant kinsman of the King of Prussia was the reason given for the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian War in 1870. The rest is soon told. Napoleon was made prisoner at the fall of Sedan. The French deposed him. The Second Empire fell on 4 September, 1870, and a Republic was proclaimed. On 13 November of that same year Ceres reappeared and *REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE* took the place of the *EMPIRE FRANCAIS* inscription. Nearly thirty-six years have intervened since then, and the *Republique Française* shares with the United States of America the proud distinction of being one of the two greatest Republics in the world. One interesting difference in the postal issues of these two Republics is worth noting. The United States, except for occasional lapses of the commemorative type, faithfully adheres to her custom of doing honour to her Presidents by depicting their portraits on her stamps; whereas France seems to have as faithfully adhered to the determination to stick to allegorical designs. Is it that this is due to a fear that history might repeat itself, and the *coup d'état* of 1852 be re-enacted?

(To be continued.)

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Abyssinia.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, which quotes the *Bulletin Mensuel*, another new set of provisionals has been issued. This new set consists of the issue of 1905, overprinted with values in French currency, and further overprinted with Amharic inscription in violet.



Provisionals. Perf.

- 05 on ½ gairsh, green.
- 10 on ½ " rose.
- 20 on 1 " blue.
- 40 on 2 " brown.
- 80 on 4 " brown-lilac.
- 1.60 on 8 " violet.
- 3.20 on 16 " black.

Afghanistan.—We quote the following from the *Monthly Journal*:—

"A correspondent in India kindly sends us the following cutting from *The Times of India* for 27 February:—

"Collectors of postage stamps should note, says the *Pioneer*, that Afghan issues are likely to rise in value. The Amir has issued orders that in future letters posted in Afghanistan are not to be stamped, but to bear the impression of a metal seal. An envelope bearing such an impression has reached us, and it is certainly unstamped. It is not stated how the stamp revenue is likely to be affected by this change, but one would imagine that the Amir's postal officials will see a new opening for speculation. Existing stocks of postage labels are to be used up at a few of the principal towns."

"Collectors of Afghan stamps will rejoice if this news is true, not so much because the stamps are likely to rise much in value, as on account of the difficulty of accounting for the vagaries in coloured paper that have turned up of late years."

Barbados.—The *Barbados Advocate* says: "The new stamps are printed in sheets of sixty, five rows of twelve stamps each, but in the case of the twopence stamp, collectors have been unable to secure complete sheets, as this denomination is issued in curtailed sheets of forty-eight stamps only. It is stated that the twopence stamps were received from England without the lower row of twelve stamps, and it would be interesting to know what is the reason for it, and what has become of the missing stamps. It is assumed that this lower row contained some error, and was consequently docked. The information should be obtained and given to the public by the Executive. We may mention that the one penny and one shilling values are practically the same colour, viz. red and black, and it is said that mistakes have already

occurred in dealing with them. The mistake is in the colouring of the one shilling stamp."

British South Africa.—The *Monthly Journal* says: "A correspondent in Cape Colony writes to us on the subject of the difficulty that he experiences, in not a few cases, of obtaining on the spot stamps that have been duly chronicled in the magazines, and are even on sale in London. This certainly does happen, not infrequently, and it must be acknowledged that Philately is at the bottom of it. Stamps are often chronicled from 'specimen' copies, sent out to countries in the Postal Union, but supplies are also in some instances to be had in the mother-country before they are put on sale in the colony for which they are intended. Again, wholesale orders for new issues are sometimes filled by the authorities on the spot, before the stamps are put in general circulation. Our correspondent tells us that he is assured, on the very best authority, that the 5s., orange, No. 66 in the Catalogue, has never yet been on sale out there, and he sends us the following list of postage stamps on sale at post offices in Southern Rhodesia on 15 January, 1906:—

- ½d., 1898-1903, green.
 - 1d. " red.
 - 2d. " bistre.
 - 2½d. " cobalt.
 - 3d., 1896-7, chocolate and ultramarine.
 - 4d., 1898-1903, olive-brown.
 - 6d. " red-lilac.
 - 8d., 1896-7, olive-green and violet on buff.
 - 1s., 1898-1903, ochre.
 - 2s., 1896-7, indigo and green on buff.
 - 2s. 6d. " brown and purple on yellow.
 - 3s. " green and mauve on blue.
 - 4s. " red and dark blue on green.
 - 5s. " chestnut and green.
 - 7s. 6d., 1898-1903, black.
 - 10s. 1896-7, slate and vermilion on rose.
 - £1., 1898-1903, purple.
 - 1s., 1905, green
 - 2s. 6d. " black
 - 5s. " violet
- } Victoria Falls issue."

Western Australia.—Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., send us the 3d. and 5d. stamps on Crown A paper.



Wmk. Crown A. Perf.

- 1d., rose.
- 2d., yellow.
- 3d., brown.
- 5d., olive-yellow.

MISCELLANEOUS

Humours of the Post Office in Africa

MR. ROSS MACINNES, in an article contributed to the *People's Journal* on the "Humours of the Post Office in Darkest Africa," writes:—

In South Africa the postal official has endless opportunities of seeing the humorous side of business life

Where the population is of such a cosmopolitan order, comprising every shade of colour and almost every nationality under the sun, ridiculous incidents are of hourly occurrence.

The raw Kaffir, clad in a blanket and a smile, remits money to his various wives through the P.O.; the stately Arab, in flowing robes and many-coloured turban, patronizes the P.O.; the fair-headed Swede keeps the old mother in Sweden in comfort by means of P.O. orders; and the wily Chinese sends to China for opium through the P.O.

To observe the humour of these diverse customers, it is necessary to take a seat at a busy P.O. counter, and keep one's eyes and ears open. Along comes a stalwart son of Ham with the sweet odour of a hundred-horse-power motor-car clinging to his person. "Me wants sent money, boss." "What's your name?" Two or three clicks are the answer, something like a farm wife calling her hens. "And where do you work?" "Me no work, boss; me am a carpenter," is the dignified reply. After the "carpenter" has departed, a buxom young woman, evidently German, and carrying a tiny baby, comes up to the counter, and smiling proudly, says, "I had brought him!" "What is it?" asks the clerk politely. "What ees it? Et is ze baby, of course, what you tink?" says the fond mother indignantly. "Yes, yes; but what do you want?" "Wat I wants? Vy to register him; see your name Registered Office?" says she, pointing triumphantly to the well-known P.O. sign. The clerk informs her that he does not register babies, only letters, and she bounces out with a snort of disgust. Now another son of Ham arrives, but this time in great excitement. "Boss, my wife run away with 'nother Kaffir; you stop him, or kill him by the telegram. My wife cost lots of cattles, no lose her!" "Why don't you run after them, then?" "No, boss; me buy 'nother wife just now. You must stop them by the telegram," and he rushes away to complete the purchase of No. 7.

A few moments' peace, and then a gentleman from India's coral strand, smelling powerfully of garlic, claims the attention of the clerk. "Salaam, master! Wants send eggs to my wife in Tranquebar; she very seek." "But you can't. They would be grown-up hens before they arrived there." "No, master; me sent letter by telephone yesterday and got answer to-day. Send eggs same way." Half an hour is wasted in explanations, while a crowd gathers round to hear what the argument is about.

It is quite a common thing for a young couple to come and ask for a licence to get married, and one couple went the length of asking the clerk to make out a list of the most needful things for a house. He was a married man, so he wrote on a slip of paper: "Most needful thing—money;

second most needful thing—money; and last most needful thing—money." That clerk knew a thing or two.

Universal Penny Postage.

THE following letter from Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., appeared in *The Times* of 31 March, 1906:—

"SIR,—In the course of the next few days a small assemblage of foreign gentlemen, of the subordinate official type, will, without much regard to argument or remonstrance, decide a question of high importance to England; and we are expected to be satisfied with the mere promulgation of their decree. I refer to the quinquennial congress of the Postal Union, which is about to meet in Rome, and which will, it is said, reject by a large majority the proposal of universal penny postage, to be brought forward by New Zealand, supported by Australia and Egypt.

"It is natural and touching that the cry for cheap postal communication with the outer world should be raised in the Antipodes, separated from the rest of civilization by so many thousand miles of ocean. It is significant to hear the cry echoed from Egypt—not long ago a down-trodden Turkish province, now the most promising of Mussulman States. Our countrymen would probably have thought it more natural for England to lead the way in such a matter instead of leaving the initiative to the most remote of her children. They would certainly consider it unnatural in her to turn a deaf ear to such an appeal, and to join in the vain attempt to stifle it.

"To the man in the street such tactics are incomprehensible. Our delegates are picked members of the Secretary's staff, versed in postal history, masters of the necessary *data*, trained in the most exacting of controversial schools—the daily defence of our complicated postal code against an infuriated public. Such champions are not to be intimidated by the attitude of this or that State, whose yearly output of foreign letters would not fill a couple of our mail-vans. They are not like King Dagobert in the ballad, who was found in a breathless condition, having, as he explained, been chased by a rabbit.

'O, mon Roi!
Votre Majesté
Est bien essouffée,
C'est vrai, lui dit le Roi,
Un lapin courait après moi.'

"It would be absurd to suppose that our Post Office regards penny postage as an evil with which the British Empire is permanently afflicted, but from which we should magnanimously preserve the rest of the world. We cannot suppose that the postal authorities think it a good thing, like coal, which we should keep for ourselves. Such a policy would be not less unwise than ungenerous. If it was right to institute Imperial penny postage, it cannot be wrong to promote universal penny postage. The distances will be less under the latter than under the former, and the benefit to British commerce far more considerable. If (as

is conceded in every counting-house and editorium) the cheapening of postage to and from the Colonies stimulates trade with the Colonies, a similar stimulus to our foreign trade must result from cheaper postage to and from foreign countries. The money of new customers who were Americans, Frenchmen, Germans, or Chinamen would be as good as that of so many Canadians, Australasians, or South Africans. Here one fact is decisive: In 1904 our trade to and from the Colonies amounted to 240 millions sterling, and our trade to and from foreign countries to 681 millions. An able writer has said: 'International intercourse in Europe is great and becoming greater. Penny postage in Europe would produce its own reward; and the proposal for universal penny postage should come from the representatives of the densely populated countries of Europe.'

"One need not apologize for recalling some striking figures already published and commented on by *The Times*, for, as Dr. Johnson remarked, 'You must have observed, sir, that most persons stand in need of being reminded rather than informed.'

"During the last century ten million British emigrants went to the United States as against five millions to our Colonies. The American-English send home £1,500,000 yearly to poor relatives in the United Kingdom.

"It would cost us about £25,000 in the first

year to establish penny postage to the United States, and £125,000 to all foreign countries. In the third or fourth year there would be a profit.

"All the populous States make a large profit from the Post Office, but the American surplus is swallowed up by concessions to book-post senders.

"It costs 2½d. for a letter to France, twenty-one miles, but only 1d. for one to Fiji, 11,000 miles.

"Our letters sent abroad number but sixty millions out of a total of 2624 millions posted.

"Seven hundred and eighty thousand passengers cross the Channel yearly. Thirty-six thousand English are settled in France alone. Many thousands of our children are educated on the Continent.

"Our 2½d. foreign postage rate is in effect a tax on British exports—a species of impost which must revolt protectionists and free-traders alike. We have already universal halfpenny postage for printed matter; let us strive to bring about universal penny postage for written matter. I have earnestly pressed the new Postmaster-General to give such instructions to his representatives at the Rome Congress on this subject as will be in accordance with the general and hearty sentiment of the British people, here and in the Colonies.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

"J. HENRIKER HEATON.

"House of Commons, 29 March."

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

OUR PHILATELIC CLUB

By E. G. GILLARD

(Continued from page 222.)

CHAPTER V—continued

IT was some time ere he made his reappearance, and we could see by his face that the boy had told him everything. Thompson had remained behind in the other room.

Turning to Trollope, Mr. — asked him if he would step down to the Doctor's study and present his compliments to him, and request him to step upstairs. "You need not say what for; I will explain everything to him." And then, turning to me, he told me to tell Dixon he was wanted in the Long-room.

We both left the room to execute our commissions.

Trollope found the Doctor, and the good man's alarm (so Trollope afterwards told us) was amusing. Without waiting to adjust his gown or hat, he rushed out of the study in company with Trollope, there to await the arrival of Dixon and myself.

Mr. — took the Doctor aside, and by the time I had found Dixon he had acquainted the "head" with all he knew, and begged him to take the matter in hand, to which the Doctor consented.

I knocked at Dixon's door once or twice, but receiving no answer I pushed the door open and walked in, and, to my astonishment, I saw Dixon on his knees beside a large trunk of his. He was so deeply engrossed in whatever he was doing that he did not hear me approach, and it was not until I was close upon him that he was aware of my presence.

He started up in great confusion. Shutting up a book and hastily putting it in his trunk, he demanded angrily why I had intruded in his room.

I apologized, and told him that I had knocked at the door, but on receiving no answer I pushed the door open, and saw him in the position stated.

He seemed to me very confused, and said, "Did you see what I was doing, or what I had in my hand?"

I told him no, and he then seemed very much relieved.

I acquainted him that his presence was desired in the Long-room, but I took good care not to tell him what for, or that the Doctor was there.

"All right," he said; "I will come presently. Do you mind waiting outside the door?"

I smelt a rat directly, and replied that my orders were to bring him to the Long-room, and that I would see them carried out.

Seeing that I was determined, he accompanied me to the committee room. On seeing the "head" present he turned deathly white, but quickly recovering, he asked the Doctor why he had been subjected to such treatment.

The Doctor replied by asking him to be seated, as he had an unpleasant duty to perform.

Dixon, taking the proffered chair, seated himself facing the committee; he remained very silent while the Doctor spoke.

The "head" waited a moment, and then began: "No doubt, Dixon, you think it rather strange to be summoned here at so short a notice, but when you have heard what I have to say, you will quite understand why your presence is required. I have been asked by Mr. — to fathom the mystery that occurred some time ago, namely the disappearance of a number of stamps belonging to the Philatelic Club, this being my first knowledge of the affair. Mr. — has informed me that one of the missing stamps has been identified in one of the boys' albums. Both Foster and Trollope recognized the stamp, and I have been informed that you have some knowledge of it as well. I will not say whose album it was found in, but I will leave it for you to guess. The stamp was given the person for some trifling little service done by him for you. Is this correct? and if so, how did the stamp come into your possession? Before you answer me think well over it, and do not commit yourself to telling any falsehoods about it. I am determined to get to the bottom of this matter, because it concerns not only Foster, but also the reputation of my school."

Dixon, all the time the Doctor had been speaking, had shifted very uneasily under his stern gaze. He turned from red to white and from white to red, and showed visible signs of discomfort.

There was an uncomfortable silence and then Dixon replied to the questions.

"Sir, I have heard your remarks, and I cannot say how deeply I regret the unfortunate affair, and how sorry I am for Foster; but upon my honour, sir, I know nothing of the stamp mentioned, and what is more, I have never given anyone any stamps for any service or kindness that they may have done for me, and I think, sir, that you do me a great injustice to infer that I could possibly have been mixed up with the affair. I know no more about it than the rest of the fellows, and I must ask your permission to be allowed to leave the room, as I do not care to listen to such things that I have a great abhorrence to."

The Doctor listened to Dixon with great attention, and had never once removed his eyes from Dixon's face whilst he explained.

"I am glad for your sake, Dixon, that you say you know nothing of the matter, but I cannot give you permission to leave the room until you have satisfied me more. Trollope, ask Thompson to step into the room. In the mean-

while you may sit down again, Dixon. I have not finished with you yet."

Trollope brought young Thompson in, and, really I felt sorry for the youngster. Poor little chap, he looked the picture of misery, and I could tell by his eyes that he had been crying.

The Doctor, walking up to him and laying his hand on his curly head, said, "Do not be frightened, my boy; you have nothing to fear if you tell the truth, so come here and answer me these questions. Now, my boy, where did you get this stamp from—this one here, the one you were questioned about just now? Speak up, and do not be afraid."

The poor little chap began by saying, "I had the stamp given to me, sir."

"Yes, yes," said the Doctor, "I know that, but who gave it to you?"

"Dixon," sobbed Thompson.

"It's a lie, an abominable lie," said Dixon, springing to his feet.

"Silence!" cried the Doctor; "and do not speak again unless you are spoken to."

"It's not a lie, it's the truth!" cried the little chap. "He gave it to me one morning in his study. I had made him some toast, and was about to leave the room when I saw a foreign stamp lying on the floor close to the window. I picked it up, and asked Dixon if he knew it was there. He seemed confused, and said that he did not. He looked at the stamp, and told me that it was no good, and that I could have it. 'But mind,' he said, 'that you tell no one you have got it. If you do, and I find it out, it will not go well with you, for I will give you the biggest hiding you have ever had.'" And having finished, young Thompson broke out again into tears.

The Doctor comforted him, and told him that he had explained very well and clearly.

Turning to Dixon, he said, "Can you now deny what this lad has said?"

"Yes, I can and will deny it," cried Dixon. "The boy is telling lies. I know nothing of what he says. I expect he has been put up to say this by Foster to cover his own guilt. I deny it again once and for all."

"Very well," said the Doctor, "I must take stronger measures to find out this mystery": and turning to Mr. — he told him to declare the meeting at a close. "Dixon, you must accompany me to my study; I want to talk to you. You, Foster and Thompson, will remain here until I send for you"; and with that he turned to leave the room.

I, however, was not going quietly away without letting the Doctor know of Dixon's strange behaviour when I fetched him from his room. Asking permission to speak to him for a few moments, I drew him aside and told him all I had seen.

He thanked me, and told me to remain with Foster and Thompson, and to tell no one what I had seen or heard.

The look Dixon gave me when he passed with the Doctor out of the room I shall long re-

member. If looks could have killed, I should not be telling this story.

We anxiously awaited the Doctor's summons, and I am thankful to say that he did not keep us waiting long.

Mr. — informed us that we were all wanted in the study at once.

We arrived, and the assistant master closed the door, and then the ordeal began.

The Doctor said: "I have questioned Dixon again, and he still denies any knowledge of the stamp, so I have come to the conclusion that the only remedy left is to search all the scholars' boxes, trunks, and rooms. Do you object to this proceeding?"

Foster said he would be only too pleased to let them see the contents of his belongings.

Thompson did not mind, and I also willingly agreed.

Dixon, however, said it was a disgraceful proceeding and an insult to the boys, and he for one objected to such stringent measures.

"Very well," said the Doctor, "I will take it upon myself to answer for the other scholars, since Foster and the others here present do not mind. No decent or honest fellow would hesitate one moment to show the contents of his boxes where his honour is concerned, unless he has some special reason for not doing so. I am really very sorry, Dixon, but I must ask you to accompany me to your room, and to allow me to inspect your trunk. You, Mr. —, will accompany me. You boys," he said, turning to us, "may go to your rooms."

I do not know what passed in Dixon's room, but next morning the whole school was summoned into the classroom. We were all present except one, and that one was Dixon.

The Doctor, attended by all the masters, came in soon after. There was a look on the "head's" face that I had never seen before, and I had seen him upset on a good many occasions.

After silence had been called and maintained, the Doctor rose from his chair on the raised platform, and addressed us all as follows: "Boys, you are all assembled here in the classroom this morning to hear that one of your number was expelled from the school last night, and is now on his way home. This is the first expulsion that has occurred in our honourable school, and I hope and trust it will be the last. Most of you remember that a short time ago some stamps to the value of some £20 were stolen from a box belonging to the Philatelic Club, and until last night the affair had fairly baffled us all. Last night, at a committee meeting of the club, a new member was admitted whose name I will refrain from mentioning. His album, as usual, was submitted to the committee for their inspection, and on looking through it one of the stolen stamps was recognized, both by the secre-

tary and another. Dixon was suspected and questioned by myself last night. He denied all knowledge of the stamp; but owing to certain facts having reached my ears, I searched his trunk last evening in the presence of Dixon himself and Mr. —. To my great surprise the missing stamps were found locked up in a box; they had been removed from their original sheets, and were stuck in an exercise book. Seeing that it was now useless to attempt to deny any farther, Dixon made a full confession, and begged me to forgive him and to overlook it. This was, of course, impossible, and I was reluctantly compelled to remove his name from the school's register, and to send him away at once. This school has always had a reputation of being an honourable institution, and I hope that in the future all of you will uphold our ancient tradition. Remember this, that you are all British youths; you will grow up to be men and to take responsible positions in life, so do not let mean, despicable actions mar your career as this unfortunate boy has done. Remember the old proverb, that 'Honesty is the best policy.' I will hand the recovered stamps back to your secretary, and trust that in the future the club will prosper; I am sure that it could not be in more capable hands. You may now disperse to your various classrooms, and remember the lesson that has been taught you." And with this the Doctor left the room.

Of course all this was a nine days' wonder with most of the fellows, but it soon blew over, and was forgotten by most of us by the end of the term.

In conclusion, I may say that Dixon enlisted in the Yeomanry, and was killed in action during the late South African war. It was said afterwards that he died fighting like a demon, and he was mentioned in the despatches. I am not a moralist, but I feel sure that Dixon had retrieved his past, and died like a hero; and whatever he may have been, his name is held sacred here as a hero and a man.

Our club prospered and grew in numbers. Most of the old fellows are gone. Foster is no longer here; he has taken up a commission in the Army, and I am shortly going to join him, for the simple reason that I cannot do without him. Trollope is training at Oxford for the Bar, and hopes soon to take his degree.

Dear old school, I shall soon be leaving you, together with all the pleasant days I have spent within your walls, and the happy hours I have spent with my old college chums.

Here my story ends, and I do hope that whoever has taken the trouble to read it will see how easy it is to fall into sin, and how hard it is to recover from wickedness. I think the Doctor was right when he said that "Honesty is the best policy."

A VERY HANDSOME PRESENT

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PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

London Philatelic Society

President: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

Hon. Sec.: J. A. Tilleard, 10 Gracechurch Street, E.C.

Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W. Alternate Fridays at 7.45.

Annual Subscription: Town, £2 2s.; Country, £1 1s.

THE eighth meeting of the season 1905-6 was held at 4 Southampton Row, on Friday, 2 February, 1906, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: E. D. Bacon, R. B. Yardley, R. Ehrenbach, Herbert R. Oldfield, Thos. Wm. Hall, T. Maycock, J. A. Tilleard, A. R. Barrett, B. D. Knox.

The chair was taken by Mr. E. D. Bacon, and the minutes of the meeting held on 19 January, 1906, were read and signed as correct. The Honorary Secretary reported that the following had been presented to the Society:—

The Stamp Designs of Eastern Asia, by C. A. Howes, presented by the Scott Stamp and Coin Company.

Priced Catalogue of the Railway Letter Stamps of the United Kingdom, 1891 to 1905, Part I, England and Wales, compiled and presented by Mr. L'Estrange Ewen.

Prospectus of the Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Milan in September, 1906, forwarded on behalf of the Exhibition Committee.

Mr. Tilleard moved and Mr. E. D. Bacon seconded the following resolution relative to the death of His Majesty the King of Denmark, and the same was carried unanimously:—

"Resolved that the members of the Philatelic Society, London, have received with deep regret the intelligence of the death of His Majesty the King of Denmark, and beg leave to offer to their President, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the respectful expression of their profound sympathy."

Mr. R. B. Yardley then proceeded to read some notes on the stamps of Griguland, illustrated by a display of the stamps of that country, and subsequently a vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Hall, and carried unanimously, and the proceedings then terminated.

THE ninth meeting of the season 1905-6 was held at 4 Southampton Row, on Friday, 16 February, 1906, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: E. D. Bacon, Wm. Neville Usher, Franz Reichenheim, Herbert R. Oldfield, Robert Ehrenbach, R. B. Yardley, A. Bagshawe, L. W. Fulcher, L. L. R. Hausburg, H. M. Hansen, C. N. Biggs, F. Ransom, B. D. Knox.

The chair was taken by Mr. E. D. Bacon, and the minutes of the meeting held on 2 February, 1906, were read and signed as correct.

The members then proceeded to consider the election of the Rev. Herbert Armitage James, D.D., proposed by the Honorary Secretary and seconded by the Honorary Assistant Secretary, who after ballot was declared duly elected a member of the Society.

The Rev. W. N. Usher then read a most interesting paper on the stamps of Iceland, very fully illustrated by specimens taken from his own collection.

Mr. Usher intimated that he divided the stamps of this country into three divisions, one comprising the skilling issue from 1873 to 1876, there being two perforations, 12½ and 14, both used contemporaneously; and Mr. Usher indicated the comparative rarity of the various values of the different perforations, for full details of which members are referred to the paper itself, which will be published in the *London Philatelist*

The second division comprised the first aura issue from 1875 to 1897. Mr. Usher referred to various changes of colour which took place and to the alteration in the perforation of 12½ which took place about the end of 1897, and also to the numerous forgeries which existed of the overprint on the 3 aura value.

Division 3. Stamps in this division comprised those issued from 1898 down to the present time, and they were all perforated 12½.

In October, 1902, a new set was brought out, the design of which was the King's Head, and 1000 sheets of the 20 aura, blue, were issued containing two errors, viz. the word "Pjonusta" (official) instead of "Frimerki" (postage).

In the same year, 1902, all the old stamps were overprinted and made available for a limited period.

There were two settings of this overprint, the second of which is more rare, and this contains two errors, the date being given as '03-'03 instead of '02-'03, while in the second error the comma is misplaced and comes after the figures 02 instead of before them. Reprints of these surcharged stamps were made in Copenhagen, which were all perforated 12½, and were printed on the paper with the watermark used for the King's Head series, so that they can readily be distinguished.

A vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Hansen and seconded by Mr. Bacon, and after some remarks by Mr. Ehrenbach and Mr. Ransom in support was carried. Mr. Usher suitably responded and the proceedings then terminated.

THE tenth meeting of the season 1905-6 was held at 4 Southampton Row, on Friday, 2 March, 1906, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, Franz Reichenheim, Herbert R. Oldfield, Thos. Wm. Hall, T. Maycock, H. M. Hansen, C. J. Daun, C. Neville Biggs, L. W. Fulcher, L. L. R. Hausburg, C. McNaughtan, J. A. Tilleard, B. D. Knox.

The chair was taken by the Honorary Vice-President, and the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February were read and signed as correct.

A letter was read from Stanley Gibbons, Limited, accompanied by a work on colours with a colour chart by Captain Ohrt, which they desired to present to the Society. The Honorary Librarian was directed to acknowledge the letter and gift in due course. Mr. M. P. Castle then proceeded to give a display of the stamps of Sweden and Bosnia from the Mann Collection (kindly lent by Stanley Gibbons).

It is unnecessary to say that both these countries were very fully illustrated, and the members present appreciated the opportunity afforded them of inspecting this portion of a celebrated collection.

The usual vote of thanks to Mr. Castle and to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons was subsequently carried and the proceedings terminated.

Enterprise Philatelic Society

Secretary: A. C. Constantinides, Woodview, Archway Road, Highgate, London, N.

Meetings: Monthly, Devonshire House Hotel, Bishopsgate Street, London, E.C.

THE thirtieth monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, 21 March, 1906, at the Devonshire House Hotel, a large number of members being present.

The chair was taken at 6.30 p.m. by the President, Mr. F. W. Lake, when, as usual, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and duly signed as correct.

The evening's entertainment opened with a display by Mr. E. Heginbottom, B.A., of the stamps of Grenada, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Tobago, and the Leeward Islands. Among many other good things were shown: Grenada, the errors "shillins" and "ostage"; Jamaica, 2½d. on 4d., double surcharge, with the ordinary stamp on the original cover, also the Official, their surcharge inverted; St. Lucia, a nice lot of the scarce surcharges; St. Vincent, 1869, 1s., brown, in fine condition.

Next, Mr. W. B. Edwards, B.Sc., gave a remarkable short paper, to which he has the title of "Anomalies and Otherwise, mostly Otherwise." In this he dwelt upon the inconsistency of catalogues both as regards pricing and why certain shades should be accorded catalogue rank and others excluded from the lists. Mr. Edwards concluded with a practical illustration of the various papers used for the pictorial issues of New Zealand.

In conclusion, Mr. F. W. Lake displayed a show of rare stamps which gained a bronze medal at the Manchester Exhibition of 1899, and at 9.30 p.m. a very pleasant meeting came to an end.

The Philatelic Society of India

President: *The Hon. Sir David Masson.*
Secretary: *Mr. W. Corfield.*

THE annual general meeting of the Society was held at Mr. Larmour's residence, Calcutta, on 6 and 9 March, 1906. Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson took the chair on each occasion at 6 p.m., and there was a fairly good attendance of Calcutta members.

Mr. Larmour tendered the congratulations of the Society to Mr. Stewart-Wilson, the Society's President since March, 1897, on his appointment to the important position of Director-General of the Post Office in India. He referred to the long and distinguished services rendered to Philately by the retiring President, and in the name of the Society wished him all success in the high office he is about to assume, and concluded by asking those present to elect Mr. Stewart-Wilson Honorary President of the Philatelic Society of India. The meeting responded with acclamation.

Mr. Stewart-Wilson in reply said—
"Gentlemen, it is with a feeling of great sorrow that I address you to-day for the last time as your President, a post which, owing to your kindness, I have now held ever since the Society was started nine years ago. I do not require to be reminded of the shortcomings in my administration of the Society's affairs, for perhaps no one knows them so well as I do. But still I feel that those years have not been without something to congratulate ourselves on. We are fairly old now, but when we began life we had a small membership and not very sanguine hopes as to the future. Now we may say without any fear of being accused of undue pride that we hold an honourable position among the philatelic societies of the world. It is a source of natural pleasure to me to think that I have been associated with the Society during its healthy adolescence and that I may count myself as a contributor towards its present highly respectable position. But while my share has been specially prominent in the eyes of the philatelic public owing to the position in the Society which I have owed to your very kind votes for so many years, I speak with no false modesty when I assure you that the credit I have had has not been at all commensurate with appearances. Never has a President had a more devoted body of office bearers, and never, I would add, have these officers done so much good solid work quietly and unobtrusively with the one common object of furthering the purposes of the Society. You will know in your minds the gentlemen to whom I specially refer, without whom my position would have been an

impossible one, and to whom I owe my very best thanks and the Society owes even more. I have thought it right not to again offer myself for the post of your active President mainly because, as you know, Government has seen fit to do me the honour of entrusting me with duties which seem to be inconsistent with holding any active position in a philatelic society. You need not, however, go far to find my successor, who is far better fitted than myself to take command. He has been ready to hand in the person of our distinguished Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer, Sir David Masson, who is not only one of the most remarkable philatelists of the day, but who has administrative abilities of a kind which are rarely found. Sir David enjoys the profound respect of philatelists in all parts of the world and the gratitude of the Philatelic Society of India, and his election to the honourable post of President can only shed lustre on us. I accept with pleasure the unique honour which you have just conferred upon me."

Now that Mr. Crofton is leaving India for a time, the honorary secretaryship falls vacant. It is a post which requires a great deal of hard work and self-sacrifice, and no one is better fitted to fulfil both of these conditions than that veritable "pillar" of the Society, Mr. Corfield, who is by no means new to the duties.

Progress on the Society's *magnum opus*, the *Adhesive Postage and Telegraph Stamps of British India*, was reported. The work is practically ready for the printers, its authors being Messrs. C. S. F. Crofton, L. L. R. Hausburg, and C. Stewart-Wilson. It will be very fully illustrated, and is expected to prove, without exception, the most complete and attractive philatelic literary production ever issued since stamp collecting began. The meeting approved the arrangements made by its authors for its publication before the end of the year by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London.

Owing to the non-receipt of statements from the Society's English agent, the annual accounts could not on this occasion be presented, but a provisional review of the financial position disclosed a fairly satisfactory result.

M. Bernichon, of Paris, and Signor Dr. Emilio Diena, of Rome, were elected honorary members of the Society.

Mr. Larmour was specially thanked for the gift of a handsome book-case for the Society's library, and it was announced that the secretaryship of the Dum Dum Stamp Exchange Club had been taken up by Mr. A. G. Cardew, I.C.S., Ootacamund.

Mr. Corfield exhibited, with the permission of the Trustees, the collection of the Postal, Fiscal, and Telegraph Stamps of India and the Native States, now in course of formation for the Victoria Memorial Hall, and the beauty and extent of the collection elicited the admiration of the meeting.

After several other items of business had been disposed of, including arrangements for change of the firm entrusted with the printing of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, the following officers were elected for 1906-7:—

Honorary President, Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, I.C.S.; President, The Hon. Sir David Masson, Kt.; Vice-Presidents, The Right Hon. the Earl of Crawford, K.T., Mr. Wilmot Corfield, Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, the Hon. Mr. C. F. Larmour, and Mr. E. W. Wetherell; Treasurers, the Punjab Banking Co., Ltd.; Secretary, Mr. W. Corfield; Librarian, Mr. T. Hoffmann; Editor the *Philatelic Journal of India*, Mr. E. W. Wetherell; Council: The above (*ex-officio*) and Major W. Barrett, D.S.O., I.S.C.; Mr. J. A. E. Burup; Mr. J. T. Chamberlain, I.C.S.; Mr. C. S. F. Crofton, I.C.S.; Lieut.-Col. G. F. A. Harris, I.M.S.; Lieut.-Col. C. P. Lukis, I.M.S.; and Lieut. A. E. Stewart.

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Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

LEGAL

Violent Assault on a Stamp Dealer

At Bow Street, London, on Saturday, 31 March, 1906, Charles Alfred Harrison, a young man described as a clerk, of Somerset Road, Tottenham, was charged with unlawful wounding with intent to steal.

Mr. William Boyd Kirkpatrick, a stamp dealer, carrying on business in the Strand, said that at 1.30 that afternoon the prisoner called at his office and produced a list of stamps which he said he wanted for a customer. The witness told him he could not have them on approval, and he understood him to reply that he was going to pay for them.

After looking out the stamps the witness handed the prisoner the account, which came to £17 10s. The prisoner looked through it and said he thought the amount totalled only £15, and while the witness was going over the items again the prisoner struck him four or five blows on the head with a walking-

stick. He cried out for help, and the prisoner was caught before he had an opportunity of leaving the premises. He did not touch the stamps.

The witness was afterwards taken to King's College Hospital, where the doctor stitched two wounds in his head, one of them being an inch and a half long and extending down to the bone.

He could not suggest any reason why the prisoner should assault him unless his motive was robbery.

P.C. 102 E said he arrested the prisoner, who cried, and said, "Have mercy and think of my poor old mother." He was perfectly sober. Only 4d. and a few English and foreign stamps were found upon him.

The prisoner told the magistrate that he only struck the prosecutor once.

He was remanded for inquiries.

CORRESPONDENCE

Heraldry of Mauritius Stamps

SIR,—In his article in this week's *G. S. W.* on "Postage Stamp Devices," the Rev. T. C. Walton, speaking of the Key emblazoned on the Arms of Mauritius, says: "A key commonly represents possession or clue to a possession. I must, however, confess that its significance here is altogether outside my ken."

The key in the coat of arms is probably the key referred to in the motto inscribed beneath the shield, *STELLA CLAVISQUE MARIS INDICI*—"The Star and Key of the Indian Sea"—Mauritius by its beauty and fertility being compared to the star of the Indian Ocean, and from its position as the first land formerly touched at by outward-bound Indiamen on their way from the Cape to India, and from its dominating position over the route taken by these ships, as the key to the Indian Ocean.

This motto may be seen on the long rectangular 36 cents stamp of 1898.

With apologies for trespassing on your valuable space. Believe me,

Yours obediently,

R. MELBOURNE WEST.

M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. London.

DEAR SIR,—Mr. Walton, in writing of the Arms of Mauritius, says that he cannot explain the Key nor the Star thereon.

If the writer will look at the 36 c. Diamond Jubilee stamp he will find thereon the motto of the colony, *STELLA CLAVISQUE MARIS INDICI*. The island is the star and the key of the Indian Ocean. The key is represented in the third, and the star in the fourth quartering of the shield.

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM BARNARD.

OUR PHILATELIC DIARY

APRIL, 1906

We shall be glad if Secretaries of Philatelic Societies will send us their Programmes for the new year. Several Societies are omitted from this Diary for lack of Programmes.

17. Herts Philatelic Society: Display with Notes—Uruguay (second part); Mr. T. W. Hall. Display—Colonials; Mr. Robert Reid.
18. Enterprise Philatelic Society (London): Display with Notes—Leeward Islands, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts. E. Heginbottom, B.A. Paper: "Fiscal Notes and Indications," accompanied by Display of the United States and Philippines; W. Schwabacher. General Sale and Exchange.
- 19 & 20. Auction: Ventom, Bull, & Cooper, Loudon Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London. 4.30 p.m.
20. London Philatelic Society: Mr. A. Bagshawe. Paper on the "Stamps of the Straits Settlements," with Display.
- 24 & 25. Auction: Glendining & Co., 7 Argyll Street, London. 4.30 p.m.
- Auction: Puttick & Simpson, 47 Leicester Square, London. 4.30 p.m.
24. Leeds Philatelic Society: Paper by Mr. W. D. Roebuck.
30. Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society: Paper on "Stamps of Spain," by Mr. J. H. M. Savage.

Editorial Address—EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

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VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

British Guiana



BRITISH GUIANA is the only possession of Great Britain on the South American continent. It is grouped in the West Indian section of the British Empire, and as such is the largest of all the West Indian colonies.

This part of the world, we are told, was visited by Raleigh, Hutton, and others, in search of the fabulous El Dorado. Raleigh wrote a pamphlet entitled "Discovery of the large, rich, and beautiful Empire of Guiana, with a relation of the great and

golden city of Manoa." He entreated Queen Elizabeth to keep a small army afoot in Guiana marching towards Manoa. In that event he was certain, says his biographer, Mr. W. Stebbing, the Inca would yield to Her Majesty so many hundred thousand pounds yearly as should both defend her from all enemies abroad and defray all expenses at home. Its lord would possess as many diamonds as the princes of India, and more gold, a more beautiful empire, more cities and people than either the King of Spain or the Great Turk. He was convinced it was a region in which Englishmen could thrive and be happy. A couple of forts on sites commanding the entrance into the Orinoco would make it safe from all foes. He trusted that she who was the lady of ladies would be inspired to accept the direct dominion. But Elizabeth was not persuaded, and as the State could not be induced to interest itself he maintained the English connexion with Guiana at his private charge. "In January of 1618," continues his biographer, "he dispatched Keymis with the *Darling* and *Discovery*. They were laden with merchandise to comfort and assure the people that they should not yield to any composition with other nations. Burleigh and Robert Cecil were joint adventurers with Raleigh. Burleigh advanced £500, and his son lent a new ship bravely furnished." That expedition was a failure. But many other attempts were made to obtain a foothold and establish a colony in Guiana.

According to Lucas, "the El Dorado myth is usually dated back to about the year 1531. At that time, so the story goes, a Spanish soldier, one of an exploring expedition up the Orinoco, was set adrift by his companions; and, on finding his way

back some months afterwards to his own countrymen, he told how he had been taken by Indians to a great inland lake with golden sands, on which stood a vast city roofed with gold. The lake was given the name of Parima; the city was, in Raleigh's words, 'Manoa, the Imperial City of Guiana, which the Spaniards call El Dorado.'"

After much competition between English, French, and Dutch, a convention between Great Britain and the Netherlands in 1814 left England in possession of Essequibo, Demerara, and Berbice.

The division of Guiana now stands as follows: British Guiana, 109,000 square miles; Dutch Guiana, 46,060 square miles; and French Guiana, 30,460 square miles.

British Guiana is some 550 miles in length by about 300 miles in breadth. The climate is hot and moist. Yellow fever is a frequent visitant, and leprosy is endemic. Gold is obtained by washing and quartz-crushing in all three colonies; but the El Dorado has not yet been discovered.

The chief towns are Georgetown (Demerara), the capital, with a population of 53,176, and New Amsterdam (Berbice), population 8903. The total population of the colony is put down at 300,000.

Its Philatelic History

From a philatelic point of view British Guiana ranks high. Many of the greatest rarities belong to its early issues. Who has not heard of the 2 cents, rose, circular, of 1850, a locally type-set design enclosed in a ring, and resembling a postmark more than a stamp? The value of this stamp probably approaches £1000. Then there is the 1 cent of 1856, of Ship design, also type-set in the colony. Of this stamp only one copy is known, and that is in the collection of M. Phillipp la Renotière, of Paris. Indeed, all the quaint, rough-and-ready, local type-set stamps of the first postal issues are great rarities. Some were printed on the commonest soft paper, used for wrapping sugar, and these are so perishable that all the great specialists who possess copies hang a little protective curtain of tissue paper over them to save them from being rubbed. The young collector is always being warned not to buy a defective specimen on any account; but when he gets into the ranks of the Great Moguls, and finds himself with an unlimited banking account, he will learn that he will

have to make an exception in the case of the early stamps of British Guiana. I have seen specimens of the stamps of 1850, priced up to £60, which, instead of being grand copies, would be better described as being what is left of the remains.

After a little experience of making their own stamps, the work was handed over to Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, London. From the first the postal authorities of the colony became enamoured of the Ship design. A three-masted ship is the badge of British Guiana, and from the first till now, with the exception of the first circular stamps and a speculative Jubilee picture set of four stamps issued in 1898, a ship in full sail has formed the central and chief feature in the design of all the stamps of the colony.

It wants a very well filled purse to collect British Guiana from the first issue, but a beginner might start with the issue of 1889-90. Unfortunately the high values are rather dearer used than unused, instead of being much cheaper.

The popularity of British Guiana stamps is heavily handicapped by an overburden of highly priced early issues; but this objection is now affecting so many British colonies that starting-points with recent issues will have to be determined in most cases for the beginner.

The stamps are pretty, effective, and interesting, and the design is peculiar to the colony, and being therefore distinct from the stereotyped monotonous general colonial design, should be much more popular than they are.

1850. The celebrated rarities known as the circular stamps of British Guiana were issued in July, 1850. They were set up from type and printed at the office of the *Royal Gazette* at Georgetown. The history of this most interesting first issue is given fully in the West Indian volume published by the Philatelic Society of London in 1891. The curious official notice inaugurating this first issue is well worth quoting; it runs as follows:—

Notice

By order of His Excellency the Governor, and upon the request of several of the merchants of Georgetown, it is proposed to establish a delivery of letters twice each day through the principal streets of this city, viz. Water Street, Main Street, their intermediate streets, and the Brick Dam, as far as the Roman Catholic Chapel.

The following gentlemen have consented to

receive Letters for delivery at their respective stores, that is to say—Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Richardson in Water Street; Mr. B. L. Watson and Mr. F. H. Stewart in Main Street; Mr. Torres on the Brick Dam.

Each letter must bear a stamp, for which Two Cents will be charged, or it will not be delivered, and when called for will be subject to the usual postage of Eight Cents.

The deliveries will take place at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. every lawful day.

Stamps may be obtained at the post office, or at any of the receiving offices.

This delivery to commence on the 1st March.

(Signed) E. T. E. DALTON.

POST OFFICE, GEORGETOWN,
22nd February, 1851.

The great rarity of the stamps referred to is attributed to the fact that the delivery of letters was discontinued soon after it was started.

The stamps were initiated by the post-master, or the post-office clerks, before they were issued. The same dies were used for printing all the values, the numeral in the centre only being altered.

These stamps are an exception in cataloguing, for used copies only are quoted, but of these there are two grades, one column for cut-square and the other for cut-round to the shape of the stamp.



Imperforate.

	□ Used.	○ Used.
2 c., rose	—	—
4 c., orange	—	£35
8 c., green	£60	£30
12 c., blue	£40	£12

1852. Two values. Design, a ship on a shield, designed and engraved by Messrs.



Waterlow and Sons, and printed from lithographic stones. The design and general

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

appearance of this stamp have very much of the amateurish character of the first local productions. They are lithographed on surface-coloured papers.

Imperforate.

	Unused.	Used.
1 c., black on magenta paper	—	£7
4 c., deep blue	—	£9

1853. Two values. Design, ship sailing to left. A more elaborate design, also the work of Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, and lithographed as before. Imperforate.



Imperforate.

	Unused.	Used.
1 c., vermilion	—	5 d.
4 c., blue	£6	20 0

1856. Provisionals. Two values. Design set up and printed at the office of the *Official Gazette*, by Messrs. Baum and Dallas, at Georgetown. These stamps are stated to have been "issued provisionally, pending the arrival of a fresh supply from England of the stamps of the preceding issue," and the little ship in the centre is the same as that employed for heading ordinary shipping advertisements in the local papers. Only one copy of the 1 cent is known, and that is in the collection of M. Phillipp la Renotière, of Paris. These stamps were also initiated by the postal officials. Imperforate.



Imperforate.

	Unused.	Used.
1 c., black on magenta	—	—
4 c. " "	—	£25
4 c. " blue	—	—

HISTORICAL LINKS

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 232.)

Germany

ONE of the most difficult problems which a beginner has to face is that which the various German States present. At first sight the postal issues of these States, their disappearance, the rise of new issues under the name of the North German Confederation, and the final merging of almost all into an issue of the German Empire, are matters of no little mystery. Let us then inquire into the why and wherefore, and try to unravel the history of the times. It would be well at the outset to have a glance at the map of Germany and consider the States under the headings of North and South. The Northern States are Prussia, Brunswick, Hanover, Mecklenburg, Oldenburg, Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein, and with these we include the three Hanseatic towns, Bremen, Hamburg, and Lubeck. The Southern States are Baden, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Alsace and Lorraine.

From the above list we have omitted any mention of Bergedorf and Thurn and Taxis. Bergedorf, once famed as the seat of a nest of pirates, a small and unimportant town near Hamburg, issued a series of stamps in 1861. Hamburg acquired com-



Bergedorf.



Hamburg.

plete control over Bergedorf in 1867. Accordingly, the stamps of Hamburg were used. Thurn and Taxis, a princely house of Austria, originally controlled the postal service of the whole of Germany. This was long before the days of adhesive stamps. Dissatisfaction with the postal service caused the above-named States to withdraw or purchase their freedom and set up postal administrations of their own. Therefore the stamps of Thurn and Taxis were only used by those States and parts of Germany which did not possess postal services of their own or separate issues of stamps.

These issues ceased in 1867, when the postal monopoly was ceded to Prussia.



Thurn and Taxis (Northern District).

Of the Northern States, Schleswig and Holstein were governed, the former by Austria and the latter by Prussia, from the year 1864. After the Austro-Prussian war, in which Prussia proved victorious, both States were incorporated with Prussia. This was in the year 1866. Hanover also became a province of Prussia in the same year.

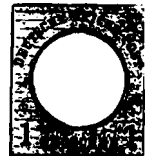


From the year 1818 Prussia had gradually been made the centre of a commercial union among the Northern States. The time was now ripe for a closer union, and the North German Confederation was formed under the presidency of Prussia, with a common constitution and assembly. Accordingly, the issue of the North German Confederation stamps in 1868 marks the close of the separate issues of the North German States.

When France made war on Prussia in 1870, the Southern States joined forces with the North, and during the war decided



North German Confederation (1868).



German Empire (1872).

to unite with the North German Confederation. On 18 January, 1871, at Versailles, William, King of Prussia, was proclaimed

German Emperor. The first series of the German Empire appeared in 1872. Wurtemberg continued her separate issues down to 1902. Bavaria is still postally independent of the Empire.

The stamps of Alsace and Lorraine were issued during the German invasion of 1870 for the use of the inhabitants, and were employed wherever the postal communications were under the control of the invading army. The design was of the simplest. The inscription in French appears on a network of coloured lines. Their use continued until 24 March, 1871, when France took

over all the post offices previously worked by the Germans, excepting those in the ceded provinces of Alsace and Lorraine.



In 1872 their use in the latter provinces was superseded by those of the German Empire.

(To be continued.)

PORTRAITS ON STAMPS

By BOSWELL JUNIOR

Denmark

Christian IX, the late King of Denmark, was born in 1818. He succeeded Frederick VII in 1863. In 1842 he married Princess Louise, daughter of the Landgrave William of Hesse-Cassel. By the Act known as the Treaty of London, 1852, the succession to the Danish



Christian IX.

crown had been settled on Prince Christian of Sleswick-Holstein-Glücksborg and his descendants by his wife, the above-named Princess Louise, who was niece of King Christian VIII of Denmark (reigned 1839-1848). There had been endless disputes about the two duchies of Sleswick and Holstein, held by the Danish kings. A glance at the map will show their position. Holstein was undoubtedly part of Germany; Sleswick was partly German and partly Danish in nationality. The duchies refused to recognize Christian IX. Duke Frederick of Augustenburg proclaimed himself Duke of Sleswick, to which title Christian IX laid claim. Austria and Prussia stepped in and called upon Frederick to leave the duchy, and forbade Denmark to

proclaim a constitution for it. War followed, and after a brave but utterly useless resistance, Denmark ceded the duchies to Prussia and Austria by the terms of the Treaty of Vienna, 1864. Since the war, Denmark, although greatly reduced in size, has prospered much.

The links forged by the children of Christian IX with the dynasties of Europe are of surpassing interest.

The sea-kings' daughter as happy as fair,
Blissful bride of a blissful heir,
Bride of the heir of the kings of the sea.

So rang out our Tennyson's welcome to one daughter, Alexandra, our Queen, whom Englishmen have taken to their hearts and homes. Another daughter, Dagmar, is the widow of the Czar Alexander III, while a third, Thyra, married the Duke of Cumberland. His second son, George, became King of Greece in 1863. His eldest son, Frederick, born in 1843, is now King of Denmark, while Prince Carl, Frederick's second son, who married Princess Maud of England in 1896, was proclaimed King Haakon of Norway in 1905. Christian IX died with startling suddenness in January of this year.

(To be continued.)

THE YOUNG COLLECTOR'S PACKET

No. 66, 500 varieties, is strongly recommended as the cheapest collection of 500 different Stamps ever offered—the Stamps could not be bought separately for three times the marvellously low price at which it is now offered. The Stamps, etc., are clean, picked specimens fit for any collection. The best 500 varieties in the trade. 4s. 1d., post-free.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 39r Strand, London, W.C.

THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

ITS HISTORY AND PROGRESS

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY BY
E. EGLY, PRESIDENT, ON 19 DECEMBER, 1905

ALTHOUGH I have been a constant reader of philatelic journals for the last twenty years, I have often wondered how little information these papers contained about the Universal Postal Union. Scarcely ever a notice appears referring to this institution, with the result that most philatelists know as little of the Union as outsiders who take no interest in postal and philatelic matters.

If my paper will help to enlighten you, gentlemen, on this subject, the pains I have taken in preparing it will be amply repaid.

What immense progress in the way of travelling has been made in the nineteenth century! Railways have taken the place of the slow post-chaise, fast steamships have replaced the old sailing boats, telegraphs and telephones have done away with the antiquated signalling stations of former days.

Given all these facilities in the short space of half a century, it is not surprising to see high-minded statesmen and officials endeavouring to put an end to the very intricate and hampering postal tariffs, when every country had a different tariff for correspondence according to distance, causing high rates of postage and a so-to-say insurmountable barrier in the international exchange of thoughts, science, and commerce.

Seeing Great Britain had succeeded in 1840 in establishing the one uniform postage of one penny per letter, it was endeavoured to establish one uniform rate of postage for correspondence all over the world, without considering distance or extra cost of transmission.

But such an all-important change could not be brought about in a moment's time; it required years of earnest study before the scheme was ripe for realization. First of all, many a country followed Great Britain's example in establishing a uniform rate of postage for internal correspondence, and this is how the way was cleared for a later union of all the countries.

It is well to mention here the great services rendered by two forerunners of the Union, namely, the Postal Union which was concluded on 6 April, 1850, between Germany and Austria-Hungary, comprising sixteen independent postal administrations. We find this union mentioned in the early issues of Baden and Wurtemberg, and the experiences made with it were of such beneficial character that the desire to still further extend it to other countries, and perhaps over the sea, grew stronger from year to year.

Now that the vitality of such a union was proved beyond all doubts, further steps were taken.

The United States of America in 1863 called together a Conference, whose task it was to endeavour to lay down a basis for later postal treaties. This Conference sat in Paris from 11 May to 9 June, 1863, and the following countries were represented: Austria, Belgium, Costa Rica, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Holland, Italy, Portugal, Prussia, Sandwich Islands, Spain, Switzerland, the United States of N.A., and the Hanseatic towns of Hamburg, Lubeck, and Bremen.

But there was no immediate result following this Conference. The points laid down were but of theoretical value, and the most important ones advocated the privilege either of franking or not franking letters, the latter to be charged with a reasonable extra postage.

Registered letters, printed matter, and samples should be prepaid.

The taxing should be for the same weight at the posting place as at place of destination.

For letters, the single weight rate of 15 grammes was recommended, the metric system having been found preferable.

A compensation of 50 francs should be paid for every lost registered object.

It is, however, to Germany, and especially to Dr. Stephan (the Postmaster-General of the North German Confederation), that the thanks of the whole civilized world are

due for having made the most successful attempt, in a memorial published in 1868 by the North German Confederation, to form a Postal Union comprising all the civilized nations of the world, and in which the basis of the Union to be established was clearly defined. The name of Dr. Stephan is a household word in Germany, and many a stamp album is dedicated to him by the editors.

But the North German Confederation went still further by initiating diplomatic negotiations in 1869 and 1870, which, however, were interrupted by the Franco-German War; but at the conclusion of peace they were successfully brought to an end, and as a result the Swiss Federal Council was entrusted with the honourable mission to invite the delegates of the European Governments and the United States of America to a Congress to be held at Berne on 1 September, 1873.

Nearly all the Governments gladly consented to take part at the Conference except France, for political reasons, and also Russia, which had just contracted fresh postal treaties, the result of which she wanted to experiment on. The Conference was in consequence postponed a year, a wise decision, for the year after both France and Russia were willing to take active part at the Congress.

This was held in Berne from 15 September to 9 October, 1874; thirty-six representatives, belonging to twenty-two Governments, took part in it. Great Britain was represented by W. O. Page, second secretary at the General Post Office, London, and Alan Maclean, of the Secretariate at the General Post Office.

One of Germany's representatives was the aforesaid Dr. Stephan. France was represented by Besnier, Administrator of the Posts. The other two French delegates met with a serious railway accident, which happened to the Paris express on their way to Switzerland; they were both dangerously wounded, and had to return to Paris. The other countries—namely, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Denmark, Egypt, France, Greece, Holland, Italy, Luxemburg, Norway, Portugal, Roumania, Russia, Servia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Turkey—were mostly represented by the Postmaster-

Generals of the respective countries and other high officials of the Post Office Departments. The whole of Europe, therefore, took part in the Congress; also Egypt and the United States.

The sittings were held in the hall of the old Stateshouse in which the Swiss Diet met up to 1848, when the Swiss Confederation of States (consisting of twenty-two cantons) was knitted closer together into the one Confederate State. A strange coincidence that in 1875 the delegates of twenty-two Governments also should form a new Confederation of States to further the welfare of great nations—a triumph to civilization. This building is still in existence; the only sign of its old fame is the tablet above the entrance door, bearing the inscription:—

"THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION
WAS FOUNDED HEREIN
ON THE 9TH OF OCTOBER, 1874."

The first sitting was opened by a high-spirited address given by the Swiss Federal Councillor Borel, who was elected President of the Congress.

The course of business was then decided upon in accordance with a project submitted by the Swiss delegates.

It was further agreed that the treaty proposal of the German Post Office Department should be subjected to a general discussion, and a General Commission was elected for the study of the same; but it was found that credentials of several delegates were not in order, and these had to be put right during the Congress by the respective Governments.

At the close of the first sitting the delegate of Turkey thought the moment propitious to plead for the total abolition of all the foreign post offices in the dominion of the Sultan, which injured the material and moral interest of his country.

The President, however, gave this delegate to understand that the Congress was not the proper place to vent this question, and the delegates of Germany, Austria, Great Britain, and France confirmed this view. This incident closed with the thanks of Turkey's delegate, who, however, expressed the hope that justice would soon be done to the Sultan's demands elsewhere.

(To be continued.)

EXHIBITION NOTES

The Catalogue

THE Committee have decided to accept advertisements for insertion in the Official Catalogue, to be issued for the use of visitors attending the Exhibition, which will be open from Wednesday, May 23rd, until Friday evening, June 1st, 1906.

The compilation of the Catalogue will be entrusted to a special Committee of well-known Philatelists, and, in addition to matters of general information and interest, it will contain a plan of the Exhibition; a list of all the countries represented, with their position in the Exhibition; a description of each exhibit, noting its general points and merits; and a complete index and list of Exhibitors and Advertisers.

The Catalogue, forming as it will a Philatelic Guide to London, will be indispensable to all who visit the Exhibition. It will doubtless be read by the Philatelic World generally; and it will probably find a place in the library of all serious collectors as a work of reference to the collections shown by the leading Exhibitors; a work from which all students of Philately can derive valuable information as to the status and comparative scarcity of particular rarities shown in the several exhibits. In this respect it will differ from magazines or periodical publications, which are generally laid aside after they have been read, and eventually bound up without the Advertisements.

The advantage of advertising in such a publication, and of bringing the name of the advertiser before the notice of wealthy Collectors in the Philatelic World, is obvious.

It is proposed to print at least 5000 copies of the Catalogue, and the Committee guarantee this number as a minimum.

The back page, reserved for Philatelic advertisements only, will be divided into quarter pages, of which not more than one quarter will be allotted to any firm.

For other special positions, applications must be for the full page, and for ordinary positions not less than for one quarter page.

The following scale of prices has been arranged:—

Special Positions

Back Page of Cover; quarter page . . .	£10
Second Page of Cover	£10

Third Page of Cover	£8
Page facing Full Title	£7
Page facing list of Patrons and Committee	£7
Page facing Introduction	£7
Page facing list of Classes	£7
Page facing Notices	£7
Page facing Catalogue of Exhibits	£7
Page facing first page of Index	£7
Page facing last page of Index	£7
Page facing last page of Matter	£7

For all Ordinary Inside Pages

Full Page	£4	0	0
Half Page	£2	5	0
Quarter Page	£1	5	0

All orders and matter, with any advertisement blocks, must be sent in at latest by May 1st. All applications will be dealt with in strict priority of receipt. In every case the terms of payment are: cash for one half the amount of the advertisement to be sent, with order, to the Honorary Secretary, H. R. Oldfield, Esq., 13 Walbrook, London, E.C. The balance must be remitted by May 15th, and should be sent to the Honorary Treasurer, Franz Reichenheim, Esq., 29 Holland Villas Road, Kensington, London, W. Default will entail forfeiture of any moneys paid on account. In the event of more than half the price of the position actually allotted being remitted with any alternative offer, credit will be allowed against the full amount payable, or the balance will be returned, as the case may be.

If the Committee, for want of space, or for any other cause, should see fit to decline any order, all moneys paid on account will be returned.

In cases where special positions are applied for, advertisers unsuccessful in obtaining one of them, and desirous of securing another position, can make their application in the alternative, and preference will be given to such alternative offers in allotting spaces in ordinary pages.

It will be a convenience if intending advertisers will make use of the official form of application, which, with any other communications on this subject, should be sent to the Honorary Secretary,

H. R. OLDFIELD,
13 WALBROOK, LONDON, E.C.

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Canal Zone.—The *Monthly Journal* says: "A correspondent in New York kindly sends us a cutting from *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, which shows that the postal arrangements in this territory are somewhat abnormal. It appears that the mails are carried by the authorities of the Panama Republic, and that is the reason for the supersession of the United States stamps surcharged CANAL ZONE, the total revenue from which was retained by the United States. Naturally the people of Panama protested against having the greater part of the work, while receiving none of the profits. Under the present arrangement, the U.S. Government purchases Panama stamps at 60 cents to the dollar, overprints them CANAL ZONE and sells them at full price, keeping the 40 cents out of each dollar for its trouble. We gather that this is still considered to be too much, though we presume that there are United States offices for the collection and delivery of letters, which cost something to keep up, and if ever a house-to-house delivery is established in any part of the Zone, 40 per cent of the postage might not be too large share."

Jamaica.—The 5s. value in the Arms type has been received by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. It is on multiple CA paper.



Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf.

- ½d., green and black.
- 1d., carmine and black.
- 5s., violet and black.

Leeward Islands.—The ½d. has been received on multiple CA paper.



Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf.

- ½d., purple and green.
- 3d., " black.

Nepaul.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons send us the 2 annas of the redrawn issue, with coarser design and fewer transverse lines in the frame. Printed on thin native paper and imperf.



Design redrawn. Imperf.

- 1 anna, grey-blue.
- 2 annas, violet.

New South Wales.—The *Australian Philatelist* says the 8d. stamp has been issued on Crown A paper.



Wmk. Crown A. Perf.

- ½d., green.
- 1d., carmine.
- 2d., blue.
- 2½d., dark blue.
- 4d., brown.
- 6d., orange.
- 8d., lake.
- 9d., brown and blue.
- 1s., purple-brown.
- 2s. 6d., green.
- 20s., bright blue.

Orange River Colony.—The stamps of this colony have at last begun to appear on multiple CA paper. The first value to be received is the 1d.



Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf.

- 1d., rose-red.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Our Melbourne Letter

MELBOURNE, 20 February, 1906.

New Federal Issues

SINCE I last wrote to you quite a number of Federal stamps have been issued on the new paper, watermark Crown and A, the following being the list: Victoria, 4d. and 1s. values, also 1d. Postage Due; Western Australia, 1d., 2d., and 3d. values; South Australia, 1d. and 2d. values; New South Wales, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 8d., 1s., 2s. 6d., and 20s. values. Queensland is the only colony so far that has not issued any stamps on this paper.

Mr. Thomas Pugh

Mr. Thomas Pugh, a collector of the old school of Australian philatelists, has returned to his old love of collecting, and has started another collection of Australian stamps. All his previous collections, three in number, have found their way to the London market. I am afraid Mr. Pugh will find it difficult to replace the fine unused stamps his previous collections contained.

A Remittance in Stamps

A Melbourne business man tells me the following: One of his country customers, having remitted 2s. 6d. short of the cost of an article he had ordered, was told that he could remit the balance owing in Victorian stamps. In due course the business man received the reply with the 2s. 6d. worth of stamps on the outside of the envelope, and of course postmarked. These stamps were promptly returned to the country customer, with the intimation that they should not have been affixed to the outside of the letter, but should have been enclosed loose inside it. The business man received a shock when he had the same stamps returned to him, with an apology for the previous mistake, and the customer stated that he had soaked off the stamps from the letter, and now enclosed them loose as requested. Some people are dense.

Another Unused Pair of 2d. imperf. Queensland

Another unused pair of these stamps, I am informed, turned up in Northern Queensland. They were in mint condition with full gum, and were sold at a satisfactory figure to a Sydney dealer.

A Rare Typical Error

In the December number of the *Stamp Weekly* that my last letter appeared in my name was spelt with a "W" instead of a "D," making it into Wonne. I am sorry to say that my name is one that undergoes a considerable amount of

mutilation and alteration in different parts of the world. One of my correspondents in the Emerald Island always insists on addressing me as Mr. Patrick Down, but never have I had a letter from the other end of the alphabet substituted for the correct one. In future auction catalogues I may expect to see an announcement as follows: "A copy of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for December, 1905, containing the rare typical error Wonne in mint condition, very fine." [We apologize, but hope our excellent contributor may long be reckoned in our pages as "Wonne in mint condition."—Ed. *G.S.W.*]

Stanley Gibbons' Early Reminiscences

In the last number of *Gibbons Weekly* to hand I was pleased to read an account of the early days of the above firm. The portion about the sackful of triangular Capes that was sold for a five-pound note by the sailors at Plymouth makes one wish that he had been alive in that sort of days. I personally know two Victorian collectors who purchased copies of the 2d. lilac error of Western Australia from the half-sheet of those stamps sold by the Albany Postmaster. One of these bought his specimen from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons at £2.

Bees in a Letter-box

From the *Melbourne Argus* I cut this paragraph: "GEELONG, Sunday.—The guard of the Queenscliff train (Guard Freeman), whose duty it is to clear the letter-boxes along the line between Geelong and Queenscliff, had an unpleasant experience to-day at Leopold. When Freeman opened the box at this station he found a swarm of bees in possession. He had to beat a hasty retreat, leaving the bees—and the letters—in the box."

A Collection and a Wife

The following little story comes from Tasmania. A young lady of prepossessing appearance fell desperately in love with a young man who was an ardent philatelist, but her love was not returned, and it was only after the young lady produced a very old collection of stamps, containing a very fine lot of "Sydney Views" and other rare Australians, that the young man's interest was aroused, and, after a brief courtship, he proposed and was accepted. It was only after the honeymoon was spent that he learnt the disastrous news that the collection was the property of his wife's aunt, and had been borrowed to show him thinking it might interest him. Moral: Never marry for a stamp collection, as you may not get what you bargain for. [What eligible philatelist could resist?—Ed. *G.S.W.*]

CHARLES B. DONNE.

A FINE BIRTHDAY GIFT

No. 68, 1500 varieties. Each specimen is in perfect condition, and the 1500 different Stamps form splendid start for any one. A large number of really rare and valuable stamps are contained in this collection but it is impossible to enumerate them, as we are constantly adding New Issues and Older Stamps when purchased. Satisfaction is guaranteed. £1 15s., post-free and registered.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.1.

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

A TERRIBLE DILEMMA

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON

FALLING in love is like stepping from extreme darkness into sunlight. The senses are cognizant of brightness and warmth, and the eyes are temporarily blinded by a fresh glory. Gradually as one's orbs become accustomed to the new light, much that was at first hidden is perceived.

My first love affair, or perhaps I, Philip Atterley, should say love affairs, as you will be able to determine later, was a period of transient happiness, an ephemeral hallucination.

Jemima Helena Pennyquick's seemingly angelic qualities once held me in pleasing captivity, and I, metaphorically speaking, felt the brightness and warmth; but now I am rudely awakened. Perhaps 'tis my own fault; but I leave you to judge.

I had become so enamoured of her that I had actually bid ridiculously high prices for worthless stamps she had included from time to time in the auction sales of our local philatelic society, that she might buy feminine trivialities. But whether it was that she gradually lost a veneer of sweetness, or whether I am fickle, certain it is that I had transferred a portion of my affection to Cissie Tomkinson.

Both girls had their own engaging qualities. Jemima was vivacious and witty, had lovely golden hair and blue eyes. Cissie was more like a Southerner, dreamy, poetical, and had a languorous grace about her. Her hair was short and curly—a constant annoyance to herself—and she had soft, velvety brown eyes that occasionally flashed like fire 'neath long curling lashes.

One virtue they had in common, they both collected stamps. Many are the *tête-bêche tête-à-tête* I have had with each, counting the dots on the penny lilac or finding watermarks. The latter pursuit was my favourite. We, that is, Jemima and I, or Cissie and I, would try to see the same watermark on the same stamp at the same time, and occasionally a wisp of hair would touch my face. Oh, the thrilling joy of it! Or perhaps a watermark difficult to find, and our cheeks would touch. Again I say, the joy of it!

It is wrong perhaps to have two loves, and virtue is ever triumphant and I always unfortunate. Such happiness as mine, I had a foreboding, could not be lasting; and on a certain first of April, that day when rude boys hold to ridicule their dignified elders by pinning to their coat paper slips bearing such inscriptions as "Kick me," "April fool," I was cast into an abyss of despair.

One pleasing attribute had Cissie—her sentimentalism would never let her part with the

stamps I gave her. But Jemima was more human, more womanlike: she would sacrifice—I say sacrifice, she probably did not consider it such—my philatelic gifts to buy all manner of lingerie and lace, fichus and scarves, bon-bons and countless fripperies so dear to the heart feminine. To the auction the stamps which I had given her would go, and her vanity was satisfied, while mine was wounded, especially as often I had to buy back the actual stamps which I had previously given to her, as no one else wanted them; and if there was no sale, there was little sweetness about Jemima. Such conduct was thoughtless and unkind. Why, I have a faded rose adorned with pink ribbon to this day she gave me at a dance. At least I think it is still in my possession.

It was, as stated, a certain first of April that I killed two birds, or rather wounded two angels, not with one stone, but with two pieces of poetry and two gifts of stamps.

To Jemima, with the blue eyes and golden hair, I wrote a short verse to accompany the gift. It ran as follows:—

More beautiful than rays of golden light,
Your flowing hair o'ertops your beauty bright;
Lacking Homer's aid and tongue of Lysias,
I prize your charms more than the first Mauritius.

To Cissie, with the languid brown eyes, I wrote as follows:—

Your eyes like the wallflower bespangled with dew,
Thy charms as diverse as the famed Sydney View;
More like three-cornered Capes thy beauty I prize,
Or a set of Seychelles (including both dies).

At the time of scribbling these two effusions I thought them quite up to the Imeson standard, and was indeed proud of my "poetic" outburst; but now I think they are rather silly and weak, and would not for the world let W. E. know that I considered them equal to his rhymes.

I posted the two packets, one to Jemima and one to Cissie; they reached their respective destinations on the morning of the first of April. I reached Jemima's house on the evening of the same day, and was admitted by the cook, housemaid, and waiting-maid all in one. She asked me to step into the drawing-room while she informed Miss Helena of my presence. I waited in a state of mild suspense, expecting her to enter looking radiant and happy; but she frowned as she came into the room.

"Oh! it is you, is it?" she said.

Well, this felt rather crushing as a start. If a girl asks a fellow if he is himself, it may be

taken for granted that she is displeased. For girls know as well as any one that when a fellow is in love he is not himself.

She held in her hand the missive I had the previous evening posted to her with the stamps.

"Don't you know the colour of the wallflower, Mr. Atterley?"

"Wallflower!" I said.

"Yes, wallflower," she echoed in a petulant voice. I looked at her in amazement.

"Perhaps this is a mistake," she said, "and is meant for some other girl. My eyes are blue, not brown, nor green, Mr. Atterley—no, nor green." And she did put a world of meaning into the last three words of her sentence. She threw the poem, or short verse rather, on to the table. Oh, the mortification of it! The terrible mistake I had made now dawned upon me. I must have sent the verses to the wrong girls, and not only was I then to lose Jemima, but Cissie also. I bit my lips, stood first on one foot and then on the other; but by a Herculean effort I retained my self-possession.

"I am awfully sorry, Jemi—Miss Penny-quick," I stammered in excuse. "But—er—you see, we are spring-cleaning at home, and the paperhangers having been in during the day, and having left several rolls of wall-paper lying about—in fact I sat on three of them when writing this verse—made me think of paint and wall-paper, and I intended to say cornflower; it is a terrible mistake. Forgive me, oh, do, Jem—Jemim—Jemima."

I certainly thought she would consider this a reasonable excuse, and forgive me, but instead she raved at me. Oh, how she raved! "What is wrong?" I wondered; "she is most unreasonable. Perhaps she did not believe me, or could I have put both verses in her envelope?" This thought crossed my mind. If so, it left a little loophole to fly through to Cissie and happiness.

Oh, how she did rave! and then she cried, "Bad, terrible!" Of course she referred to me, I now know, but at the time it was rather past my comprehension, and I thought she referred to the poetry. "Too bad, too bad," she added. And she cruelly spurned me, and bade me leave her. I could accept no alternative, so left her.

Outside the portals of the house, which I recognized with a sinking at the heart that I should never more enter, I stopped and pondered, deep in grief.

I tried to collect my scattered senses, and after a further Herculean effort succeeded. I thought over all that had passed during the last half-hour, and of all that had been said. Jemima had said when she held the little pink card on which I had written my verse to her, "Perhaps *this* is meant for some other girl." She had cried, "Bad, terrible!" and again, "Too bad, too bad." Over this last utterance I pondered. Surely I saw a gleam of hope. "Too bad." Why, of course, I had inadvertently placed Cissie's poetry in Jemima's envelope in addition to the verse intended to be placed therein, and therefore Jemima had received two verses whilst Cissie had not received one. The whole matter now seemed clear. There was still hope. I could see Cissie if not Jemima, and to Cissie's home I directed my footsteps.

A similar sort of person to the one at Jemima's house, dressed in a cap and white apron, answered my ring, and asked me to wait while she called Miss Elizabeth. I waited, and at last a note was brought to me, to the effect that when "Mr. Atterley became kinder and more thoughtful than to make an April fool of Miss Tomkinson, which Mr. Atterley doubtless considered a playful joke (and Miss Tomkinson cannot help having short and curly hair)," I might perhaps be pardoned and allowed to see her.

I had, then, sent the poems to the wrong girls, and spoken about hair like rays of golden sunlight in a verse sent by mistake to a girl with a head like a nigger's. The whole thing was ridiculous and yet sad.

I left Cissie's house, and walked the dreary streets with a gnawing at my heart. Then experiencing a more assertive gnawing elsewhere, I turned my footsteps homewards for supper. A sad and melancholy man; and now I have but my stamps to cheer me when life seems dull and empty.

Have I not your sympathy? Do you not think I have been treated badly?

THE IMPROVED POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM, No. 0

One Hundred and Tenth Thousand. The best and largest Shilling Album ever published. 176 large pages. Spaces for 4700 Stamps. 48 extra pages added in this edition without extra charge. This Album is now selling at the rate of over 1000 copies a month. The demand for this Album has simply been phenomenal, and it gives universal satisfaction—not a single complaint has been received. The last edition had nearly 20 extra pages added, and now another 48 pages have been added, and all the Geographical and Historical Notes brought up fully to date. All the newest stamp-issuing countries, such as Bussahir, Canton, Cayman Isles, Hoi-hao, Dahomey, etc. etc., have been added. At the top of each page there is the name of the country, and a mass of valuable information, including date when Stamps were issued, population, area, reigning sovereign, capital, etc. Spaces of proper sizes are provided for all Stamps, and the book is bound in a superior manner in art cloth. The Album contains a pocket to hold duplicate Stamps, and fifty Stamps will be presented gratis with each Album. There is also an illustrated Frontispiece of the Rarest Stamps, with prices attached that we pay for each. Price, bound in handsome art cloth, post-free, 1s. 3d. E. S. says: "I asked a friend where the best place was to buy a Stamp Album cheap. He referred me to you, saying that he had bought one and sold it next day for 1s. 6d., after keeping the stamps." A. A. writes: "I received your Stamp Album on Thursday, and I wonder how you can sell it so cheap; for as soon as a friend saw it he offered me 2s. for it. Please send me another."

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

THE BELATED SPECULATOR

By W. E. IMESON

I

O H, show me what I ought to buy,
And where that "what" is sold!
Of "good things" that I *might* have had
I'm always being told.
For "gilt-edged stock" that others find
In vain I look around;
Ne'er on the spot, I fail to "spot"
The spot where such is found.

II

Ere buying stamps upon the rise
I wait until they stop;
Then, if I buy when they have "riz,"
They're always sure to drop.
Of woman fair that hesitates
'Tis said that lost is she;
I hesitate to say it, but—
The man that's lost is me.

III

Some always get in just before,
And clear out on the boom,
But when I wish to come in (late),
Alas! the cry's "No room!"
Or if perchance first in the field,
I'm first to get the hump;
The "good things" that I touch are "safe
As houses"—for a slump!

IV

I'll speculate no more—not I!
The greed of gain's a crime
(Especially when you speculate
And get left every time).
No "golden opportunity"
Will I in future take;
I'm always finding prophets, but
No profit can I make.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Durban and District Philatelic Society

President: J. Wallace Bradley.
Secretary: W. P. Williams, 93 Club Arcade, Durban.
Meetings: *Bristow's Buildings, Durban.*
Annual Subscription: Seniors, 5s.; Juniors, 2s. 6d.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of this Society was held on 20 February, 1906, when an average number of members were present. Two new members were proposed. The feature of the evening was an exhibition by Mr. T. J. Miljoen of the stamps of Great Britain, mounted on sheets of the *Philatelic Album*. Specially noticeable in this exhibit was the large number of fine lightly-cancelled specimens it contained. Those conversant with the usual copies of Great Britain met with will appreciate the great difficulty experienced in getting together such an array of picked specimens. Though devoid of the greater rarities, Mr. Miljoen's collection contained many scarce stamps, and, not content with a general collection, he has also gone in for plating all the issues, and especial mention must be made of his almost complete plates of the 1840, 1d., black, and 1841, 1d., red, all of which are picked copies.

Junior Philatelic Society of Scotland

President: Sir John Ure Primrose.
Hon. Sec.: Robert Borland, Lochaide, Milngavie.
Meetings: At 562 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. First and third Wednesdays.
Annual Subscription: Seniors, 2s. 6d.; Juniors, 1s.

A MEETING of the Society was held at 562 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, on Wednesday, 21 March, 1906, at 8 p.m., Mr. J. Wilson Paterson, Vice-President, in the chair. There were thirty-two members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read, approved of, and signed, the Chairman called

on Mr. J. L. Thomas to give a display of Foreign Countries.

Mr. Thomas then produced his collection of Foreign Countries, which consisted of about 11,000 varieties, mounted in an *Imperial Album*.

It was not, he said, a prominent collection in any sense of the word; it contained none of the standard rarities, and no country was in any degree specialized. But it furnished a good example of what any steady, persevering collector could do, if he set to work systematically, without undue expenditure, and made a point of never letting a bargain pass. He had literally collected from infancy, and this large accumulation was the result.

Until 1900 he took every postage stamp obtainable, but refused anything later than that date, and often wished he had stopped at 1895.

Perhaps some of the junior members, when they observed the faultless completeness of Mr. Thomas's pages of Salvador and other such countries, did not share his regret.

During the display Mr. Thomas gave many interesting notes, which were greatly appreciated.

On the motion of the Chairman, a hearty vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. Thomas for his interesting display.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: E. Egly, Arncliffe Road, West Park, Leeds.
Secretary: Charles W. Harding, 139 Belle Vue Road, Leeds.
Meetings: Leeds Institute, Coohridge Street, Leeds.
Annual Subscription: 5s.; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of this Society was held at the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, 20 March, 1906, when a paper was read by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. Charles W. Harding) on the postal issues of Seychelles, a group of islands formerly a dependency

of the Mauritius, along with which they were ceded to Great Britain by the Peace of Paris in 1815. It was only in 1890 that a separate issue was made for these islands, consisting of eight values—2, 4, 8, 10, 13, 16, 48, and 96 cents, printed in two colours, the design showing the head of Queen Victoria. A reduction in the postal rates, and the fluctuations in the value of the rupee, necessitated in course of time the issue of new values. Stamps of a higher value were overprinted with the new values in black, and issued as "provisionals" pending the arrival of the brand-new stamps ordered from London. Seven "provisionals" were issued in 1893, two in 1896, four in 1901, overprinted with new values, viz. 3 c. on 4 c., 12 c. on 16 c., 15 c. on 16 c., 45 c. on 48 c., and 90 c. on 96 c., 3 c. on 10 c., 3 c. on 16 c., 3 c. on 36 c., and 6 c. on 8 c.; and owing to the fact that the overprinting had to be done locally by native labour, and the printing press not possessing founts of the highest grade, there are many curious varieties of the type used, such as broken letters, in some cases badly battered, in the word "cents," of which one or more letters are also frequently out of alignment. The type for surcharging or overprinting was set up in blocks of thirty, and as there were 120 stamps in each sheet of stamps, the operation required the sheet to go under the press four times, so that each variety of type occurs as many times on each sheet. Mr. Harding showed his fine specialized collection, which not only included many of the varieties referred to, and some interesting pairs and blocks, but also the very rare provisional stamps with the surcharge inverted.

The King's Head issue appeared in 1903. The design, watermark (Crown CA), and perforation 14 were as before, and the values 2, 4, 6, 12, 15, 18, 30, 45, 1 r. 50 c., and 2 r. 25 c. Engraved and printed in two colours by De La Rue & Co., this issue is most pleasing in effect.

As an instance of how stamp speculators have manipulated the several issues of the Seychelles, and actually in some cases rendered necessary an immediate issue of a "provisional," it is stated that the whole of the 3 c. values of King's Head stamps in stock were bought up by one man. Some 34,000 of the 15 c. stamps were then overprinted "3 cents," and 20,000 of these were secured by a "gentleman from France" sojourning in the islands. The 45 c. stamp was afterwards surcharged "3 cents" to meet the demands, postal and otherwise. One variety of type, viz. a small "c" in "cents," is all that is found in these surcharged issues.

The paper was much appreciated, being especially interesting to the specialist, and Mr. Harding was heartily thanked for his contribution of the philatelic history of a not uninteresting country.

Amongst the novelties shown was a complete mint sheet of the blue stamps of Mauritius (Britannia

design), prepared for use in 1858, but never put in circulation, by Mr. Oswald Brown, of York.

Mr. Fred J. Melville was cordially thanked for the donation of five of his books, including those on the postage stamps of Hayti, Great Britain, and U.S.A.

North of England Philatelic Society

President: G. B. Bainbridge, J.P.

Hon. Sec.: Mark Easton, 43 Sidney Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Meetings: Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE usual monthly meeting of this Society was held on Thursday, 5 April, 1906, at Y.M.C.A., Newcastle. The Vice-President, Mr. T. D. Hume, presided, and there were thirteen members present.

Dr. Parkinson, who had promised to show his South Australia, was unavoidably absent through illness, so arranged with the Secretary to read his notes and show the stamps. The display was much admired, including as it did a superb block of twenty-one 6d., dark blue, imperf., with light cancellation; pair 1s., yellow, roulette; block of four 1s., orange, roulette; strip of four sage-green, roulette, 10d., in blue, on 9d., yellow, perf. 11½ and perf. 11½ x 12½, all lightly postmarked; 3d., in carmine, on 4d., slate-blue, unused; 1d., blue-green, wide SA; 4d., purple, V and Crown, perf. 10, and many other good stamps, used and unused, in singles, pairs, and strips.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Parkinson for the notes and display, and to the Secretary for his assistance, and the Secretary was instructed to forward a vote of sympathy to Dr. Parkinson, and express the hope of his speedy recovery.

Philatelic Society of Victoria

President: W. R. Rundell.

Secretary: W. Brettschneider.

Meetings: 128 Russell Street, Melbourne.

THE ordinary monthly meeting of the above Society was held at the rooms, 128 Russell Street, on Thursday, 15 February, 1906, at 8 p.m.

Mr. Rundell, the President, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Messrs. H. B. Jackson and Clement Lane were duly elected members of the junior branch.

Positions in Book 153 were next balloted for.

The Rev. Hull's notice of motion, *re* "altering mode of balloting for exchange books," had to be postponed until next meeting owing to the Secretary not including particulars in this month's notice papers.

Mr. Horwood informed members that the 1s. on Crown and A paper was issued on 15 February, and the following stamps were now issued on Crown and A paper: ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 9d., and 1s.

THE IMPERIAL ALBUM

Tenth Edition. Size of pages, 8¼ x 11½ inches. The present edition is arranged in *three* volumes. Two causes have acted to bring about this result. First, the ever-increasing number of new issues, for which accommodation must be provided; and secondly, the demand by collectors that space shall be found for varieties of perforation and shade, errors, etc., to conform as closely as possible to the lists given in the publishers' Catalogue. Vol. I. The Stamps of the British Empire; post-free, 10s. 9d. Vol. II. The Stamps of Europe, and the Colonies and Possessions of European States; post-free, 12s. 9d. Vol. III. Foreign Countries, except Europe and Possessions; post-free, 10s. 9d.

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We have just prepared a new stamp hinge, of convenient size, put up in *air-tight tin boxes*, each containing 1000 hinges of good tough paper, doubly gummed, and thus easily peelable. Post-free, 7d. per box.

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EDITORIAL NOTES

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to Edward J. Nankivell, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Correspondence.—The Editor regrets that he has no time for direct correspondence. All letters requiring a reply will be dealt with under the head of "Answers to Correspondents."

Examination of Stamps.—This work is done by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., whose terms for the examination of stamps sent to them for their opinion are, cash in advance: 2s. 6d. per dozen; a minimum charge of 1s. being made if less than twelve stamps are sent. Postages extra. The stamps should be sent lightly fastened on sheets, with sufficient space above each stamp for the insertion of the desired information.

The following abbreviations are used in giving an opinion:—B. Bogus, i.e. never existed; F. Forged; G. Genuine; G.F. Stamps genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark. The charge for marking the forgeries in a collection in its entirety is at the

rate of 10s. per 1000 stamps examined, the minimum fee being 5s. Postages extra. If a correspondence is desired, the charge is 1s. for each letter written.

Subscriptions.—Subscriptions must be sent to the publishers as set out on the front page of cover, or to booksellers or railway bookstalls, but never to the Editor.

Covers for Binding Vol. II.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. II of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d. post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. I. January to June, 1905, including the rare early numbers. 400 pages, 10s. 9d., post-free. Vol. II. July to December, 1905. 444 pages, price 4s. 9d., post-free.

Philatelic Societies.—We wish to make a special feature of the prompt publication of the reports of Philatelic Societies, and trust we may have the kindly co-operation of the honorary secretaries in this matter. Reports should be written on one side of the paper, and dispatched to the Editor by the earliest post.

GIBBONS STAMP WEEKLY

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

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Historical Links in Postage Stamps. By Rev. T. C. Walton, M.A.

Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
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Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
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Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

BRITISH GUIANA.



1881. PROVISIONALS.

1 c. on 96 c., drab.

2 c. on 96 c. „

2 c. on 96 c. „

The 2 c. on 96 c. are different types of surcharges, as illustrated above, and the one with straight foot is rapidly becoming a rarity.

The catalogue price of the three stamps is 9s. 6d.

**Special bargain price for the set of three unused,
3s. 6d., post-free.**

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

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 17
Whole No. 69

28 APRIL, 1906

Vol. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

British Guiana—continued

1860-75. Six values. Design, ship sailing to right. Dies engraved and stamps lithographed by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons. In this issue the whole design comes up more clearly. Those of my readers who may be fortunate enough to get copies of these scarce stamps will probably be puzzled by what seems an obvious surcharge on used copies of the 12 c., in the shape of a large figure "5" and small "d" in red, which almost covers the stamp. Mr. Bacon, in the West Indian volume referred to, gives the history and explanation of this seeming surcharge. He writes:—

That this was not a surcharge made upon the stamp before use, is clear from specimens found upon letters showing a portion of the figure "5" or letter "d" on the stamp, the remainder being on the letter the stamp was used upon, and, as a rule, these specimens show no other obliteration. I have also seen letter-sheets with the "5d" struck upon them without any part touching the stamp. Although it is obvious, from the details I have given, this "5d" cannot be considered a surcharge, altering the value of the 12 cents stamp, it has always been a moot point with collectors what purpose the "mark" was intended to serve. I have given a good deal of thought to this old enigma, and I have at length solved the riddle—at any rate, to my own satisfaction. It has always struck me as curious that the "5d" is only found on stamps or letters sent from the colony to England, and I at once surmised the "mark" must have something to do with the postal rate between the two countries. The following is, in my opinion, the explanation of its use: On the 1st May, 1860, according to the report of the Postmaster-General of Great Britain for that year, British Guiana, along with most of the West Indian colonies, took over the control of its own postal affairs from the Home Government. From information, kindly obtained for me by Mr. Pearson Hill, from the General Post Office, London, it appears the arrangement at that period with the colonies as regards the cost of conveyance of mails to and from Great Britain was as follows: The postal rate on a quarter-ounce letter was sixpence, which was thus divided: fourpence for the sea postage, and one penny each for the inland rates at both

ends. On any letter forwarded to British Guiana or the West Indies from this country, the British Post Office received, of course, the whole of the money for the postage stamp (6d.) employed in prepayment, and of this sum fivepence was retained by the Post Office, and one penny was credited to the colony for its inland service. In like manner, any West Indian colony received 6d. on each quarter-ounce letter it dispatched to this country, and gave the British Post Office credit for fivepence, the whole cost of the packet service up to the establishment of the Postal Union (about 1878-79) being paid by Great Britain. On the establishment of the Postal Union, a different system was adopted. The British Post Office still makes the contract with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, and hands over to that company the annual sum due to it under the contract, but the Post Office obtains from the West Indian colonies in the aggregate one half of the subsidy (contributed by the several colonies in fixed amounts, which are roughly in proportion to the amount of correspondence sent to and received by each), and in order to avoid the trouble of separate accounts with every mail, the arrangement has been adopted that Great Britain keeps all the postage on the outward mails, and the colonies keep all the postage on the homeward mails. The annual loss on the service is thus divided between Great Britain and the colonies, instead of being wholly borne by the former, as was the case in time past. This being so, I conclude the "mark" of "5d" on the twelve cent stamp was applied at the date we find it used to show the amount the British Guiana Post Office had to credit Great Britain for the conveyance of the letter.

The 1 c., which was first printed in rose in 1860, was changed in 1861 to red-brown;



then, in 1862, to chocolate-brown; and then, in this same year, to black. This was the first series issued with perforations.

	Perf.	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., rose	.	40 0	30 0
1 c., brown-red	.	—	80 0
1 c., chocolate-brown	.	—	80 0
1 c., black	.	2 0	2 0
2 c., orange	.	4 0	1 0
4 c., blue	.	6 0	2 6
8 c., rose	.	12 6	5 0
12 c., lilac	.	25 0	5 0
24 c., green	.	35 0	6 0

1862. *Provisionals*. Three values. Design set up from ornamental types and rules, and printed by Mr. George Melville at the office of the *Royal Gazette*, Georgetown.

Of the 1 c. and 2 c. there are three marked varieties of design, classified as follows in the West Indian volume:—

- Border composed of small ovals, placed diagonally, and crossed with small lines.
- Border composed of small shaded circles or pearls.
- Border composed of grape-pattern ornamentation.

Of the 4 cents there are three varieties of design, classified as follows:—

- Border composed of pattern called "hearts and pearls."
- Border composed of small crosses in rosaces.
- Border composed of a trefoil pattern.

The blank space in the centre was initialed by a post-office official.

The following account of these very rare and interesting provisionals was given in a paper by Mr. F. A. Philbrick and published in the *Philatelic Record*:—

The issue took place in October, 1862, in order to supply a temporary failure in the current issues of the one, two, and four cents values, the stock of which had become exhausted at the moment, no supply having arrived from England. The Post Office was then under the charge of Mr. E. T. E. Dalton as Postmaster, and Mr. Robert Mather being Acting Receiver-General of the colony. Recourse was had to the printers of the *Royal Gazette* at Georgetown, and they were asked to supply the necessary substitutes, being instructed to print the stamps in the above values on red, yellow, and blue paper respectively. Accordingly Mr. George Melville caused the three denominations of value to be set up in type and printed off at the *Gazette* office. The resources of the establishment in the matter of ornamental type being limited, it was necessary to print off both the one and two cents values from the same designs, but for the four cents a change of type was available. The sheets were composed of twenty-four stamps, each separately set up, and of course showing as many varieties of type as there were stamps to the sheet. They were arranged in four horizontal rows comprising six

stamps to the row. The supply of the one cent value having first been printed off, the two cents were printed after the lettering of the value had been altered from one cent to two cents. Thus it follows that all the varieties found on the sheet of the one cent are repeated on that of the two cents, while all the twenty-four stamps of the four cents differ from those of the two lower values and from each other. The size of the sheets was $4\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{3}{4}$ inches, or 107×145 mm. The impression was printed by a small hand press, still in use in the *Gazette* office. When printed the adhesive matter (a strong gum) was applied to the backs, and the perforation was effected by a roulette machine worked by hand, as is evident from the irregular angles formed by the lines of perforation. Some are in lines running truly and forming right angles; in others the lines are more or less oblique, and cause the stamps to be out of the square. After reception at the Post Office, and before being issued for circulation, each stamp was separately initialed by Mr. Mather, "R. M., Ac. R. G." in ink, black on the one cent, red on the two cents, and white (as it looks) on the four cents; but the white appearance is due to the initials being written in alkali, which discharged the colour of the paper.



Shaded pearls.



Diagonal ovals.



Grapes.



Crosses.



Hearts and pearls.



Trefoil.

	Perf.	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., black on rose paper	.	70 0	£10
2 c. " yellow "	.	—	95 0
4 c. " blue "	.	£20	£16

1863-7. Three values. Design, an enlargement of the ship sailing to right, enclosed in a circle. Designed and lithographed by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, and popularly known as the Large Ship series. Perforated.



Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
6 c., blue	15 0	12 0
24 c., green	20 0	3 6
48 c., red	25 0	6 6

1876. Nine values. Design, ship sailing to right. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown CC, and perforated.



Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., grey	0 8	0 3
2 c., orange	1 0	0 4
4 c., blue	7 6	2 6
6 c., chocolate	8 0	3 6
8 c., carmine	10 0	1 6
12 c., mauve	6 0	1 0
24 c., green	6 0	2 6
48 c., red-brown	10 0	5 0
96 c., drab	90 0	50 0

1878-81. Provisionals. To provide for a shortage of one cent and two cent values, which had again given out, the Government authorized the surcharging of certain values of the issues of 1868 and 1875, and of some values of stamps overprinted OFFICIAL.

Perf. With two horizontal bars.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
(1 c.) on 6 c., chocolate, of 1876	3 6	5 0

With horizontal and vertical bar.

(1 c.) on 6 c., blue, of 1863-7	10 0	10 0
(1 c.) on 6 c., chocolate, of 1876	50 0	12 6

On stamps overprinted OFFICIAL.

Horizontal bar across OFFICIAL.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black	50 0	20 0
1 c., grey	15 0	7 6
2 c., orange	25 0	10 0

(To be continued.)

With two horizontal bars and one vertical.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
(1 c.) on 4 c., blue	20 0	12 0
(1 c.) on 6 c., chocolate	60 0	15 0
(2 c.) on 8 c., rose	—	50 0

With one horizontal bar and one vertical.

(1 c.) on 4 c., blue	—	—
(2 c.) on 8 c., rose	80 0	25 0

Surcharged with figures.

1

1 on 48 c., red, of 1863-7	6 0	6 0
--------------------------------------	-----	-----

1

1 on 96 c., drab, of 1876	2 0	2 0
-------------------------------------	-----	-----

2

2 on 96 c., drab, of 1876	2 6	3 0
-------------------------------------	-----	-----

2

2 on 96 c., drab, of 1876	5 0	—
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On stamps surcharged OFFICIAL.
Small figures.

1

OFFICIAL

1 on 12 c., lilac	7 6	8 6
1 on 48 c., red-brown	15 0	15 0

2

OFFICIAL

2 on 24 c., green	6 0	6 0
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2

OFFICIAL

2 on 24 c., green, of 1863-7	30 0	30 0
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PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

HISTORICAL LINKS

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 245.)

Italy

THE issues of Italian States and their subsequent absorption in the issues of the Kingdom of Italy refer to stirring times in Italian history. From 1815 to 1848 conspiracies and insurrections were rife in various parts of the country. Princes, supported by the Austrian power, held the different States in the grip of despotism. The year 1848 began a series of revolutions, all of which failed owing to Austrian and French intervention. The republic, set up in Rome, was overcome by French troops. The constitutions that had been granted in the preceding two years were withdrawn. Italy in 1849 was much the same as Italy in 1815. Austria held much of Northern Italy. The Pope was maintained in his dominions by French help. Sardinia alone remained a constitutional and advancing State, for King Victor Emmanuel II was pledged to the path of reform. Accordingly it was to Sardinia that all men, save extremists such as Mazzini, looked for help in the fight for freedom. Ten years passed. In 1859 war broke out between Sardinia and Austria; terms were made with Louis Napoleon, and France took the side of Sardinia. The French and Italians won the battles of Magenta and Solferino. After peace was declared the States of Central Italy voted for union with the kingdom of Victor Emmanuel II, and were annexed in March, 1860. In this year the separate issues of Modena and Tuscany ceased, and



Modena.



Tuscany.



Parma.

the stamps of Sardinia were used until 1862. For the same reason the issues of Parma ceased in 1859. Romagna, before

the Austrian war, formed part of the Papal States. The departure of the Austrian troops in 1859 led to the formation of a Provisional Government and an issue of its own postage stamps, which issue was superseded by those of Sardinia in the same year.



Romagna.



Sardinia
(1855-61).

In 1859 Francis II, son of the infamous Ferdinand II, commonly known as King Bomba, found himself unable to cope with the spirit of rebellion among his subjects in Sicily and Naples. Garibaldi drove the



Sicily.



Naples.

Neapolitan troops from Sicily in 1860, and the Two Sicilies were joined to the kingdom of Victor Emmanuel in 1861. This year saw the meeting of the first Italian Parliament at Turin, when Victor Emmanuel II was proclaimed King of Italy.

The Papal States, now reduced to one-



Papal States.

fourth of their former size, alone retained their separate issue. On the fall of the

French Empire in 1870, the way was paved for the complete emancipation of Italy. Victor Emmanuel II entered Rome, and the stamps of the Pontifical States were replaced by those of the Italian Kingdom.

Through all these vicissitudes the little State of San Marino kept its freedom, and still issues its own postage stamps.



San Marino.

Victor Emmanuel II died in 1878, and was succeeded by his eldest son Humbert I,

who was assassinated in 1900. His son, Victor Emmanuel III, is the reigning King.

Victor Emmanuel II
(1861-78).Humbert I
(1878-1900).

Victor Emmanuel III (1901).

(To be continued.)

PORTRAITS ON STAMPS

By BOSWELL JUNIOR

Ecuador

President Juan Flores was the first President of the Republic of Ecuador, formed on the dissolution of the Republic of Colombia in 1831. He was the companion in arms and friend of Bolivar in the days of the War of Independence against Spanish rule, which ended with the victory of Ayacucho in 1824.

Flores became the head of the Conservative party, while one of his lieutenants, Rocafuerte, was the leader of the Liberals. A revolution broke out at Quito in 1834, and Flores was declared an outlaw. The quarrel ended in the appointment of Flores as Commander-in-Chief of the Army. Five years later saw Flores reappointed President and the ports of Ecuador opened to the commerce and the ships of Spain. A Liberal reaction in 1845 led to the downfall of Flores. He agreed to quit the country with the title of Commander-in-Chief and the annual pay of 15,000 pesos. Flores, however, had no intention of resigning Ecuador to the Democrats. He came to Europe, bought arms and ships in England, and raised a small army of fili-

busters in Spain. Spain gave him every encouragement, and he seems to have agreed to make Ecuador a kingdom for one of the younger branches of the House of Bourbon. In 1852 he entered Guayaquil Bay with a fleet. Betrayed by his crew, he fled to Peru, and through the help which Peru gave him he attained his end and became Governor of Guayaquil.

In 1863 an army of New Granada advanced against Ecuador with the object of liberating "our brother Democrats of Ecuador from the theocratical yoke of Professor Moreno," who was at this time President of Ecuador. The country would have none of this interference. The aged Flores marched out with 6000 men, invaded New Granada, and was miserably routed by a much smaller force, with 1500 killed and wounded and 2000 prisoners. The republic seemed lost, but New Granada merely imposed a treaty of peace, and things were as they were before the war. Revolutionary movements again broke out in the following year, and Flores again prepared to lead the army. Death seized him in Guayaquil in August, 1864, and thus one of the last veterans of independence was removed.



President Juan Flores.

THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

ITS HISTORY AND PROGRESS

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY BY
E. EGLY, PRESIDENT, ON 19 DECEMBER, 1903

(Continued from page 247.)

AT the third sitting the delegates of the United States of America were introduced, who, owing to the change in the Postmastership in the States, had only just arrived.

The delegate of Belgium handed in to the President a proposal for the creation of an international office, whose duty it would be to regulate all matters concerning the Union.

At the eighth sitting the President asked the delegates to fix the department which was to organize the International Bureau.

In the first scrutiny—

10	votes were given for	Belgium.
10	”	”
1	blank vote.	Switzerland.

The voting was immediately pursued, and in the second scrutiny the result was—

9	votes for	Belgium.
12	”	Switzerland.

The President reserved the final acceptance to the Swiss Government, in thanking for the honour shown to the Swiss Postal Administration.

The final wording of the treaty of a General Postal Union was then decided upon.

At the tenth sitting the President read a letter from the Swiss Federal Council, in which thanks were expressed to the Congress for the honourable mission entrusted to the Swiss Department of Posts to organize and to administer the International Bureau of the Postal Union at Berne.

The fourteenth sitting terminated the Postal Congress of Berne. The treaty was then signed by the delegates of the Governments, with the exception of France, whose decision was pending.

The official document being a lengthy one, it would lead too far to give it in full. The following, however, are the most important points in it:—

Article 1.—The countries taking part in the present treaty form one single postal

territory under the name of “General Postal Union.”

Article 2.—The treaty comprises letters, post cards, books, newspapers and printed matter, samples and commercial papers.

Article 3.—The postage for letters within the Union is 25 centimes for every 15 grammes; unpaid letters pay double postage.

Post cards must be prepaid; the postage is half that fixed for letters, with option to round up fractions.

Postal matter carried over the sea for distances exceeding 300 sea miles may be charged with extra postage, which, however, must not exceed half the Union rate.

Article 4.—The postage of books, printed matter, etc., is fixed at 7 centimes for every 50 grammes, which can be increased to 11 centimes or decreased to 5 centimes.

Sea postage as in Article 3.

Article 5.—Postal matter may be registered: the postage is the same as for unregistered matter; the registration fee not to exceed the fee fixed in the country of origin for internal use.

An indemnity of 50 francs is paid for the loss of a registered object, except in countries where such responsibility is declined in the internal postal service.

Article 8.—The official correspondence only between Post Offices is exempt from paying postage.

Article 9.—Every Postal Administration receives all the postages paid as exclusive property. No distribution of the collected postage is made, nor are accounts kept between the countries forming the Union.

Article 10.—The freedom of transition is guaranteed, but a transit charge of 2 francs for every kilogram (2 lb.) of letters can be levied, or of 4 francs where the transit exceeds 750 kilometres (450 miles).

Where no transit charges exist at present, none can be levied in future.

Article 11.—The surcharge postage levied in the country of destination is its entire property.

Article 15.—The International Bureau of

the General Postal Union is in charge of the Postal Administration of the country fixed by the Congress, and the expenses of the Bureau are divided among the various contracting Governments.

The duty of this Bureau is to collect, to distribute, and to publish all information of nature to interest the international postal service; in case of litigation to give its advice where such is asked for, to notify changes, to study all matters connected with the Postal Union.

Article 16.—In case of litigation differences are submitted to arbitration.

Article 17.—Countries outside the Union can enter the Union on the same terms, providing all the contracting Governments are agreeable. Conferences can be called together to bring about an understanding.

Article 18.—In order to still further extend the Union, and to study and to make necessary innovations, etc., a Congress of the delegates of all the contracting countries shall be called together every three years.

The next Congress will be held in Paris in 1877.

Article 19.—The present treaty shall enter into force on 1 July, 1875, for a period of three years.

The ratification of the treaty shall be concluded at least three months before 1 July, 1875.

It took, however, until 5 May, 1875, before the ratification was given by all the Governments.

Many difficulties had to be overcome; France unfortunately declared not being able to join before 1 January, 1876, viz. six months later.

But in spite of the many difficulties, the date fixed upon, the first day of July, 1875, saw the commencement of the Union. The public soon grew accustomed to the many advantages offered by the Union, but unfortunately various countries availed themselves of the faculty offered by the treaty of reducing or increasing the general rate for letters as well as for newspapers and other printed matter.

Thus France, Italy, and Greece fixed the letter postage at 30 centimes instead of 25 centimes; Egypt at $1\frac{1}{2}$ piastre; Turkey at 50 paras (instead of 40 paras = 25 centimes).

Servia was the only country that went below the general tariff in fixing the letter postage at 20 paras = 20 centimes.

The area of the Union was 738,000 geographical square miles, with 375,000,000 inhabitants.

The General Postal Union had been in existence but a few months when the vast territory of British India wished to become a member of the Union on 15 November, 1875.

A Conference was called together at Berne early in 1876 to study the terms on which British India could be allowed to enter the Union, and France also made a proposal to let her colonies join.

The negotiations were protracted, chiefly owing to the very intricate question of the sea postage, which India's Postal Administration insisted on charging besides the Union rate of 25 centimes. The result of the Conference was that British India and the French colonies joined the General Postal Union on 1 July, 1876, on the same terms as the other Governments already forming part of it, with the exception, however, that each country had the faculty of charging for the correspondence with British India and the French colonies, and vice versa, an additional sea postage, the maximum of which had not to exceed half the ordinary Union postage.

An allowance of 25 francs for each kilo of letters and post cards, and 1 franc for each kilo of newspapers, books, samples, etc., was agreed upon in favour of the Postal Administration carrying out the sea transit.

No allowances were to be made for less distances than 300 sea miles.

The area of the Union was thus increased by 89,623 geographical square miles, with 245,000,000 inhabitants.

The year 1877 saw many additions to the Union. The following countries joined on the same terms as British India and the French colonies:—

- | | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| On 1 April | . | Ceylon, Straits Settlements, Hong Kong, Labuan, Jamaica, Bermuda, Trinidad, British Guiana, Mauritius. |
| „ 1 May | . | All the Dutch and Spanish colonies. |
| „ 1 June | . | Japan. |
| „ 1 July | . | Brazil and the Portuguese colonies. |
| „ 1 September | . | Persia, Greenland, and the Danish West Indian colonies. |

At the end of 1877 the Postal Union

covered an area of 55,620,000 square kilometres, with 630,000,000 inhabitants.

The Argentine Republic joined the Union in 1878.

The year 1877 was fixed for the Paris Congress by its forerunner at Berne, but the French Government desired that the Congress should meet in the spring of 1878 to fall in with the International Exhibition.

The sittings of the Paris Congress commenced on 2 May, 1878, in the Palais Bourbon at Paris, and were concluded on 4 June, 1878.

The principal feature, i.e. the result of the Paris Congress, was to unify the world's postage to 25 centimes for every letter of 15 grammes; the latitude allowed by the Berne Congress was dropped once for all. A further progress was also made in respect of letters subject to sea postage, which was reduced in such a measure by the British Government that it was possible to establish the postage of 25 centimes for letters all over the world for the countries belonging to the Union.

The Paris Congress changed the title of the Union into the "Universal Postal Union."

A separate treaty was signed by most countries, introducing the service of registered letters with declared value, and a third treaty regulated the service of money orders, confined mostly to European countries.

After the conclusion of the Paris Postal Congress, the following countries became member of the Union:—

On 1 July, 1878	. Canada.
„ 1 January, 1879	Newfoundland, Gold Coast, Lagos, Sierra Leone, Falkland Islands, British Honduras; also Honduras, Liberia, and Salvador.
„ 6 June, 1879	. Peru.
„ 1 July, 1879	. Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Christopher, the Virgin Islands, and Bulgaria.
„ 1 January, 1880	Venezuela.
„ 1 July, 1880	. Ecuador and Uruguay.

The territory of the Universal Postal Union consisted now of 79,490,254 square kilometres, with 778,336½ million inhabitants.

Further countries joining the Union:—

On 1 July, 1880	. Bahamas.
„ 1 October, 1880	Dominican Republic.
„ 1 February, 1881	Grenada, St. Lucia, Tobago, and Turks Islands.
„ 1 April, 1881	. Chili.
„ 1 July, 1881	. Colombia and Haiti.

(To be continued.)

MOROCCO'S POSTAL SYSTEM

FROM "THE GLOBE"

NOT the least interesting of the institutions of the Sultanate of Morocco is the postal service of that country. As the Government of the reigning Sultan, Mulai-Abd-el-Aziz, provided neither post offices nor postage stamps nor postmen, except in the case of a few local services, certain foreign Powers having dealings with Morocco decided to supply the absence of such very necessary accommodation by establishing their own post offices. Thus, in "The Little Socco," the boulevard of Tangier, Great Britain, France, Spain, and Germany have each their own post offices, which bear their respective titles of "British Post Office," "Poste Française,"

"Correo Español," and "Deutsche Reichspost." The establishment of a post office at Tangier, and also that of a postal service between Tangier and Fez, the university town, one of the sacred cities of Islam, and the starting-point for caravans going to Timbuctoo and the interior of Africa, were both due to the energy of a Frenchman, who succeeded in obtaining the concession therefor from the Government of Morocco in 1893. Shortly afterwards the British and Spanish Governments obtained similar concessions to establish their own post offices in Morocco, and at last in 1900 Germany followed their example, for the enterprising German commercial traveller

was beginning to open out trade with Morocco. Of the four Powers thus interested in throwing open Morocco to modern civilization, Great Britain and Spain have not opened any post offices in the interior, while France and the energetic German have each eleven post offices working at Casablanca, El-Ksar, Fez, Larache, Marrakeck, Mazagan, Mogador, Robbat, Saffi, and Tetuan.

Every day the "Petago" delivers at the Spanish Post Office at Tangier, and distributes them at once, the letters arriving from Great Britain, France, Spain, and Germany; these mails leave Cadiz every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and Algeciras every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Moreover, Great Britain has a direct mail service between Gibraltar and Tangier, while France has a similar service from Marseilles to Tangier. The French mail service, however, accepts for transmission only registered letters and letters of declared value. Letters destined for delivery at the French and German Post Offices in the interior are dispatched from Tangier by a service of "rakkas," or running postmen. This method of conveyance is the only one possible in a country which has no roads and no vehicles to be used upon them. These "rakkas" are Moors, sinewy, vigorous, and capable of great endurance; their only apparel consists of an oiled waterproof pea-jacket, similar to a sailor's oilskin, and their only weapon is a knotty stick. Making their way along beaten tracks, which are cut by swiftly flowing streams quite ignorant of bridges, these extraordinary postmen take only four days to carry the mails from Tangier to Fez, a distance of 156 miles. However, their pay is generous, for a man receives from £2 to three guineas for every journey thus made.

M. Mennevée, writing in the *Echo de la Timbrologie*, draws attention to the curious fact that Germany, the latest comer, has created a special staff for dealing with the postal service in Morocco, while France has seen fit to leave its postal service in the hands of its Consular officials. It is not surprising to learn that German thorough-

ness has triumphed over what seems to be French indifference, and it happens frequently that letters delivered in Morocco by the German Post Offices are thirty-six and even forty-eight hours ahead of those which have been entrusted to the French postal service. That the methods of the German Post Offices are excellent is seen in the fact that, while the French Post Office carried 1,125,300 letters during the ten years of its existence ending with 1903, the German Post Office carried no fewer than 727,800 letters during the first three years of its existence, and this would come out at the rate of just under 2½ millions for ten years. Seeing that "peaceful penetration" is the line along which nations advance nowadays towards the conquest of the outlying regions of the world, it is strange that the French authorities should have allowed another nation, with certainly incomparably smaller local interests of every kind, to have gained such a strong foothold in Morocco. Is the old adage to receive yet another reading in the form of "The flag follows the stamp"?

Finally, a few words as to the postage stamps used by the four Powers, who have taken into their own hands the postal service of Morocco. Great Britain has used in Morocco since 1898 the ordinary stamps of Gibraltar, surcharged with the words "Morocco Agencies," in two lines; the first stamps used by France were the "Peace and Commerce" type, issue of 1876, bearing only the value surcharged in centimos or pesetas; then came the French issue of 1900-4, with inscription modified for use in the various French Post Offices abroad, such as those of Port Said, Crete, Alexandria, Levant, Maroc, etc.; in the case of Morocco the stamps are surcharged in centimos and pesetas, as before. In 1903, Spain issued only a few surcharged stamps bearing the words "Correo Español, Marruecos," in two slanting lines. In 1899, Germany began to use the surcharged stamps of its issue of 1889 with the value in centimos and pesetas, and later issues of the "Reichspost" and "Deutsches Reich" types have been surcharged in the same way.

A VERY HANDSOME PRESENT

Packet No. 69, 2000 varieties. A grand packet, every stamp being different and genuine, and thus forming a choice collection in itself. £3, post-free and registered.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 39, Strand, London, W.C.

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Imperium.—As we anticipated, our friends have been puzzled with the conundrum which we set them as to certain stamps which we had seen of Messrs. De La Rue & Co.'s manufacture inscribed IMPERIUM. We are bound to confess that our curiosity has been quite as much excited as that of our friends, and we are not in a position to do more than to say that we have seen a full set of values of the Seychelles type; but we may now add that the stamps bore the Queen's Head, thus indicating that, whatever the scheme may have been, it is not of recent date. It probably was the result of some Imperial idea of supplying the Crown Colonies with a postage stamp common to all, an idea that smacks of the brain that induced Queen Victoria to assume the title of Empress of India. Had Disraeli had the handling of the suggestion, it might have led him to crown Edward VII as Emperor of Great Britain.

Bechuanaland Protectorate.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., send us the current ½d. stamp of Great Britain overprinted BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE, as illustrated.

BECHUANALAND
PROTECTORATE

Perf.

½d., green.
1d., scarlet.
2½d., ultramarine.

Malta.—We have received the 4d., King's Head, on multiple CA paper, from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. As we have not had any change of watermark from this colony to chronicle since last November, it may be well for our readers' information to set out in full how matters now stand with the multiple CA series.



Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf.

½d., red-brown.
½d., green.
1d., carmine and grey centre.
2d., grey and violet centre.
2½d., ultramarine and maroon centre.
4d., brown and black centre.
4½d., brown.
5d., vermilion.
1s., violet and grey centre.

South Australia.—Our Melbourne correspondent, Mr. Donne, says the 1d. and 2d. values have been issued on Crown A paper.



Wmk. Crown A. Perf.

1d., rosine.
2d., violet.

Victoria.—The 1s. has been received by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons with the Crown A watermark, and Mr. Donne tells us that the 4d. has also been issued on the new paper. This makes the list up to date as follows:—



Wmk. Crown A. Perf.

½d., green.
1d., rose.
2d., violet.
3d., orange.
4d., olive-bistre.
6d., green.
9d., rose.
1s., orange-yellow.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Our Finland Letter

HELSINGFORS, 28 March, 1906

ALTHOUGH since my last letter much of great importance from a political aspect has happened, yet there is very little to be reported in regard to Philately.

Proposed Watermarked Issue

As the result of the discovery of the great forgery of the 20 penni postage stamps at Tammerfors in 1904, when several hundreds of thousands of forged lithograph copies of those stamps were burned, and the forger, a certain printer named Maylund, was condemned to several years' imprisonment, the local authorities resolved henceforth to make use of postage stamps printed on watermarked paper. The preparations had already been made, but the kind of watermark had not been settled upon when the great strike with its political consequences followed. Then there cropped up again the hopes of having a new issue of postage stamps of a native design, and, therefore, the question of the watermark has now been postponed, to be brought up again in connexion with a new issue, if such should be made.

Finland Stamps Unused

The interest in postage stamps felt by our Society now seems to be somewhat keener. The only pity is that collecting here seems to have, so to say, only one side, seeing that most of the local collectors take an interest only in Finland stamps. There is now a striking interest being shown in the unused stamps of Finland, and this was not the case formerly. The result will be that the prices of these stamps will show a rise in the Finland Catalogue, which will appear soon. Collectors are seeking here especially the unused stamps of 1856, 1860, 1866, and 1875, and it is often extremely difficult to get these stamps in good condition.

The prices of the kopeck and rouble stamps of 1891 with small circles, unused, must also rise soon, as all of them, except the 1 rouble stamp, are sold out in all the post offices.

Finland Circle Stamps

Perhaps it is not known to all collectors that, when the Finnish type of 1889 was withdrawn on the introduction of the Russian type in Finnish currency in 1901, and at the same time the use of ordinary Russian stamps was ordered for franking letters to Russia and abroad, the Russian Minister of the Interior allowed the remainders of the Russian stamps *with circles*, in use since 1891, to be used up. But, as there were still some rather considerable remainders left over of some of the values of these "circle stamps," one could observe until quite lately these stamps being used on letters.

Of the 7 and 10 kopecks values, however, the remainders were very small, so that they were sold out entirely early in 1902. These values were soon followed also by all the small values, 1, 2, 3, 4 kopecks, and by the 3½ roubles and



20 kopecks. In 1901 the 14 kopecks and 7 roubles were sold out, and finally the 35 and 50 kopecks in 1905, so that now only the 1 rouble is to be had in the post offices. But the ordinary Russian stamps have replaced all the other values of the "circle stamps." As the numbers issued of these stamps were not great, and as the greater part of them have been used postally, the prices of unused copies must rise. This seems to be the case especially with the 7 and 10 kopecks. Postally used copies of the 3½ and 7 roubles are also very rare. However, one must be careful not to confuse these with the stamps that have been obliterated by the postal authorities. These two high values are, as a matter of fact, used very often instead of Unpaid Letter stamps by the post offices in their accounts with the head office (as in the case of the high values of Italy, 50 lire and 100 lire), and obliterated afterwards with the obliterating stamp of the head office.

A Finland Album

In the interests of the collectors of Finland stamps the Helsingfors Stamp Collectors Society has just published a special album for the stamps of Finland. In order that this album may be used by foreigners, an edition of it has been printed with German letterpress. The album is divided into four parts: Part I contains only the chief kinds; Part II contains the varieties, differences of perforation, errors, etc.; Part III contains reprints; and Part IV has spaces for forgeries and "speculative productions."

M. v. H.

STANLEY GIBBONS PRICED CATALOGUE OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD

Vol. I. Great Britain and Colonies; post-free, 2s. 9d. Vol. II. The Rest of the World; post-free, 2s. 9d.

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Finland Stamps Unused

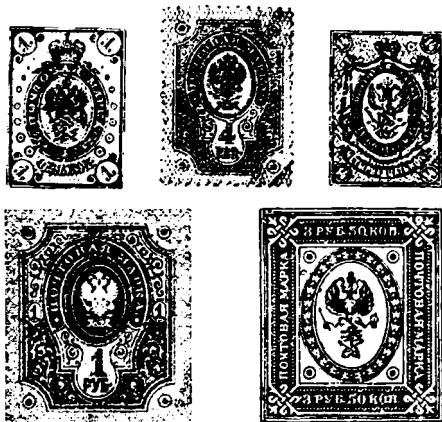
The interest in postage stamps felt by our Society now seems to be somewhat keener. The only pity is that collecting here seems to have, so to say, only one side, seeing that most of the local collectors take an interest only in Finland stamps. There is now a striking interest being shown in the unused stamps of Finland, and this was not the case formerly. The result will be that the prices of these stamps will show a rise in the Finland Catalogue, which will appear soon. Collectors are seeking here especially the unused stamps of 1856, 1860, 1866, and 1875, and it is often extremely difficult to get these stamps in good condition.

The prices of the kopeck and rouble stamps of 1891 with small circles, unused, must also rise soon, as all of them, except the 1 rouble stamp, are sold out in all the post offices.

Finland Circle Stamps

Perhaps it is not known to all collectors that, when the Finnish type of 1889 was withdrawn on the introduction of the Russian type in Finnish currency in 1901, and at the same time the use of ordinary Russian stamps was ordered for franking letters to Russia and abroad, the Russian Minister of the Interior allowed the remainders of the Russian stamps *with circles*, in use since 1891, to be used up. But, as there were still some rather considerable remainders left over of some of the values of these "circle stamps," one could observe until quite lately these stamps being used on letters.

Of the 7 and 10 kopecks values, however, the remainders were very small, so that they were sold out entirely early in 1902. These values were soon followed also by all the small values, 1, 2, 3, 4 kopecks, and by the 3½ roubles and



20 kopecks. In 1904 the 14 kopecks and 7 roubles were sold out, and finally the 35 and 50 kopecks in 1905, so that now only the 1 rouble is to be had in the post offices. But the ordinary Russian stamps have replaced all the other values of the "circle stamps." As the numbers issued of these stamps were not great, and as the greater part of them have been used postally, the prices of unused copies must rise. This seems to be the case especially with the 7 and 10 kopecks. Postally used copies of the 3½ and 7 roubles are also very rare. However, one must be careful not to confuse these with the stamps that have been obliterated by the postal authorities. These two high values are, as a matter of fact, used very often instead of Unpaid Letter stamps by the post offices in their accounts with the head office (as in the case of the high values of Italy, 50 lire and 100 lire), and obliterated afterwards with the obliterating stamp of the head office.

A Finland Album

In the interests of the collectors of Finland stamps the Helsingfors Stamp Collectors Society has just published a special album for the stamps of Finland. In order that this album may be used by foreigners, an edition of it has been printed with German letterpress. The album is divided into four parts: Part I contains only the chief kinds; Part II contains the varieties, differences of perforation, errors, etc.; Part III contains reprints; and Part IV has spaces for forgeries and "speculative productions."

M. v. H.

STANLEY GIBBONS PRICED CATALOGUE OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD

Vol. I. Great Britain and Colonies; post-free, 2s. 9d. Vol. II. The Rest of the World; post-free, 2s. 9d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

THE TEMPTATION OF RICHARD DURRINGTON

By G. E. GILLARD

CHAPTER I

RICHARD DURRINGTON wriggled on his office stool: he counted all the ink-spots on the oak desk before him; yet he was not thinking of the ink-spots, he was thinking of his wife. He had been married just a month ago to-day, and only now had it dawned upon him that he could not afford the luxury of a wife on a paltry one hundred a year. And such a wife! A gay, pretty, extravagant wife, to whom he could refuse nothing. Extravagant! Could a wife be extravagant on a hundred a year? Of course not.

Richard bent his head over his work and wrote steadily, because he heard a step upon the stairs.

He was thinking and writing at the same time, when the door opened and his employer entered. He saw that the head of the firm of Dawsett and Co., stamp auctioneers of Boston, had in his hand a small parcel, which he thrust into the drawer of his own private desk. Richard Durrington would have paid no attention to this particular parcel had it not been that Mr. Dawsett opened it for a moment before putting it in his drawer, and Richard saw about a hundred unused three-cornered Cape of Good Hopes inside.

Now such stamps as these Durrington didn't see every day. A thought crossed his mind. Should he? No, he would resist it. But stay, he could buy his wife the diamond necklace she so admired in a certain jeweller's window. But who would dream of a diamond necklace on Mrs. Richard Durrington, who lived on a hundred a year? Not her poor threadbare husband, certainly. Why, look how his knees were almost showing through the shoddy cloth of his shabby trousers!

And yet how pretty diamonds look on dark women! Imagine Dainty's bright face coming up from a glittering circle of stones. The sparkle of her eyes, too, just as if a couple of them were set in her face. Dainty! that was what he called her. Why? Because she was dainty, that was all.

There he was, wriggling again; and now what a hole for his wife to mend upon that knee! She did not care for mending, either. He must be more careful.

He glanced at the clock—time to be off. He took his hat from the rack and bid his employer good night.

Should he take a penny bus to be home sooner? No, not with all those debts hanging

over his head. How much did he owe? Ten-and-six at the butcher's, six shillings at the grocer's, and how much at the doctor's he did not know yet. Dear, extravagant little woman! He had only to have the slightest cold in his chest, and she would rush off and bring the doctor to see him. And what a lot of medicine he seemed to want to be sure! There was no getting rid of the doctor when he once got his foot in at the door. He called day after day in spite of the plainest hints that his patient was quite well. The bill had not come in yet—and where was the money to come from to pay it? There was no use in meeting evils. Here he was at his own door. His own door! and there were two other families in the house besides themselves. Well, the more the merrier. He pushed open the closed door and ran up the stairs. A good thing they had a drawing-room floor, anyway. And what a bright room! There was Dainty up to her pretty ears in work. What was she doing? Why, cooking his dinner, of course. She had a secret in the oven for him too.

How hard she worked! Knives and plates shone in the firelight, and the table was as white as snow. There, hopping about, was the old raven that his employer had given him for a wedding present, along with a ten-pound note. The beastly old bird! He ought to have a rise in his wages for taking it.

If Dainty only knew how he grudged it every bit it ate, what would she think of him? There was no love lost between him and the bird, anyway; for if ever he gave it a poke on the sly, it was sure to return it with a good peck on the first opportunity. It was like it to eat nothing but meat when it once realized how very poor they were. Well, Dainty loved it, and that was enough.

He washed his tired face and hands, and sat down at the table. The "surprise" was ready—at least, it came to the table. Nobody could possibly have known what it was meant for, and Richard did not ask after it had gone. It was still a secret to him. He thought that it had been meant for a pudding, but it was flat and raw, and tasted of tallow. Dainty refused it herself. She was not hungry, and would leave it all to dear Richard, as it was such a tiny pudding. Dear Dickie was not having much either; he was not hungry, and could not eat much of the beautiful pudding. Oh, no, he was not ill, and would not see the doctor. Well, she would put it by and reheat it for to-morrow.

Why, it was getting dark, and she could not find the candle she had had anywhere. Perhaps she had put it in the pudding by mistake! Did he taste tallow in the pudding? No, certainly not. Silly Dick, to think that she was in earnest. Of course she did not think she had put it in the pudding, but she was not certain. Only it was the last one they had, and they would have to go out and buy more. "Why not sit in the dark and talk?" he said, thinking perhaps of the old courting days; that would do nicely.

Mrs. Hickey was giving an evening party on Saturday, and had asked her to go. Why, certainly she would go. He loved her to get a treat sometimes, after her hard work keeping the little home nice.

She did not know what to wear. Why, of course not. With such a variety of clothes, how should she? Why not wear her black silk with gold bangles, or her blue and silver? Oh, no, he would not be silly. Seriously, he knew she had only that old, washed-out muslin, with the suspicion of holes in the elbows. The lady at whose house she was nursery governess gave it to her to be married in. Wasn't it pretty when it was new, only a month ago?—yet how worn it was now! But it was his fault. He loved it so much that she must wear it every evening to please him, and there—look at it now!

What was he thinking of? How beautiful she would look in a black silk dress, with a row of diamonds round her pretty throat, her face coming up amongst them like a flower in the dew. He thinks of the stamps he had seen to-day at the office. He could sell them; no one would know who took them. No, he would not think of it; it was getting late, and he would think no more of the silly stamps.

CHAPTER II

RICHARD DURRINGTON was first at the office in the morning. Indeed, as there was no other clerk, he often had the day to himself, except for the few minutes that Mr. Dawsett dropped in to look round.

Now the first thing Richard Durrington did after he had hung his shabby hat upon its peg was to peep into the private desk of his employer to see if the stamps were still there. The parcel was there, anyway, but of course he would not touch it to look if the stamps were still in it. Most probably Mr. Dawsett had taken them home with him. Well, it was none of his business. No, his business was on that high stool over there—the one without the cushion. Scratch, scratch, scratch went his pen, just as the woman in the poem went stitch, stitch, stitch. He was so tired of the stuffy room, with its little window and the dusty old books and papers all about. And the work—how he hated it! No future—always to sit on this stool and scratch till he was dim-eyed and white-haired. Look at all the dreams he dreamt when he was a boy. Napoleon was a nobody beside him

when he ruled in his dream-world long ago. Now he was no better than the little wooden bowl he put the money in. Look at all the gold that went through his hands; fortunes—other people's fortunes—and he was only the bowl for receiving it, from which it was checked and put away.

Ah, what nonsense! Were there not as good as he sitting on their stools working away all day?

When Mr. Dawsett came in he noticed Richard Durrington was unusually restless, even for him. He saw Richard Durrington's eyes upon him whenever he opened his desk—so much so, that at last he asked Durrington what he was looking at. Richard replied with confusion that he was only wondering whether Mr. Dawsett had taken away the stamps he had brought in with him yesterday, as it was so unsafe to have them in the office. Richard added that he did not like the responsibility of sitting with them alone all day.

Mr. Dawsett only laughed. He said that thieves would know better than to take them. They worked late without any more conversation on the subject, but Richard hoped Mr. Dawsett would take the stamps with him when he left.

When Durrington got home that evening he found Dainty lying on the bed in floods of tears. It was all about having no dress for Mrs. Hickey's ball. Now Mrs. Hickey was a very grand person. Her husband made eight hundred a year at "his little place," as he called his shop. Worse than all, Dainty's one relation, her rich old Aunt Margaret, knew Mrs. Hickey, and Mrs. Hickey would tell her all about the party, and so her Aunt Margaret would discover all.

"All what?"

But she knew Aunt Margaret would never speak to her for marrying an auctioneer's clerk. She had thought that Dainty ought to come to her as a companion—companion to old miserly Aunt Margaret. What a position! And what had she done? Why, pretended to Mrs. Hickey, before she was married, that he was not a poor clerk at all, so that Aunt Margaret might hear of it. Not that she cared about her old aunt. They had never met since her father died, years ago, and her aunt had always ignored the rest of the family. She had only made the offer of taking Dainty when she was left alone in the world. So she (Dainty) said, "No, thank you," to that, and married Richard Durrington.

"Well, why go to the party at all?" said Richard, when he had shown his appreciation of that last remark in a proper manner.

Not go to the party? What would they all think if she did not? All the things she did not want them to think, you may be sure. That she was too poor to get a dress, and all the rest of it. Oh, she must go! Only she had nothing in the shape of an evening gown to wear. Here she wept again. Richard was helpless.

"Have you thought of everything?" he said.

"Oh, yes, and there's only one possible way to do it."

"And what is that?"

"To pawn some of the things."

"Dainty!"

He need not say "Dainty" in that voice. What could he suggest? Nothing. Well, neither could she. After all, it would be more her loss than his to have the things gone out of the house. She was always at home, and would miss them. Oh, yes, it was imperative she should go to that party. She might be the principal guest there as a bride. Maybe the whole affair had been given for her. Anyhow, she was not going to have them say she was so badly off that she could not get out one evening in the whole year. How could they know anything about her if she did not go near them? Why, because people of that sort made it their business to know everything, and she could not bear them to think she was a beggar.

"She wasn't a beggar."

Oh, yes, she was worse, for she had to keep up an appearance. Now if she had married that Charlie Mason, the banker! But, of course, she had never regretted marrying her dear Dickie. She would not vex him any more by talking of pawning a few things they did not particularly want. But she must go—for go she must—to the party in her old clothes, just like Cinderella without the fairy godmother.

Well, the end of it was, of course, that Richard Durrington went out that evening with a few of their most valuable things. He came back with a shamed and saddened heart, but with seventy shillings in his pocket. The delight of Dainty was beautiful to see. They stayed up late planning the dress and its colour. So, in spite of the bare look of their little room, Richard Durrington went to sleep a happy man that night.

Next day he forgot all about stamps and diamonds, for there was extra work on. Mr.

Dawsett was in the office all the time keeping him busy. But when he got home, what a vision met his tired eyes! Dainty in pink—Dainty in silk—Dainty like a glowing rose in the bareness of the parlour!

"Oh," he said, "what a lovely flower! Who has planted it in my room?"

She flung her arms around him. How could he miss the few things he had pawned when they were replaced by this?

"Where did you get it, dear?" he said.

Oh! she had seen it long ago in a shop window. Such a bargain—only three pounds!—fitted like a glove. Selling off for half its price.

He held her from him, and made an unlucky remark.

"You only want a necklace of diamonds, dear, to make you complete."

"Oh, yes, Dickie dear!" The idea spoken in just was taking root. "Could you not manage to get me one?"

"Nonsense, Dainty; it is quite impossible."

"Could you not hire one, Dickie dear? I would love to be a grand lady, just for once, just for a few hours, Dickie dear. It would not cost much for the hire."

How soft her face was so close to him, and how hard to refuse her! What a child she was, and what an idea to take into her silly little head! Borrow diamonds! He laughed at the idea.

Very well, if he thought her as silly as all that, he need not speak to her again.

Silence.

Wouldn't she speak to her foolish old husband, who was so sorry for having offended her?

No, she would not speak to him—no, not a word, after the horrid things he had said to her.

Not even to bid him good night?

"No!"

Poor Richard turned to leave the room, then a pair of soft lips touched his, and the reunion was complete.

(To be continued.)

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This Album has been specially designed for those collectors who either commence a collection with the Postage Stamps of King Edward VII, or who collect these stamps as a supplement to a General Collection. The King's Own Album contains 100 pages of heavy white plate paper outlined with a neat border of neutral grey, with quadrillé background inside the grey border, and name space at the top of each page. Exact size of leaves from the outer edge, 7½x9½; available for mounting stamps, 6½x8½. The title-page is printed in the Royal Colours, with the King's Cypher Monogram and Crown. Strongly bound in cloth, bevelled boards, with the Official Cypher Monogram and Crown in gold on cover. Post-free, 8s.; abroad, 8s. 9d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 351 Strand, London, W.C.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Durban and District Philatelic Society

President: J. Wallace Bradley.
Secretary: W. P. Williams, 93 Club Arcade, Durban.
Meetings: Briatow's Buildings, Durban.
Annual Subscription: Seniors, 5s.; Juniors, 2s. 6d.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held on 6 March, 1906. An average number of members attended, also several new and prospective members. After the necessary business was concluded, Mr. W. Percy Williams gave an exhibition of the stamps of Cape of Good Hope, which excited the admiration of many of the members present. Amongst those worthy of special mention were a fine copy on piece of original of 4d., blue, 1855-8, rouletted; also a copy of the same issue, 6d., lilac, two stamps now very seldom seen. The 1861 issue, commonly called woodblocks, were represented by a fine copy of 4d., pale blue, and an equally fine copy of the rarer dark blue. There were some fine unused copies of both 1855-8 and 1863-4 issues, as well as several pairs of 1d. and 4d., and a block of four 1d., the latter to-day being scarce. The three shades of 6d., lilac, on original were fine enough to suit the most particular specialist. The 1s., yellow-green, dark green, emerald-green, were well represented. Turning to later issues, conspicuous were the errors of 1874-80, THE PENCE on 4d., blue, and THREE PENCE on 4d., blue. The set of Mafeking Besieged stamps was almost complete. The later issues call for no special comment.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Williams for the treat he had afforded those present.

The auction sale constituted a record for the Society, seventy lots being put up by the energetic auctioneer, and many sold at fair prices.

The Secretary will be pleased to send to intending country members books of rules, price 4d., post-free.

Junior Philatelic Society Manchester Branch

THE fourth ordinary meeting was held at the Y.M.C.A., Peter Street, on 7 April, 1906. Forty-two members were present, Mr. Barnstein presiding. Mr. Heywood read a paper on the stamps of Canada. Having given some useful hints on stamp collecting generally, he mentioned that there is a little island in Lake Superior called Michipicolen Island, because there is a post office there, and if the cancellations of the issues in use at the close of the reign of the late Queen be examined, stamps will be found that have been effaced by the officials stationed there. The first issue of stamps was in 1851-2. The 1c. and 3c. of 1868 are sometimes printed on laid paper, and occasionally parts of the paper-maker's name may be found, resembling a watermark. Mr. Heywood accompanied the paper with a nice display of the stamps of Canada, New South Wales, and New Brunswick. The meetings of the remainder of the session will be held in Room 17 of the Y.M.C.A.

Leicester Philatelic Society

President: Dr. R. Milbourne West.
Meetings: Winn's Cafe, Market Place.
Hon. Sec.: J. W. H. Goddard, 14 Church Avenue, Glenfield Road.

THE monthly meeting of this Society was held at Winchester House on Wednesday, 4 April, 1906, at 8 p.m. Dr. R. Milbourne West occupied the chair, and there was a record attendance. After formal business had been transacted, the President (Dr. R. Milbourne West) addressed the meeting on "Perfora-

tions," which was appreciated. The display of St. Vincent, Antigua, and Dominica, the property of Mr. E. Heginbottom, B.A., of Rochdale, created much interest; the rare early provisionals of St. Vincent, Dominica, 1d. on 6d., green, 1886, etc., were objects of much interest. The Society is indeed fortunate in having the displays of this well-known philatelist for their examination and instruction, and the complete West Indian series, which has extended over the entire session, has given much pleasure to the members, and has done much to further the interests of Philately.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: Herbert Woods.
Secretary: W. Halpenny, 28 Dacey Street, Liverpool.
Meetings: Angel Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool. 7 p.m.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of the above Society took place at the Angel Hotel, on Monday, 2 April, 1906. The President (Mr. Herbert Woods) took the chair, and there was a large attendance of members and friends, numbering some 35. The exhibits for the Society's special prize were on view, and a magnificent show resulted. The competition was a keen one, and the prize was won by Mr. Rockliff with a very fine collection of Ceylon stamps. His "pence" issues, and some of the rarities of the later issues, were particularly admired. Other excellent collections were shown, notably Southern Nigeria, by Mr. Phelps, St. Vincent, by Mr. Milner, and some fine English. The results of the Society's annual competition for the best series of exhibits throughout the session were announced, the prize for the seniors being won by Mr. Allender, and for the juniors by Mr. Rockliff. An interesting debate followed on "Specialism [opened by Mr. Milner] v. General Collecting" [opened by Mr. Gordon]. Considerable discussion took place, and on a show of hands being demanded, Mr. Gordon's side obtained a large majority. This brought one of the most pleasant and successful meetings of the season to a conclusion.

Sheffield Philatelic Society

President: J. E. Bartlett.
Secretary: W. G. Laycock.

A MEETING of the members of this Society was held on Wednesday, 4 April, 1906, in their rooms at the King's Head Hotel. In the absence of the President, Mr. G. H. Hunt took the chair.

Mr. J. H. Chapman read a paper on the stamps of Cyprus, illustrating his remarks by means of his own collection, which was practically complete. He detailed the various issues, and explained the difference between the stamps of Die I and Die II of the 1882 issue. He stated that the most remarkable increase in value was in the King's Head stamps with single watermark Crown CA, which, although only issued as late as 1904, at a face value of 10s. 6d. per set, were now worth about £4.

Mr. J. F. Peace then read a very interesting paper on the stamps of the German Empire. His remarks on the different issues, from the creation of the empire in 1871 down to the present time, were also illustrated by his practically complete collection of the stamps. He drew attention to a curious distinction in the size of some of the earlier stamps, and showed a stamp of the 1902 issue with an error in spelling.

The Secretary reported that Mr. J. E. Heginbottom had kindly promised to send his collection of the stamps of Tasmania and Western Australia to be shown at the next meeting.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR *G. S. W.* READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "*G. S. W.*" readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

GAMBIA.

1905. Type 4. Wmk. Crown and CA single.

1s. 6d., green and carmine on yellow.

2s. 6d., purple and brown on yellow.

3s., carmine and green on yellow.

The set of three stamps is catalogued at 15s. As they have the old watermark and are now obsolete, they may be expected to rise in value considerably in the near future.

Special bargain price for the set of three, unused and mint condition, 12s. 6d., post-free.

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

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EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

British Guiana—continued

1882. *Provisionals.* Design set up from type by Messrs. Baldwin and Co. of Georgetown, and printed in black on coloured paper. Centre, a ship, or brig, sailing to right. The sheets were made up in six horizontal rows of two and in four horizontal rows of three. In a sheet of each value of six rows of two before me there are six of the three-masted ships and six two-masted. After printing, these stamps were taken to the Receiver-General's office and there perforated with the word "Specimen" to safeguard them from forgery. Perforated.

Perf.



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., crimson	5 0	5 0
2 c., yellow	5 0	5 0



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., crimson	5 0	5 0
2 c., yellow	5 0	5 0

1882. Five values. Design as in 1876, but watermarked Crown CA. Perforated.

Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., grey	1 0	0 1
2 c., orange	0 9	0 1
4 c., blue	6 0	0 6
6 c., chocolate	1 0	1 0
8 c., carmine	4 0	0 2

1888-9. Stamps overprinted INLAND REVENUE, surcharged with values in figure and word CENTS.

INLAND

1 CENT REVENUE

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., purple	0 4	0 4
2 c. "	3 6	3 6
3 c. "	0 4	0 4
4 c. "	0 6	0 6
6 c. "	1 6	2 0
8 c. "	1 0	1 0
10 c. "	1 0	1 0
20 c. "	3 6	3 6
40 c. "	5 0	5 0
72 c. "	6 0	2 0
1 dol., green	90 0	100 0
2 " "	12 0	—
3 " "	18 0	—
4 " "	24 0	24 0
5 " "	30 0	30 0

INLAND

2

2 CENTS REVENUE

Surcharged locally with a figure "2," in red, in addition.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
"2" on 2 c., purple	0 4	0 4

1889-90. Ten values. Design similar to that of the stamps of 1876, but a large tablet for the value at the foot, and the words POSTAGE & REVENUE at the top, making the same series available for both postal and fiscal purposes. All bicoloured, the words POSTAGE & REVENUE and the value tablet in one colour, and the rest of the stamp in purple for the values in cents and in green for the dollar values. Watermark Crown CA and perforated.



Wmk. Crown CA. Perf.

	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., purple and slate-grey	.	0	4	0	1
2 c. "	orange	0	2	0	1
4 c. "	ultramarine.	0	4	0	3
4 c. "	cobalt .	1	6	0	6
6 c. "	brown .	1	0	—	—
6 c. "	marone	0	8	0	8
8 c. "	rose .	0	9	0	6
12 c. "	violet .	1	0	0	8
24 c. "	green .	1	3	1	3
48 c. "	orange-red .	4	0	4	0
72 c. "	red-brown .	5	0	5	0
72 c. "	yellow-brown	3	9	5	0
96 c. "	carmine .	5	0	6	0
96 c. "	rosine .	5	0	6	0



Mount Roraima.



Kaieteur Falls.

1890. Provisional. A one cent value provided by overprinting the dollar values of the Inland Revenue series "One Cent" in red.

INLAND



	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
1 cent on 1 dol.	.	0	4	0	3
1 " 2 dols.	.	0	6	0	4
1 " 3 " "	.	0	5	0	4
1 " 4 " "	.	0	8	0	6

1890-1. Three values. Design of 1889-90, but colours changed. Watermarked Crown CA and perforated.

Wmk. Crown CA. Perf.

	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., green	.	0	1	0	1
5 c., ultramarine	.	0	4	0	1
8 c., lilac and black	.	0	6	0	6

1898. Jubilee issue. Five values. Designs pictorial, the 1 c., 5 c., and 15 c. view of Mount Roraima, and 2 c. and 10 c. view of the Kaieteur Falls. Watermarked Crown CC and perforated.

Wmk. Crown CC. Perf.

	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., carmine, blue-black centre	.	0	3	0	3
5 c., brown, green	"	1	0	1	0
15 c., blue, red-brown	"	1	9	2	0

(To be continued.)

	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
2 c., indigo, brown centre	.	1	0	1	0
10 c., red, blue-black	"	1	6	2	0

1899. Provisionals. The 5 c., 10 c., and 15 c. of the previous Jubilee issue surcharged two cents in black.

Provisionals.

	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
2 c. on 5 c.	.	0	3	0	3
2 c. on 10 c.	.	0	4	0	6
2 c. on 15 c.	.	0	4	0	6

1900-2. Four values. Design of 1889-90, but colours changed. Watermarked Crown CA and perf.

Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.
Name and value in second colour.

	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
2 c., lilac and carmine	.	0	2	0	1
2 c., purple and black on red	.	0	2	0	1
6 c., grey-black and ultramarine	.	0	4	0	3
48 c., grey and brown-lilac	.	2	8	—	—
60 c., green and rosine	.	3	3	—	—

1905-6. New series in course of issue of the design of 1889-90, but on multiple CA paper. Perf.

Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf.

1 c., grey-green.	.	—	—	—	—
2 c., purple and black on red paper.	.	—	—	—	—
4 c. " blue.	"	—	—	—	—
5 c. " " on blue paper.	"	—	—	—	—
6 c., grey-black and ultramarine.	.	—	—	—	—
12 c., purple and violet.	.	—	—	—	—
24 c. " green.	.	—	—	—	—
48 c., grey and chocolate.	.	—	—	—	—
60 c., green and carmine.	.	—	—	—	—
96 c., black and carmine on yellow paper.	.	—	—	—	—

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

HISTORICAL LINKS

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 261.)

THE year 1519 saw the landing of the Spaniard Cortes on the shores of Mexico. In 1540 Mexico was joined with other American territories, and, under the name of New Spain, was governed by the Spaniards. For three centuries Mexico remained a colony of Spain—a mine to be worked for the benefit of the conqueror; and then the long-smouldering discontent broke out into open rebellion. Hidalgo, the priest, raised the standard of Liberty in 1810. He marched on the capital and gained a victory over the Spaniards, but was in turn defeated and compelled to retreat. His flight, capture, trial, and execution followed in 1811.



Hidalgo.

The cause of freedom triumphed at last, and the Republic of Mexico was proclaimed in 1824. But freedom seems only to have meant liberty to indulge in one long round of civil strife and discord. In the fifty-two years which followed, the country had no less than fifty-two presidents and one emperor, and of these not a few came to an untimely end. Acts of flagrant injustice to foreigners caused a combined demonstration of English, French, and Spanish men-of-war in the Mexican Gulf with the object of enforcing satisfaction. This was in 1861. A treaty followed, which was ratified by the English and Spaniards, but to which the French would not agree. In 1862 the French declared war against the Mexican Government. Louis Napoleon's main object in doing this seems to have been to check the spread of the English race through the conquests of the United States. Juarez, the President, withdrew to San Luis de Potosi. Louis called an assembly, and his nominee, the young Archduke Ferdinand

Maximilian of Austria, was elected as hereditary Emperor by the name of Maximilian the First. The young Archduke, relying solely on the power and promises of the French Emperor, accepted the offer. In 1866 he arrived at Vera Cruz, and was crowned. The American Government ordered Louis to withdraw his troops. Charlotte, Maximilian's wife, set out for France to beg the Emperor not to desert them. The request was ignored. By the end of 1866 all the French troops had departed, and Maximilian was left to his fate. The priests alone stood by him, but the whole nation was against him. In May, 1867, he was taken prisoner by the Republicans, and, by a decree of his own signed in 1865, which condemned to death every man taken in arms, he was court-martialled, condemned, and shot. Thus ended the Empire of 1864-7.



1864.



1866-7.

The Republic was now restored under Juarez as President. Juarez died in 1872. His portrait appeared on the 1879-83 issue.

The series issued in 1895 presents four illustrations of the various methods employed in transporting mails. The five centavos value has a picture of the statue of Montezuma. Two Mexican emperors have borne this name. Montezuma I, the ablest of all, ascended the throne about 1487. He gained great fame as a soldier, and annexed the neighbouring kingdom of Chalco to Mexico. His death took place in 1471.

Montezuma II became Emperor in 1502. His reign saw the landing of the Spaniard in 1519. His attempts to buy off the dreaded enemy proved futile. Taken prisoner, he was wounded by a stone thrown by one of his own subjects. His death,

accelerated by chagrin and grief, took place in 1520.



Montezuma.

The first issue of Peru is a memento of the contract made between the Peruvian Government and the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, by virtue of which the company were employed for a few months in carrying mails along the Pacific seaboard. There are two values only—1 real and 2 reales. The initials of the company appear in the four corners.



1857.

In 1879 a great misfortune befell Peru. Chili had long coveted the nitrate deposits in the Peruvian coast province of Tarapaca. Chili, therefore, found a pretext for the invasion of Peru. Each country possessed two ironclads, but the Peruvian vessels, being more antiquated than the Chilian, were soon *hors de combat*. After two well-contested battles Tarapaca was occupied, and Lima fell into the hands of the Chilians in 1881. Accordingly, Chilian stamps were issued in all districts under Chilian control. These were followed by Peruvian issues overprinted with the Chilian Arms. In October, 1883, a treaty of peace was signed, and Tarapaca was ceded to Chili. The aforementioned overprinted stamps appeared with an additional Peruvian overprint of

horseshoe form, indicating the return of the Peruvian administration.

The Prince Henry the Navigator Commemorative Portuguese issue in 1894 recalls a bit of medieval history. The designs are three in number and present the navigator in various attitudes, the central idea being the conquest of the sea and the successful search for unknown lands. We give illustrations of two of the series.



Now for the history. Dom Henrique, born 1394, was the fourth son of Joao I, King of Portugal, and Philippa, daughter of John of Gaunt. His great ambition was the discovery of unknown regions of the earth. He built an observatory and a school for teaching the sons of nobles all things appertaining to navigation. Some of these pupils were sent on voyages of discovery, and the Madeira Islands were one tangible result of their search in 1418. In succeeding years various hitherto unknown points on the West African coast were reached. All the expenses of these earlier voyages were borne by the Prince himself. After 1440 the whole nation seems to have taken a deep practical interest in the Prince's schemes. In 1446 Cape Verd in Senegambia was doubled, and three of the Azores were discovered two years later. Henry died in 1460.

(To be continued.)

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PHILATELIC TERMS

By REV. ROBERT B. EARÉE

THE following notes, explanatory of the technical terms used in connexion with paper, watermarks, modes of printing and perforation, may be useful to young collectors.

Paper

Laid. This shows parallel, vertical, or horizontal lines, laid close together, generally crossed by other lines, an inch or more apart. Note-paper and thick envelopes are generally laid.

Wove. This has no lines. Sometimes there is a very regular grain, as in our old green ½d. newsbands; sometimes the paper looks somewhat mottled; but very often there is no particular grain to be seen. The lines of the laid paper, and the grain of the wove, are caused by the pattern of the meshes in the wire gauze which receives the fluid pulp, and strains out the water from it.

Bâtonné. This is watermarked by lines, some distance apart, intended as a guide for writing. What we call "foreign note-paper" is an example.

Laid Bâtonné. In this, the spaces between the above-mentioned lines are filled in with thinner lines, close together. Guadalajara is an example.

Wove Bâtonné. The spaces between the laid lines are plain. Poonch has used this.

Quadrillé. This paper has lines some distance apart, as in *bâtonné*, but with another set of lines crossing them. If the lines in one set are farther apart than in the other, it becomes *oblong quadrillé*. Guadalajara has used this.

Pelure. This is an exceedingly thin wove paper. Some scarce New Zealand stamps are printed on this.

Ribbed. This, I think, explains itself. I do not know how it is produced, but fancy it is probably passed through finely-corrugated rollers. Austria, New South Wales, etc., have used this paper. N.B.—A very thin stamp, stuck on an envelope of

ribbed paper, often appears to be itself ribbed, until removed from the envelope.

Dickinson. In this paper, named after the inventor, silk threads are incorporated in its substance, during manufacture. Our own Mulready envelopes and covers, and the early embossed envelopes, and the first 10d. and 1s. stamps, are examples, but there are many others.

Granité. Silk threads are also used in this, but, instead of being continuous lines, the silk (of various colours) is finely chopped up, and mixed in the pulp. Austria, Switzerland, etc., have used it.

Burelé. I put this here for convenience' sake, but it has nothing to do with the manufacture of the paper, and simply signifies a more or less elaborate network, printed on the face or back of the stamp. On the face, some of the early Denmarks and Hanoverians; and on the back, some of the Mexicans and Queenslands are examples.

Watermarks

These used to be formed by pieces of wire or metal, technically called "bits," which were either woven into, or fastened upon, the wire gauze on which the paper pulp was strained. Except in hand-made paper, the "bits" have been discarded in favour of the "dandy-roll"—a roller with the desired watermark many times repeated in relief on its surface, which impresses the said watermark in the paper while it is still quite soft. In either case the result is the same, i.e. it leaves the design, or pattern, *thinner* than the rest of the paper, so that it shows as a sort of transparency when held up to the light. The Crown watermark of our black 1d. is the earliest example.

Impressed watermark. This is simply an embossed design, done on the finished paper, and not while it is soft. Egypt and Switzerland are examples. It is, of course, not a true watermark in the proper sense of the word. The forgers have imitated some of our Colonial watermarks in this way.

Modes of Printing

Lithography. The design is drawn directly on the stone in lithographic ink, or else it is engraved on a block, and impressions from the block are printed on "transfer-paper" in lithographic ink, and then transferred to the stone. After this, the uninked part of the stone is slightly etched, or eaten away by acid gum. It is then sponged with water, which does not touch the greasy, lithographic ink, but wets the rest of the stone. While wet, the ink-roller is passed over the stone; it sticks to the ink, but does not touch the wet stone. The design comes off flat on the paper, showing neither lines impressed in it, nor lines of ink standing up from the surface. It is usually very easy to tell a lithographed stamp from an engraved one. The early Hungarians were first issued as lithographs, then as engravings. The Mexican stamps, with head of the unfortunate Emperor, also exist in both styles.

Épargne, or typograph. The parts of the design which are to print are in relief, while all the rest is cut away. Thus the roller inks all the standing-up portions, and leaves the hollows untouched. A *wood-cut* is really an *épargne* engraving, done in wood, instead of metal; and an *electrotype cliché* is an electrotyped reproduction, in copper, of an *épargne* engraving. In this mode of printing, the coloured lines are more or less sunk in the paper by the action of the press, while the white parts often appear slightly embossed, for the same reason. The majority of the current Colonials, and the current stamps of our own country, are examples of *épargne*.

Taille-douce, copper-plate, or line-engraving. This is exactly the opposite of *épargne*, for every line that is to print is cut down into the metal, and the parts which are not to print are left untouched, and polished. The ink is rolled on to the plate, which is then wiped clean (more or less!), leaving all the hollows full of ink. The heavy pressure of the machine forces the paper to pick up, as it were, the ink out of the hollows of the design, and the lines are left standing up in little ridges or masses of ink, on the surface of the paper. All the stamps of the American Bank-Note Co., and many others, are printed in this way, and our own old black 1d. is the earliest example. To my mind, it is by far the

most beautiful mode of printing, as the very finest lines can be produced; but it is costly, and the plates, unless made of steel, very soon deteriorate, and require "re-touching," as in the case of our first red 1d. stamps.

Photo-mechanical printing. This includes the Collotype (or Helio-type), Woodbury-type, half-tone, etc. etc. They are all essentially *copying* processes, and are, therefore, useful only to the forgers, and to the printers of monographs on stamps, etc. Chromated gelatine is the basis of them all, but I think I need not take up the reader's time in describing any of these processes. The illustrations of the London Philatelic Society's *Oceania* are examples.

Perforation

The gauge of the perforation is always counted in a length of two centimetres, and *not* along the whole length of a stamp; so that *all* stamps perforated by the same machine will gauge the same, irrespective of size. Thus our little old $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp, and our big 5s., will both be found to gauge 11. In compound perforation, the needles for the vertical rows of holes are not the same distance apart as those for the horizontal rows. Compound perforations are always measured first at the top (or bottom), and then at the sides. For instance, a gauge given as "perf. 14 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " means that the top and bottom of the stamp have fourteen holes to the two centimetres, and the sides only 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ in the same distance.

Pin-perforated. This is when more or less circular holes are made, without any of the paper being removed. If the reader will put a sheet of paper in a sewing-machine, with an unthreaded needle, and then work the treadle, he will have a very good idea of this sort of perforation. Some of our early Colonials (Trinidad, for instance) are examples.

Machine-perforated. The ends of the needles are cut off square, and fit into holes in a plate, so that, when a sheet of paper is laid on the plate, the needles punch tiny circular discs out of the paper, instead of pushing the fibres aside.

Rouletting. This may originally have been effected (as the name seems to imply) by a sort of spur-wheel; but it is now invariably done by what is called "perforative rule." "Rule" is the printer's name for

thin pieces of brass, type-high, with the edge plain (——) or dotted (.....). "Perforative rule" has the edge very sharp, and notched at regular intervals. It is rather more than type-high; so that, when the platen of the press comes down, the sharp edges pierce a line of short cuts, right through the paper. Stamps may be either plain roulette, or rouletted on coloured lines.

Plain roulette. In this mode, the perforative rule is set up separately, so that two operations are required. The stamps are first printed in the ordinary manner, and then the sheet is laid on the forme containing the uninked rule, so that, when the press is worked, the cuts are made dry, i.e. not coloured. The earliest rouletted stamps of Thurn and Taxis and of Luxemburg are examples.

Rouletted on coloured lines. In this style, the perforative rule is set up round the *clichés*. When the ink-roller is passed over the plate, it inks the rule, as well as the *clichés*; so that, when the press is worked, the rule prints a series of short dashes, or hyphens, round each stamp, with a cut along the centre of each dash. The second rouletted issues of Thurn and Taxis and of Luxemburg are examples.

Perçé en arc. Here the cuts of the rule are curved (semicircular), instead of being straight. When torn apart, one edge looks as though machine-perforated in the usual manner, while the other edge has a row of little scallops. Some of the Hanoverian and other old German stamps are examples.

Perçé en scie. The sharp edge of the rule must evidently be zigzagged in this perforation, for the edges of a stamp, when separated from its neighbour, look like the teeth of a very fine saw.

Oblique roulette. If each alternate line of the *perçé en scie* were removed, it would leave a set of oblique or sloping cuts. This is a very unpractical sort of perforation; and, in separating the stamps, the oblique cuts have a habit of tearing further than was intended. Some of the 1867 stamps of Tasmania are perforated in this style.

Perçé en pointe This is like the *perçé en scie*, but a good deal coarser. Some of the stamps of La Guaira are examples.

Perçé en serpentine. The edge of the rule is waved; thus making a perforation like the teeth of a saw, but with their points rounded, instead of sharp. Finland is a good example.

Perçé en losanges. This is like the *perçé en pointe*, but the points of the cuts do not join each other one side, so that in an un-separated pair of stamps, the said cuts look like a succession of the letters vvvv, close together, but not touching.

Rouletted in half-squares. In this style, each cut is three sides of a square, so that the edges of a separated stamp appear like a row of tiny battlements. The only example that I can remember is Denmark, some of the small, square stamps being perforated in this manner.

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THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

ITS HISTORY AND PROGRESS

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY BY
E. EGLY, PRESIDENT, ON 19 DECEMBER, 1905

(Continued from page 264.)

ALRADY, during the Postal Congress at Paris, Germany had made a proposal to establish a service for parcel post, but in view of the great difficulties of the settlement the question was left for study with the International Bureau.

This Bureau prepared a project mainly based on the proposals made by Germany. But from all quarters contra proposals were received, which had to be submitted to a Postal Conference which met in Paris on 9 October, 1880.

The main difficulties consisted in the novelty of the scheme. In many a country the parcel service was entirely left in the hands of the railway companies, for instance, in France and Belgium. The delegates of Egypt, Great Britain, British India, Canada, and Italy declared that no parcel post service existed in their country. The question of weight-limit and postage could not be settled in a general way, but the treaty provided that every country could propose to other countries the establishment of the parcel post service at given rates.

According to Article 6 of the treaty, the consigning administration had to allow 50 centimes to the receiving country for every parcel and 50 centimes to every country forwarding the parcel in transit.

Nearly all the European countries took part in this treaty, which came into force on 1 October, 1881, except for Great Britain, British India, Holland, and Persia, for which the date fixed was 1 April, 1882.

Paraguay joined the Postal Union on 1 July, 1881.

Guatemala joined the Postal Union on 1 August, 1881.

Barbados and St. Vincent joined the Postal Union on 1 September, 1881.

The area of the Union now consisted of 80,929,814 square kilometres, with 800 million inhabitants. Within seven years the Union had therefore doubled both area and population.

The year 1882 brought three additions to the Union:—

Hawaii joined on 1 January, 1882.

Nicaragua „ 1 May, 1882.

Costa Rica „ 1 January, 1883.

The only important countries left outside the Union were the South African countries, Australia, and Bolivia.

Lisbon was the city in which the third Postal Congress took place, from 4 March to 21 March, 1885.

The resolutions passed at this Congress were of minor importance. Former conventions were modified; for instance, the weight of parcels, which was increased from 3 kilos to 5 kilos.

A statistic was decided upon, giving the number of postal matter forwarded by all the Post Offices in the world every year.

On 1 July, 1885, Siam wished to become a member of the Union, and on 1 June, 1885, the Congo State and Bolivia.

The German colony the Cameroons joined on 1 June, 1887.

German New Guinea joined 1 Jan., 1888.

The German colony of Togo joined on 1 June, 1888.

German South-West Africa and the regency of Tunis joined on 1 July, 1888.

German Marshall Islands joined on 1 October, 1888.

The fourth Congress of the Universal Postal Union was held at Vienna, from 20 May to 4 July, 1891.

The whole of the treaty at the Congress was rearranged, and alterations were made where necessary, in accordance with the deliberations of the Congress.

The year 1891 brought the following additions to the Union:—

On 1 February, 1891 British North Borneo.

„ 1 April, 1891 German East Africa.

„ 1 October, 1891. New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, and British Guinea.

The entrance of Australia into the Union is greatly due to the Vienna Congress, at which South Australia was represented by a delegate.

The Clearing House, the new function entrusted to the International Bureau by the Congress at Vienna, was started in 1892, the object being to establish a central office where all the accounts were posted and settled.

(To be continued.)

PORTRAITS ON STAMPS

By BOSWELL JUNIOR

Ecuador—continued

Vincente Rocafuerte, the second President of Ecuador, was born at Guayaquil in 1783. He studied in France, and, at the age of twenty, met Simon Bolivar, the Liberator, in Paris. An able and highly educated man of liberal ideas and revolutionary tendencies, Rocafuerte returned to Ecuador to take part in the emancipation of his country from the Spanish rule. A revolutionary outbreak took place at Quito in 1809. Undoubtedly this, the first attempt of the Spanish colonies to gain their freedom by force of arms, was due in some measure to the influence of Rocafuerte. Alarmed at the trend of popular feeling in South America, the Spanish authorities at home decreed in 1809 that the colonies were an integral part of the monarchy, and, as such, were entitled to direct representation in the Cortes. In 1812 we find Rocafuerte sitting as deputy for the province of Guayaquil. Compelled to fly from Spain, he went over Europe, visited the United States, and settled for a time in Mexico. The year 1834 saw him chosen as President of Ecuador. He proved himself a good administrator. The State finances were set in order. Public instruction was organized. Schools were established. Diplomatic relations were renewed with Spain, and the independence of Ecuador was recognized by the mother country. His five years of office were marked by a period of calm and prosperity.

On the reappointment of Flores as President in 1839, Rocafuerte became Governor of Guayaquil. Some four years later his energetic protests against a revision of the Constitution made it advisable for him to withdraw from the arena of politics. He went to Lima, and supported his principles by his pen. The overthrow of Flores in 1845 made the return of Rocafuerte possible. He was elected as Senator for four provinces, and became President of the Senate in the following year. Charged with powers of

envoy-plenipotentiary, he went to the American Congress at Lima to enter upon a defensive alliance with Peru, Bolivia, and Chili. Falling ill on his arrival, he lingered for some months, and died in May, 1847. He bequeathed his library to the College at Guayaquil. In him Ecuador lost an enthusiastic defender of her independence.

A trio of Ecuadorian worthies—Vincente Roca, Diego Noboa, and José Olmedo—are represented on the 1, 5, 20 centavos and 1 s. values of the Jubilee issue of 1895. The issue was evidently intended to commemorate the Guayaquil revolution on 6 March, 1845, when the Liberals overthrew Flores, who had been re-elected President for the third time at the beginning of 1843. In consequence of the revolution Vincente Roca, a mulatto, one of the three represented here, was raised to the Presidency. Roca made a treaty of commerce with Belgium and a convention with England for the abolition of slavery. His term of office expired in 1849. The clerical and Conservative party succeeded in Congress in getting Diego Noboa elected as President. During his term of office the Jesuits were recalled, and the Conservative fugitives from New Granada were sheltered and protected. The threats of the latter country caused Diego to send troops to the frontier. General José Maria Urbino was in command. He utilized his forces for the purpose of overthrowing the unpopular President. Diego was deposed in 1851 and expelled from the territory of the Republic. Of José Olmedo I know nothing. The *Encyclopaedia Britannica* refuses to disclose his identity. A dozen histories have failed to throw any light on his career. Perhaps one of my readers may be able to enlighten us on the subject.

(To be continued.)



NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Maldive Islands.—We quote the following from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*:—

An event of considerable interest is the issue of surcharged Ceylon stamps for the Maldive Islands.

The first inking we had of the forthcoming issue was the following article in the *Ceylon Independent* of 31.1.06, which reached us at the end of February:—

MATTERS MALDIVIAN.

THE GO-AHEAD POLICY OF THE NEW SULTAN.

"The Maldivian Ambassador, who has been in Colombo since the 28th of October, will be returning to the Maldives on or about the 12th proximo, after receiving the usual presents from the Ceylon Government to the Sultan. In a brief conversation with one of our representatives yesterday the Ambassador said that he had sent away to the Maldives two exiled prisoners and another Maldivian who had arrived in Ceylon some little time ago with Hassen Didi, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor, these men having craved pardon for what they have done.

The Ambassador has been busy for some time at the General Post Office acquainting himself with postal work in connection with the introduction of a postal system between the Maldives and Ceylon. He has had interviews with the Postmaster-General, his assistant, and the accountant, and has gleaned a good deal of information which will be of use to him. The Ceylon Government has ordered the seals, forms, etc., from India, and when these are received the Post Office at the Maldives will be opened, which will be about the beginning of April. For the present the five-cent Ceylon postage stamp will be used, and when it is said that about 30,000 letters, besides parcels, pass through the Maldives every year, a substantial revenue should be derived by the introduction of the new system.

The Ceylon Government has ordered out a dredger at a cost of about Rs. 12,000 for dredging the inner harbour of Male, which is very shallow now, and as a result all the buggalows and other vessels have to anchor in the outer harbour. The dredger is expected here some time in April. After the dredging operations stagings will be constructed similar to the ones we have at the Wharf for the purpose of allowing the buggalows to come alongside and discharge their cargo.

The Maldivians do not wish to be behind Ceylon or the Straits in the matter of Rubber cultivation, for the Maldivian Ambassador is taking with him a consignment of the Rubber seed to introduce the product into the islands. He is quite sanguine of good results, as some of the islands ten and twelve miles away from Male possess splendid soil.

The Ambassador is also taking with him a Victoria phaeton and an Australian horse for the Sultan. Another horse is already on the way out from Calcutta direct, while in two months' time two more horses will be brought over from Karachi. The Ambassador is taking for his own use a motor bicycle, which will be the only one of its kind in the Maldives, although they have ordinary bicycles now.

The Maldivian Government intend building a Rest-house for visitors, and the work will be taken in hand before long."

We give this extract in *extenso*, as, although not entirely of a philatelic nature, it is of interest as showing the advanced stage of civilization to which the Maldives have now attained.

Under date of 14.2.06 our Colombo agent wrote us: "Perhaps by the time this reaches you a few kinds of Ceylon postage stamps, overprinted 'Maldives,' will have gone to the Maldive Islands, for use on articles to be posted from there. They will probably be 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., 6 c., 15 c., 25 c., and 30 c. Any unused stamps required will have to be purchased in the Maldives. It is not likely that many letters or packages will be posted there, and therefore used stamps will, no doubt, go high in value. The printing of the stamps has not yet been started, although it is definitely settled."

We cabled to the Postmaster-General, Colombo, requesting to be informed whether the Maldives stamps would be purchasable at Colombo, and received the following reply: "Not purchasable. P.M.G." Collectors, therefore, may take it that it is wasted time writing anywhere except to the Maldive Islands direct, and whether it is any use writing even there remains to be seen (see lower).

Under date of 8.3.06 our Colombo agent sends us full details of the issue, which will be as follows:—



Maldives.



King's Head stamps of Ceylon, overprinted approximately as above "Maldives."

Wmk. Crown CA Multipl. Perf.

- 2 c., red-brown.
- 3 c., green.
- 4 c., yellow.
- 5 c., lilac.
- 15 c., blue.
- 25 c., bistre.

Our correspondent informs us that all the above were to be overprinted and despatched to the Maldive Islands in the course of the week ending 17.3.06.

The following reference to these islands is made in the *Harmsworth Encyclopædia*:—

"Maldive Islands, cluster of islands in Indian Ocean, 500 m. S.W. of Ceylon. None are more than 20 ft. above sea level. Mali is the residence of the Sultan, who pays tribute to the Ceylon Government. Cocoanuts, cowrie shells, and coir are exported. The inhabitants resemble the Singalese, and are Mohammedans. The climate is unhealthy. Pop. (1901), 30,000."

Chambers's Encyclopædia describes the islands as

"a chain of characteristic coral atolls in the Indian Ocean," and, continuing, says they "consist of seventeen groups, distributed politically into thirteen, and embracing a total of several hundred islands. All of these are very small in area, and less than two hundred are inhabited. Malé, the residence of the native 'Sultan of the Twelve Thousand Isles,' is one mile long by three-quarters of a mile wide, and contains a population of 2000. The population of the whole chain is probably not more than 30,000. These people resemble the Singhalese in personal appearance, and speak a language closely akin to Singhalese. They are Mahomedans by religion, and boast of an ancient civilization. They are peaceful, affectionate, well behaved, and of cleanly habits. Rice (imported),

fish (chiefly bonito), bread fruit, cocoanut, and various other fruits and vegetables are their principal food. Coir, cowries, dried bonito fish, cocoanut and copra, and tortoiseshell are exported. The gathering and preparation of these articles are the principal occupations, apart from a little weaving. The Arab geographer Ibu Batuta lived more than a year on the islands (1343-44). The Portuguese maintained factories there at various times after 1518; but in 1645 the Sultan put himself under the protection of the Dutch Governor of Ceylon, and along with that island they exchanged Dutch for English supremacy. The Sultan sends an embassy every year, bearing presents, to renew his homage to the Governor of Ceylon."

MISCELLANEOUS

Federal Prospects

HAVING established the above "heading" in *The Australian Journal of Philately* five years ago, this might be an opportune time for taking a retrospect of the same period, and in doing so find out what has *not* been done. Five years ago it was reckoned that the Commonwealth would take over the State Post Offices right away, supersede the State stamps at once, and issue a suitable Commonwealth series. Up to the present the two latter have not been done, and in point of fact instead of making headway during the period named the Federal postal authorities have retrograded. Matters are now in a more chaotic condition than they were in 1901, and we are grieved to say that we do not see any indications of improvement. The conduct of the Postal Department seems most lax and amateurish. Those in authority do not appear to realize the importance of their office, and the country suffers accordingly. We trust we shall have a better tale to tell five years hence.

In course of time all Australian stamps will appear on paper watermarked Crown over A. Those printed in Melbourne have a double-lined letter, those emanating from New South Wales and South Australia have a single-lined letter.

Matters seem to be in a very transitory state in the Victorian printing office: what with the introduction of the new paper and the complex plan of perforating the stamps, apart from the patchy method employed in the printing process, the Government's Printer's lot can hardly be said to be a happy one. Every now and again we hear of some slight varieties in types of the current Victorian stamps owing to the frequent necessity of preparing fresh zinco plates. The latest to hand is what appears to be a retouch of the current 1d. value. This was first seen on 11 July, and it is said that it will probably be scarce on V and Crown paper, as it was only in use for a few months until the paper was superseded by the Crown and A.

The retouch may be distinguished from its predecessors by the following: The bust is more

sharply defined, the background is regular, the splashes on the left being absent; the ONE of ONE PENNY is more distinct, and the stamp has altogether a fresher appearance. The fact that all are alike tends to the belief that the master die has been partially re-engraved, or, if this has not been done, an impression of it has been taken in some soft material which has been operated upon and then used as the matrix.

The Australian Philatelist.

The Obliteration of Stamps

The following correspondence was published by *The Times*, 11 April, 1906:—

"Junior Constitutional Club, Piccadilly,

"7 March, 1906.

"To the Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, M.P.,
Postmaster-General.

"SIR,—I beg respectfully to call your attention to the very unsightly and frequently indistinct method followed in this country by the postal authorities for the obliteration of postage stamps. In *The Times* of 11 November last I referred to the fact that in Holland a fine impression of the Royal Arms is used, and I forwarded a specimen to the editor. In Germany, also, as you will see by the enclosed, a hold flag is utilized. May I ask if it would be possible, in the United Kingdom, to favourably consider the use of a patriotic emblem, such as the Union Jack or the Royal Standard, instead of the lines and blotches as at present? A different design might be authorized in each of the four countries of the Union, so that the country of origin, of a letter or packet, would be seen at once.

"I beg to remain, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"J. LANDFEAR LUCAS."

"General Post Office, London,

"4 April, 1906.

"SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 7th ult., I am directed by the Postmaster-General to inform you that it has been decided to adopt a pattern consisting of horizontal straight lines for the obliterating stamps to which you refer,

as it is found that the clearest impressions are obtained with stamps of this pattern. In the circumstances, the Postmaster-General does not see his way to adopt your suggestion that the pattern should be in the form of a flag.

"I am, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,
"W. ROOME."

On 16 April, 1906, *The Times* published the following further letter on the subject:—

"Non-Obliteration of Name" writes under Wednesday's date: "Seeing in to-day's issue of *The Times* the two letters on the above subject, one from Mr. J. Landfear Lucas and the reply of the Postmaster-General thereto, I am writing to mention a plan I have adopted for some time, in order to obviate the more or less obliteration of the names or addresses by the postmark now in use. I always put the stamp on the back of the envelope; the address is then not interfered with."

World's Penny Postage

The Times says the Postmaster-General (the Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, M.P.) has directed the following reply to be sent to a correspondent:—

"General Post Office, London,
"8 March, 1906.

"SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 23rd ultimo, I am directed by the Postmaster-General to inform you that the question of a penny rate of postage for letters exchanged between this country and the United States of America has not yet formed the subject of any definite proposals to this department. Should the United States at any time be included in the penny postage scheme due notice would be given to the public.

"I am, Sir,
"Your obedient servant,
"(Signed) PERCY L. ROUND."

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

THE TEMPTATION OF RICHARD DURRINGTON

By P. G. GILLARD

(Continued from page 270.)

CHAPTER III

NOW the last thing Richard had heard when he left her next morning was, "Good-bye, dear; don't forget the diamonds!"

Therefore, the first thing he did when he got to his office was to look into Mr. Dawsett's private desk to see if the stamps were still there, and when he saw the case he said to himself, "How silly it was of Mr. Dawsett to leave the stamps about like this."

Richard Durrington never worked so badly as he did that day. He could not keep his mind from stamps and diamonds. Ah! a brilliant idea struck him. Mr. Dawsett was out of town, and would not be back until next week. He could pawn the stamps for two or three days, and with the money he got for them he could pay the charges and deposit for the loan of a diamond necklace for Dainty. He would have plenty of time to return the stamps before Mr. Dawsett wanted them. Oh, if he were only rich enough to buy one for her! Why, he would steal in and see her bending over the cooking. Then he would steal up behind her and clasp them round her pretty throat—so. He clasped his own neck as he spoke.

Yes, he would pledge them for Dainty's sake. No, it would be dishonourable. No, he would not do it! And with this resolve he shut the desk.

When he got home, Dainty, beautiful as a dream, met him.

"Have you brought the diamonds, dear?" she said.

"Of course not," he replied. "You did not think I would, did you?"

No, certainly not. Anyway, she was off now. He didn't mind her leaving him, did he? She would have to explain he was such a busy man, he could not spare the time to go with her. If he could have borrowed a dress-suit and gone too! She would have enjoyed it much better. But he knew no one to borrow one from, and he had no money to hire one. Well, it was not worth while, after all. She was only going to show them she was not really what she was.

"Was not really what she was?"

That they were not really as poor as they were. Oh, he must know what she meant! Well, good-bye, dear!

Oh, a hansom cab, of course! A hansom there and hansom back. That left five shillings-out of the ten she had saved on the dress; that would pay the butcher for nearly a week.

When Dainty returned home from the party that night she was strangely depressed and inclined for tears.

Oh, yes, she had danced. Then what was wrong? Nothing; she did not care for these old parties, anyway, and she hated stuck-up people.

Weren't they nice to her?

Oh, very! They did not seem to know her when she came in. Said, "Oh, Mrs. Dainty, to be sure; how stupid of me to forget you. How do you do?"

What did they ask her for at all?

She only said "Good evening" and "Good night" to Mrs. Hickey, and that lady did not seem at all impressed by the dress. Supposed it was a compliment to Aunt Margaret that she was asked. But she would never, never, never go again.

So sorry she had left dear Richard alone. She would have been much more happy at home. And the new dress was not a bit grand amongst the dresses at the party. Well, she got one thing by going, and that was a bad cold.

She slept little that night, and was hot and feverish next day, though she insisted upon getting up and seeing Richard off to his office. Then she went out and sold the dress for a pound, which the man in the second-hand clothes shop told her was more than he had ever given for a dress before in his life, and that was all on account of her pretty face. Mrs. Durrington was very indignant at the compliment, but felt too ill to resent it.

When her husband returned home that evening, he found her lying on the bed, very sick indeed. He persuaded her to let him fetch the doctor, and when they arrived, the physician ordered her to bed at once, saying that she had a very sharp attack of pneumonia and was seriously ill. When the morning came she was worse, and it almost broke his heart to leave her alone. He spent the five shillings she had saved on wine and a chicken for her, and made the ground-floor lady, Mrs. Ronaldson, promise to look after her a bit, which the good woman did with a heart and a half.

Next day she was not better, and Richard asked for a half-day from the office to go home to her. But Mr. Dawsett said it was quite impossible, that there was a stress of business on just now. Now Richard knew that there was no particular rush of work. He also knew Mr. Dawsett had only said so because he imagined everybody was trying to cheat him and get something out of him. When Dick asked him to advance him 10s. from his salary, he got very angry indeed. Certainly he would not; he had never done such a thing in his life. Let him (Richard) do his work, and he would be paid for it. But he would have no half-days off, to be spent God knows where; no salary advanced, to be spent God knows how. His wife was sick. Well, he was very sorry, but the number of clerks who had wives and relations dying and funerals to attend—why, employers would have to shut up if they listened to them.

Richard Durrington said no more, but when he went home that evening and found that his Dainty was worse, he cursed his employer bitterly. What was he to do now? There was nothing to pawn. The butcher refused to supply him with meat until his bill was paid. He had only a few shillings. The doctor was ordering things that he could not afford to get Dainty. A cloud of trouble was falling darkly and heavily over him all at once. And now he had not Dainty's bright laugh and cheerful face beside him to help him through. Only Dainty's feverish cheeks and frequent cough to strike terror into his heart every time he saw and heard.

How she talked! "Dick," she would say, "I have not been a good wife to you, but I am

a silly thing. I have been so extravagant and wasteful. I never understood poverty until father died. Even then I never understood the cost of food. That is why I muddle things so. When I was a governess everything was supplied; but, Dick dear, I will be better in the future."

Dick bent his head over her and whispered, "No one can be better, dear." But all the time his brain was turning and worrying over the want of money. He pawned everything there was to pawn. He half starved himself, and yet poverty, like a wolf, was tearing her from him. At last the day came when the doctor said there was very little hope—especially without good food. He was a hard man, the doctor—a just man, he called himself. He never offered to help in any way, or to abate a shilling in his bill. He said that he did his part of the contract, and he always expected his patients to do theirs. He also said he would come to see Mrs. Durrington no longer, as he saw little hope of her recovery, and less of his account being paid.

In spite of his deep trouble, Richard Durrington had to go to his office and work. Every night when he went home he stopped upon his doorstep to prepare himself to face the room where he knew she was lying—it might be dead. Every day he sat with his employer opposite to him, and only once was he asked how his wife was. When he answered that she was very ill indeed, he observed that Mr. Dawsett had forgotten his question and was deep in his papers.

It was one evening as he was leaving that a great temptation came to him. Mr. Dawsett had gone early, and he was alone. He had again been refused his salary in advance, and his heart was hot with anger and despair. It was then he saw that Mr. Dawsett had left his desk open, and inside were the stamps. They had been there for more than a week, and would be there for goodness knew how long, lying forgotten, of no use to anybody. Why not take them—once before the same thought had come to him, but he had resisted it—borrow them for a week, and put them in pawn till he got his salary to redeem them? It was due very soon. Perhaps he could pawn them for a trifle which he would be able to pay—not for their real value, of course, for that would be stealing, as he could never redeem them. He took the stamps in his hand, and all fear of discovery passed from him. There was no question of its being wrong. How could there be—a woman's life against a few paltry pieces of paper? Honesty! he had no honesty. He would steal, aye, a thousand times over, if it meant that without it Dainty would die. What did he care what the world did or thought of him as long as she was saved? Was it ever meant that a man should let a woman he loved die for a false idea of honesty? And Mr. Dawsett had refused him what he had asked. How he hated his smug face! Was it ever meant that one man should

drive in his carriage, and that another in his employ should starve before his eyes? There was nothing for it; he must take the stamps. He put the stamps in his pocket and started home. When he reached his door he opened it softly and stood breathless in the hall. He heard the door above open, and Mrs. Ronaldson came out. She came to the top of the stairs and looked down upon him in the dim light.

"My God!" he said, "my God!"

She said something to him which he did not hear. He leant against the wall, unable to go up.

"She is—" he stammered, "she—is—"

The woman spoke in a low voice.

"She is better," she said, "much better."

The relief was so great, that he broke into heart-rending sobs, then pulled himself together and went upstairs.

CHAPTER IV

DAINTY did not die, but her rich Aunt Margaret did. That very night the post brought a letter from her solicitor, saying that she had passed away in her sleep, and that Dainty was left her sole heiress. That is to say, she was left the modest sum of three hundred a year. It was then that Richard Durrington, sitting by her side, and listening to Mrs. Ronaldson's cheerful story of how well Dainty had been all day, what a turn she had had for the better after he had left for his office in the morning—it was then, I say, that Richard Durrington suddenly remembered the stamps in his pocket. Now that the great strain of anxiety and fear for his wife was lessened, he had time to think of himself. Half fed, overworked, his brain weakened by much worry, what had he done? He started to his feet and left the room. At any moment Mr. Dawsett might return for the stamps, and what would become of him then? He strode up and down the little parlour without ceasing. At any moment a policeman might come in at that door and lay his hands upon him. The shock would kill Dainty in her present condition.

He told Mrs. Ronaldson he had some night-work to do, and kissing his sleeping wife, left the house. Some one put a hand on his shoulder, and he sprang back as if he had been shot. But it was only the upstairs lodger, who wished him good night. He strode down the street in the shadow of the houses towards his office. Whenever he saw a policeman he crossed to the other side of the road. Once he heard footsteps running behind him, and he ran too for a few yards before he recollected himself.

When he came to his office he saw a policeman standing before the door. He thought the man was there for a purpose, forgetting that he walked up and down the street every night, and chance alone made him pause at that door.

Durrington walked quickly past, with white face averted, to avoid suspicion of seeming to know

the house. When he left the street he turned down a small alley to go home.

At his own door his heart failed him, and he had to stop a few minutes before he had the courage to put the key in the lock. All the time the stamps lay hard upon his heart, seeming to burn him. When he went up the stairs, so sure was he that some one had come to take him away, that he was amazed to find the parlour empty and peace alone supreme. He could hear the breathing of his sleeping wife from the other room, calm and regular as a child's, and the louder snores of the kind neighbour who insisted on nursing her through her illness.

He locked the parlour door and took the stamps from his pocket. Where could he hide them till morning came and he would be able to put them back in the desk? He looked everywhere, but nowhere seemed safe. At last he laid them beneath the sofa, which had been converted into a bed for him. For hours he lay awake, listening to every sound. Once, when a man spoke loud in the street, he sprang up, and, with his heart beating to suffocation, pulled out the stamps, and stood with them in his hands, not knowing what to do. If the door had been opened then he would have been caught red-handed. He stuffed them beneath the old arm-chair in the far corner this time, and fell into a troubled sleep.

When he awoke it was about seven o'clock, and the sun was shining in at the window. His first thought was that of the beauty of the morning, the second that the stamps were still with him. He arose and settled himself for the task he had before him of restoring the stamps—but when he stooped to find them, they were gone!

He crouched like a broken man by the chair, not having strength to move, and twice he heard his wife call to him before he could go to her. He stooped and kissed her, and his lips were as cold as death. He saw like one at a distance how sweet she was in the morning light. She was speaking to him, and he could hardly understand what she said.

Mrs. Ronaldson had gone at six, passing through his room. Did he not wake? And all the time he was thinking that soon Dainty must know her husband a thief—soon he would be disgraced, and be taken from her. He would not run from justice, but let fate do its worst. He was not a thief: he had not stolen the stamps, and if he did get sentenced he would not be the first man who had been convicted through being innocent. All the time his eyes were going round the little room he so soon must leave. There were pretty knick-knacks upon the mantelpiece that Dainty had put there. There were the old pictures he had had from a boy. There were the bright geraniums in the sunny window. There—the stamps he had lost! He sprang up, and, taking them in his hands, pressed them to his breast. Dainty watched him in wonder.

"How did these come here, Dainty?" he asked after a pause.

"Mrs. Ronaldson put them there this morning. She said she found the raven picking away at the parcel, so she took them from it, and finding they were stamps, she thought, perhaps, you had brought them home from the office for some reason or another."

"So I did, dear," answered Richard; "so I did."

He took the stamps and rose to go.

When he got into the street he went quickly to his office. He braced his nerves together like a soldier about to be shot; but when he got to the door he could not enter. He passed it three times, then took it at a run. When he got in the place was empty. He laid the stamps back in the desk with a long breath of thankfulness, and seating himself at his work, awaited any consequences that might follow. Not yet did he feel he was safe, and when Mr. Dawsett came in he did not dare to raise his head to meet the eyes of his employer. At last the silence grew unbearable, and he looked up—to find Mr. Dawsett deep in his papers, evidently not thinking about him at all.

A few minutes passed, and Mr. Dawsett entered into conversation with him, but there was no hint of annoyance in his voice. He rose and raised the lid of his desk, and Richard felt his time had come. But Mr. Dawsett took the packet of stamps and flung it aside. Then Richard Durrington felt he was safe at last. No one had missed the stamps. A feeling of indignation took hold of him. Thinking of all that he had gone through, he gave his employer the first reproof that he had ever dared utter.

"It is not right," he said sternly, "to leave those stamps of such great value about. There might be thieves lurking about here for them."

Mr. Dawsett lay back in his chair and smiled at him.

"And how much would you say these three-cornered 'Capes' are worth?" he questioned.

"I should think about six hundred pounds, if not more," answered Richard.

"They are worth," said Mr. Dawsett, "with the paper and string included, exactly nothing. They are FOREIGNS given to me to burn."

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.

Secretary: H. F. Johnson, 4 Portland Place North, Clapham

Meetings: Exeter Hall, Strand, W.C.

(Road, S.W.)

Annual Subscription: 1s. 6d.

The usual bi-monthly meeting of the Junior Philatelic Society was held at Exeter Hall on Saturday, 7 April, 1906, Mr. R. Halliday occupying the chair in the absence of the President (Mr. F. J. Melville).

It had been hoped to hold a competitive display of collections submitted by lady members, but unfortunately the entries were not sufficient to induce the Committee to adhere to this part of the programme.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. G. H. Berry, H. W. Gilbert Williams, G. Loverius, L. J. Magnani, Wm. Brown, and W. R. Minter.

Donations from Miss Cassels of miscellaneous literature for the library and from the publishers of the following periodicals of the current numbers of their journals were received: *Le Postillon*, *The West End Philatelist*, *De Nederlandsche Philatelist*, and the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*.

The auction, which was conducted by Mr. Gilbert Lodge, occupied a considerable part of the evening, over 150 lots being submitted, some bargains falling to lucky buyers.

The event of the evening was the display of a portion of Mrs. Field's fine collection of unused stamps of Great Britain and Colonies. This had been looked forward to with a great deal of interest, and more than one provincial member had come specially up to town to see it. Mrs. Field being absent from England, the stamps were shown by Mr. David Field.

The display was characterized by the presence of many scarce and interesting stamps; e.g. Great Britain, 1d., black, with "V.R." in upper corners; 1d., black, royal reprint; 1d., black, with voided corners; 2s., brown; 10s., cobalt-blue. It was, perhaps, the triangular Capes that attracted the most attention, the unused woodblock being the admiration of all. The countries shown comprised, among others, Antigua, Barbados, Bahamas, British Bechuanaland, and Canada.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. and Mrs. Field for their kindness in displaying these stamps.

In the absence of Mr. Melville, his paper on "Philately in Fiction" was held over, but it is hoped that on his return from the United States an opportunity of giving it will occur.

Junior Philatelic Society of Scotland

President: Sir John Ure Primrose.

Hon. Sec.: Robert Borland, Lochside, Milngavie.

Meetings: At 562 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. First and third Wednesdays.

Annual Subscription: Seniors, 2s. 6d.; Juniors, 1s.

A MEETING of the Society was held within the rooms, 562 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, on Wednesday, 4 April, 1906, at 8 p.m.

There was a good attendance of members, thirty being present, and the chair was occupied by Mr. J. Wilson Paterson, Vice-President.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, approved of, and signed.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. Herbert Chapman, F. J. Durrant, W. C. Bell, and J. Douglas Blakely.

A display of the Jubilee Issue of Great Britain was then given by Mr. P. Douglas. The stamps shown were, with the exception of one or two scarce shades, all in superb mint condition, and the few used copies included were also very fine. The lower values were shown in blocks, while the higher values were all in pairs, except the £5.

During the display Mr. Douglas gave many interesting details with regard to the styles of printing and perforation, and also drew attention to the large number of shades in several of the values, many of which were exceedingly scarce.

At the close of the display a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Douglas.

The membership has now reached sixty-seven, and the Society is going strongly.

The first Exchange Packet is now in circulation, and, from the reports received, the sales are excellent. It contained a good number of Colonials in very fine condition, and priced cheaply.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR *G. S. W.* READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "G. S. W." readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

NORTH BORNEO.

**4
cents**

1904. Provisional issue, surcharged as above on the picture stamps of 1894 and 1897.

4 cents, surcharged on 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., 12 c., 18 c., 24 c., 25 c., 50 c., \$1, \$2, \$5, and \$10.

Special bargain price for this scarce set of twelve stamps, unused and mint, is only

7s. 6d., post-free.

NOTE.—Some of these stamps are not catalogued, and only two are priced in our current Catalogue.

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

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 19
Whole No. 71

12 MAY, 1906

VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Brunswick



BRUNSWICK is a duchy of Northern Germany and a state of the German Empire. It is bounded by Hanover, Saxony, and Westphalia. At one time it formed part of the realm of Charles the Great. Freeman, in his *Historical Geography*, says:—

They [the descendants of Henry the Lion] held their place as princes of the Empire, no longer as dukes of Saxony, but as dukes of Brunswick. After some of the usual divisions, two Brunswick principalities finally took their place on the map, those of Lüneburg and Wolfenbüttel. . . . The simple ducal title remained with the Brunswick princes of the other line.

The duchy suffered severely during the Seven Years' War. It was occupied by the French in 1806, annexed to the kingdom of Westphalia in 1807, and restored to its Duke in 1813. Its direct line of rulers became extinct in 1884 on the death of the childless Duke William, and the succession passed to the Duke of Cumberland, son of George V, the dethroned King of Hanover. He, however, refused to recognize the new constitution of the German Empire, and the Imperial Government refused to allow the succession. Ultimately

in 1885 Prince Albrecht, a nephew of the Emperor, was elected regent of the duchy by the Diet.

Its Philatelic History

The issue of stamps by Brunswick commenced in 1852, and ended when the duchy joined the North German Confederation in 1868. What is known as the galloping horse of Brunswick forms the central feature in all the stamps but one solitary stamp issued in 1857.

The first stamps bore no watermark and were imperforate. In the next issue a Posthorn was introduced as a watermark. Later issues were perforated, but the last issue was printed on unwatermarked paper.

1852. Three values. Design, a galloping horse, with the ducal coronet; shape, oblong. These first stamps, according to Westoby, were "designed, engraved, and printed by Petersen, an engraver in Brunswick." They were printed on plain white paper, and issued imperforate and without watermark.



	No wmk.		Imperf.	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 sgr., rose	—	15 0	—	—
2 " blue	—	8 6	—	—
3 " vermilion	—	10 6	—	—

1853-6. Five values. Design unchanged, but printed in black on coloured papers, and watermarked with a Posthorn.



Watermark.

	Wmk. Posthorn.		Imperf. Coloured papers.	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
¼ sgr., black on brown paper	50 0	6 6	—	—
½ " " white " "	12 0	12 0	—	—
1 sgr. " buff " "	60 0	2 0	—	—
2 " " blue " "	10 0	1 6	—	—
3 " " rose " "	120 0	3 6	—	—

1857. One value. Design, a large square stamp, divisible into four miniature stamps, each of the value of ¼ gutergroschen, and the whole stamp representing a value of one gutergroschen. Watermark, Posthorn. Imperforate.



	Wmk. Posthorn.		Imperf.	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 sgr., black on brown paper	1 6	3 0	—	—

1861-4. Three values. Design, same as the first issue. Watermarked with a Posthorn and imperforate.

	Wmk. Posthorn.		Imperf.	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½ sgr., black on yellow-green	0 6	2 6	—	—
1 " " yellow	15 0	1 6	—	—
3 " " rose	40 0	4 0	—	—

1862-4. Five values. Design, same as the first issue. Watermarked with a Posthorn and perforated.

	Wmk. Posthorn.		Perf.	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
¼ sgr., black on white	40 0	40 0	—	—
½ " " yellow-green	—	—	—	—
1 " " yellow	—	—	—	—
1 " " yellow on white	25 0	6 0	—	—
2 " " black on blue	40 0	16 0	—	—
3 " " rose on white	100 0	15 0	—	—

1865. Four values. Design, galloping horse, with ducal coronet, in an upright oval. No watermark, but perforated.



	No wmk.		Perf.	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
¼ gr., black	0 6	5 0	—	—
1 " " red	0 1	0 6	—	—
2 " " blue	0 4	2 0	—	—
3 " " bistre	0 1	2 6	—	—

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

HISTORICAL LINKS

By REV. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 276.)

THE struggles of Servia to free herself from Turkish oppression in the early years of last century found a stalwart and determined champion in the person of Kara George, a rich swine-owner. Eventually Kara George was obliged to quit the country. He fled to Austria. A further rebellion of the Servians against Turkish misrule took place in 1815. Milosh Obrenovic, a herdsman, expelled the enemy, and became, henceforth, the leading spirit in the struggle for independence. In 1817 he caused his rival, Kara George, to be assassinated, and was himself proclaimed supreme ruler of Servia. Obrenovic died in 1861, and the chief power passed into the hands of his son Michael. In his reign in 1866 the first Servian postage stamps appeared. The October of that year saw a change of design, the head of the Prince appearing as the central design in place of the Servian Arms. Nearly two years later Prince Michael was assassinated by the partisans of the Kara George faction. He was succeeded by Milan IV, grandson of Yephrem, brother of Milosh Obrenovic.



Michael Obrenovic III.



Milan IV.

By the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-8 Servia gained complete independence, and the Prince was proclaimed King in 1882.



King Alexander.



King Peter.

Quarrels between King Milan and Queen Nathalie, a Russian, were followed by their divorce in 1888 and King Milan's abdication

in 1889 in favour of his son Alexander, then a youth of thirteen. In 1900 Alexander married Mme. Draga, against the wishes of his advisers and the people. This led, in 1903, to the assassination of both King and Queen at Belgrade. The present ruler, King Peter, revives the old Kara George dynasty. The Coronation Commemorative series, with the remarkable likeness of the murdered King Alexander on the para values, is well known to all stamp collectors.

In the stamps of Spain we see many indications of the troublous times through which the country has passed since 1850. Isabella II, whose portrait appears on the



Isabella II.

first issues of Spain, was the daughter of Ferdinand VII and Christina of Naples. Down to the time of this marriage in 1829, Don Carlos, Ferdinand's brother, had been considered heir to the throne. As such he would have remained, had it not been that Christina instigated Ferdinand to abrogate the old Salic law which excluded females from the throne. Consequently, the birth of a daughter Isabella in 1830 crushed the hopes of the Carlists. Don Carlos continued his agitation to be still considered as heir to the throne, and for this he was banished in 1833 to Portugal. Ferdinand died in the same year, and the child Isabella was at once proclaimed Queen with Christina as regent. On attaining her majority in 1843, Isabella took the oath to the Constitution. Inefficient and corrupt ministries caused widespread discontent, which culminated in a *coup d'état* in 1868. Isabella fled to France, and there abdicated in favour of her son Alfonso XII. For two years the country was under the rule of Provisional Governments. The throne remained vacant. An attempt on the part of Prussia to find a candidate for the kingly office furnished the pretext for the Franco-German War in 1870. During the interregnum the stamps

of 1867 were issued with the overprint illustrated below.

**HABILITADO
POR LA
NACION.**

In 1870, the postal and telegraph services were brought under one administration, and stamps were issued bearing the word "COMUNICACIONES" and applicable to both services. The central design showed the head of a female, emblematic of Spain, wearing a mural crown with a star above it.



Hispania.

Amadeus, Duke of Aosta, second son of Victor Emmanuel, was chosen King in 1870. His portrait appeared on the higher values of the 1872-3 issues.



Amadeus soon found that the old adage, "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown," was only too true in his case. He abdicated in February, 1873. During his short reign, a $\frac{1}{4}$ c. value had been issued. The design was of the numeral order, with a kingly crown above the figure of value. After the abdication of Amadeus, a new series of postage stamps was issued, in which the $\frac{1}{4}$ c. appeared with a mural crown in place of the Royal Crown. The change is easily seen when the two stamps are compared.



Another design of this republican series depicts a female figure with an olive branch in her hand, emblematic of peace, and, by her side, a shield bearing the Arms of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Navarre, and Granada. Peace, however, was just what

the country had not, for a formidable Carlist rising took place in 1873, and the Basque Provinces were in a state of confusion for three years, when the insurrection was finally crushed. Carlist stamps appeared in these provinces bearing a portrait of Don Carlos.



1873.



1874.

By the end of the year 1874, the country, wearied by the incessant struggles, was ready to welcome Alfonso as king. Accordingly, he returned to Spain and was proclaimed King as Alfonso XII.



Alfonso XII reigned until 1885. Don Carlos withdrew to France; was expelled from France in 1881, and took refuge in London. The eleven years' reign of Alfonso proved a time of peace and prosperity. His queen Christina succeeded him as regent for his son Alfonso XIII, whose portrait appeared on the 1889 issue when he had arrived at the tender age of three. A further portrait of the King as a youth of fourteen appeared in 1900. His romantic engagement to the Princess Ena of Battenberg is still fresh in our memory.

Some reference ought to be made to the War Tax stamps. These stamps were for the payment of a tax on letters and stamped papers and documents. They were first issued to raise money for the expenses of the struggle against the Carlist rising. In 1897, the war in Cuba and the Philippine Islands caused the Government to resort again to this method of taxation for the purpose of raising money. In both cases, these War Tax stamps did not take the place of the ordinary issue, but were added to the letter already stamped with one of the regular issue. It would seem, however, that a 10 centimos value of the War Tax

stamps, originally issued for stamped documents alone, was allowed to represent 5 centimos War Tax and 5 centimos postage.

The stamps of the Confederate States of America bring to mind the great struggle between the North and South on the slave question. The first issue appeared in 1861. Jefferson Davis, a man of ability and high personal character, had been chosen as President of the new Federal Constitution of the South. His portrait appeared on the 5 cents value. The 10 cents had a portrait of Thomas Jefferson, who, in 1776, drafted the Declaration of Independence of the United States.

In 1862 a further series was issued, the 2 cents value of which contained a portrait of Andrew Jackson, a native of Tennessee. One of the most remarkable men in American history, he first became notorious as the champion of the Southern States in the war against the Creek Indians in 1813. Fifteen years later he became President of the United States.

Other issues appeared in 1862 and 1863. Washington's portrait figured on the 20 cents value. A 1 cent, orange, prepared for use but never issued, bore a portrait of John C. Calhoun, Vice-President under Jackson, and a firm believer in slavery as a system of life.

(Concluded.)

PORTRAITS ON STAMPS

By BOSWELL JUNIOR

France

Charles Louis Napoléon, the third son of Louis Bonaparte, younger brother of Napoleon, and Hortense, daughter of Josephine, was born on 20 April, 1808. He received his early education at Arenenberg, on the shores of Lake Constance. Owing to his attempt at Strasburg to supplant Louis Philippe in 1836 he was deported to America. He returned in the following year to his mother's death-bed. Settling in London, he published *Idées Napoléoniennes* in 1838. Two years after he landed in Boulogne to revive the Bonaparte dynasty. The attempt proved a failure. He was tried and imprisoned for life in the fortress of Ham. Escaping in 1846 under the disguise of a workman, he reached England via Belgium. Louis Philippe abdicated in 1848, and a republic was proclaimed. At this time fears of a Chartist riot were entertained in England. The citizens of London were enrolled as special constables. Among them Louis Napoleon took his place.

Shortly afterwards he proceeded to Paris, and was elected a deputy and President. In 1851 he dissolved the Constitution and assumed sole control of public affairs. From Dictator to Emperor was an easy step. In 1852 he assumed the title of Emperor as Napoleon III. His marriage to the Countess Eugénie de Téba took place in 1853. The

Anglo-French alliance and the Crimean War followed in the years 1854-6. Taking upon himself the task of adjusting the wrongs of nations, he proclaimed himself a mediator in the Danish and Austro-Prussian wars, the defender of the Italians against Austria, of the Pope against the people of Italy, and of the Mexicans against the Government of the United States of America. Italy was relieved, the Pope was made master of Rome, but his intervention in Mexico brought failure in its train and the death of his protégé, the Austrian prince Maximilian, whom he had set up as Emperor of Mexico.

The Paris International Exhibition of 1867, which he inaugurated, was a brilliant success, but financial embarrassments of the Government caused much discontent among the people. To appease this growing feeling of unrest, Napoleon III granted a Constitution with a popularly elected Assembly in 1869. Over-confidence in the efficiency of the army, coupled with a desire to restore confidence in himself, caused him to avail himself of a pretext to declare war against Prussia in 1870. The rest is soon told. At Sedan he was made prisoner. The Second Empire fell on 4 September. The Empress Eugénie left the Tuileries and fled to England. In 1871 Napoleon was released, and retired to Chislehurst, in Kent, where the Empress had taken up her residence. His death took place in January, 1873. His son, the Prince Imperial, born in 1856, was killed in the Zulu War in 1879.



FORGERIES AND REPRINTS

HOW TO DETECT THEM

By REV. ROBERT B. EARÉE

AFGHANISTAN

THE issues, types, varieties, and values of the Afghan stamps are quite bewildering in their number; and, unless a collector happen to have a pretty deep purse, I am afraid he will be obliged to be content to see a good many blanks in the portion of his album devoted to this State.

Before I begin with the ordinary forgeries, I must mention two stamps which I have come across lately; they are both dated 1280 (1862-3?), and both on yellowish-white laid paper. The one is in bluish purple, with a clumsy white quatrefoil in the centre, and seems to be an impression from a seal. It has seven cuts or scratches, of the colour of the impressions, right across the stamp, as though the seal or die had been cancelled to render it useless. The other is in bright magenta, and looks more like a lithograph, with native characters in the centre, among which is something that looks like "abasi"; but the (pen-stroke) cancellation comes over it, so I cannot be certain. I do not know anything about these two stamps, but conclude that, if not forgeries, they must be fiscals of some kind, as of course there were no postals so early as 1280 (1FA.).

Issue of 1870-1. Dated 1288 (1FAA)

(Circle round tiger's head *not* dotted.)

There are five types of each value on the plate.¹



The genuine stamps are all in black, on white laid paper. The only forgery which I possess of this issue is the 1 sunar, and so I will confine myself to the five types of this value.

¹ Major Evans tells me that, in addition to the said plate, there is one with 15 of the 1 shahi, and another with 10 of the 1 shahi, and 5 of the 1 sunar.

1 Sunar

Genuine.—*Type I.*—There are 78 black dots in the outer circle. The tiger's ears are both distinctly above the fringe of hair on the top outline of the head, and the pupils of the eyes are almost central. The scratchy patch of white inside the circle, below the head, reaches up on the right side of the stamp to level with the tiger's left eye, but on the left side of the stamp it only reaches to the level of the right corner of the mouth.

Type II.—There are 86 black dots in the outer circle. The tiger's left ear, on the right side of the stamp, is below the level of the fringe of hair on the top of the head. The eyes are looking to the left side of the stamp. The patch of white below the head reaches up to level with the eyes on both sides.

Type III.—There are 84 black dots in the outer circle. The ears project slightly above the fringe of hair at the top of the head. The eyes are looking towards the left side of the stamp. The patch of white below the head is fainter than in the first two types; it reaches up to the level of the eye on the right side of the stamp, and a little higher than Type I on the left.

Type IV.—There are 77 black dots in the outer circle. The fringe of hair on the top of the head in this type is almost horizontal, instead of being curved like the other types. The ears have no shading in them, though each contains a black dot or line in all the other types. The eyes look towards the left side of the stamp, but are squinting, i.e. the right eye (left side of the stamp) is much higher than the other. The patch of white below the head reaches to the top of the ear on the right side of the stamp, and to the level of the pupil of the eye on the other side.

Type V.—There are 81 black dots in the outer circle. The ears are very slightly above the level of the fringe of hair. The eyes seem to be both looking downwards. The patch of white in the central circle reaches from level with the top of the head, on the right side of the stamp, round to near the chin on the same side.

1 Sunar

Forged.—Coarsely lithographed, on yellowish-white laid paper. A piece is snipped out of my specimen to make it look more genuine, so that some of the black dots in the outer circle are cut away; but I have calculated that there cannot be more than 66 of them, so this will be an

easy test, as there are 77 in the type of the genuine which has fewest (Type IV). The ear on the right side of the stamp sticks out far above the fringe of hair, and the other ear is altogether absent. The whole of each eye seems to be a black patch, except that the right eye (left side of the stamp) has a tiny white speck in the centre. The patch of white below the head is merged into the chin in this forgery, so as to form part of the head.

As to the value, in this and the next issue to be described, I suppose most of my readers are aware that it is found in white, in the central circle, above the tiger's head. The date is found in the broad lettered circle on the right side of the stamp, opposite the tiger's left cheek, and (in this issue) immediately after (i.e. to the left of) the Γ of $\kappa\alpha\upsilon\tau\lambda$, which is a thing like a large fish-hook.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—The usual cancellation of the Afghan stamps consists in a small piece being torn or cut out of the stamp itself, with or without a daub of red or blue ink, apparently smeared on with the finger. Some of the early issues have the smear completely covering the stamp. The following quotation from Mr. Pemberton's *Handbook* explains how this curious cancelling is done:—

“A native generally takes his letter to the post-office, with money for a stamp (he does not keep any by him); the stamp-seller takes the letter and money, and, having first torn a piece out of the stamp with his finger and thumb, he puts it on the letter, and the operation is complete. This barbaric mutilation commenced in 1871, and has continued till now; though it is true that the small stamps oftener have a triangular piece snipped out, presumably because there is not sufficient of them to begin tearing at.”

Forged.—My specimen of the 1 sunar, described above, has a piece snipped out of it, and has, in addition, a number of pen-strokes.

Issue of 1872-3. Dated 1290 (179.)

1 Shahi, black

There are fifteen types on the sheet. My forgery is from Type IV (i.e. the first stamp in the second row), and I describe with reference to that particular type.

Genuine.—Printed in black, on white laid paper. There are 83 black dots in the outer

circle. The word of value above the tiger's head (shahi) is in two parts, the one to the left being something like a badly-made S, lying almost on its face, and is not broken. There is a round dot above the left eyebrow (right side of the stamp), and another



touching the eyebrow. Below the right eye (left side of stamp) there is a small curved line, just touching the side of the nose. Both ears are somewhat pointed. There is no white patch in the pupil of either eye. Of the four large ornaments outside the stamp (top, bottom, right, and left), the one to the left finishes with an arrow, pointing inwards, like the one at the bottom, but with a somewhat longer stem.

Forged.—Lithographed, on very thick, very yellowish-white wove paper. There are 84 black dots in the outer circle. The word of value above the tiger's head is in three parts, that is to say, the character like an S has its upper portion broken away, and separate from the rest of the letter. The dot which touches the eyebrow (right side of stamp) is shown, but the one on the forehead, above the eyebrow, is not visible. The curved line below the right eye (left side of stamp) is also absent. The right ear (left side of stamp) is quite round, the other is even more pointed than the genuine. There is a white patch in the pupil of each eye. The arrow, pointing inwards, outside the bottom of the stamp is like the genuine, but the one on the left side is very much too short, with hardly any stem; whereas the stem of this arrow is the longest in the genuine. Printed on the proper paper, this forgery would be very deceptive.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—As before.

Forged.—My copy is not mutilated.

Issue of 1874-5. Dated 1292 (179.) 1 Sunar, black, purple

Genuine.—Printed in black or purple, on white laid. There are ten types on the sheet.

The forgers have imitated Type I, which I here describe. The outer circle shows signs of the dots being separated by compartments, but the little marks are hardly noticeable. The tiger's right ear (left side of stamp) is an upright white line, with a hook hanging out

of the middle of it. There is a dot in the centre of the left lower eyelid (right side of stamp), almost as large as the pupil above it. The nose is a rough triangle, i.e. there are no outlines running up towards the forehead. The left corner of the mouth (right side of stamp) is not split. The little flower in the lettered circle just below the tiger's chin appears to have six petals, but they are clotted together a good deal.

First Forgery.—Lithographed in black, on very thick, very yellowish-white wove paper. Most of the dots in the outer circle are evidently in separate compartments, though the dividing lines do not go quite across the white circle, being broken in the middle, so as to appear somewhat like colons. The tiger's right ear (left side of stamp) is an oblique line, pointing towards the left top corner, and ending in a



knob. There is no trace of the hook that the genuine stamp shows. There is no dot in the centre of the left lower eyelid (right side of stamp). The side-outlines of the nose run up to the level of the centre of the eyes. The outer corner of the mouth on the right side of the stamp is split into two lines. The little flower in the lettered circle at the bottom of the stamp shows five petals, and only two of them are joined together.

Second Forgery.—This is really a very poor affair, though at first sight it does not look bad. Lithographed in black, on rather thin, tough, bluish-white wove paper. I really do not know which type it is supposed to imitate. The outer circle has oblique dotted lines across it, making it look like a roughly-made rope. This is an easy test. Both ears are *very* sharply pointed, and the right ear (left side of stamp) is considerably higher than the other. The whole of the right eye (left side of stamp) is one large black dot. There is no dot in the centre of the other eyelid. The side-lines of the nose run up almost to the top of the forehead. The corner of the mouth on the right side of the stamp is split, as in the first forgery. The little flower at the bottom of the stamp is represented by three small white dots. The lettering is very poorly imitated; evidently the artist had never before tried his hand at oriental characters.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—As before.

Forged.—Neither of my specimens is cancelled in any way.

Issue of 1875-6. Dated 1293 (1199-)
Shahi, Sunar, Abasi, ½ Rupee,
1 Rupee, black, purple

These are very scarce stamps, being priced at from £10 to £50. The sheet

sh.	sh.	ab.	1 r.
sh.	sh.	ab.	1 r.
sh.	sh.	ab.	1 r.
sh.	sh.	su.	½ r.
sh.	sh.	su.	½ r.
sh.	sh.	su.	½ r.

is arranged according to the cut here given, i.e. 12 types of the shahi, 3 of the sunar, 3 of the abasi, 3 of the ½ rupee, and 3 of the 1 rupee. My forgeries are all of the ½ and 1 rupee, and were made by photolithography in Paris. The ½ rupee stamps are imitated from

Type I of that value, No. 16 on the sheet, and the 1 rupee from Type II of that value, No. 8 on the sheet, so I will describe from these types.

½ Rupee. Genuine. Type I

Printed in black or purple, on white laid paper. There is a small piece broken out of the inner white ring on the left side, near the tiger's right cheek, and there is an oval white dot, just at that spot, between the ring and the tiger's cheek, as though the broken piece had been pushed inside the ring; but the white dot is not big enough to fill up the gap in the ring, supposing it to be replaced. The coloured line, separating the tiger's chin from the white circle, is continuous. The left outline of the nose (right side of stamp) is decidedly higher than the other, and runs up almost to the level of the white part of the eye, while the other outline does not go near the other eye. There is a well-defined upright stroke in the nose, near the point.



First Forgery.—Lithographed, in black and in purple, on thick, very hard, white laid paper. The inner white ring has apparently been cut through obliquely on the left side, and then the lower end of the oblique cut bent in, till it nearly touches the cheek. If the piece were supposed to be bent back again, it would more than fill up the gap. This piece is not separate from the rest of the ring. The coloured line separating the tiger's chin from the bottom of the white ring is broken in two places, so that, in those two places, the ring and the chin join. Both outlines of the sides of the nose are about the same height, so that the one on the right side of the face (left side of stamp) reaches quite up to the level of the right lower eyelid. There is usually not the faintest trace of a line in the point of the nose, though one of my specimens shows an extremely faint indication of a line. This is a very good imitation.

Second Forgery.—This is not nearly so good as the one just described. Lithographed, in very bright red-mauve, on very thick, hard, yellowish-white wove paper. The break in the ring is more like the genuine than that in the first forgery; but the ring itself is *far* too thin, being not half the breadth of the ring of the genuine. The hair on the top of the head is not like any type of the genuine, being composed of strong wavy lines, instead of the inconspicuous dots and scratches of the genuine. The nose is well imitated, though the little line near the point is quite perpendicular, instead of being slightly oblique. The lettering is all very thin and scratchy, and the "q" of the date is inverted. The outer ring is much too full of colour. I do not think this forgery is likely to deceive.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—As before.

Forged.—My specimens are uncanceled.

(To be continued.)

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Bosnia.—The following is quoted from a Continental contemporary by *Eren's Weekly*:—

The new stamps to be issued this summer will be on view at the London Exhibition, section of the Austrian Government Printing Office. The values are 1 heller to 5 krone, and are of different sizes. With the exception of the highest value, which bears the portrait of the Emperor of Austria, they represent various pictorial subjects, such as the district of Mostar, the pass of Narentad, a postcard, etc. The designs are by Professor Moser, and the engraving has been confided to M. Ferdinand Schirnbock.

Canal Zone.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist* (New York) says: "We are informed by our local correspondent that the Government of Panama has entirely run out of its 1 and 2 c. stamps, and has had to resort to utilizing its old stock to fill the requirements of the Canal Zone. The latest novelty is the 1 peso stamp with value and name obliterated with a heavy bar, and surcharged PANAMA in small capitals reading up and down at sides and CANAL ZONE 2 cts. in three lines in centre."

Perf.

1 c., in black, on 20 c., violet.
2 c. ,, on 1 peso, lake.

Greece.—We have received the full set of stamps issued to advertise the Olympian Games, which we illustrate.

Wmk. E.T. Perf.



(Apollo throwing the disc.)
1 lepton, brown.
2 lepta, grey.



(Atlas.)
3 lepta, orange.
5 ,, green.



(Victory seated.)
10 lepta, rose.



(Hercules carrying the world on his shoulders, and Atlas bringing him the apples of the Hesperides.)
20 lepta, violet.
50 ,, red-brown.



(Fight of Hercules with Anteus.)
25 lepta, blue.



(Wrestling.)
30 lepta, violet.



(Demon on a shield transformed into a winged youth holding a bird.)
40 lepta, brown.



(Race from ancient times.)
1 drachma, black.
2 drachmai, rose.
3 ,, yellow.



(Three torch-bearers, the Goddess of Victory, and priests making offerings for the games.)
5 drachmai, blue-black.

Italy.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., send us the first stamp of the promised new series of elaborate designs. As will be seen from our illustration, it is a simple and effective design.



Perf.
15 c., black.

THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

ITS HISTORY AND PROGRESS

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY BY
E. EGLY, PRESIDENT, ON 19 DECEMBER, 1905

(Continued from page 280.)

ON 1 July, 1892, Natal entered the Union, also Bosnia, and on 1 January, 1883, the South African Republic.

The negotiations between the British General Post Office and the Cape Government were brought to a satisfactory result in 1894, and Cape Colony became, on 1 January, 1895, a member of the Union, which now reached an area of 99½ million square kilometres with 1011 million inhabitants.

The British protectorates of Zanzibar and East Africa followed on 1 December, 1895; St. Helena on 1 October, 1896.

The fifth Postal Congress was held at Washington (U.S.) from 5 May to 15 June, 1897.

The land and sea transit charges were both being reduced to no small extent.

It was further agreed that Jubilee postage stamps issued for internal purposes should have no franking power for foreign postage.

Uniformity of colour in the stamps was also advocated.

25 centimes stamps, letter postage, should be blue	} throughout the Union.
10 centimes stamps, post card postage, should be red	
5 centimes stamps, sample postage, should be green	

The delegates of Corea and China declared at the Washington Congress their countries' adhesion to the Union.

Sarawak became a member of the Union on 1 July, 1897, the Orange Free State early in 1898.

In October, 1899, the Swiss Federal Council sent out invitations to all the foreign Governments for a Postal Congress to be held at Berne in 1900, with a view to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Universal Postal Union.

This Congress met at Berne from 2 July to 6 July, 1900. It occupied itself exclusively with the question of erecting at Berne a monument commemorating the foundation of the Universal Postal Union.

On this occasion the three well-known Jubilee stamps were issued by the Swiss Administration of Posts.

Their hurried production explains their crude appearance; it is the work of the "new school" of artists.

The statistic published by the International Bureau at Berne for the year 1900 shows the following figures of postal matter passed through the Union:—

23,059 million letters, post cards, printed matter, and samples.

48 million registered letters, etc.

435 million money orders of an aggregate value of 32,757 million francs.

430 million parcel post.

40 million reimbursements.

2346 million newspapers served by subscription at post offices.

Great Britain is not a member of the treaties referring to reimbursements and newspaper subscription.

The maximum cost per annum of the International Bureau has been fixed as follows:—

75,000 frs. by the Congress at Berne.	
100,000	Paris.
125,000	Vienna.

The actual expenditure of the Bureau amounted to 96,052.21 francs for the year 1898.

The Bureau is under the superintendence of the Swiss Federal Posts, which advance the funds. The expenditure at the end of each year is divided among the contracting Governments according to their importance.

The seeds of the Union sown in 1875 have grown and thriven wonderfully well; they spread now over all the continents, and every nation of the world reaps daily its ever-repeating benefit.

The dream of Dr. Stephan's life has been realized, and the Universal Postal Union nowadays knows of no other limit than that of civilization. Where the Union does not reach, darkness begins and the misery of barbarism.

May the Universal Postal Union never cease to fulfil its peaceful mission; may it remain the pioneer of civilization that binds closely together all the nations of the world without distinction of race, colour, or creed.

GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Exit Counani

IN Vol. I of *G. S. W.* there was a great deal about a new South American republic named Counani, and on page 29 there were illustrations of this pretended new republic. In later numbers, the whole business was exposed as an unsuccessful plot. But the question of the existence has somehow cropped up again, to be once more, and I hope finally, set at rest. The following correspondence, kindly forwarded by Mr. A. C. Humfry as a cutting from the *Manchester Chamber of Commerce Monthly Record*, will speak for itself:—

INDEPENDENT REPUBLIC OF COUNANI

"MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

"17 March, 1906.

"SIR,—I am desired by the President of this Chamber to ask if you will be so good as to favour me with some information respecting the political status of the Independent Republic of Counani, situate—as I am informed—between Brazil and the three Guianas. Members of this Chamber have been approached with regard to the formation of a company, having its field of operations in Counani. It is announced that—as part of its work—it will enter upon the purchase of goods from Manchester merchants and others. This Republic is unknown here, but a map has been exhibited in Manchester, showing the important town of Manaos—situate near the conflux of the Amazon and Rio Negro—as being within its territory. I am therefore instructed respectfully to ask you what territory Counani comprises, and whether its existence has been recognised by Great Britain. Any other information which you can properly afford will be very welcome to the President. The necessity for an authoritative statement on the subject is urgently realised here, as merchants require to know whether, in case of need, they may rely upon British protection.

"I have, &c.,

"WALTER SPEAKMAN,

"Secretary.

"THE RIGHT HON. SIR EDWARD GREY, M.P.,

"Foreign Office, London."

"FOREIGN OFFICE,

"24 March, 1906.

"SIR,—I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, asking for information as to the political status of the Independent Republic of Counani, and in reply I am to state that the so-called 'State' is purely fictitious. Its political existence is indignantly denied by the Brazilian Government, within whose territory the cities

and provinces claimed by the 'Republic' are situated, and it has not been acknowledged by this country, nor, so far as His Majesty's Government are aware, by any other Power.

"I am, &c.,

"E. GORST.

"THE SECRETARY,

"Manchester Chamber of Commerce."

New Zealand Exhibition Label

A LETTER which I have just received from New Zealand bears on the flap, uncanceled, a large label with a portrait of a very much tattooed gentleman named "Hæremai." The label bears the following inscriptions: "New Zealand International Exhibition, Christchurch, New Zealand, Nov., 1906, to April, 1907." A large figure "2" appears on each side, but whether it stands for pence, shillings, or pounds there is nothing to show. If this is intended for use by the public merely as an advertisement of the Exhibition apart from any attempt to foist it on to collectors as a postage stamp, then I vote for its free use.

The New French Stamp

HERE is a paragraph from the *Globe* which a correspondent kindly sends me. I give it without comment, merely recommending the use of a pinch of salt:—

"The new French stamp at two sous is scarcely issued before it has become a rarity. The first edition has grotesquely failed to come within anything like measurable distance of meeting requirements, and for a time longer the great public will have to content itself with the old model. By the way, stamp collectors should not despise that old model, nor, indeed, any of the species. A little bird whistles that a little while and the sower will have finished her sowing and will give place to a new design. It is estimated that the first year of the penny postage will cost France £800,000 of loss."

Lagos and Somaliland Reminders

HERE is the final notice from the office of the Crown Agents for the Colonies as to these reminders:—

"The Crown Agents for the Colonies will destroy all the above stamps remaining in their hands on the 30th April.

"Any applications for parcels of not less total face value than £50 which reach the Crown Agents before the above date will be attended to in order of receipt. Note of the stamps have been or will be sold for less than face value, nor will they in any circumstances be cancelled.

"All the King's Head stamps have been sold."

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1906

OFFICIAL Entries for the Exhibition have been received from the Agents-General of

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE,
NATAL, AND
NEW ZEALAND,

and from the Under Secretary of State for Post and Telegraphs in France. The latter will show a series of cards containing reproductions of all the Postage Stamps of France and her Colonies, as well as of all foreign stamps printed during the past thirty years by the stamp-printing offices for the French Government.

The following is a calendar (subject to revision) of the entertainments, dinners, etc., that have at present been arranged :—

Wednesday, 23 May

The Exhibition will open at 12 noon, and the opening ceremony will take place at 3 p.m. Tickets: 10s. 6d. each. Admission after 5 p.m., 1s.

Note.—On all other days the Exhibition will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., except on Friday, 25 May, and Tuesday, 29 May, when it will close at 7 p.m.

Thursday, 24 May

Entrance 1s. Lecture entitled "His Majesty's Mails," with 100 lantern slides, at 6 p.m., by Mr. Fred J. Melville. In Lecture Hall on the first floor.

Friday, 25 May

The Official Banquet will take place at 7.30 p.m. precisely, at the Imperial Restaurant, Regent Street, W., at which the Vice-Patrons and Judges of the Exhibition will be invited to attend.

After a short toast list, an entertainment will be given by Dr. Byrd-Page and "The King's Musketeers." The latter troupe consists of Messrs. Reginald Groome, Robert Grice, W. A. Peterkin, James Chilcott, and Wolsley Charles, and they will give selections from their well-known musical *répertoire*. This will be a "Ladies' Night," and it is hoped that many members of the fair sex may be present. Early application for tickets (10s. 6d. each) is necessary, as only limited space is available. Applications should be made to the Hon. Secretaries, 13 Walbrook, E.C.

Saturday, 26 May

Admission free. River Trip. Train from Paddington to Reading—thence by launch to Pangbourne and Goring—lunch and return by river to Henley. Reception and tea by Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Oldfield, at their residence, Tregunna Cottage, near Marsh Lock, Henley. Return by rail from Henley to Paddington. Prices of tickets and particulars to be given later.

Monday, 28 May

Entrance 1s. 11 a.m., visit to the British Museum to see the Tapling Collection, under the guidance of Mr. E. D. Bacon.

3 to 5 p.m., Mr. and Mrs. L. L. R. Hausburg will hold an afternoon reception at Rothsay, St. George's Hill, Weybridge. Train leaves Waterloo 2.28 p.m.; returns 5.24, 5.59, 6.57. Prices of tickets and particulars later.

6 p.m., Lecture by Mr. Fred J. Melville, entitled "Postage Stamps with Stories," with ninety lantern slides, Lecture Hall, first floor.

Tuesday, 29 May

Entrance 1s. At 7.30 p.m. a banquet will be given by the Herts Philatelic Society at the Regent Rooms, Cafe Monico, Piccadilly Circus, W. The Judges of the Exhibition, prominent postal officials, distinguished philatelists, and others will be invited as guests of the Society.

Philatelists who would like to attend the Banquet should apply for tickets (7s. 6d. each) to the Hon. Sec., H. A. Slade, Nine Fields, St. Albans.

Wednesday, 30 May

Admission free. Mr. M. P. Castle will hold an afternoon reception at Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton. Train leaves Victoria Station at 1.50 p.m., returning from Brighton at 5.45 p.m. Prices of tickets and particulars to be given later.

Thursday, 31 May

Entrance 1s. Visit to Windsor Castle. Train leaves Paddington at 10.5 a.m. On arrival at Windsor thorough inspection of the Castle. Lunch at 1.30 p.m. at White Hart Hotel. At 2.30 p.m. a steam launch will leave Windsor Bridge for Oakley Court, where Sir William Avery kindly invites visitors to the Exhibition to take tea. Return by river to Windsor, and thence by train to Paddington. Prices of tickets and particulars to be given later.

Friday, 1 June

Entrance 1s. Exhibition closes at 8 p.m.

The design for the Medals has been approved, and will be found of great artistic merit. The obverse side will show a bust of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, President of the Philatelic Society, London. This bust is from a cast by F. Bowcher, the copyright of which has been acquired by the Committee. The reverse will show the arms of the City of London, which are used with the special consent of the Corporation. Below the arms will be a tablet for the insertion of the name of the prize winner, etc.

Collectors will be glad to know that the celebrated collection of Hawaiian stamps formed by Mr. Henry J. Crocker, of San Francisco, valued at over £9000, was dispatched from that city for London a few days before the great fire.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Herne Bay Philatelic Society

8 Promenade Central.

At the last meeting of the Herne Bay Philatelic Society, held in Newton's Saloon, 8 Promenade Central, Mr. H. Bignold displayed his highly specialized collection of stamps of Great Britain. He explained the various issues in a most instructive manner to a deeply interested and appreciative audience.

Mr. Bignold is a champion of the cause of collecting used specimens, and a peep at his collection will go far to convince one of the fact of the great interest to be obtained from the varied and curious cancellations to be found on the early issues of Great Britain.

Herts Philatelic Society

President: F. Reichenheim, Esq.

Secretary: H. A. Slade, Esq., "Nine Fields," St. Albans.

Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.

Subscription: 5s. annually.

THE April meeting of the above Society was held at headquarters on 24 April, 1906, having been postponed for a week from the usual day owing to Easter. The President occupied the chair, and amongst others present were Messrs. W. T. Standen, J. C. Sidebotham, W. G. Cool, L. A. Bradbury, H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), R. J. Frentzel, A. Bagshawe, A. H. L. Giles, J. B. Neyroud, D. Thomson, C. H. Garnett, T. H. Harvey, A. G. Wane, T. F. Stafford, M. Z. Kuttner, Hugo Griebert, and H. A. Slade (Secretary), besides visitors. There was no general business of public interest, and Mr. T. W. Hall fulfilled his promise of some meetings ago by handing round the second portion of his collection of Uruguay. These proved the equal of the first portion in all respects. Amongst the gems were two fine used copies of the 2½ cents, with inverted centre—a very scarce stamp—and the 1881-2 "Official" 5 cents., overprint in black—not catalogued—and also one with a double overprint. A vote of thanks, proposed by the President and seconded by Mr. J. C. Sidebotham, was carried with acclamation. Mr. Robert Reid then showed part of his collection of unused Colonials, chief of which were Natal (first issue), Cape of Good Hope (triangular, woodblock, and De La Rue), Mauritius, Madagascar, Zululand, Niger Coast, B.C.A. and B.S.A., Gambia, Lagos, and Canada. The latter included a superb mint copy of the 10d., black, and the B.C.A.'s included all values up to £25. Some fine copies of the mother country were also included in the collection. There was not time for the whole collection to be seen, but in replying to a hearty vote of thanks, that was carried on the proposition of the Vice-President, seconded by Mr. Bradbury, Mr. Reid promised to show the remainder of his Colonials at a future date. When the meeting broke up, soon after 9 p.m., regret was universally expressed that the whole collection could not possibly be examined that evening.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.

Secretary: H. F. Johnson, 4 Portland Place North, Clapham

Meetings: Exeter Hall, Strand, W.C. (Road, S.W.

Annual Subscription: 1s. 6d.

THE usual meeting of the above Society was held at Exeter Hall, London, on Saturday, 21 April.

Mr. R. Halliday, who took the chair, announced that the President, Mr. Fred J. Melville, was on his

way home, and would preside at the next meeting, fixed for 5 May, when he expected they would hear from Mr. Melville an interesting account of his American experiences and the welcome accorded to him by their philatelic comrades on the other side of the Atlantic.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, and gifts of stamps for the Permanent Collection from Miss Cassells and Messrs. Sefi and Selve were acknowledged; also a donation of miscellaneous literature for the Library from Mr. P. Clare.

A display of the collections of stamps of the United States of America, sent in for competition by Mr. J. R. Burton in the senior section and Mr. L. W. Crouch in the junior section, then took place. The collections were examined with interest, and Mr. Burton, who was present, explained many points to inquiring members. An announcement was made that the Committee had not seen their way to award diplomas on this occasion.

The display was succeeded by a short paper entitled "The Light of Other Days," by a gentleman who hid his identity under the *nom de plume* "Old Stager."

Apparently the outcome of a train of thoughts evoked by reading the advertisements of stamps in the *Boy's Own Magazine* for 1863, it was reminiscent of the days when the usual price for used triangular Capes was 2d. each for the 1d., and 6d. and 3d. each for the 4d. and 1s., and the unused stamps of the Ionian Islands sold for 8d. a set of three.

A display of a further instalment of Mr. A. B. Kay's collection of forgeries wound up the proceedings of the evening.

Junior Society for Edinburgh

IN Edinburgh there are many keen philatelists. They have for years had a strong association, which meets at regular intervals for the furtherance of the movement. Lately the members of the Scottish Philatelic Society, as the association is called, have been interesting themselves in the organization of a junior association—following the example of that which exists in London and has done much good work under the guidance of a band of enthusiastic philatelists, including one or two well-known Scotsmen.

On Saturday evening, 7 April, 1906, at Dowell's Rooms, a meeting was held for the purpose of giving practical shape to the project. There was a large attendance of persons interested in postage stamp collecting.

Mr. Walker, President of the Scottish Philatelic Society, presided. He explained the object of the meeting, and mentioned that members of the parent Society would be delighted to give every assistance in their power to those who joined the new organization. It would have the effect of bringing together junior philatelists—beginners of all ages in stamp collecting—and assisting them in the exchange of duplicate stamps.

Several gentlemen spoke strongly in favour of the formation of such a Society, as providing a long-felt want among stamp collectors in Edinburgh.

In the end all present agreed to become members of the new association.

A constitution and rules were approved, and a provisional Committee was appointed to make all necessary arrangements for carrying on the work of the Scottish Philatelic Society (Junior Branch).

Mr. R. W. Findlater, 30 Buckingham Terrace, was appointed Secretary *ad interim*.

Junior Philatelic Society Manchester Branch

The fifth meeting was held at the Y.M.C.A., Peter Street, on 19 April, 1906. Thirty-seven members were present, and Mr. Bernstein presided. Miss E. Anderton and R. E. Livesley were elected members. After some discussion it was decided to have an attendance book at the meetings for members to sign. The Secretary gave a display with notes of the stamps of France. He mentioned the local post in Paris, which was started by M. de Velaya in 1653. An office was established in the Palace, where a certain kind of printed labels were sold for a sou each. These little labels contained only the words "Postage paid the day of the month in the year 1653" (or 1654 respectively). The sender of the letter fixed one of the labels to the letter in the usual way. The post lasted for only two years. Stamps were first issued by the Government on 1 January, 1849. Prince Louis Napoleon's portrait as President appeared on the stamps in 1852 and as Emperor in 1853. Three stamps printed from the plates of the first series were issued and used in Paris during the investment by the German army; the values were 10 c., bistre, 20 c., blue, and 40 c., orange. About the same time a set of stamps was lithographed at Bordeaux for use in those parts of France not occupied by the German army.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: E. Egly, Arncliffe Road, West Park, Leeds.
Secretary: Charles W. Harding, 139 Belle Vue Road, Leeds.
Meetings: Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street, Leeds.
Annual Subscription: 5s.; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

The Stamps of South Australia

ONE of the best attended meetings of the session was that held on Tuesday, 3 April, 1906, in the Leeds Institute, when Mr. Herbert Wade gave a display of his magnificent collection of "South Australians," which embraced most of the rarities, and a fine array of shades.

Neatly arranged on a number of large cards, with sunk mounts, in the order of their issue, and placed round the tables, members were enabled to conveniently inspect the stamps whilst Mr. Wade read some exhaustive and highly interesting notes bearing thereon, largely the result of his own study in forming a specialized collection of one of his favourite countries. Remarkably fine copies, without exception (a large portion being also unused), were the distinguishing feature of a display that reflected great credit on Mr. Wade as a philatelist.

It was not until the year 1893, when Messrs. Napier and Smith published their well-known handbook on this colony, that South Australia became at all popular with stamp collectors; and although the first issue was made in 1855, probably no other British colony received such neglect at their hands during that long interval.

The first issue consisted of 1d., deep green, 2d., carmine, and 6d., dark blue, and the stamps were engraved and printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. in London on paper watermarked with a large star, design Queen's Head in a circle, POSTAGE at top and value at bottom, the stamps being rectangular in shape. These were dispatched to the colony along with the plates in 1854, and are known as the London prints, from the fact that all later printings, distinguishable by their different shades, were made in the colony. A printing press and all necessary material were at the same time sent out to enable the Government to print its own stamps, and this it has continued to do up to the present time. In 1856 another value was added, viz. 1s., 500,000 of which were printed in violet and sent out with the plates, but were never

put in use. An issue of this value printed in orange was made to the public, however, in 1857, and nothing seems to have been known of the violet stamps until a certain number were offered privately and at public auction in 1888. In 1859 the process of rouletting was applied to the stamps, and new printings were made in varied new shades, the 1s. appearing in both orange and yellow. All values of these first issues are very scarce unused. Between 1860 and 1867 four new values appeared, all of new design, with Queen's Head as before, viz. 4d., dull purple, 9d., brownish grey, "ten pence" overprinted in blue on the 9d., now in orange and yellow, and 2s., pale rose-carmine; some of the old values were also printed in new shades. Subsequent issues from 1867 to 1870 show a great variety of rouletting and perforations, as well as in the shades of colour. Other issues were made between 1868 and 1874 with new watermarks, viz. Crown over SA, V above Crown, and also a broad star, easily distinguishable from the first large star. In 1882 the 1d., green, was overprinted HALF-PENNY for provisional use, and in 1883 appeared the small 3d., chocolate-brown. Other provisionals, some of earlier date, were the 8d. on 9d., 10d. on 9d., 2½d. on 4d., 3d. on 4d., and 5d. on 6d. In 1894 the 2½d. and 5d. values appeared in a new design, showing a small Queen's Head enclosed in diamond-shaped and rectangular spaces, and introducing the kangaroo and the Arms of Australia respectively.

A set of twelve values, 3d. to £1, was issued in 1902, this being a large rectangular stamp of new design with the Queen's Head.

There have been a good many issues of stamps overprinted with the letters "O S" for official use, the first appearing in 1874, and these contain some scarce varieties and the errors "O.S" inverted and "O.S." twice.

On the motion of Mr. C. L. Pickard, seconded by Mr. Egly, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Wade for his interesting and instructive paper and display.

Amongst the novelties shown were the following: Pair of 4 cents, Hong Kong, used in Wei-Hai-Wei, and Barbados post card with photographic view of the Nelson Monument, which is represented on the stamps issued recently for the Nelson centenary, but without the palm trees shown on the stamps, and which do not exist in reality, the adornment having been suggested by Lady Carter, wife of the Governor; set of the Barbados Nelson Centenary stamp, by Mr. Knight; the Swiss issue of 20, 25, 30, and 50 cents with new watermark, by Mr. Egly; Costa Rica provisional, "Un centimo" on 20 centimos; and set of the new issue for Siam, by Mr. Moss.

Sheffield Philatelic Society

President: J. E. Bartlett.
Secretary: W. G. Laycock.

A MEETING of the members of this Society was held on Wednesday, 18 April, 1906, in their rooms at the King's Head Hotel; Mr. J. F. Pearce took the chair.

Mr. E. Heginbottom, of Rochdale, sent for the inspection of the members his splendid collection of the stamps of Western Australia and Tasmania. It comprised practically all the rare early issues, including the following: Western Australia, 1854, 1s., red-brown; 1857, 2d., black-brown on red; ditto on Indian red; 6d., golden-bronze; 1860, 4d., deep blue; 1861, 1s., dark green; Tasmania, 1856, 1d., brick-red; 1892, £1; and many others. The stamps throughout were in splendid condition, and the whole exhibit was a most rare and valuable one.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Heginbottom was passed unanimously.

Durban and District Philatelic Society*President: J. Wallace Bradley.**Secretary: W. P. Williams, 93 Club Arcade, Durban.**Meetings: Bristolow's Buildings, Durban.**Annual Subscription: Seniors, 5s.; Juniors, 2s. 6d.*

The usual fortnightly meeting was held on 20 March, 1906.

A proposal to hold a public exhibition of postage stamps under the auspices of the Society was referred to a provisional committee, who will report to the members at the next meeting.

Mr. M. Saphir gave an exhibition of the stamps of British East Africa and Zanzibar, amongst which were many desirable stamps, which bid fair to form the nucleus of a good collection of these countries. They were neatly mounted on philatelic album sheets, and were eagerly perused by those present.

Philatelic Society of Victoria*President: W. R. Rundell.**Secretary: W. Brettschneider.**Meetings: 128 Russell Street, Melbourne.*

The ordinary monthly meeting of the above Society was held at the Rooms, 15 March, 1906. Mr. Rundell,

the President, occupied the chair, and there good attendance of members present. An apology was received from Mr. Horwood, who was unable to be present. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. In answer to a letter received from Mr. Derrick the Secretary was instructed to reply.

A motion standing in the name of the Rev. H. T. Hull, and in his absence brought forward by Mr. F. A. Jackson, and seconded by Mr. C. B. Donne, was after much discussion referred back to the Committee for further consideration, and to report at the next meeting.

Mr. V. Johnson having been duly proposed, was elected a member of the Junior Branch. Positions in Exchange Book 154 were then balloted for.

Messrs. Park and Orchard, both of Tasmania, presented a number of forgeries for the Society's forgery collection, and were accorded a vote of thanks, as also was Mr. N. C. Horwood, for presenting a S.A. 8d., thick postage.

The business of the evening being over, Mr. Donne treated the members to a concert on the graphophone.

LEGAL**An Exchange Club's Action**

At the Leicester County Court on 27 April, 1906, the "Stamps" Exchange Society, suing by T. B. Widdowson, secretary, 22 Lincoln Street, Leicester, sued S. H. Toole, Arthur Road, Southampton, for £18 8s. 4d. for certain British East Africa stamps, supplied through the agency of the plaintiff society. Mr. C. Squire appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Sprigge for defendant.

The case arose through the practice of the members of the Society sending out sheets of stamps to the other members, for the purpose of effecting exchanges or sales. Mrs. Bazett, a lady living at Reading, included a set of half a dozen British East Africa stamps, of a rare kind, in a package sent out in 1903. When it was returned to her the set named above was missing. In the evidence of Mr. Widdowson, it was alleged that defendant had detained the stamps, and it was shown that he had sold six stamps answering to the description of those missing, bearing similar post or date marks, to a friend of his.

Dr. Musson, member of the Leicester Philatelic Society, gave expert evidence as to the absolute impossibility of obtaining six single specimens of such rare stamps as those produced unless they were removed from the same envelope.

The defence was an absolute denial that defendant took the stamps, and Mr. Toole went into the box and swore that he obtained the stamps he sold to his customer—which, it was alleged, were the ones missing from Mrs. Bazett's package—from a man named Vickridge, of Woolston, Hants, to sell for him on commission, and he picked these identical stamps out of a lot in a tin cigar-box.

In answer to Mr. Squire, defendant said he was not

calling Vickridge. He tried to subpoena him, but not till the day before the action.

The Judge: Why didn't you try to subpoena him before?

Defendant: I didn't know which stamps I was sued for.

The Judge: Then you should have written and asked for particulars.

Mrs. Toole said she accompanied her husband to Woolston when he bought the stamps.

The Judge having expressed the opinion that Vickridge was a most material witness,

Mr. Sprigge said that if his Honour decided against Vickridge he would undertake to bring him.

The Judge said that it was too late now, when the case was finished, to apply for an adjournment. The application ought to have been made two days ago, and if it had been made then would have been listened to by him (his Honour) with every consideration.

Mr. Sprigge said that if his Honour decided against defendant, defendant would be branded as a thief.

The Judge: I am not going to be frightened by that sort of talk.

Mr. Sprigge: That is the opinion of everyone in this court.

The Judge: Is it? I am not able to elicit that by any means, and I have not seen any indication that it is so.

His Honour said there was no question of theft; it was merely the question of a breach of contract. The stamps had been satisfactorily identified by plaintiffs' evidence. Defendant's explanation was an extremely lame one, and he would therefore find for the plaintiffs for the amount claimed.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR G. S. W. READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "G. S. W." readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

LABUAN.



1890. Stamps of North Borneo, as above, but inscription altered to "The State of North Borneo," overprinted with the word LABUAN and surcharged

4

CENTS

4 c. on 25 c., green; 4 c. on 50 c., marone;
4 c. on \$1, blue.

The set of three stamps as a Special Bargain, unused and mint, 2s. 6d., post-free.

NOTE.—These stamps are interesting, as they were issued to North Borneo, but when Labuan ran short of high-value stamps she borrowed these from Borneo and had them stamped LABUAN; but as too many were thus made, they were used up by converting them into 4 c. stamps as above.

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

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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Whole No. 72

19 MAY, 1906

VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Bulgaria

BULGARIA is the buffer state of the Balkans between Russia and Turkey. It has had a long and chequered history. There were three Bulgarian kingdoms successively in the Middle Ages, and about the tenth century, and again in the thirteenth century, the kingdom had a wide extent. It was overthrown by the Turks about the end of the fourteenth century. It was constituted a principality by the Treaty of San Stefano and the Congress of Berlin in 1878, and Prince Alexander of Battenberg was installed in 1879. A war with Serbia in 1885 ended in favour of Bulgaria. Prince Alexander was kidnapped and compelled by the hostility of Russia to resign in 1886, and Prince Ferdinand of Coburg was elected in his stead in 1887.

The area of Bulgaria is 24,699 square miles, or, with Roumelia, now incorporated in the principality, 38,560 square miles. The total population was, in 1900, 3,733,189. The old capital was Tirnova, but Sofia is now the seat of government. It commands the railway from Vienna to Constantinople, and has a population of 67,920. Varna, a fortified seaport on the Black Sea, which was the starting-point of the expedition



to the Crimea, has a population of nearly 30,000.

Its Philatelic History

The early stamps of the Principality bore the Bulgarian Lion as the central design. The Government has shown a great partiality for commemorative issues: a series in 1896 commemorated the rebaptism of Prince Boris as heir to the throne; in 1901 the twenty-fifth year of the War of Independence was commemorated by two stamps, and another

commemorative set was issued in 1902. In 1902 a very fine series familiarized us with the portrait of the reigning sovereign, Prince Ferdinand. The inscriptions on the stamps are in Slavonic characters, the first issue in francs and centimes, but the second issue in stotinki; a stotinka was equivalent to a centime, and 100 stotinki are equal to 1 leva, the Bulgarian name for a franc.

1879. Five values. Design, a crowned lion rampant, in an upright oval. According to Westoby, these stamps were printed in St. Petersburg, and in printing, paper, and rich colouring they have much in common with the Russian stamps of the same period. The inscriptions are in Slavonic characters in the Bulgarian language. In the upper part of the oval band the words are "Bulgarian Post," and in the lower the value in centimes or francs. The stamps are printed in two colours. The paper is watermarked with wavy lines. The values in centimes have a numeral in each corner, but in the franc value the numeral disks are filled in with an ornament. Perf.



Wmk. wavy lines. Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., black and orange . . .	1	3	1	3
10 c. " green . . .	6	0	6	0
25 c. " purple . . .	2	6	2	6
50 c. " blue . . .	3	6	4	0
1 fr. " rose-red . . .	4	6	2	6

1881. Six values. Design as before, but with the inscription of value in the lower part of the oval band altered from centimes to "stotinki." Watermark as before, and perf. The 25 st. is the rarity of the series.



Wmk. wavy lines. Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
3 st., dull carmine and grey . . .	0	4	0	4
5 st., black and yellow . . .	0	6	0	4
10 st. " green . . .	5	0	1	6
15 st., dull carmine and green . . .	4	0	1	0
25 st., black and purple . . .	10	0	4	0
30 st., blue and brown . . .	4	0	0	6

1882. Seven values. Design as before, but the colours altered, modified, and toned down considerably from the rich bicolours of the previous series.

Wmk. wavy lines. Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
3 st., orange and yellow . . .	0	2	0	1
5 st., green and pale green . . .	0	2	0	1
10 st., red and pale red . . .	0	3	0	2
15 st., purple and pale purple . . .	0	6	0	1
25 st., blue and pale blue . . .	0	6	0	1
30 st., purple and green . . .	1	0	0	2
50 st., blue and rose . . .	1	6	0	3

1884-5. Provisionals. Owing presumably to a temporary shortage of 3 st., 5 st., 15 st., and 50 st., supplies of those values were provided by surcharging other values of previous issues. Some of the surcharging was done in black ink, and other in red. The black surcharges are very scarce. The 3 st. and 5 st. surcharges are in shaded numerals of similar type.



Black surcharge.	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
3 on 10 st.	10	0	6	0
5 on 30 st.	—	—	—	—
50 on 1 fr.	7	6	7	6

Red surcharge.	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5 on 30 st.	4	0	4	0
15 on 25 st.	4	0	3	0

1885. Two new values. Design as before, but printed in one colour only.



Wmk. wavy lines. Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 st., purple	0	3	0	3
2 st., slate-green	0	2	0	2

1886. Three values. Design as before, but with modifications in the inscription of values. The inscriptions of the 1 st. as



"edine stotinke," and of the 2 st. as "dwa stotinki," were corrected to "edna stotinka" and "dwe stotinki." Our illustrations will

enable the collector to separate the two sets of these values. Fortunately the errors had a good run before they were corrected, and are consequently almost as common as the corrected issue.

Wmk. wavy lines. Perf.

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
1 st., purple	0 1	0 1
2 st., slate-green	0 2	0 1
1 leva, black and rose-red	10 0	2 0

1887. One value. Design as before, 1 leva taking the place of the 1 fr. of 1879. Watermark and perf. as before.

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
1 leva, black and rose-red	7 0	2 6

1889-90. Ten values. New design, engraved and printed in Paris, on unwatermarked paper. The Bulgarian lion, crowned, rampant, still figures in an oval with a curved tablet over bearing the inscription "Bulgarian Post." Under the oval is a square tablet with numerals of value, and in a straight label at the base of the stamp is the denomination in stotinki. We illustrate the type of the stotinki values and the 1 leva.



No wmk. Perf.

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
1 st., lilac	0 1	0 1
2 st., grey	0 1	0 1
3 st., brown	0 1	0 1
5 st., green	0 1	0 1
10 st., rose-red	0 2	0 1
15 st., yellow	0 6	0 2
25 st., blue	0 4	0 1
30 st., brown	0 5	0 1
50 st., green	0 8	0 2
1 leva, brick-red	1 3	0 4

1892-5. *Provisionals.* The 30 st. of the previous issue surcharged in small, thick numerals, and the 2 st., slate-green, of 1886, with corrected spelling, surcharged "01."

15

01

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
15 on 30 st., brown	0 4	0 2
01 on 2 st., slate-green	0 1	0 1

1896. Two new high values. Design as in previous issue.

No wmk. Perf.

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
2 leva	3 6	4 0
3 "	5 0	5 0

1896. Four values. Design, the Arms of Bulgaria. A series to commemorate the rebaptizing of the infant Prince Boris.



No wmk. Perf.

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
1 st., green	0 2	0 1
3 st., blue	0 3	0 1
15 st., violet	—	0 1
25 st., red	0 6	0 3

1901. *Provisionals.* Two values in small numerals with a bar under obliterating the original value.

10

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
5 on 3 st., brown	0 2	—
10 on 50 st., green	0 3	—

1901. Two values. Design, a gun on carriage, to commemorate the twenty-fifth year of the War of Independence.



No wmk. Perf.

	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
5 st., carmine	0 3	—
10 st., green	0 6	—

1902. Twelve values. Design, portrait of Prince Ferdinand. A very fine series of uniform design, and well printed in effective colours. We illustrate the stotinki and leva values, which vary only in the line of value in the lower part of the stamp. The portrait and figures in the upper corners are printed in one colour, and the rest of the design in another colour.



stamps the young collector may wisely omit from his collection.



	No wmk.	Perf.	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 st., greenish black and purple	0 1	0 1
2 st., blue and slate-green	0 1	0 1
3 st., black and orange	0 1	0 1
5 st., brown and emerald	0 1	0 1
10 st., sepia and rose	0 2	0 1
15 st., greenish black and lake	0 3	0 1
25 st., black and blue	0 4	0 1
30 st., black and bistre-brown	0 5	0 2
50 st., brown and deep blue	0 9	0 4
1 l., deep green and pale red	1 4	0 6
2 l., black and red	7 6	—
2 l., black and carmine	—	—
3 l., brown-lake and grey	4 0	—

	No wmk.	Perf.	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
5 st., carmine	0 3	—
10 st., green	0 4	—
15 st., blue	0 6	—

1902. Three values. Design, a fantastic scene in the Shipka Pass, to commemorate the defence of the Shipka Pass. This rubbish and the other Commemorative

1903. Provisional. Another provisional 10 st. of similar type to the 10 st. provisional of 1901, but without the obliterating bar.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
10 st. on 15 st., greenish black and lake	0 3	0 2

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

THE NEW FRENCH 10c. STAMP

THE REDUCTION OF INLAND POSTAGE RATES IN FRANCE

By FRANZ REICHENHEIM

NOTES READ BEFORE THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON, ON FRIDAY, 20 APRIL, 1906

THE new 10 c. stamp of France was issued on 16 April, 1906, the day when the new and reduced postage rates for inland letters came in force, as fixed by the law of 6 March, 1906, which reads as follows:—

“Law of 6th March, 1906, relating to the transmission by post of letters and non-periodical printed matter.

“The President of the Republic publishes the following law, after it has been passed by the Senate and Parliament:—

“Only paragraph. For Inland and Franco-Colonial service the postage for prepaid letters is fixed at ten centimes (0 fr. 10) for each 15 gr. or fraction thereof.

“The postage for unpaid letters is fixed at twenty centimes (0 fr. 20) for each 15 gr. or fraction thereof.

“Insufficiently prepaid letters are charged double the amount of the deficiency.

“The postage for election cards, election circulars, and voting papers, is fixed at one

centime (0 fr. 01) for each 25 gr. They may be sent under wrapper or in an open envelope.

“These rules and regulations come in force on and after 16 April, 1906.

“This Decree, discussed and adopted by the Senate and Parliament, shall be considered and acted upon as a Government Law.

“Given at Paris 6 March, 1906.

“A. FALLIERES,

“For the President of the French Republic:

“The Minister of Commerce, Industry, Post and Telegraph,

“GEORGE TROUILLOT.

“The Minister of Finance,
“MERLOU.”

By reducing the postage for inland letters from 15 c. (1½d.) to 10 c. (1d.) France has opened the way for the introduction of the

Universal Penny Postage, which would be impossible as long as the inland postage of any country concerned was higher than 1d.

The stamp itself shows again the figure of the sower by Rothy. The inscription and the type of the letters are the same as on the last 10 c. stamps, but the figure 1 has received a serif, and the figure 0 is more oval and thicker than on the former stamps. The background of the stamps being in dark brick-red, instead of rose, brings out the white figure and the white inscription better than before. The horizontal line marking the horizon, and the sun with its 11 rays, have disappeared. The alterations in the design are the idea of the Under-Secretary of State for the Fine Arts, Monsieur Dujardin Beaumetz. The die is engraved by S. Mouchon, as before, and the stamp perforated as usual $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, and printed on unwatermarked wove paper in double sheets of 300 stamps, each half-sheet being divided into blocks of 25 (5 rows of 5 stamps each), but the sheets do not contain any "Millesime." *

It was expected that contemporarily with the reduction of the inland postage rates a military frank, in value of 10 c., would be issued, but neither the old 10 c. stamp nor the newly issued one has so far been issued with the surcharge F.M.; and the supplementary number of the *Bulletin Mensuel des Postes et des Telegraphes*, No. 4, of April, 1906, in which the above-mentioned law is published, contains the following curious notice:—

"LETTERS BEARING A F.M. STAMP SENT BY
SOLDIERS AND MARINES.

"For reason of economy the special stamps surcharged F.M. fixed to letters sent by soldiers and marines shall be used until the stock is exhausted. Special attention is drawn to the regulation, that this stamp denotes the postage of a letter not exceeding 15 gr., and the value of this stamp must be taken as 10 centimes only on after 16 April, 1906. Therefore the postage of letters exceeding 15 gr. and franked with a 15 c. F.M. stamp must be completed as if only single postage had been paid, although the stamp is marked 15 c. This means that the postage of a letter

* A single number printed between the second horizontal rows of each block, indicating the year of print of the respective sheets, 1 standing for 1891 or 1901, 2 for 1892 or 1902, etc., as the case may be. *Ibid* L. P., 1903, p. 298.

weighing more than 15 and less than 30 gr., and franked with a special 15 c. F.M. stamp, must be completed by a 10 centimes and not by a 5 centimes stamp, to make up 20 centimes in all."

This, I believe, is the first time that a stamp represents a lower value than indicated on its face.

As, in consequence of the reduction of the inland postage rates, some values of postage stamps and entires become nearly useless, the Under-Secretary of State for Post and Telegraph issues the following notice in the same number of the official organ:—

The following postage stamps and entires not corresponding with the new postal rates shall be suppressed:—

As soon as the present stock is exhausted.

Postage stamps at 30 centimes.

" " " 40 "

Unpaid Letter stamps at 15 and 30 centimes.

On and after 16 April, 1906.

Stamped envelopes at 16 c.* (two sizes).
Letter cards at 15 c.

On the other hand, the following postage stamps and entires will be reissued or issued and placed on sale at the post offices as soon as possible:—

Postage stamps at 45 centimes.

" " " 35 "

Unpaid Letter stamps at 20 centimes.
Letter cards at 10 centimes.

Stamped envelopes at 11 * centimes (two sizes).

I may mention that the 30 c. stamps were issued for franking letters weighing more than 15 gr. but not exceeding 30 gr., and the 40 c. stamps for franking registered † letters not exceeding 15 gr. The place of the 30 c. stamps is taken by the existing 20 c. stamps, and the new values of 35 c. and 45 c. are created for franking registered letters not exceeding 15 gr. or 30 gr. respectively. The creation of an Unpaid Letter stamp of 20 c. was necessitated by the new rates to avoid the use of two 10 c. or four 5 c. stamps.

* The envelopes bear the impression of a stamp in value of 15 c. or 10 c. respectively, and the odd centime is charged extra for the paper.

† The registration fee is 25 c.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL INTEREST OF STAMP COLLECTING

By Rev. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

"YOU are a stamp collector. Tell me how to get to the Bermudas." Such was the question put to me the other day by an old friend and schoolmaster. The floating dock on the 1902 4 issue at once occurred to my mind, and I remembered the little group of islands in Mid-Atlantic, the connecting links between Canada and the British West Indies. My answer was brief and to the point. "Take train to Liverpool, ship to New York, and catch the mail steamer from New York to the Bermudas." "Good," said my non-collecting friend. "I have long believed that stamp collecting can be a great stimulus to a knowledge of geography. Here is an example. One day I went into a dealer's shop in Paris and bought a packet of a thousand French stamps for a franc. They were the kind which one gets in such packets—scores of the same sort—but, nevertheless, they suited my purpose. In the hour set apart for the study of the geography of France I distributed these stamps to the class, and asked the boys to find out from the postmarks how many French departments were represented. The boys enjoyed the search, which proved very fruitful, and formed the text of a useful lesson on the political divisions of France."

"What a capital idea for learning geography!" says the boy. "What an absurd waste of precious time!" says the old-fashioned pedagogue who believes in mnemonics and the wax-ended cane. Well, without disclosing my friend's identity, I will only add that he is one of the most successful schoolmasters of my acquaintance, who believes thoroughly in rousing the greatest possible interest in the subject which he wishes to teach his boys.

Now, with regard to the question of the geographical interest in stamp collecting, my only difficulty is to know where to begin. Stamps fairly bristle with interest from the geographical point of view. Take up a fairly good collection of the world's stamps, and what do you find? Maps, views, pictures of animals, trees, fruits, inventions of man, are there in profusion; and all these belong

to one or other of the various branches into which the subject of geography is divided. Let us, then, consider them under the four main headings—mathematical, physical, political, and commercial.

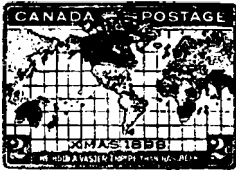
Mathematical geography treats of the position of the earth in space, of its form and size, of its daily and yearly motions, and of the effects resulting from these motions. The nature of this branch of geography precludes much direct reference in the designs on stamps. One remembers the 1900 series of Switzerland, issued to commemorate the 25th year of the Universal Postal Union. A winged figure holds aloft a standard, and behind there looms a dark spherical shape, with lines of latitude and



longitude marked thereon. This, as far as my memory goes, is the only series on which any representation of the earth's form is given, except the diminutive globe held in the left hand of Prince Henry the Navigator, in the Portuguese Commemorative issue of 1894.

When, however, we turn to physical geography, and consider stamps under this aspect, what a plethora of examples there is! For physical geography treats of the natural features of the earth's surface; the distribution of land and water; the atmosphere and its movements; climate; the distribution of animals, plants, and minerals; and the causes which bring about changes on its surface. Nowadays great importance is attached to the study of physical geography, and the aid of pictures and maps of physical features is an indispensable adjunct to the study. Let us see how far our Stamp

Album will provide such pictorial examples. The six great masses called continents may



be viewed in miniature in the 1899 Map Issue of Canada. The black patches on the

illustration, which are red on the stamp, show the extent of the British possessions throughout the world. The inscription is a quotation from a verse of a poem by Lewis Morris:—

We love not war, but only peace,
Yet never shall our England's power decrease,
Whoever guides our helm of state.
Let all men know it, England shall be great :
We hold a vaster Empire than has been.

(To be continued.)

FORGERIES AND REPRINTS

HOW TO DETECT THEM

By REV. ROBERT B. EARÉE

AFGHANISTAN—continued

Issue of 1875-6—continued

1 Rupee, Type II, black, purple

Genuine.—Printed, as before, on white laid paper. Both eyes are looking inwards and upwards: the pupils can be plainly seen. The right outline of the nose (left side of stamp) runs up to very near the eye, but does not touch it. There is an exceedingly faint white line between the cheek and the ring, on the right side of the stamp, and almost parallel with the curve of the cheek. I expect that this will be entirely absent in heavily-printed copies. There are a few dots, by way of eyebrows, but no λ -shaped mark.



Forged.—Lithographed in purple, on thick, hard, white laid paper. Each eye is one large coloured blotch, without pupils. The right outline of the nose (left side of stamp) runs up to the eye, and joins it. There is a very distinct white line running up between the cheek and the white ring on the right side of the stamp. Above the left eye (right side of stamp) there is a dark mark like a λ , touching the eye. This is a good forgery.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—As before.

Forged.—My specimen is uncanceled.

Issue of 1876. Dated 1293 (1197)

1 Shahi, 1 Sunar, 1 Abasi, ½ Rupee, 1 Rupee

There are five sets,* in different colours, grey, purple, black, green, and yellow-brown, for the different districts. I have only the forgery of the 1 shahi, grey, and only one type of the genuine, from which to describe.

* Of this issue, Major Evans tells me that there is one plate with 24 of the 1 shahi, and another plate with 6 of the 1 shahi, 12 of the 1 sunar, 3 of the ½ rupee, and 3 of the 1 rupee.

1 Shahi

Genuine.—Lithographed, on rather thick, white laid paper. The catalogues generally give the colour as being grey; but I should rather call it a sort of neutral tint, of a bluish cast. The outer border of the stamp is a white ring, dotted at tolerably close, but irregular intervals, with coloured blotches. The tiger has very distinct eyebrows, composed of dots; and his face has a number of spots on it.



Forged.—Lithographed, on thin yellowish-white wove paper. The colour is what I should call a dark grey, quite different from that of the genuine. The outer border of the stamp is a rope; the strands being quite distinct. These strands do not at all resemble the dots on the genuine. The tiger has no eyebrows, and his face is not spotty. There are, of course, a good many other little differences, but I think the ones I have here given will enable any one to detect the counterfeit. It came out in 1877, so the forgers must have set to work almost immediately upon the appearance of the stamp, and I am afraid their handiwork had a considerable sale; for the counterfeit is tolerably well done, and the genuine stamps had been in the market but a very little while, before these impostors came over from Germany.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—As before.

Forged.—Uncanceled.

Issue of 1876-7. Dated '94 (97)

There are the same five values, each in five different colours, as before. The plate consists of 25 of the 1 shahi, 3 of the 1 sunar, 3 of the 1 abasi, 2 of the ½ rupee, and 2 of the 1 rupee.

1 Shahi

Genuine.—I only possess one specimen of the 1 shahi, but I think that will be sufficient to allow me to deal with the forgery. Lithographed, in grey, purple, black, green, or



brown, according to the district for which it is intended, on white laid paper. The tiger's face is decidedly more than 6 mm. across at the broadest part, and both eyes show plenty of white. The white ring round the face is about broad enough to allow two lines to be drawn in it (it is about $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. broad). The inscriptions are in characters that are not nearly so thick as the width of the white line round the face. The tail of the 1 of SHAHI (a thing like a badly-formed 5 at the bottom of the stamp) does not go near the first letter of the word to left of it. (It will be remembered that all these characters read from right to left.) The outline of the whole stamp is thin.

Forged.—Lithographed, in *carmine*, on white laid paper, extremely thick and hard. The tiger's face is much too small, and only measures 5 mm. across. The left eye (right side of stamp)

(To be continued.)

is a solid blotch of colour, and the right eye is nearly so, only showing a tiny speck of white. The white ring round the face is extremely thin, being a mere white thread, and there is a wide gap in it at the bottom, for very nearly a quarter of the way round. It would be utterly impossible to draw a line along it without completely obliterating it. All the inscriptions are very thick and clumsy, very much thicker than the white ring. The tail of the 1 of SHAHI is joined to the letter to left of it. The outline of the whole stamp is thick, being quite $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. broad. The date-figures are very poorly imitated. The "q" is something like an ordinary "7," with the head turned to the right; the "v" is a thick, clumsy "v," and there is a dot after it.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—A piece snipped out of the edge of the stamp, and a smudge of coloured ink, red or blue, apparently applied with the tip of the finger. Also a triangular or four-sided hole cut in the stamp, with a similar dab of colour round the hole.

Forged.—My specimen is not mutilated.

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

French Colonies.—West Africa.—We quote the following from Major Evans's chronicle in the *Monthly Journal*:—

We have received copies of some new stamps prepared for the benefit of the French colonies in this part of the world, where apparently the same designs are to be employed for all, but with the names of the various colonies inserted as hitherto.

For the lower values, up to 15 c., a large oblong type is employed, with a portrait of a gentleman in spectacles (General Faïdherbe) in the centre, surrounded by a circular band bearing the inscription AFRIQUE OCCIDENTALE FRANÇAISE above



and the name of the colony below; the word POSTES is on a scroll above, portions of a long bridge are shown at upper right and left, the letters "RF" at lower left and the value at lower right.

The values from 20 c. to 75 c. are of tall upright shape, with Palm trees in the centre, partly obscured by a circular disc bearing the value; inscriptions, as on the previous type, at top, "R"

and "F" in the upper corners, and the name of the colony at foot.



The 1, 2, and 5 francs are again of large oblong shape, with a portrait of a baldheaded gentleman (M. Ballay) at left, enclosed in a circular band bearing the inscription AFRIQUE OCCIDENTALE



FRANÇAISE—POSTES. In the right-hand portion of the design is a native lady, upon whom the gentle-

man is very properly turning his back, as she seems to have just been taking a tub on the village green, and is wrapped in nothing but a bath towel; she rests her hand upon a label containing the value, and the name of the colony is on a scroll at her feet.

It seems cruel to expect French colonists in that thirsty climate to lick one or more of these large labels every time they wish to post a letter, but presumably they will not be much used in those parts.

The colours and values are as follows, the name being in the second colour given:—

- 1 c., grey and red.
- 2 c., chocolate and red.
- 4 c., " " on *azure*.
- 5 c., green and red.
- 10 c., rose and blue.
- 15 c., mauve and red.
- 20 c., black and red on *pale blue*.
- 25 c., blue and red on *salmon*.
- 30 c., chocolate and red on *pale buff*.
- 40 c., red and blue on *pale azure*.
- 50 c., violet and red on *toned*.
- 75 c., blue and red on *yellow*.
- 1 fr., black and red on *blue-grey*.
- 2 fr., blue and red on *pink*.
- 5 fr., red and blue on *pale yellow*.

Of these we have seen at present:—

Ivory Coast—

1 c., 5 c., 10 c.

Senegal—

The complete set, ordinary and Postage Due.

Upper Senegal and Niger—

5 c., 10 c., 15 c.

South Australia.—On the authority of a Melbourne correspondent *Even's Weekly* announces the issue of the 8d. value of the long type design with POSTAGE in large letters.



Large POSTAGE



Wink. Crown S.A. Perf.

- 6d., blue-green.
- 8d., blue.
- 9d., brown-lake.
- 1s., brown.
- 5s., carmine.
- £1, blue.

GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Chalkies Again

THE advocates of the chalky paper variety seem bent on fooling collectors into adopting it. The object of some of the advocates of getting simpletons to follow their lead is obvious enough. One dealer, for instance, is trying to persuade the innocents to buy the 2½d. Transvaal, multiple CA, on ordinary paper from him at 3s. 6d., for, says he, it's going to be rare, dontcherknow, and all the while supplies of that very stamp are coming over and are being offered by another dealer at 5s. per dozen.

Left his Collection in a Train

I SEE that among the articles left in trains on the S.E. and C. Railway now being sold by auction are seven leopard skins, a bow and arrows, a portable pulpit, a bookmaker's platform, and several bottles of champagne. An odd collection truly. But I knew an eminent philatelist who once left a fine specialized collection in a train, and the last train at night too. He roamed and he raved hither and thither, and at last, some days after the event, a couple of gentlemen hunted him up and made him happy by handing over his gems. They had found it, and seeing that it was valuable wisely decided to take care of it till they could trace the owner rather than let it be bundled about in

a railway lost property office. It was a lesson to that specialist, and a lesson to many of us. Since then I have always written my name and full address on every one of my albums.

Another noodle I know of left a collection in a brown-paper parcel on the top of a London bus. That collection was made up of current title-deeds which he held as mortgagee. They have never since been heard of, and the little incident has cost the loser a pretty penny.

Penny Postage to Rhodesia

AT last we have penny postage to Rhodesia and also to Bechuanaland, but the announcement states that our friends who write to us from those parts will still have to use 2½d. stamps. However, this means to us penny postage to any part of British territory in South Africa. Penny postage to the mother country must follow as a natural result in due time.

Barbados Commemoratives

SO we are to have an "Olive Blossom" dose of Commemoratives from this "respectable" colony after all, and I was drawing it too mildly in saying there would not be a second lot. If I were a dealer in Commemorative stamps I think I should hang out a sign, "Commemorative Rubbish may be shot here."

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1906

Official Circular

WE enclose herewith short statement giving particulars of the various Entertainments during the Exhibition.

You will observe that the space available for the Banquet on the 25th May is limited, and if you desire Tickets we shall be glad to hear from you, with a remittance for the number required, at your earliest convenience.

As regards the River Trip, on Saturday, the 26th May, it has been found necessary to make some alterations. Visitors will leave Paddington by the 11 a.m. train to Goring, where a launch will be in readiness to go down the river to Tilehurst. Lunch will be had at the Roebuck Hotel there. After lunch, the launch will proceed to Henley, stopping at Marsh Mills Lock, where Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Oldfield will give a Reception and Tea at their cottage. Later in the afternoon the launch will proceed to Henley, from which place visitors will return to town.

The price of the Tickets for the Railway, Launch, and Lunch will be 9s. 6d., and an early application is desired, as the launch will only hold a limited number.

Railway Tickets for the Reception at Weybridge on the 28th May will be 2s. 6d.

Tickets for the Banquet of the Herts Philatelic Society on the 29th May will be 7s. 6d. each, and can be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretary of that Society, H. A. Slade, Esq., Nine Fields, St. Albans, Herts.

The arrangements for the 30th May have been cancelled, as this is Derby Day, and the train service to the south coast is much interrupted by specials.

Tickets for the visit to Windsor Castle, and Afternoon Tea at Sir William Avery's, will be issued on application. The charge, to cover the Railway Fare, Launch hire, and Lunch, will be 8s.

Applications in connexion with any of the above Entertainments (except the Banquet of the Herts Philatelic Society) should be made to either of the undersigned at 13 Walbrook, London, E.C.

H. R. OLDFIELD,
L. L. R. HAUSBURG,
Hon. Secs.

The following is a calendar (subject to revision) of the entertainments, dinners, etc., that have at present been arranged:—

Amended Programme

Wednesday, 23 May

The Exhibition will open at 12 noon, and the opening ceremony will take place at 3 p.m. Tickets: 10s. 6d. each. Admission after 5 p.m.: 1s.

Note.—On all other days the Exhibition will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., except on Friday, 25 May, and Tuesday, 29 May, when it will close at 7 p.m.

Thursday, 24 May

Entrance, 1s. Lecture entitled "His Majesty's Mails," with 100 lantern slides, at 6 p.m., by Mr. Fred J. Melville. In Lecture Hall on the first floor.

Friday, 25 May

The Official Banquet will take place at 7.30 p.m. precisely, at the Imperial Restaurant, Regent Street, W., at which the Vice-Patrons and Judges of the Exhibition will be invited to attend.

After a short toast list, an entertainment will be given by Dr. Byrd-Page and "The King's Musketeers." The latter troupe consists of Messrs. Reginald Groome, Robert Grice, W. A. Peterkin, James Chilcott, and Wolsley Charles, and they will give selections from their well-known musical *répertoire*. This will be a "Ladies' Night," and it is hoped that many members of the fair sex may be present. Early application for tickets (10s. 6d. each) is necessary, as only limited space is available. Applications should be made to the Hon. Secretaries, 13 Walbrook, E.C.

Saturday, 26 May

Admission free. River Trip. Train from Paddington to Goring—thence by launch to Tilehurst for lunch and then on to Henley. Reception and Tea by Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Oldfield, at their residence, Tregunna Cottage, near Marsh Lock, Henley. Return by rail from Henley to Paddington. Tickets, price, and particulars as in foregoing Official Circular.

Monday, 28 May

Entrance, 1s. 11 a.m., visit to the British Museum to see the Tapping Collection, under the guidance of Mr. E. D. Bacon. 3 to 5 p.m., Mr. and Mrs. L. L. R. Hausburg will hold an afternoon reception at Rothsay, St. George's Hill, Weybridge. Train leaves Waterloo at 2.28 p.m.; returns 5.24, 5.59, and 6.57. Price of tickets as in Official Circular. 6 p.m., Lecture by Mr. Fred J. Melville, entitled "Postage Stamps with Stories," with ninety lantern slides, Lecture Hall, first floor.

Tuesday, 29 May

Entrance, 1s. At 7.30 p.m. a Banquet will be given by the Herts Philatelic Society, at the Regent Rooms, Café Monico, Piccadilly Circus, W. The judges of the Exhibition, prominent postal officials, distinguished philatelists, and others will be invited as guests of the Society. Philatelists who would like to attend the Banquet should apply for tickets (7s. 6d. each) to the Hon. Sec., H. A. Stade, Nine Fields, St. Albans.

Wednesday, 30 May

Admission free. Derby Day.

Thursday, 31 May

Entrance, 1s. Visit to Windsor Castle. Train leaves Paddington at 10 a.m. On arrival at Windsor thorough inspection of the Castle. Lunch at 1.30 p.m. at White Hart Hotel. At 2.30 p.m. a steam launch will leave for Oakley Court, where Sir William Avery kindly invites visitors to the Exhibition to take tea. Return by river to Windsor, and thence by train to Paddington. Price of tickets and particulars as in Official Circular.

Friday, 1 June

Entrance, 1s. Exhibition closes at 8 p.m.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Our New Zealand Letter

WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND,

21 March, 1906

EVENTS of philatelic interest have been few and far between in this colony of late. In fact it will have been noticed by those who read the records of new issues in the various philatelic journals that there have been no changes of any moment in our postal issues for two or three years past.

This should go far to appease the righteous indignation of certain imperfectly informed critics in other parts of the world, who in the past have not hesitated to point the philatelic finger at this colony in connexion with alleged "unnecessary" issues, etc.

New Perforations

Now, however, after a very decent interval, there are some new things to chronicle. First, the Government Printing Office has recently been supplied with three new sets of wheels for the three rotary perforating machines which have been in use for some time past. Two of these machines have hitherto gauged 14, and the other 11, and none of them have been turning out satisfactory work for some time back, the pins of all of them being apparently much worn. The new sets of wheels are fortunately all of a uniform gauge—14; and I learn that one at least of the old machines (the one gauging 11) has already been dismantled and furnished with one of the new sets of wheels.

It would appear, therefore, that we shall presently be having the whole of our stamps perforated 14; but there are, no doubt, considerable stocks of some of the values at present perforated 11 still unissued.

The following values of the current pictorial issue have already appeared (all during the last few weeks) with the new 14 perforation: Three-pence, fivepence, sixpence, and two shillings. The new perforation is similar to the 14 perforation which has been in use for the lower values since 1902, except that—the pins being new—it is more cleanly cut. The holes are about the same size.

Postage Due Stamps

There have also been recently issued two new stamps, perforated 11, which have not as yet been chronicled in any publication I have seen. One is a 1d. Postage Due of the same unattractive design as the halfpenny of 1902. I have seen a complete sheet of this new stamp, and it presents a perfect harvest of broken letters, badly placed centres, blotches, etc., to any one who may desire to specialize in that sort of thing. The colours are the same as those of the halfpenny (red and green) and the paper is watermarked Cowan (single-lined NZ and Star). I cannot induce myself to feel any degree of patriotic pride in this particular issue of stamps.

Government Life Insurance Stamps

The other new stamp perforated 11 is a much more creditable production. It is the first of the long-expected issue of the Government Life Insurance stamps without the "V.R."—the two-penny value. The well-known and distinctive lighthouse device is retained, but the design has been redrawn, the frame, lettering, and the lighthouse itself being all slightly altered.

I have been unable to ascertain whether any of the other values have yet been printed in the new design. If not, I imagine they will be perforated 14 when they do appear, for the reason stated above.

The Government Insurance stamps have always seemed to me to be a most interesting and eminently collectable series. Their use has from the first been strictly confined to the legitimate postal purposes of the Insurance Department alone; and in unused state they have been jealously guarded, except during a period of a week or two, some time ago, when a single set was allowed to be sold to each *bona fide* collector who applied for one, at face value. This permission, however, was quickly withdrawn (at the instance, it was rumoured, of the Postal Department) before many collectors had heard or been able to take advantage of it; and since then (as previously) they have been very hard to obtain unused, especially the three higher values. They are, in fact, almost in the same category as the overprinted O.P.S.O.

stamps, which are used exclusively by the Postal Department in its correspondence with other countries, and are quite unattainable by collectors. While speaking of the Government Insurance stamps I may mention that they have never been printed on unwatermarked sheets, those catalogued as "No watermark" (S.G. 566 and 567) being corner stamps on the sheets of watermarked Cowan paper, on which the Insurance stamps are printed sideways owing to their size; and for the same reason specimens are to be found showing portions of the letters forming the marginal watermark **NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE**.

The Penny-in-the-Slot Stamps.

With regard to the penny-in-the-slot machine tried in the Post Office here some months ago, and which I mentioned in my last letter, I append an extract from the *Wellington Evening Post* of 13 February last, which may interest your readers:—

"The average penny-in-the-slot machine will take and retain any coin of greater value—a fact that has been impressed upon many absent-minded people. An improved machine, which rejects everything save pennies, and returns the rejected coins to their owners with the promptness of a time-payment agent's call, was inspected yesterday by an *Evening Post* reporter. The contrivance is the joint invention of Messrs. R. J. Dickie and J. H. Brown, of this city, which some months ago was exhibited in the vestibule of the chief Post Office, where it issued stamps to whosoever put a penny in the slot. Since then there have been several improvements made in the machine, and in its present form it has so commended itself to the Canadian postal authorities that, according to

advice recently received from the inventors' American agent, an order for one hundred of the machines has just been given by the Canadian Government. Negotiations are now proceeding with the United States Postal Department. In its present form the machine rejects even a smooth-worn penny, and it is so arranged that when the last stamp in it is sold, the mechanism locks itself so that no coins may be put in, the word 'Empty' is shown on a slot, and an electrical connexion is automatically established which rings a bell to acquaint the person in charge that the supply of stamps needs replenishing."

One of the improvements made in this machine since it was officially tried here consists in the substitution for the zigzag mechanism (S.G. Suppl., 20/11/05, No. 271*b*) of a clipping or scissors attachment, which has the effect of ejecting the stamps imperforate all round, except for two large holes at each side of each stamp, which holes are bisected by the aforesaid clipping arrangement. Also the stamps can now only be obtained singly, and not in strips as before.

Whether this machine in its altered state will ever be officially used here I cannot at present say, but I understand that negotiations between the inventors and the Postal Department are not yet closed. In any case it appears from the above newspaper extract that we must look out for Canadian stamps treated in this way. Indeed, it is just possible you may see the product of this machine nearer home, for I have just heard what I may here describe as a well-authenticated rumour that one of the machines has been ordered to be sent to London.

J. H. W. WARDROP.

BRITISH AFRICA POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

Owing to the fact that the war in South Africa has caused great attention to be drawn to the stamps of the British Possessions on that continent, and to the enormous increase in the number of collectors that has ensued from the issue of the War Provisionals in Mafeking, Bloemfontein, Pretoria, etc., we think this a good time at which to place before the public a new and very complete Album, designed for the British Possessions, etc., on the African Continent. The Album is designed upon the well-known plan of the Imperial Albums—the stamps in numbered spaces of the correct sizes on the right-hand page, and the description, full particulars, and illustrations on the opposite page. In order to make this a *permanent* Album we have provided from one to four blank pages *after each country*, thus making the Album available for the issues of many years to come. 220 pages. Size, 8½ × 11½ inches. Post-free in Great Britain, 10s. 7d.

THE KING'S OWN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

This Album has been specially designed for those collectors who either commence a collection with the Postage Stamps of King Edward VII, or who collect these stamps as a supplement to a General Collection. The King's Own Album contains 100 pages of heavy white plate paper outlined with a neat border of neutral grey, with quadrillé background inside the grey border, and name space at the top of each page. Exact size of leaves from the outer edge, 7½ × 9½; available for mounting stamps, 6½ × 8½. The title-page is printed in the Royal Colours, with the King's Cypher Monogram and Crown. Strongly bound in cloth, bevelled boards, with the Official Cypher Monogram and Crown in gold on cover. Post-free, 8s.; abroad, 8s. 9d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

THE POSTAL UNION CONGRESS

FROM "THE TIMES"

Rome, 28 April

Universal Penny Postage

A RESOLUTION in favour of universal penny postage was moved at to-day's meeting of the Postal Congress by the Postmaster-General of New Zealand, Sir Joseph G. Ward.

Sir Joseph Ward began by declaring his firm conviction that "a system of universal penny postage would be an enormous advantage to the world at large from a national, a commercial, an educational, and a domestic standpoint, while the loss of revenue would be but temporary." Sir Joseph went on to say that he would not have been present as a delegate but for a desire to see consummated the adoption of universal penny postage. He felt sure this would give a greater opportunity to the people of different nationalities more freely to communicate with each other, and would thus, from the national standpoint, promote a greater spread of knowledge. That, together with the education movement in different countries, would ensure a broader recognition of the aims and aspirations of different nations, of which few people knew as much as they would desire.

He firmly believed that the universal penny post would, in a short time, pay the postal administrations concerned, and still provide a balance of revenue over expenditure. For his own country, New Zealand, he had been a consistent advocate from the year 1886 for establishing the penny post. In 1892 the opportunity presented itself to him in his official position as Minister in charge of the postal department to have legislation carried through Parliament authorizing the Governor in Council to establish penny postage within or outside New Zealand when deemed advisable. On 1 January, 1901, he had the pleasure of announcing penny postage from New Zealand to every part of the civilized world. New Zealand, when instituting the penny rate, invited every country in the world to accept its letters at that rate, and also agreed to receive letters at a penny from every country desiring to send them at the same rate. The result is that New Zealand has now about the widest range of penny postage in the world, over one hundred administrations in other countries having agreed to accept its letters at a penny and to deliver them without surcharge. He was glad to be able to state in Rome that the Italian Government was one of those that promptly agreed to accept letters from New Zealand at a penny. To-day letters from New Zealand to Italy cost one penny, and he cordially wished that this rate was reciprocal. Some countries had also agreed to send their letters to New Zealand at a penny.

The same financial considerations which had,

up to the present, prevented many countries within the Postal Union from adopting penny postage, and which still, doubtless, stood in the way of the universal adoption of this great reform, had been a stumbling-block to its earlier introduction in New Zealand. It was estimated that in the first year New Zealand would concede, at the lowest calculation, £80,000 of her revenue, although its population was then some three-quarters of a million only. He was one of those who strongly held the opinion that the reduced rate of postage would provide an enormously increased correspondence, and that the colony would recover the whole of its revenue in about three years. His predictions in that respect had been fully justified. The first year after the introduction of the ten centimes rate, the increase in the number of paid letters dispatched from New Zealand was 11,705,109, or 35·37 per cent; at the end of 1902 it was 16,269,463, or 49·31 per cent; at the end of 1903 it was 19,207,712 paid letters, or 58·51 per cent; and at the end of 1904 it was 24,014,411 paid letters, or 72·78 per cent. The year before the inauguration of penny postage, the increase in the number of paid letters over the preceding year was 570,492, or an increase of only 1·76 per cent. The increased expenditure involved in handling the larger amount of mail matter was comparatively slight. It was estimated not to exceed 5 per cent, and this had been found to be well within the mark. The public in New Zealand, from the date of the introduction of penny postage for letters posted within the colony, would, if the old rates had continued in operation, have paid £415,000 more than they actually did pay. For letters posted for places beyond the colony, if the old rate had continued in operation they would have paid £27,660 more than they actually did. So also with the sixpenny telegrams, the public would have paid £383,630 more for the same amount of business under the old rates than they did under the reduced ones. He had, however, no hesitation in saying that if the rates had not been reduced, the public would not have made this increased use of the Post Office. Canada and Egypt, where penny postage has also been introduced, had enjoyed a similar experience.

He had been exceedingly pleased to see in the annual report of the Postmaster-General of the United States of America for the year 1903 his opinion that "the time has arrived for a reduction in the rate on foreign postage. Our representative at the congress will be instructed to urge upon the members of the Postal Union the propriety of a reduction in the foreign rates of postage, especially so far as it may affect the rate now obtaining between the United States and the great commercial nations of Europe. It is

confidently expected that if the rates should be reduced from five cents to three cents, or even to two cents, it would result, in a very short time, in such an enormous increase in the interchange of communications as would bring greater financial returns than obtain from the present rate." He trusted that the expectations so confidently expressed in that report would be voiced by the delegates representing the United States. British postal reforms had already been very great. The British authorities were the pioneers in establishing inland penny postage, and their adoption of an Imperial penny post showed that they were anxious to make still greater reforms, at least within the limits of their own Imperial possessions. It would be logical for Great Britain, having already established inland penny post and Imperial penny post, to crown her work by throwing her weight into the broader scale of universality.

Sir Joseph recognized that each country should necessarily have the utmost freedom in deciding any matter that immediately affected its finance, and that, however valuable this great Postal Union might appear in the eyes of its adherents, it should not be allowed to have an overriding authority in matters where the financial side affected the individual country. The affirmation of the principle, however, by the congress would ensure to any country desiring to establish universal penny postage at least the right that its letters should be delivered to every other country within the Postal Union without a surcharge being levied by the delivering country or exacted from the addressee. Any country establishing universal penny postage would, as the originating country, alone be affected by the financial outcome of the reduced rate, and he would express the hope that it should, therefore, be permitted to send its letters to every part of the Postal Union without restriction.

The trend towards universal penny postage

throughout the world was distinctly marked. He should not be surprised to find before the next congress met that every civilized country had established at least inland penny postage. Since the Postal Union in 1874 fixed the over-sea rate of postage at 25 centimes practically nothing had been done in the way of reduction. The cost of transit then both by land and sea, as well as the relative cost of postal administration, was enormously greater than at the present day. While there had been many important improvements in rail and steamer communication throughout the world, and in mail transit generally, yet there had been no alteration in the Postal Union rates for letters for thirty-two years.

He had endeavoured to place before the congress the views of a country which was the only one that had so far adopted the principles of a system of universal penny postage, and where it had worked well in every respect nationally, commercially, domestically, and, above all, financially. Although the country which he represented was far away in the Southern Pacific, it would not, he felt sure, be regarded as out of place that he should move in the matter. Sir Joseph concluded with a tribute to the magnificent work which postal administrations, especially of those countries within the union, had carried out, and he trusted that the wisdom and discernment which had characterized the policy of postal progress would enable the delegates, in the expressive language of the Secretary of State for Italy at the inauguration of the congress, to earn the distinction of being in postal matters progressive "citizens of the world."

The speech was well received, and at its conclusion was greeted with cheers by the delegates. Saba Pasha, Postmaster-General of Egypt, seconded the resolution, and the debate was adjourned until Tuesday.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Birmingham Philatelic Society

President: Sir W. B. Avery.

Secretary: G. Johnson, B.A., 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

MARCH 22. Paper: "China." Mr. P. T. Deakin.

Mr. W. Dorning Beckton was unanimously elected a member. Messrs. R. Hollick, F. C. Henderson, and C. McNaughtan were thanked for donations to the Permanent Collection.

Mr. Deakin then read a very interesting paper on "The Stamps of China," with full particulars of the various surcharges, number of sheets printed, papers used, etc.

5 April. Display: "St. Vincent." Mr. W. Pimm. Mr. Pimm, by means of his very fine collection of these stamps, and copious notes on the various papers, watermarks, and perforations, was able to make a very fine and instructive display of this extremely interesting country.

23 April. Dinner at Acorn Hotel.

This item was not on the programme, but was decided upon at the previous meeting, and was practically restricted to those who attended the meeting; but it was so successful in every way that

in future it must be on the programme and invitations extended to all members. After the toast of "The King," proposed by the President (Mr. R. Hollick), "The Birmingham Philatelic Society" was given by Mr. H. Bamwell, and responded to by Messrs. T. W. Peck and G. Johnson. Mr. H. Grindall was specially thanked for arranging the details, and then some two hours were pleasantly and most enthusiastically filled up in a well-organized "exchange," in which all the fifteen present took part, many nice stamps changing hands.

3 May. Display: "West Indies." Sir W. B. Avery, Bart.

Mr. E. Christofides was elected a member. Mrs. Bridson, Messrs. F. C. Henderson, H. L. Hayman, and W. B. Mapplebeck were thanked for donations to the Collection.

Sir W. B. Avery then gave his display of the stamps of the West Indies. Even after all that has been said and written about this collection, it was a matter of astonishment to those members who had not previously seen it. To those who had seen it even more than once it was quite as wonderful, for they

appreciate more year by year the difficulty of getting together complete mint sheets of shades of the early issues, reconstructed sheets in such superb condition as here shown, and in completing, even to the very rarest type of surcharge, shade, or other minor variety, in both mint condition and also finely used. The interest in the display, and the benefits derived from it, were greatly increased by the really wonderful grasp of the whole subject possessed by Sir William, and the cordial way in which he explained all the details. If any choice can be made, perhaps the Nevis, St. Vincent, and Barbados were the finest, especially the first, which is the best collection in existence. A hearty vote of thanks was given to Sir William, to which he responded in his usual happy, whole-hearted fashion.

Hull Philatelic Society

President: G. E. Pickering.

Hon. Secretary: E. W. Drury, Westholme, Hessle, Hull.

Meetings: Grosvenor Hotel, Hull.

The tenth annual meeting of the Hull Philatelic Society was held at its rooms, 29 Bond Street, Hull, on Monday, 7 May, 1906, the President, G. E. Pickering, Esq., in the chair.

The minutes of the last general meeting were read and passed, and the Secretary reported that during the past session twenty meetings had been held and been well attended, the Exchange Packet had been circulated seven times and promptly settled up; sales, however, had decreased, owing to the fact that members had practically sold or exchanged all their duplicates at the meetings.

The Hon. Treasurer's accounts were audited and passed, and showed the finances of the Society to be in a healthy condition.

The following were re-elected for 1906-7: President, G. E. Pickering, Esq.; Treasurer, F. W. Jones, Esq.; Committee, Messrs. Jas. Walker, C. H. Woolf, W. L. Penny, W. T. Taylor; Vice-President and Hon. Secretary, Edward W. Drury.

A comprehensive syllabus was arranged for the winter session, when it was agreed to have special evenings devoted to Greece, Victoria, Western Australia, Great Britain, and British Somaliland, which Messrs. Marshall, Woolf, McTurk, Taylor, and the President undertook to exhibit.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: E. Egly, Arcliffe Road, West Park, Leeds.

Secretary: Charles W. Harding, 139 Belle Vue Road, Leeds.

Meetings: Leeds Institute, Coochridge Street, Leeds.

Annual Subscription: 6s.; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

THERE was a "full house" at the last ordinary meeting of the session, held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, 24 April, 1906, to hear Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, F.L.S., ex-President of the Society, recount his travels in the Colonies and India.

Having received a hearty welcome home from the President (Mr. Egly), the lecturer said that with regard to Philately in the Colonies he felt very much in the position of the gentleman who was to discourse on "Snakes in Iceland," and whose task was easy inasmuch as there are no snakes in Iceland. He would not say there are no stamps in the Antipodes, but he saw very few, and the impression he got was that the best had been sent out of the country. The post offices in Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide were models of architecture, being considered the finest buildings in those cities; he found the same thing, in fact, in the cities of New Zealand, India, Ceylon, in Cape Town, and in the chief towns of South Africa.

The cheapest postage rates obtained in India, where a letter can be sent to any part of the country for $\frac{1}{2}$ anna.

Visiting Victoria Falls on his way to Rhodesia, he bought at the post office there, on the first day of issue, sheets of the new pictorial stamps with view of the falls, and these were shown, along with other items of philatelic interest from the countries he had visited.

Mr. Roebuck gave a graphic description of the places visited by him and, to add to the interest, placed before his audience many very beautiful photographs, those from the cities of Agra, Delhi, and Lucknow being particularly impressive.

Of the many incidents of his extensive travels, Mr. Roebuck's experiences in the North Island of New Zealand, famous for its lofty volcanic mountains and hot-water lakes, furnished the most thrilling. In some of these mountains the volcanic force is still active, and an eruption took place at a crater he visited, killing three persons on the spot where he had stood only two days before.

Mr. T. K. Skipwith moved that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded Mr. Roebuck for his delightful lecture; the President seconded. Thanks were also returned for a number of postal guides, handbooks, etc. (some in Arabic and Hindustani), which the lecturer had brought for the Society's Permanent Library.

Among the novelties shown were: Persia: 3 chahis, green, provisional issue, surcharged with Lion and PROVISOIRE in black. Greece: Olympic Games, 1906, 25 lepta, blue, and 50 lepta, maroon. British Levant Offices: 1 piastre black, on 2½d. blue, and 2 piastres on 5d. lilac and blue.

Intending members for next session should communicate with the Hon. Secretary.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: Herbert Woods.

Secretary: W. Halfpenny, 28 Dacey Street, Liverpool.

Meetings: Angel Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool. 7 p.m.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held at the Angel Hotel, Dale Street, on Monday evening, 23 April, 1906. The President (Mr. Herbert Woods) being unavoidably absent, Mr. Savage took the chair. After the minutes of the last annual meeting had been read and confirmed, the election of officers, etc., for the ensuing season was to have taken place, but was postponed until 7 May, circumstances having arisen which necessitated the change of date. A short discussion followed on some modifications of the rules regarding the prize competitions, and after this an auction of members' stamps was held, some good prices being obtained.

The meeting on 7 May brought to a conclusion one of the most successful seasons ever held under the auspices of this Society, and marked a considerable advance in the practical interest taken in the fascinating hobby of "Stamps" in Liverpool. All concerned are to be sincerely congratulated on such a satisfactory result of their endeavours to that end.

North of England Philatelic Society

President: G. B. Bainbridge, J.P.

Hon. Sec.: Mark Easton, 43 Sidney Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Meetings: Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE usual monthly meeting of the Society was held on Thursday, 3 May, 1906, at the Y.M.C.A., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The Vice-President, Mr. T. D. Hume, was in the chair, and thirteen members were present.

The minutes of previous meeting being read and sustained, Mr. Wilkinson, in accordance with notice, moved "That the monthly meetings be held on first Thursday in each month from October to April, instead of May, as at present," and "That the annual meeting be held on the third Thursday of September, instead of the first Thursday of October." The Secretary seconded, and after full discussion the motion was carried unanimously.

Major Biddulph then showed his Great Britain, Cyprus, Gibraltar, and China, and Mr. Wilkinson his France and Holland. A very interesting and instructive evening was spent, and Mr. Harrison moved a vote of thanks to the two gentlemen for their displays. Mr. Outridge seconded, and it was carried with acclamation. The recipients suitably replied, and a most successful session was brought to a close.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR *G. S. W.* READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "*G. S. W.*" readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

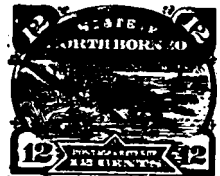
These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

LABUAN.



1894. No wmk. Perf.

A beautiful set, printed in two colours and depicting local animals, scenery, etc., consisting of 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., 12 c., 18 c., and 24 c.

The above set of nine cancelled to order.

**Special Bargain Price,
1/6 post-free.**

Catalogue Price, unused, is 5/11.

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

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

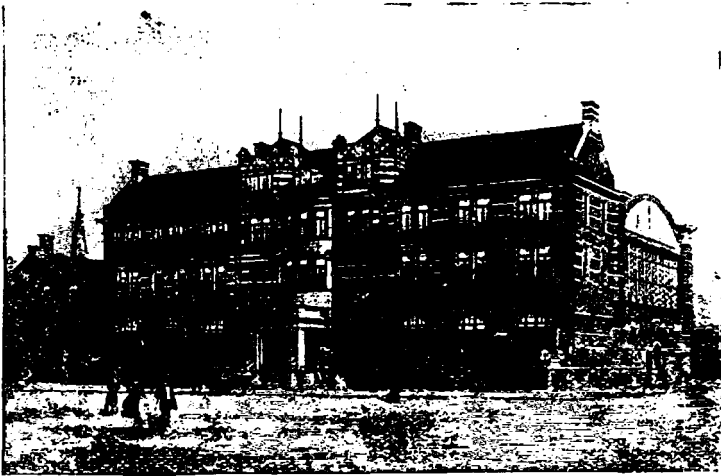
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26 MAY, 1906

VOL. III.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1906

By THE EDITOR



THIS number of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, though dated 26 May, 1906, has to go to press fully a week beforehand to meet the exigencies of its extended circulation. Hence we are writing this matter some days before the great International Philatelic Exhibition will open its doors, and as the bulk of the copies will be in the hands of our readers even before the opening day we must perforce postpone what we have to say as to the show as a whole till our next number.

Meanwhile we may have a few last words on the great event.

The Influence of Exhibitions

It is a moot point with not a few people as to the real effect which exhibitions have on stamp collecting. Some say they are stimulating in the highest degree, that they exhibit the high-water mark of collecting, and educate in the very best sense of the term; but the croakers, who are ever with us, assert that they are most depressing, that the huge specialized exhibits of countries appal the ordinary collector, and seriously dishearten him.

Let us hear what one of the veterans and most respected of our philatelic writers

has to say on the point. Major Evans, whose wide experience of stamp exhibitions is equalled by few, writes as follows in the *Monthly Journal* :—

It is, we believe, generally acknowledged that their effect is beneficial in almost every way; it is true that there are some faint-hearted, or perhaps envious souls, who declare that the sight of the highly specialized collections, which win prizes at the shows, renders them discontented with their own little lot, and that they are oppressed by the feeling that they can never hope to rival these magnificent accumulations of rarities and minute varieties. But such a feeling as this, if it ever arises in the breast of the true philatelist, is an extremely evanescent one. It is true that, for want of time, or money, or opportunity, we cannot all hope to possess great collections, but that is no reason for being dissatisfied with the collections that we can make, and if it is all the more reason for enjoying the opportunity of examining these great collections when they are exposed to view. We cannot all win prizes at Flower Shows, but each one of us, that has a taste in that direction, can take pleasure in the cultivation of his own little garden, and can admire without envy the rare and beautiful products of other people's glass houses, and may go so far as to feel grateful to others for producing and exhibiting those beautiful things.

In the same way, a fine collection of stamps is an object of admiration to a philatelist: he is glad of an opportunity of seeing it, he can probably learn something from it, even though his own collection is upon quite different lines. He may readily be excused for wishing that he were able to make a similar collection himself, but he should in no way be disheartened; if he studies his stamps, as he should do, he will remember that there is as much real interest in many of the commoner stamps as there is in the great rarities—far more so indeed in the majority of cases; and if ever he arrives at completeness in any portion of his subject, he will probably realize the melancholy fact that it is the *collecting*, rather than the *collection*, which affords the real pleasure, and he will understand how it is that so many fine collections, that have cost their possessors years of happy toil and considerable expense, are eventually disposed of and dispersed.

A Philatelic Exhibition, such as that to which we are now looking forward, means a good deal more than the bringing together of a number of fine collections of stamps; it is attended by a collection of philatelists from all parts of the country and from many other countries also. Many old friendships will be renewed, and there will be an immense amount of stamp-talk. We want to see the stamps, but we want to see the owners also. Stamp-talk! A pleasure which those unfortunate non-philatelists can neither understand nor appreciate, but which can be enjoyed by the humblest collector as well as by the owner of a safe full of Stamp Albums.

An Exhibition is not only instructive to those philatelists who view it rightly, it also helps to spread a knowledge of Philately among those misguided persons to whom we have referred above, the non-philatelists. Not a few of them come to a great show of stamps, brought by friends, or by curiosity to see what the things are like that are found so interesting by so many people, and for which such ridiculous prices are sometimes paid. They ask questions, they pick up a little information, that little knowledge which is such a dangerous thing, especially to those who wish to avoid the infection of Philately. They take to looking for stamps, perhaps to help the friends who took them to the Exhibition, and so, as outsiders would say, they catch the complaint, or as we should put it, they are converted to the pursuit of Philately; they obtain a new pleasure, they find a hobby which, if ridden with judgment, will carry them safely and

pleasantly for many a long day. Only let us remember that a hobby is not a race-horse, and that if we ride him a-hunting, it should be in the pursuit of pleasure, not solely for profit.

At the same time there is a financial side to Philately, which need neither be concealed nor unduly insisted upon. It is an undoubted fact that a collection, made with judgment and disposed of with due care, will return to its owner all that he has spent upon it and probably with a fair rate of interest—with reasonable luck it may even return a considerable margin of profit. An Exhibition, by arousing the enthusiasm of collectors and by adding to their numbers, is good for business, of course, and therefore of no small benefit to those engaged in the stamp trade and to those collectors who from choice or necessity regard their hobby as a means of adding to their incomes. We do not desire in any way to disparage this aspect of Philately; there are many cases of true philatelists, who devote the most earnest study to their stamps, and who have done great things for the advancement of philatelic knowledge, but could never have done so if their work could not have been made profitable. Still, in our own opinion, the greatest pleasure is derived by those who spend no more cash upon their collections than they can afford to spend upon a pleasant pursuit, and are not troubled with calculations of profits and losses.

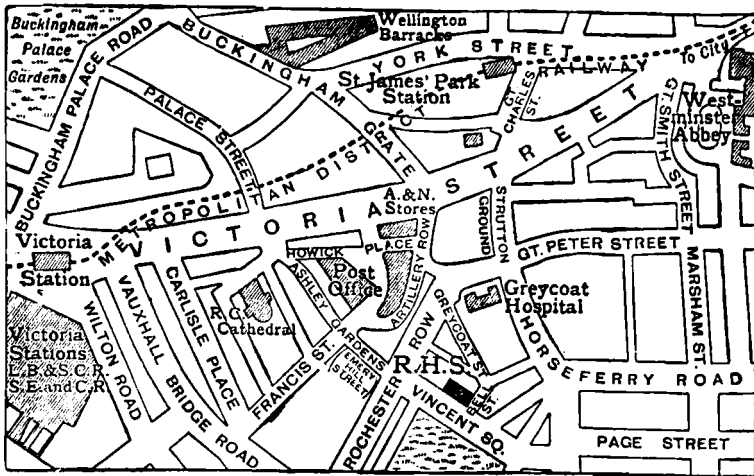
To every one connected with stamp collecting a fine Exhibition should be a source of pleasure or profit, except perhaps to those who have all the labour of its organization and arrangement. Their reward must be the gratitude of philatelists, to which we are sure they are most fully entitled.

How to get to the Exhibition

The nearest station on the underground railway is St. James's Park Station. If you are a total stranger to London, and you get out at that station, inquire your way to the Army and Navy Stores in Victoria Street. When you get to that busy and well-known building ask your way to Vincent Square, and there you are. If you get out at the Victoria Station of the London and Brighton or South Eastern and Chatham Railways, take a bus to the Army and Navy Stores, for that's the point to make for, which every one knows, from the crossing-sweeper to the bus conductor. From any of the great thoroughfares of the Strand, Fleet Street, Cheapside, Bank, or the Liverpool Street Station, take a bus to Victoria Street (not Queen Victoria Street), and ask to be put down at the Army and Navy Stores. The street plan on the next page, in which the Exhibition Hall is marked "R.H.S." and a black square, will help you.

How to see the Exhibition

Get the Official Catalogue and do the business thoroughly. First walk round the whole show quietly, just to familiarize yourself with the arrangement, note how the classes are arranged, and then come back and start with Class I, and take the whole show systematically, class by class. Don't



do any haphazard flitting from one side of the show to the other. Go round on a settled plan. Walk round the hall twice, if necessary, to make sure that you understand how the classes follow each other. Then, as you come to each exhibit, read

the Catalogue description of that exhibit, and inspect the display.

Here is a list of the classes and what they include, which will be useful to you if you do not care to spend a shilling on the Official Catalogue:—

Class I to Class VI

To consist of Special Collections of Adhesive Stamps of Various Countries, in separate exhibits.

Class I.—Great Britain

Section 1

Postage Stamps (including Official Stamps and Fiscals available for postage). *Unused only.*

Awards.—One Gold, one Silver, and one Bronze Medal.

Section 2

Postage Stamps (including Official Stamps and Fiscals available for postage). *Used only.*

Awards.—One Silver and one Bronze Medal.

Section 3

Telegraph, or Railway Letter Fee, or College Stamps, in separate exhibits.

Awards.—One Silver and one Bronze Medal.

Class II

Section 1

British Guiana.	United States of America
Hawaiian Islands.	(including Post-
Mauritius.	masters' Stamps).
New South Wales.	Switzerland.
	Afghanistan.

Awards.—One Gold and two Silver Medals.

If over six exhibits, the Judges to have discretion to award additional Gold Medal.

Class II, Section 2

Victoria.	Italy and States.
Transvaal.	France and all Colonies.
New Zealand.	Confederate States of
South Australia.	America (including
Ceylon.	Postmasters' Stamps).
Germany and States.	

Awards.—One Gold and two Silver Medals.

If over six exhibits, the Judges to have discretion to award additional Gold Medal.

Class III

Section 1

Western Australia.	French Colonies.
Colombia and States.	Roumania and Moldo-
Straits Settlements (in-	Wallachia.
cluding Bangkok,	India.
Johor, Negri Semb-	Spain.
ilan, Pahang, Perak,	Philippine Islands.
Selangor, Sungei	Japan.
Ujong, and Federated	Tasmania.
Malay States).	Portuguese Indies.

France.

Awards.—One Gold and two Silver Medals.

Section 2

Finland.	Mexico.
Canada.	Turks Islands.
Queensland.	Sicily.
Cape of Good Hope.	Peru.
Natal.	Dominican Republic.
Trinidad.	Fiji.
Bolivia.	

Awards.—One Gold and two Silver Medals

Class IV**Section 1**

Orange Free State. Uruguay.
 Orange River Colony. Shanghai.
 Greece. Turkey.
 Portugal. Indian States (viz.
 Nevis. Chamba, Faridkot,
 Griqualand. Gwalior, Jhind,
 Modena. Nabha, Patiala).

Awards. — One Gold, one Silver, and one Bronze Medal.

Section 2

Newfoundland. Uganda.
 Buenos Ayres. Cashmere.
 Austria. Grenada.
 Tuscany. Argentine, with Cor-
 St. Vincent. doba, and Corrientes.
 Barbados.

Awards. — One Gold, one Silver, and one Bronze Medal.

Section 3

Naples. Oldenburg.
 Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Brazil.
 Wurtemberg. Chili.
 Azores and Madeira. Bhopal.
 Sweden. Russia, with Livonia,
 Wenden, and Poland.

Awards. — One Gold, one Silver, and one Bronze Medal.

Class V**Section 1**

Belgium. Norway.
 Russian Locals. St. Helena.
 Russian Levant. New Republic.
 Dutch Indies, Curaçao and Surinam. Egypt, Sudan, and Suez Canal.
 Austrian Italy. Oil Rivers, Niger Coast, Northern and Southern Nigeria.
 Any two German States not in Class IV or in the other sections of this class, and exclusive of Heligoland.
 Zanzibar.
 Siam.
 China.

Awards. — One Gold, one Silver, and two Bronze Medals.

Section 2

Holland. British Central Africa.
 Denmark and its Colonies. British East Africa.
 Heligoland. British South Africa.
 Cyprus. Labuan.
 Hong Kong. North Borneo.
 Persia. St. Christopher.
 Venezuela and LaGuaira. Costa Rica and Guana-
 casta.
 British Honduras.

Awards. — One Gold, one Silver, and two Bronze Medals.

Section 3

Baden. Bahamas.
 Saxony. British Bechuanaland and Protectorate.
 Luxemburg. Servia.
 British Columbia and Vancouver. Any four or more
 Cuba, Porto Rico, and Indian Native States
 Fernando Poo. not in Class IV.

Class V, Section 3—continued

Any two Portuguese Colonies not in Class III, Section 1, or Class IV, Section 3.
 Any two Italian States not in Classes III and IV.
 St. Lucia.

Awards. — One Gold, one Silver, and two Bronze Medals.

Class VI**Section 1**

Malta. Roumania (without Moldo-Wallachia).
 Ionian Isles. Paraguay.
 Leeward Isles and Cayman Islands. Denmark.
 Montserrat. Ecuador.
 Roumelia and South Bulgaria. Hayti.
 Montenegro. Honduras.
 Bosnia. Nicaragua.
 Monaco. San Salvador.
 Guatemala. Swazieland and Stellaland.

Awards. — Two Silver and two Bronze Medals.

Section 2

Bermuda. Zululand.
 Jamaica. Bulgaria.
 Antigua. Crete. Congo.
 Abyssinia. Sarawak.
 British New Guinea. San Marino. Liberia.
 Dominica. Prince Edward Island.
 Falkland Isles. Corea.
 Gambia. German Colonies.
 Samoa. British Somaliland.
 Cook Islands. Madagascar
 Gibraltar and Morocco (British Consular Mail).
 Agencies. Iceland.
 Gold Coast. Danish West Indies.

Awards. — Two Silver and two Bronze Medals.

Class VII

To consist of General Collections in Printed Albums.

Section 1. — Without limit as to number.

„ 2. — Containing from 5000 to 10,000 stamps.

„ 3. — Containing not more than 5000 stamps.

Awards. — One Gold, two Silver, and two Bronze Medals in Section 1.

Two Silver and two Bronze Medals in Section 2.

One „ „ „ 3.

See Note Class VIII.

Class VIII

To consist of General Collections in Plain Albums.

Section 1. — Without limit as to number.

„ 2. — Containing from 5000 to 10,000 stamps.

„ 3. — Containing not more than 5000 stamps.

Awards. — Similar to those in Class VII.

NOTE. — No collection in Classes VII or VIII will be considered to be a General Collection unless it consists of at least twenty-five Countries.

Class IX**For Junior Collectors only**

To consist of General or Special Collections in any kind of Album.

Section 1

For Collectors aged from 16 to 21 years.

- Division 1.*—Collections containing over 5000 stamps.
 „ *2.*—Collections containing from 3000 to 5000 stamps.
 „ *3.*—Collections containing not more than 3000 stamps.

Awards.—Two Silver and two Bronze Medals for Division 1.

One Silver and two Bronze Medals for Division 2.

Two Bronze Medals for Division 3.

Section 2

For Collectors under 16 years of age.

- Division 1.*—Collections containing over 2000 stamps.
 „ *2.*—Collections containing under 2000 stamps.

Awards.—One Silver and two Bronze Medals for Division 1.

Two Bronze Medals for Division 2.

Class X

For Exhibits by Stamp Engravers and Manufacturers of Postage Stamps and Telegraph Stamps.

Stamps shown in this Class must be limited to specimens of work done by the exhibitor's own firm or company, and may comprise Stamps as issued, Proofs, or Essays, or all three.

Awards.—One Gold and one Silver Medal.

Class XI

Special Arrangements of Stamps, Proofs, Essays, Curiosities, and Objects of Interest in connexion with Philately and the Postal Service.

Awards.—Two Silver and two Bronze Medals.

No Special or Private Medals will be accepted by the Committee for this Exhibition, but a further limited number of Medals will be placed at the disposal of the Judges for award in any cases in which they may consider an exhibit specially deserving of recognition, and the Committee will also award Silver Medals for special services rendered to the Exhibition.

No exhibitor can take more than one prize in each Class, nor more than three in Classes II to VI inclusive, and no exhibit may be entered for more than one Class or Section.

The Committee much regret that, owing to the limited space available, they have been unable to provide for the exhibition of envelopes, post cards, and philatelic literature.

The Gibbons Stalls

If you don't quite understand your way about, make straight for one of the Gibbons stalls, produce your *G.S.W.*, and you will get all the information you need. The large stall is downstairs, and the small stall for juniors upstairs.

Programme**Wednesday, 23 May**

The Exhibition will open at 12 noon, and the opening ceremony will take place at 3 p.m. Tickets: 10s. 6d. each. Admission after 5 p.m.: 1s.

Note.—On all other days the Exhibition will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., except on Friday, 25 May, and Tuesday, 29 May, when it will close at 7 p.m.

Thursday, 24 May

Entrance, 1s. Lecture entitled "His Majesty's Mails," with 100 lantern slides, at 6 p.m., by Mr Fred J. Melville. In Lecture Hall on the first floor

Friday, 25 May

The Official Banquet will take place at 7.30 p.m. precisely, at the Imperial Restaurant, Regent Street, W., at which the Vice-Patrons and Judges of the Exhibition will be invited to attend.

After a short toast list, an entertainment will be given by Dr. Byrd-Page and "The King's Musketeers." The latter troupe consists of Messrs. Reginald Groome, Robert Grice, W. A. Peterkin, James Chilcott, and Wolsley Charles, and they will give selections from their well-known musical *répertoire*. This will be a "Ladies' Night," and it is hoped that many members of the fair sex may be present. Early application for tickets (10s. 6d. each) is necessary, as only limited space is available. Applications should be made to the Hon. Secretaries, 13 Walbrook, E.C.

Saturday, 26 May

Admission free. River Trip. Train from Paddington to Goring—thence by launch to Tilehurst for lunch and then on to Henley. Reception and Tea by Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Oldfield, at their residence, Tregunna Cottage, near Marsh Lock, Henley. Return by rail from Henley to Paddington. Tickets, price, and particulars as in Official Circular.

Monday, 28 May

Entrance, 1s. 11 a.m., visit to the British Museum to see the Taping Collection, under the guidance of Mr. E. D. Bacon. 3 to 5 p.m., Mr. and Mrs. L. L. R. Hausburg will hold an afternoon reception at Rothsay, St. George's Hill, Weybridge. Train leaves Waterloo at 2.28 p.m.; returns 5.24, 5.59, and 6.57. Price of tickets as in Official Circular. 6 p.m., Lecture by Mr. Fred J. Melville, entitled "Postage Stamps with Stories," with ninety lantern slides, Lecture Hall, first floor.

Tuesday, 29 May

Entrance, 1s. At 7.30 p.m. a Banquet will be given by the Herts Philatelic Society, at the Regent Rooms, Café Monico, Piccadilly Circus, W. The Judges of the Exhibition, prominent postal officials, distinguished philatelists, and others will be invited as guests of the Society. Philatelists who would like to attend the Banquet should apply for tickets (7s. 6d. each) to the Hon. Sec., H. A. Slade, Nine Fields, St. Albans.

Wednesday, 30 May

Admission free. Derby Day.

Thursday, 31 May

Entrance, 1s. Visit to Windsor Castle. Train leaves Paddington at 10 a.m. On arrival at Windsor thorough inspection of the Castle. Lunch at 1.30 p.m. at White Hart Hotel. At 2.30 p.m. a steam launch will leave for Oakley Court, where Sir William Avery kindly invites visitors to the Exhibition to take tea. Return by river to Windsor, and thence by train to Paddington. Price of tickets and particulars as in Official Circular.

Friday, 1 June

Entrance, 1s. Exhibition closes at 8 p.m.

GIBBONS NEW ISSUE SERVICE

AN INTERVIEW

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

HAVING heard a rumour that Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., were about to start a vast philanthropic scheme for supplying stamp collectors with new issues "while you wait," I made it my business to call early on the managing director, that I might make sure of my name being entered as a willing recipient. A very nice young lady called up the telephone and announced, "There's an old gentleman here who wants to see you," and then, after some talk in an undertone as to my name and business and general appearance, I was shown up.

"Oh, Cornelius," exclaims the boss of the concern, "it's you, is it? They said they thought it was the Serjeant-at-arms out in his Sunday best. Now what can I do for you? I'm busy."

"Well," said I timorously, "I hear that you are starting a benevolent scheme for the supply of new issues to needy stamp collectors, and I thought I'd be early."

"Benevolent scheme be hanged," said the great man. "Where have you been wool-gathering, Cornelius? You must hand out the tin before we enter your name for new issues."

"Ah, I am sorry for that," said I regretfully.

"Well, there's no help for it. This is a business establishment conducted on strictly business lines. Now what do you want?"

"Well, if it was a benevolent supply I was going to give you an order for everything up to £5, but as I must dub up, I think I'll limit my order to Cayman Islands up to 6d., but I'd like to hear all about this great scheme first. Please sit down and explain it all. I am not busy."

After a lot of persuasion, I got him quieted down into a talkative mood. You would really be surprised what an interesting study the head of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., is when you can get him to talk.

Says he, "We have been thinking out this scheme for the prompt supply of new issues to our clients for a very long time. This business was originally built up as a new

issue business, but for many years we have given so much attention to rare stamps that we have somewhat unthinkingly neglected our new issue supplies; but we are now setting aside fresh capital, to the extent of £8000, for a full and prompt supply of new issues from all parts of the world. We are not going to ask our customers to send us money in advance; we are going to trade with our own capital, not theirs. We are just going to ask each customer to say what he wants, and we will see that what he wants will be supplied to him, no matter whether his order be for all issues up to £5, or only for Cayman Islands up to 6d. As each customer's order comes in he will be allotted a division in a classified range of drawers, and the contents of that division or box of his will be sent him periodically, with a statement of the amount due for the stamps forwarded, and he will as promptly send us his remittance, for the business can only be done on the low terms we offer on an absolutely cash basis. Whatever the country he collects, if he will send us his order for the new issues he wishes to secure of that country, we shall make it our special business to see that he gets what he orders. We may at times be outwitted by local speculators, but so far as it is possible for a business firm to cover the whole ground we shall do so. Once a collector entrusts us with his order to get all the new issues he requires, he may rest content that his interests will be our special care. Our orders for supplies of new issues will depend upon the demands of our regular new issue customers. In most cases we shall get some over for general sale, but our regular orders will be attended to before a single stamp is handed out for general sale.

"We shall not worry our customers with pettifogging charges for postage. We shall pay our own postage, and expect our customers to pay theirs.

"Our terms will be 10 per cent. over face value. That works out practically at the proportion of 1s. 1d. for a shilling

stamp, so that our charge for a £1 stamp will be 22s. The cheapest of our rivals charges 23s.

"You may also note the fact that directly a change takes place in perforation, colour, or watermark, the obsolete stamp will be raised in price in our Catalogue.

"We are making a new and special department of our new issue service, and placing it under the management of Mr. Frank Phillips; and all early information that we

get about forthcoming new issues will be published immediately in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*."

"Ah, I see," said I, "it's not a benevolent scheme after all, but sails as near it as an astute business firm can do."

"That's it. You hit the nail on the head beautifully, Cornelius. Come out to lunch, and we'll settle your order for Cayman Islands on the lowest possible terms."

THE GEOGRAPHICAL INTEREST OF STAMP COLLECTING

By Rev. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 311.)

THE Dominican Republic, in 1900, issued a series bearing a map of the island. The 1892-6 of Colombia gives a capital illustration of an isthmus.



Island of Dominica.



Isthmus of Panama.

Of mountains and mountain scenery, the Stamp Album affords many examples. One of the finest is seen in the five-shilling value of the 1898 issues of New Zealand, where a view of Mount Cook (12,000 feet) is given. The snow-clad peak is well brought out, and some idea may be gathered of the remarkable scenery which characterizes the South Island of New Zealand. Mount Wellington in Tasmania, Mount Ida in Crete, and the mountain chain of Nicaragua, are amongst other examples depicted on stamps.



A plateau or table-land is exemplified in the 1900 issue of the Cape of Good Hope,

which has a view of Table Mountain showing the stretch of level ground on the top of the mountain.



Table Mountain.

When a river flows over a rocky ledge, a waterfall, cataract, or cascade is formed. Here again we find some fine examples. The Llandoverly Falls of Jamaica, and the Dilston and Russell Falls of Tasmania, are of the number.



Lakes are bodies of water occupying hollows in the land. Lake Marion of Tasmania, and Lake Wakatipu of New Zealand, are well known to most young collectors.



Volcanoes are very much in our thoughts at present, owing to the recent eruption of Mount Vesuvius. A volcano is formed of the matter which has been forced up from the interior of the earth through an opening in its crust. A stoppage of the opening, or the generation of steam, caused by water finding its way to heated internal masses, brings about a clearance of the pipe, whereby volcanic dust and ashes are carried high into the air, and molten rock flows from the pipe.

Mexico, in her 1899 issue, has a distant view of the well-known volcano Popocatepetl (17,884 feet), the highest in Central America. Another volcano, which figures very frequently on the stamps of Salvador, a land strewn with volcanic cones, is seen on the early issues of Salvador. One of these volcanoes, Izalco, near Sonsonate, has been in constant eruption for more than a century. Earthquakes, of course, are of frequent occurrence.

Nicaragua is also well stocked with volcanoes. On the west of the country the surface sinks rapidly towards the Pacific. The southern two-thirds of this depression is filled by large lakes. A chain of volcanic cones stands on islands in the lakes. One of these islands, with its volcano (6890 feet), the island of Momotombo, figures on the 1900 issue of Nicaragua.

The 1898 Pictorial Issue of New Zealand has a fine illustration of the extinct volcano Ruapehu (9195 feet), with the active cone of Tongariro hard by.



Salvador.



Island and Volcano of Momotombo.



Our next branch of physical geography brings us to the distribution of animals and plants. Here again the Stamp Album pro-

vides us with an abundance of illustration. The noblest of the animal creation is man, and mankind may be conveniently divided into three well-defined types, each possessing certain marked characteristics.

1. The White or Caucasian type includes the European races and their descendants in America, most of the people of Northern Africa, the Hindoos, Persians, Arabs, etc., of South-Eastern Asia. The distinguishing traits are: prominent nose, regular features, with skin varying in colour from white to dark, and even black. The portrait issues of most European and American states afford endless varieties of this type. The same distinguishing features may be seen in the accompanying illustrations of the rulers of Holkar and Persia.



Holkar.



Persia.

2. The Yellow or Mongolian type includes the Tartars of Northern and Central Asia, Russia and Turkey, the Chinese, Japanese, the people of the Indo-China peninsula, the Finns, Lapps, and Magyars of Europe, the Malays, Polynesians, and Maoris. The distinguishing traits are: straight black hair, yellow complexion, prominent cheek-bones, and small black eyes, set slightly oblique. We give two illustrations, the second of which furnishes a good example of these distinguishing traits.



Labuan (a Dyak).



Japan (Prince Kitasirakawa).

3. The Black or Negro type includes the Negroes of Central and Southern Africa, the aborigines of Australia, the Papuans of New Guinea and neighbouring islands, and the slave descendants in America. The distinguishing traits are: black woolly hair,

dark complexion, flattened nose, thick projecting lips and jaws, prominent eyes with a yellow cornea. The 1894 issue of the Congo State (Belgium) gives us an illustration of "God's image done in ebony," as he appears in his native wilds; while President Johnson, the son of a freed slave, appears on the 10 cents value of the 1897 issue of Liberia.



Congo State.



Liberia.

Passing from the races of mankind, we come to the lower order of animals. This portion of our subject may be considered under each continent.

Europe is free from the large animals of the cat tribe and from large and dangerous reptiles. This is, in part, because Europe lies entirely outside the Tropics, and, in part, because it is so fully inhabited by man. Accordingly, except for the horse on the stamps of Brunswick, we have few illustrations of the brute creation in the European section.

With Asia, however, the case is quite different. There wild animals abound, and many illustrations appear. Of Pachyderms, Perak and Selangor in the Straits Settlements present us with a group of Asiatic elephants. Ruminants are represented by the stag of Labuan. The tiger of Pahang, Selangor, and Bussahir, and the tree-loving Malayan bear of Labuan, represent the Carnivora; while the Quadrumana find a worthy illustration in the orang-outang of Labuan.

The African section presents the finest array of zoological specimens. The African

elephant, more angular in form than his Asiatic brother, lords it on the stamps of the Italian Somaliland, Liberia, and the Belgium Congo State. The hippopotamus, peculiar to Africa, and found in abundance in its great rivers and lakes, is represented on Liberian stamps.



The camel, an introduction from Western Asia, finds favour with the French Somali Coast, the French colony of Obock, and the Soudan. The giraffe on the stamps of Portuguese Nyassa assumes the existence of lofty trees. The African lion presents a formidable aspect on the issue of the Italian Somaliland. French Congo depicts the stealthy leopard, while Madagascar gives us a monkey in miniature in her 1904 issue.

America adds a few examples to the picture gallery in the shape of the buffalo of the United States of 1898, the llama of Peru, and the beaver of Canada.

The animals of Australia are for the most part quite unlike any animals in Europe, Asia, or Africa. They nearly all belong to the order of Marsupials or pouched animals, so called because the females have a kind of pouch or pocket in which they carry



their young until they are able to run alone. The best-known of these is the kangaroo, of which an illustration appears in the 1888-97 issue of New South Wales.

(To be continued.)

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Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

PORTRAITS ON STAMPS

By BOSWELL JUNIOR

José Joaquin Olmedo was a prominent South American leader and poet who participated in the struggle against Spanish dominion. According to Appleton's *Cyclo-*



graphia, he was born at Guayaquil in 1781, and died there on 19th January, 1847, but Smith's *Cyclopaedia of Names* gives the date of birth as 1781,

and death as February, 1847. His services as a member of the Nationalist party led to his election in 1820 as a deputy to the first Spanish Cortes, but in 1822 he returned to Guayaquil to take part in the revolution of that year. The country now called Ecuador was then the vice-royalty of Quito, till in May, 1822, the Spanish forces were decisively defeated by the patriots, and the independent Republic of Colombia was formed by the incorporation of Venezuela, New Granada (the present Republic of Colombia), and Quito. This union was stoutly opposed by Olmedo, but without avail. He attended the first national Congress of Peru in 1822 as delegate from Quito, and was subsequently appointed

diplomatic agent to Europe by Simon Bolívar—"the Liberator of South America"—residing in London until his return in 1828.

Quito withdrew from the Colombian federation in 1830, and was proclaimed an independent State under the title of the Republic of Ecuador, Olmedo being its first Vice-President. This position he resigned later on to take up the prefecture of his native *departamento* of Guayaquil. In 1843 he was included in the provisional Government formed upon the resignation of Juan José Flores, who had been elected President for the third time in 1843. Soon after Olmedo retired from active politics and devoted himself to the gentler art of poetry. His most famous work is his ode *La Victoria de Junin: Canto a Bolívar* (Paris and London 1826); he also wrote an ode to General Flores and many other poems and lyrics of considerable merit. Collected editions of his poetical works have been published in Valparaiso 1848, Paris 1853, and Mexico 1862. *The Encyclopaedia Britannica* (article "Peru," vol. 18, p. 676) mentions him as one of a trio of writers whose names are "well known wherever the Spanish language is spoken."

I am indebted for the foregoing to Mr. Harry J. Maguire.

FORGERIES AND REPRINTS

HOW TO DETECT THEM

By REV. ROBERT B. EARÉE

AFGHANISTAN—continued

Issue of April, 1878. Dated '95 (90)

Five values, in five colours, as before. One plate contains 40 of the 1 shahi; another plate has 30 of the 1 sunar, 6 of the 1 abasi, 2 of the $\frac{1}{2}$ rupee, and 2 of the 1 rupee. I possess a forgery of what is presumably intended for the 1 shahi, black, but it is a poor imitation. Unfortunately, I have only one type of the genuine from which to describe.



1 Shahi

Genuine.—Lithographed in grey, black, purple, green, or yellow-brown, on white laid paper. There is a thick blotch of colour, outside the tiger's face, extending from somewhere about the middle of the right cheek (left side of stamp) round below the chin, and to about level with the mouth on the other side. The face measures about 8½ mm. across in the broadest part, and the eyes have large, solid black pupils, looking upwards. The date and value are quite as distinct as in the illustration above, and there is no mistaking them. The nose of the tiger is broad and three-lobed at the end. The stamp is circular.

Forged.—I do not think this is very likely to deceive. Typographed, in greyish black, on medium, white wove paper. There is no black blotch outside the tiger's face, but there is a small one on the face, at the edge of the right cheek (left side of the stamp), and another at the corner of the mouth on the same side. The face measures about $9\frac{1}{2}$ mm. across the widest part, making the whole head look very much larger than the genuine. The eyes are white, with a tiny horizontal black line by way of pupil to each. The date is "١٩٠٥," the "q" being very badly made. The value is quite unreadable; indeed, the whole of the lettering is a mere caricature of the genuine. The nose of the tiger is long, narrow, bent to the left, and with a slanting tip.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—One specimen that I have had from Major Evans' collection has penmarks at the corners, and a small octagonal impression, in black, of what looks like a seal, containing in Arabic letters the words (as far as I can make them out) *NUR MAHMUD*. The words are twice repeated, the one set being inverted, so that they can be read whether in the normal position, or if the seal is upside down. This, of course, may possibly be only the seal of the writer of the letter, and not an official postmark.

Forged.—My specimens are uncanceled.

Issue of June, 1878. Dated '95 (٩٥)

Of this issue I have not yet seen any forgery. There is only the one value (1 shahi), printed in grey, purple, green, yellow, or black, for the different districts, on white laid paper.



Issues of 1880-90. Dated 1298 (١٢٩٨) 1 Abasi, 2 Abasi, 1 Rupee

There are many varieties of these three values, in the way of paper and colour. I am afraid I shall have to give the list, though it is rather long. Thin white laid *bâtonné*: 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., violet; ditto, violet-black; ditto, black; ditto, pink. White wove *bâtonné*: 1 a., 2 a., 1 r. Thin white wove: 1 a., rose; 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., purple. Thin coloured wove: 1 a., purple on green; ditto, red on blue; ditto, red on green. Coloured laid *bâtonné*: 1 a., purple on yellow; 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., red on yellow. White laid *bâtonné*: 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., brown; 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., carmine. Thin coloured wove: 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., red on yellow; 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., carmine on rose; 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., red on orange; 1 a., carmine on rose; ditto, lilac on rose; ditto, violet on pale blue. Coloured laid *bâtonné*: 1 a., 2 a.,

1 r., lake on green; 2 a., red on yellow; 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., violet on lilac. Thin coloured wove: 1 a., black on magenta; 1 a., claret on orange. Coloured laid *bâtonné*: 1 a., black on lavender; 1 a., puce on green; 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., black on pink. Thin coloured laid paper: 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., black on pink; 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., brown on yellow; 1 a., 2 a., 1 r., blue on green. Ordinary white laid: 1 a., lake; 2 a., lake-red.

1 Abasi

Genuine.—Paper and colour as above, according to the variety. All the dots in the inner and outer circle are oblongs, with straight (i.e. not rounded) ends. There are 50 of them round the inner circle, and 97 in the outer one, and none of them touch the outlines of the circles. In the centre of the stamp the top character is like a shepherd's crook or a fish-hook, lying horizontally, with the crook to the left, and the bend of the hook quite distinct and thick. (The illustration does not show the bend.) The central character is all in one piece. The left-hand end of the lowest character turns round, so as to point perpendicularly upwards, and, in its broadest part, it is almost as wide as the white ring outside it. This lowest character, as a whole (it signifies "one"), looks a little like a badly-made "5," lying almost on its back, with no head, but with an extra projection at the shoulder. It is all in one piece.



First Forgery.—Lithographed, in black and in purple, on medium, white wove, and also in purple, on orange wove paper. All the dots in the two circles are either rounded or pointed at the ends, and the majority of them are ovals. There are 49 of them in the inner circle, and 91 in the outer one, and several touch the outlines of the inner circle, and a number touch the outlines of the outer circle. In this outer circle, also, a number of the dots are joined together, as though the ink had run. The top character in the centre is an almost straight horizontal line. Above it may be seen a short wavy white line, which, in the genuine, is the point of the hook or crook; but, in this forgery, and in the illustration above, the horizontal line does not bend round to join it. The central character is in three parts. The horizontal part of the lowest character is broken in the middle, and the left-hand end points slantingly up to the left, instead of perpendicularly upwards. This horizontal part is *very* much narrower than the width of the ring outside it.

Second Forgery.—Lithographed in rose, on thin, orange laid paper. The dots in the two circles are more like the shape of the genuine ones in this forgery. There are 47 in the inner circle. I have not been able to count the dots

in the outer circle, as my specimen is blotched, but I fancy there are more than in the genuine, and several of them touch the outlines of the outer circle. The top character in the centre of the stamp is merely a horizontal line, as in the first forgery, with the little wavy line above the left-hand end of it, as before; but it gets fully as broad as the genuine at the left hand, though not turning up into a hook. The central character is in two pieces. The lowest character is also in two pieces, and has no resemblance to a "5."

Third Forgery.—Lithographed in carmine, on lilac laid *kitonné* paper. There are 46 dots in the inner ring, several of them wedge-shaped, and many of them touching either the inner or the outer outline. There is a small break in the outer edge of this inner ring, to the left of the top, the ring being narrower to the left, and wider to the right of the small break. The outer ring contains 96 dots; many of them touch the outer outline, and a few touch the inner outline of the ring; some of them to the right are wedge-shaped, and most of them are decidedly longer than the genuine. The centre of the stamp is almost exactly like the second forgery, except that the lowest character is in one piece.

Same Issue. 2 Abasi

Genuine.—Varieties as described at the beginning of this issue. There are 43 dots in the inner ring, and 84 in the outer one. They are mostly square-ended oblongs, and none of them touch the outlines of the containing-rings. The top character in the centre of the stamp is the shepherd's crook, as before, and above it, almost touching the end of the crook, there is a very distinct asterisk or floret, composed of 7 white balls, arranged round a central ball. The tail of the lowest character to left in the circle almost touches the shepherd's crook. This character, by the way, is "abasi," and the two comma-like characters to right of it ("two") have their heads exactly level with each other.



Forged.—Lithographed in carmine, on thin, green wove paper. There are 46 dots in the inner ring, and 90 (as far as I can make out) in the outer one. The dots are much larger than in the genuine, so that, in the outer ring, some of them stretch right across, from outline to outline, and many others touch the outer outline. Some of the dots in the inner ring are long, narrow wedges, but hardly any of them seem to quite touch one of the outlines of the said inner ring. The top character in the centre of the stamp is a hook, and the point is even longer than in the genuine, but I cannot see any trace

of the floret, which is so conspicuous in the genuine. The tail of the lowest character to the left is short, and, though it turns up, it does not go anywhere near the hook above it. The head of the right-hand comma appears to be split, and it is decidedly above the level of the left-hand comma.

Same Issue. 1 Rupee

Genuine.—Paper and colour as above. There are 48 dots in the inner ring, and 90 in the outer one, and they are nearly all square-ended as before, and none of them touch the outlines of the rings. The top character in the centre of the stamp is a horizontal wavy line, and just above it there is a little floret. The bottom character is almost exactly the same as in the genuine 1 abasi.



Forged.—Lithographed in red-purple, on stout, white wove paper. There are 46 dots in the inner ring, many touching the outer outline, and two or three going right across. One or two have their bottom ends joined, making a sort of v, and one has a line joining the centres of two dots, making a sort of n; several are wedge-shaped, and all are much too long. The outer ring contains 97 dots; many of these are wedge-shaped, and several go right across the width of the ring, touching both outlines. The top character in the centre of the stamp is a slightly wavy line, but it slants down decidedly to the left, instead of being horizontal. There is no floret above this line. The bottom character is in two parts—the right-hand end is far too upright, and the left-hand end points to the left, instead of curving up so as to point perpendicularly upwards.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—As before; also an almost triangular hole cut out, with a smudge of ink round the hole, generally in blue.

First Forgery.—Uncancelled; also a horizontal pen-stroke.

Second Forgery.—Some illegible blotches.

Third Forgery.—1, but with name in straight line, "Calcutta, Feb. 6."*

* The numbers, here and throughout the book, refer to the illustrations of postmarks in the Appendix. I conclude my readers will understand that, in the case of illustrations of postmarks with particular names upon them, the illustrations only indicate the type of postmark. For instance, when I say "Postmark 1," this simply means that the postmark is a single circle, with name of place (whatever that may happen to be) following the curve and date, etc., in the centre, as in illustration 1, which is a London postmark.

NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Canal Zone. — The *Metropolitan Philatelist* says:—

"The revenue of the Panama Government is evidently running low, if one may judge from reports of provisionals recently issued. It could hardly be expected that stamps without some variation which would appeal to the philatelist who dotes on errors, would continue in use for any great length of time. It will be surprising if something new in a series is not forthcoming soon, and of course this will mean a new outfit for the Canal Zone unless the War Department sooner figures out a more satisfactory scheme than the 40-60 per cent. plan."

Gambia. — We hear from several correspondents that the remainders of the 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 3s. recently issued stamps, for which there has been very little demand, have been surcharged, some "Half Penny" and some "One Penny." Mr. Biden has shown us the "One Penny" on 3s., in which the surcharge is in one line, and the "Half Penny" on the 2s. 6d., in which the surcharge is in two lines in larger type in sans-serif capitals, with two bars obliterating the original value.

Natal. — Our publishers send us the 2s. value on multiple CA paper.



Wmk. Multiple C A. Perf.

- 1d., green.
- 1d., carmine.
- 4d., carmine and cinnamon.
- 6d., green and brown.
- 1s., blue and rose.
- 2s., green and mauve.
- 2s. 6d., purple.

Philippine Islands. — The *Metropolitan Philatelist* says: "The new stamps, having at last been accepted by the authorities on both sides, are now being printed, and may be expected here in about three months. The set consists of the following values, each stamp, except the two highest, bearing the portrait which is given after the colour.

2 centavos, green;	portrait of Rizal.
4 " red	" McKinley.
6 " violet	" Magellan.
8 " brown	" Legaspi.
10 " blue	" Lawton.
12 " carmine	" Lincoln.
16 " dark lavender	" Sampson.
20 " brown	" Washington.
26 " black	" Carriedo.
30 " olive	" Franklin.
1 peso, reddish brown;	" A. ms.
2 pesos, black;	Arms.

"The following number of each value has been ordered: 2 centavos, 12,000,000 stamps; 4 centavos, 5,000,000; 6 centavos, 80,000; 8 centavos, 35,000; 10 centavos, 2,000,000; 12 centavos, 20,000; 16 centavos, 500,000; 20 centavos, 800,000; 26 centavos, 14,000; 30 centavos, 400,000; 1 peso, 200,000; 2 pesos, 100,000."

In a later issue the same journal says:—

"The Bureau of Engraving and Printing is about to begin the work of printing the new series of stamps for the Philippines. Some delay in getting to work was occasioned by the failure of the paper to arrive until this week. It was decided that, to give the new series a distinctiveness that would make the issue entirely satisfactory to the Filipinos, specially made and water-marked paper should be employed, and so paper watermarked 'P.I.P.S.' was ordered. Aside from the watermark, the paper is similar to that used on our current stamps. It is expected the new stamps, as per the requisition filed, which has previously been printed in the *Metropolitan*, will be completed before the first of June."

Seychelles. — We have received the full set of King's Head stamps on multiple C A paper.



Wmk. Multiple C A. Perf.

- 2 c., chestnut and green.
- 3 c., dull green.
- 6 c., carmine.
- 12 c., grey-brown and dull green.
- 15 c., ultramarine.
- 18 c., sage-green and carmine.
- 30 c., violet and dull green.
- 45 c., brown and carmine.
- 75 c., yellow and violet.
- 1 r. 50 c., grey-black and carmine.
- 2 r. 25 c., mauve and green.

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GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

My Greeting to G.S.W. Readers

My dear friends and fellow-sinners, I hope to meet all readers of *G.S.W.* at the great show. If there's not room for us all in the hall itself, we will have an open-air overflow meeting outside in the Square. I hope that Gibbons will signalize the auspicious occasion by presenting each of us with a set of the Gambia provisionals.



Yours truly.

The Gambia Provisionals

TALKING of those Gambia provisionals, I hear that there has been a grand scramble for them, and that as a result the whole lot has been divided amongst about two hundred and fifty persons, who now wait from 3s. to 5s. each for them. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform me that there were 4000 of each denomination surcharged, and of this number about 2600 were used for postage and the remainder sold in the colony.

Three shillings to five shillings each for stamps of which 4000 each were printed is absurd, and I am glad to hear that several of our leading dealers have declined to be parties to rooking collectors in this way.

The surcharging, I am told, has been rendered necessary owing to delay on the part of the Crown Agents in supplying a requisition for $\frac{3}{4}$ d. and 1d. stamps, which had run out.

Speculative Cornering

THERE is too much of this speculative cornering, and if it goes on some steps will have to be taken to checkmate it. For instance, I was recently asked 25s. for a stamp of the face value of 5d. just issued. A speculative dealer had bought up the whole lot, and as he had collectors at his mercy he put the price up from 5d. to 25s., and refused to sell to other dealers unless they kept the price up to 25s. Such dealers may learn some of these fine days that collectors can and will apply an effectual boycott in such cases.

The Postmaster's Daughter

A CORRESPONDENT sends me the following tit-bit from the *Glasgow Evening News*:—

Five hundred love-letters and eighty telegrams were sent by John Woolcott, master butcher, of the Royal Engineers, Aldershot, to Miss Harriet Caseley, of Kennford, Devon, a postmaster's daughter, who brought a breach of promise action at Exeter, Woolcott having married another young woman last year. The following letter was read to the jury as a sample:—

"Oh, darling, I am pleased that I did not go to South Africa; it is bad enough being here, so far away from my own darling loved one. Oh, darling, fancy having to walk up to the Woodlands every morning. I do wish I was nearer to you to look after my sweetheart; you should not walk to the Woodlands unless I was with you. We would not mind the walk then, what say you, my own love? I should give you lots of kisses during that journey.

"How can I thank you enough for sending me those lovely flowers? Oh, it is too good of you—such nice ones, they do smell lovely, my pet. I wore the bunch of primroses out last night. Oh, darling, I must thank you a thousand times for them. Your loving and true sweetheart, JACK."

In June last Woolcott wrote breaking off the engagement, giving as his excuse that "he had disgraced himself."

He purchased hundreds of stamps, one at a time, in order to speak to the girl.

The jury awarded Miss Caseley £50 damages.

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

ANNERSLEY'S ADVENTURE

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON

OH! I say, you fellows—and girls, too—I should like to tell you of Annersley's visit last week to the Philatelic Exhibition in London. It is so awfully funny. Of course I am aware that perhaps you do not know Annersley personally; but then that does not matter. He is rather keen on stamps, and each week eagerly devours the contents of *G. S. W.*, and I think that should prove a great bond of sympathy between all you fellows—and you of the fair sex who read *The Weekly*—and Annersley, and also myself. I think "Fellows who are keen

on the same hobby are keen on one another"—Q.E.D., as that dry old stick Euclid would have it. He may have been a clever sort of chap in his way, but I think there is far more interesting wisdom in that foregoing remark of mine than in the whole lot of his axioms, postulates, and problems stewed in the mortar-board of a self-opinionated pedagogue; don't you too?

Annersley caught the early morning train to London.—No, that won't do, I must start from the very beginning, and then you chaps will perhaps understand it better.

There were three of us, Vincent Lewis, Gerald Annersley, and myself (my name is Arthur Urquhart), all stamp collectors. We were one afternoon sitting on a slope of green pasture, an undulating incline of picturesque nature which extended to the shimmering sea. It was awfully jolly I can tell you. The gentle song of the ocean and the music of the shifting shingle sounded on our ears. The sun shone warm and bright on the rippling sea, which danced like myriad diamonds, and in the distance could be viewed the glint of many ships. I'm jolly glad that bit of descriptive work is finished: I don't much care for it, and had to get the mater to assist me with the foregoing (she's rather good at it), but then, you know, editors like a bit of the blue sky and glorious nature business, and I'm awfully anxious that the editor should accept this story, as I think Annersley's adventure at the Exhibition might interest you.

We three, Lewis, Annersley, and myself, were having a jolly talk about stamps, albums, and hinges, and all sorts of philatelic matters, and gradually the topic of our conversation became "The Exhibition."

Annersley said, "I'm going to see the Exhibition." We, that is Lewis and myself, stared in astonishment at our friend; his remark dropped like a thunderbolt amongst us. "Lucky young beggar," I said.—"The pater has arranged it," he replied. His pater is a brick no end, I think. Lewis and I, of course, wished we were going, and thought out all sorts of plans to attain the desired end, but none seemed practicable, so we had to be content with envying Annersley, which is rather poor consolation for two fellows who are so jolly keen on stamps as to keep away from the tuck-shop for two whole days.

"I hope Cornelius Wrinkle will be there," said Annersley; "I'd like to have a chat with him. Listen to this," and he produced from his pocket a copy of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for 17 March, 1906. I have a mental and bodily appetite for dates, and read this extract from "The Gossip of the Hour":—

" . . . And I hope to meet a great many of my G. S. W. friends at that spot (talking of the Exhibition, of course); they will recognize me from my portrait published on page 27 of Volume I."

Replacing the journal in his pocket, he said, "I have photographed Mr. Wrinkle's portrait on my mind."—"Are you in possession of such a thing?" interrupted Lewis, but only because he was beastly jealous, so I made him shut up, and jolly smart too, although Annersley is a bit "uppish" and pretends to know a lot about stamps, and is really a bit of a milksop, and deserves to be taken down a peg. So after I had sat on Lewis' chest for about five minutes and torn his collar in the struggle, he promised to behave himself like a Briton. "How jolly for you," I said to Annersley. "I wonder if Cornelius will be as funny in the flesh as he is in *Gibbons*; but don't talk to him as though you know as much about stamps as he does, because you

don't."—"I don't need your advice," replied Annersley. "I'll let you know about Mr. Cornelius on my return."

A few days later our lucky friend took an early morning train to London, and I will chronicle his adventures as I learned them from him on his return.

Of course, the first thing I asked Annersley after his return from the Exhibition was whether he had seen Mr. Wrinkle, and what sort of fellow he is. "Decent enough," replied my friend, "but rather eccentric. Not quite such a good-looking fellow as he appears from his portrait—that flatters him."

"Let me have an account of it all," I asked. "So you did see the Gossiper after all."

"Rather," he replied, and he regaled me with the following:—

"You know the pater met me at Charing Cross, and had intended to go with me to the Exhibition; but found at the last moment that he had some urgent business to attend to in the City, so I had to go alone."

You know, Annersley's pater has something to do with shares and mines and that sort of thing, and so had to go to the musty old City to—well, I think some fellows who had money in his concerns expected what is called a dividend, so Annersley's pater had to ask the fellows who expected the money to pay him some more money so that he could pay them a dividend at the end of the next half-year. It's quite easy, I believe, and is called making a call, or reconstructing. It is far easier than reconstructing a plate of 225's. But I must proceed with the recital of this adventure.

As the pater could not go with the son, the son had to go without the pater, so the pater put the son in a cab, the pater paid the fare, and the son fared well. This is quite plain to you, isn't it? although at first glance son and pater do seem mixed up.

When Annersley arrived at the Horticultural Hall, he jumped out of the cab, and was making his hurried way to the entrance, when he stopped dead. You know what I mean; he was rushing forward, then he stopped suddenly, let his arms fall by his side, and opened his mouth in astonishment. Is that clear to you? Supposing you were walking, say, in a field, thinking of your stamp collection and so on, and suddenly you came across your centenarian grandfather skying lightning half-volleys delivered by your ninety-year-old grandmother, you would stop suddenly and stare in amazement, wouldn't you? Well, that is what young Annersley did.

He saw some one just outside the building. "That's Cornelius," said he softly, "I'm dead sure of it." And so he thought he would give the fellow a wrinkle that he knew Wrinkle, even without the monocle *à la Chamberlain*. So Annersley walked up to the gentleman in question, coughed twice, and said, "Excuse me, but aren't you Mr. Cornelius Wrinkle?"

"Eh?" replied the person addressed.

"You are Mr. Cornelius Wrinkle—are you

not?—of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*,” said Annersley in a cock-sure-of-it tone of voice, and produced a copy of the said journal from his pocket. “You write this gossip, don’t you?”

“Oh, so you recognize old Corny, do you?” replied the stranger.

“Rather,” replied Annersley. “I am awfully pleased to meet you, I am Gerald Annersley. Oh! my word, won’t the fellows be green with envy when I tell them that I have actually met you?”

“Which fellows?” asked the new acquaintance.

“Why, the fellows at school,” replied Annersley.

“Umph! there’ll be some green knocking about, I should think,” the man said.

Annersley had a short conversation with his new-found acquaintance, who he said was an awfully funny, interesting chap, and then suggested that they should go together to see the various exhibits, and asked, “Take me to Gibbons’ stall, will you? And do you think you could introduce me to—” and then he whispered the rest, in case, he said, passers-by might hear.

“Fraid I can’t,” said the man musingly.

“How is that?” asked Annersley.

“Well, it’s this way, you see. As you can see from his photograph, he looks as though he enjoyed a bit of humour, and he one day asked whether he could not write the *Tattle*. ‘Right,’ said Corny. ‘But as Corny don’t want to join the unemployed, what shall he do? Shall Corny write up, say, ‘The History of the Postage Dues of Stamp Issuing Countries’? Nothing was arranged, and Corny is afraid he and him are not on the best of terms—see?’”

Annersley expressed himself as feeling some disappointment, but asked the fellow to at least take him to see the stall.

“Sorry I can’t do that just yet, it’s very provoking,” replied the new-found.

“Oh, you can surely,” said my young friend. “Why not?”

“Well, I might later, but not just at the moment; you see, it’s this way. You remember Cornelius said in an old *Gossip* that he should be pleased to see all his *G. S. W.* friends at the Exhibition?”

“Yes,” responded my young friend.

“Well, consequently Cornelius has had a lot of young friends to see him. Corny felt very elated and proud at having so many nice young gentlemen friends, and when they looked at the array of stamps on Gibbons’ stall, and saw so many stamps they would have liked, why what did Cornelius do but give them away with unstinted liberality. The boss he said to Corny, ‘Look here, old fellow.’ Corny said, ‘Yes, sir.’ ‘You know I don’t mind your giving stamps away to your friends, so long as it don’t spell ruin; but you have already given stamps away to the value of £184 17s. 11d.’”

“Why, how could he tell?” interrupted Annersley.

“Tell?” said the fellow, “why he’d tell you the value of a hundred or two stamps in half a minute with his eyes blindfolded.”

“Oh,” replied Annersley and laughed, as he thought he was quite expected to do.

After further desultory conversation, the new acquaintance suggested that they should adjourn to tea, and then after that visit the Exhibition.

Of course Annersley readily agreed, and so they went to a restaurant near, and were busy for the next half hour with delectable confections and appetizing esculents. When they had finished eating, the man proceeded to search in one pocket and then in another, hitting them on the outside, and pulled a long face.

“I say, my young friend, have you any money?”

“Yes,” replied Annersley, “why?”

“Because I’ve had my purse stolen at the Exhibition,” replied the man. “Would you pay for the tea, and I’ll repay you when we return to the Exhibition?”

Annersley wasted much voluble sympathy on his companion and paid.

Together they then started for the Exhibition. After proceeding a little way, the man asked, “Do you smoke?”

“No,” replied Annersley.

“Well, I do,” responded the new acquaintance. “Would you lend me half a crown to buy some cigars?”

“Certainly,” replied Annersley, and handed the man the required coin, and was going to follow him into a tobacconist’s shop, when the man turned round and said, “Oh! stop outside, I shan’t be a minute.” So the fellow entered the establishment of the vendor of the fragrant weed, and Annersley waited outside.

Poor gullable Annersley! He hung about for nearly ten minutes, and then peeped into the shop; but his friend had vanished. At the other end of the establishment was another door, through it his friend had gone.

My young friend would not believe that the man had intended to act dishonestly, so went back to the Exhibition, where he spent his time between looking at the stalls and for Cornelius. But no Cornelius appeared.

He did not ask at Gibbons’ stall for the ‘*Gossip*,’ as he said he thought he might get the chap into a row for leaving the Exhibition, when he ought to have been there to see his *G. S. W.* friends.

He is still convinced that his philatelic acquaintance was actually Mr. Wrinkle, and that being a writing fellow he was naturally absent-minded. And he is still waiting for the money he lent to be returned.

Certain it is at all events, whoever the fellow might have been, he knew something about the stamp world, and no doubt enjoyed his afternoon with Gerald Annersley.

Of course, the fellow *might* (please put that ‘*might*’ in italics, Mr. Printer) have been Mr. Wrinkle; but I, for one, don’t think so. Do you?

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Our Transvaal Letter

NYLSTROOM, TRANSVAAL,

2 April, 1906.

Stamp Collecting in South Africa

In February I had occasion to visit the Cape and Natal on a pleasure trip of 3000 miles, and I looked up the post offices and stamp dealers. In Johannesburg I found business very quiet, and the stamp trade suffering accordingly. One dealer left the Rand, as he could see no improvement for some time to come.

Cape Town I found suffering from the same causes, the leading dealer selling off and leaving the town. During our conversation I was told of some peculiarities of Cape collectors, which would prove that they are more dead than alive. I was also informed that the leakage from the Post Office of the higher values, 1s. and 5s. King's Head stamps, had been stopped, and that the former 5s. stamps were getting scarce in the trade.

At the seaside I met Mr. Powys Jones, of Bulawayo, an old exchange correspondent, who is a very earnest collector. I had the pleasure of going through his collection, which is a general one, and very nicely kept. During my stay in Cape Colony I hunted through several post offices for a supply of 2d. and 2½d. King's Head stamps, and was surprised at the varied stock of stamps kept—Hope sitting, Hope standing, and King's Heads all mixed, just like a bargain shop selling off; even in the head office in Cape Town I found this economy practised. I succeeded in getting a pane of sixty stamps of each, the two values being the last in stock in the offices.

In Cape Town, when asking for a block of King's Head 5s. stamps with corner margin attached, I was met with the remark: "Oh, you are a stamp-collector!" which showed that other stamp fiends had been bothering this particular official, and had had their special desires attended to.

Coming round the coast to Durban in one of the crack steamers of the G. E. A. L., I, to my surprise, did not meet any collector on board. In Port Elizabeth and East London I saw no sign of stamps or of collectors, whereas Durban seemed better provided in showing the usual cheap sets, sheets and packets, in the show windows. Owing to being pressed for time to get back home, I could not look up the several collectors I had intended to do.

A look into the post office in Durban showed that they had also one or two lines of Queen's Head stamps still on hand, and were working them off; and these were supplied to all comers. Only when asking specially for King's Heads would these be procured from another drawer. Natal King's Head stamps with single watermark seem to be scarce, especially the higher values, which the general public seldom use. The same holds good for Transvaal stamps. It

is a long time ago since I last saw a postally used 5s. stamp.

High Value Transvaals

We, that is the Municipality here, had occasion to call for tenders in connection with our new waterworks, and issued typed specifications, the postage on which would amount to over 2s. 6d. each. I told the town clerk to reserve the envelopes for me, as I anticipated a good haul of high-value stamps; but, alas! I was disappointed. Most tenders were sent in by book post, as printed matter; and the few sent as letters were plastered all over with 1d. stamps; and some were even posted without stamps, and we had to pay the fine. Well, I own I was really disappointed!

The C.S.A.R. Stamps

The C.S.A.R. stamps have come, gone, and been burnt, and are now a thing of the past. Last October I had occasion to interview the General Manager of the railways in my official capacity. After the business was finished I took the opportunity to ask him to supply me with a few sets of the C.S.A.R. stamps, which he promised to do. After some delay, he wrote me in November that all C.S.A.R. stamps of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony origin had been called in and surrendered to the post-masters-general of those countries, and that the whole stock had since been burnt by order of the High Commissioner. He further wrote that he had been informed that it was quite contrary to Government regulations to supply the public with any of these stamps, and regretted that he could not meet my wishes. Well, I regretted it more than he, as I considered this another opportunity lost to secure what is or will be valuable in the near future.

In the meantime I, of course, buttonholed the local stationmaster for a supply. He had only the ½d. value, and he could not, would not, and did not dispose of any—not even Scotch whisky, his favourite drink, could induce him to let any go out of his stock! Naturally I got other friends to try at other places, but, with the exception of a few ½d. stamps, I did not succeed, nor did I ever hear of others being more fortunate. Collectors will thus see that it is most unlikely that quantities of unused stamps can exist, and, well, as to *used* copies, they are very scarce. Nobody took much notice of them when current, everybody expecting them to be common in future, and now you can't get any; ergo buy your new issues when current, even if they are not "on sale"!

Thus died out the first surcharge on Transvaal King's Head postage stamps, they being also the first *Official* stamps in the history of the country. May they rest in peace, and may they never be resurrected by any other department in this country is the wish of the writer.

EMIL TAMSEN.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Herts Philatelic Society

President: F. Reichenheim, Esq.

Secretary: H. A. Slade, Esq., "Nine Fields," St. Albans.

Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.

Subscription: 6s. annually.

The annual general meeting of the above Society was held at headquarters on Monday, 14 May, 1906, under the chairmanship of the President, who was supported by, amongst others, the Vice-President, Mr. H. L. Hayman, Messrs. W. G. Cool, T. H. Harvey, W. A. Boyes, L. A. Bradbury, A. Bagshawe, W. T. Standen, J. C. Sidebotham, J. Lincoln, M. Simons, R. Frenzel, S. Chapman, A. H. L. Giles, G. A. Nelson, F. J. Melville, and H. A. Slade (Secretary). The Librarian's report was the first received. He announced many donations during the season, chiefly owing to the liberality of the President, and stated that applications for books were more numerous than formerly. A full list of works will be printed in the annual report. Mr. Slade's report as Treasurer and Secretary was also most satisfactory. The receipts and expenses for the season approximately balanced, but until after the Annual Dinner, on 29 May, accounts cannot be closed for audit. Twenty-one new members have joined during the year, and five resigned, making the present strength 173. Full details as to meetings, etc., will be issued in due course. The reports were adopted, and the officials heartily thanked for their past services. The election of officers then proceeded. So satisfied were all members with the present position of affairs that this was little more than formal. Mr. Slade proposed and Mr. Lincoln seconded the re-election of Mr. Reichenheim as President, and Mr. Reichenheim proposed and Mr. Frenzel seconded the re-election of Mr. Hayman as Vice-President. Both propositions were unanimously carried amidst enthusiasm, which was renewed when the newly-elected officers returned thanks, stating that the evident wish of the meeting, so forcibly expressed, gave them much pleasure in again filling a post that needed a renewal of confidence year by year. Six old members of the Committee, Messrs. A. Bagshawe, W. A. Boyes, L. E. Bradbury, W. G. Cool, T. H. Harvey, and W. T. Standen expressed their willingness to serve again if the meeting wished. Mr. Morton resigned, owing to his now permanently residing in the provinces. There was also another vacancy. For these Messrs. R. Frenzel and W. Simpson (both ex-officers) were nominated. No other names were received, and these eight gentlemen were declared duly elected as the Committee.

On the proposition of the President, seconded by Mr. Cool, Mr. J. C. Sidebotham was re-elected Librarian, and Mr. Cool also seconded Mr. Harvey's proposal to re-elect Mr. A. G. Wane and Mr. G. Gaffe as Auditors, which was carried. The Vice-President proposed, and the President seconded, the re-election of Mr. H. A. Slade as Hon. Treasurer and Secretary. In highly laudatory terms, and amidst much hearty applause, the resolution was carried. Mr. Slade, in thanking the meeting, expressed the hope that if any one else wanted to try his hand on the work, he would not mind saying so. There were "no takers," and this vigorous Society (no longer "young") again has at the helm the best man there could be for the post.

The rules were agreed to, the only alteration being

an addition to Rule 7, on the proposition of Mr. Boyes, seconded by the Vice-President, that any vacancy that might occur in the Committee during the season might be filled at an ordinary meeting.

Messrs. Reichenheim, Cool, and Sidebotham reported that the work of arranging the Permanent Collection was practically completed to date, and Mr. Cool announced a large increase in the Forgery Donation.

Does this indicate increased skill in detection or an increase in the output?

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated a most enthusiastic meeting.

Junior Philatelic Society

Manchester Branch

The sixth ordinary meeting was held at the Y.M.C.A., Peter Street, on 6 May, 1906. About forty members were present, and Mr. Bernstein presided. Mr. W. Jung was elected a member.

Mr. W. D. Beckton, President of the Manchester Philatelic Society, read a paper on "How to Collect Stamps." He said that the beginning of stamp collecting seemed bound in obscurity; of course it could not be previous to 1 May, 1840, the date of issue of the first adhesive stamps. Stamp collecting was certainly in full swing in the early sixties, but there is evidence that stamps were being accumulated much before this date. In 1841 an advertisement appeared in the *Times* inserted by a lady who wished to obtain a large quantity of used stamps for covering her dressing-room. In 1842 *Punch* noted that the ladies of England have been indefatigable in their endeavours to collect old penny stamps. In fact, they portrayed more anxiety to hoard up Queen's Heads than King Henry VIII. did to get rid of them. Mr. Beckton then said that the beginner should collect all countries until he obtained a fair knowledge of stamps which would enable him to specialize in a single country. Clean and perfect stamps only should be put in the collection, and always mounted in the album with hinges. A collector should never be above looking at an inferior collection, as there was generally something to be learnt, and, on the other hand, he should not be disheartened on inspecting a fine collection, as he could then see the system an advanced collector used in mounting his stamps.

Leicester Philatelic Society

President: Dr. R. Milbourne West.

Meetings: Winn's Cafe, Market Place.

Hon. Sec.: J. W. H. Goddard, 14 Church Avenue, Glenfield Road.

The concluding meeting of this Society's first session was held on Wednesday, 2 May, 1906, at 8 p.m. Dr. R. Milbourne West occupied the chair. After formal business had been transacted, Mr. W. Grundy placed a good general collection for the interest of members, it being much appreciated. Mr. Percy Sansome then gave a display of the stamps of Great Britain; this display was a useful one and of considerable merit. Mr. Sansome also read a paper on "Line Engraved Stamps," which was most interesting and was well received. It has been decided to open the next winter session with an exhibition and lantern display, to bring the Society in touch with collectors who have not as yet joined the Society.

A VERY HANDSOME PRESENT

Packet No. 69, 2000 varieties. A grand packet, every stamp being different and genuine, and thus forming a choice collection in itself. £3, post-free and registered.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 39, Strand, London, W.C.

PARLIAMENTARY

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
Wednesday, 16 May, 1906

Post Cards

In answer to Mr. Henniker Heaton (Canterbury).

Mr. Buxton (Tower Hamlets, Poplar) said,—It is true that post cards are sold at their face value in British colonies and in most foreign countries, and that a small profit is made on the stationery of inland post cards sold in this country. I recently considered the question of selling post cards at their face value, but I came to the conclusion that the other reforms which have been or are being introduced would be of greater advantage to the public and should take precedence.

Post Card Stamps

Mr. Henniker Heaton asked the Postmaster-General on what grounds he charged for printing stamps on private post cards a higher rate than for stamps on other documents; would he explain why he did not

print stamps on private post cards free of charge beyond the cost of the stamps; and whether he was aware that no charge whatever was made in the colonies of the Empire for printing stamps on stationers' post cards beyond the cost of the stamps.

Mr. McKenna (Monmouth, N.).—A charge for printing stamps on private post cards is made because of the additional cost that is involved in the production of such stamps as compared with the cost of a corresponding quantity of adhesive postage stamps. The fee charged by the Inland Revenue Department for printing stamps of the class in question is 1s. for every 1000 stamps and any fraction of that number. As regards the latter part of the question, it is understood that it is only in a few colonies that such printing is undertaken without charge, that in the majority of the colonies it is not undertaken at all, and that in one of the principal colonies of the Empire a charge is made for the work of 5s. per 1000 stamps for large quantities and of 8s. per 1000 for smaller quantities.
From "The Times."

CORRESPONDENCE

The San Francisco Fire

DEAR SIR,—I have before me the last number of *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, and am very glad to be able to fully contradict the statement of the San Francisco disaster as far as my San Francisco firm is concerned. Even without direct telegraphic news, I had never ceased to hope that my large safes would withstand the fire, and that thereby all the more valuable part of my stock would be saved.

Yesterday morning's mail brought me even much better news. In the morning of that terrible 18th of April a young relative of my brother-in-law, Mr. August Linck, drove down to my store with horse and wagon and took away to safe places one load, came back and saved another load; after that Mr. Linck filled the empty safes with some of the remaining things of less value, and as the fire was coming nearer left the place. Mr. Linck's private residence is saved, and he intended to open the business there the week after the disaster. The new address is *W. Sellschopp and Co., 62 Baker Street, San Francisco, Cal.* The cablegram that was to bring me this news never arrived.

As to the other mutual friends of ours, I sincerely hope that the majority of them may have been able to save their philatelic belongings same as my firm did. As far as I could learn by the papers, Mr. Henry J. Crocker's splendid residence was only reached by the fire rather late, if at all, and as Mr. Crocker has several horses, besides automobile, etc., and had probably nearly two full days to work in, I do not see why he should not have saved a very substantial part of his treasures.

Hoping that in your next paper you may correct

the statement as far as *W. Sellschopp and Co., 62 Baker Street, San Francisco, Cal.* are concerned, I remain,
Very faithfully yours,
W. SELLSCHOPP.

Afghanistan: Early Plates

SIR,—I am sorry to see that in reproducing a portion of Mr. Earé's *Album Weeds*, on page 294 of your number for May 12th, you have reproduced a note containing a statement attributed to me, which is quite erroneous. Mr. Earé asked me some questions about the plates of the early Afghans some little time back, and, supposing him to refer to those with the inner circle dotted, I gave him the information contained in the note. As shown in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, there are three plates of the type with inner circle dotted, but only the one plate with the inner circle not dotted.

As soon as I received a copy of Mr. Earé's book I wrote and told him that the note was incorrect, and that there must have been some misunderstanding on one side or the other; it is unfortunate that the error should have been repeated.

The note on page 311 is also incorrect; the second plate contains "12 of the 1 sunar, 6 of the 1 abasi, 3 of the ½ rupee, and 3 of the 1 rupee." Mr. Earé evidently read my bad writing of "abasi" as "shahi," but he must have wondered what had become of the higher value which is included in his list.

In the description of the issue of 1876-77, "3 of the 1 sunar" should be "8 of the 1 sunar."

Yours faithfully,

EDW. B. EVANS.

Editorial Address—EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

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Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR G. S. W. READERS

OUR Publishers propose to set apart this page for the offer of Special Bargains to "G. S. W." readers.

In the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

TOBAGO.



1896. Error of colour.

Type as above.

Wmk. Crown and C.A. Perf. 14.

1/- Orange-brown.

This stamp was printed in error in the colour of the 6d., and only 6000 were issued, and it is likely to become quite a rare error.

**Special Bargain Price,
5/- post-free.**

Catalogue Price, unused, is 10/-

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

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

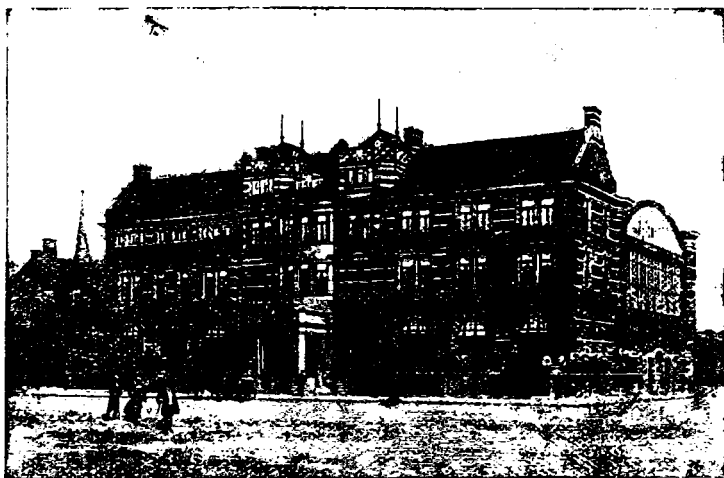
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Vol. III.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1906

By THE EDITOR



THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL HALL

AT the time of writing, our great Exhibition is in full swing. By common consent no previous Exhibition can be compared to it in the splendour of its exhibits. It marks the great advance that has been made in the more scientific pursuit of the hobby since even the last London Exhibition, only some nine years ago. Almost every great collection shown bears evidence of more up-to-date methods of research, but probably in no case is this more marked than in a very fine display of the stamps of Fiji. Specialist after specialist has given his attention to this country. It was a

favourite with the late Mr. T. K. Tapling. The quaint old type-set first issue attracted his attention, and together with Mr. E. D. Bacon he unearthed the almost forgotten history of their production. The country has been written up for a monograph by the Philatelic Society of London, and since then more than one eminent leading specialist has paid special court to its many issues; but after all this continuous concentration of attention, it has remained for a dealer with a *penchant* for specializing to throw new light upon its unsolved problems.

Of the issue of 1879 the London Society's

work says: "The die was re-engraved, the letters 'V.R.', in script type, being substituted for the initials 'C.R.'"

Mr. C. J. Phillips, in his exhibit, tells us that the stamp was not re-engraved for the substitution of the "V.R." for "C.R.," that in fact the letter "C" was punched out of the old plate and the letter "V" inserted in its place; and in support of this theory he produces the most convincing evidence by means of enlarged photographs which expose a white ring around the "V," such as would result from a rough-and-ready correction.

We mention this merely as an excellent example of the results attained by the more up-to-date scientific methods of study pursued by present-day philatelic specialists.

And it is in this respect that this International Philatelic Exhibition now being held in London in this year of 1906 possesses a specially distinct characteristic of its own. It may, indeed, be said to be full of surprises for the average collector who works only by catalogue.

The Preliminaries

The preliminaries that have to be worked through before the doors of a great international philatelic exhibition can be opened are simply immense, and it is no slight satisfaction to the philatelists of this country to know that the burden of the work has been tackled ungrudgingly by the busiest of our busy men.

First there was a tireless tramp round London visiting and inspecting all possible galleries and halls; then came the shouldering of the financial responsibilities of engaging the selected hall many months in advance; and last, but not least, the mapping out of the general lines of the Exhibition and enlisting the active sympathy and services of the most influential philatelists. Fortunately the members of the Philatelic Society of London, led by their eminent Vice-President, the Earl of Crawford, readily came forward and fathered the scheme for this new Exhibition until it had secured sufficient adherents to enable it to form its own General Committee and Executive. From that day the work has advanced by leaps and bounds, and the promoters were soon convinced that the new Exhibition would be accorded the most enthusiastic welcome.

Mounting the Exhibits

Having been fortunate enough to secure the handsome hall of the Royal Horticultural Society, the members of the Executive Committee with one or two special helpers a few days before the date fixed for opening set to work to get the great Exhibition into order. Carpenters were employed fixing trestle stands with slopes in the hall for holding the glass-framed exhibits. Load after load of giant wood frames and of great plates of glass arrived. Busy philatelists worked in shirt sleeves, arranging priceless sheets of stamps on cartridge-paper-faced boards and then placing them in the glazed frames. Workmen were kept busy wiping and drying the glass for the frames to ensure its being not only clear, but free from any speck of dirt that might soil a stamp. Nothing could exceed the tender care with which every sheet of stamps was handled, for the men who did the work were accustomed by long years of specialism to the most fastidious handling of stamps. They were no rough-and-ready workmen, but the most eminent philatelists of the day. The Earl of Crawford, Baron A. de Reuterskiöld, Baron A. de Worms, Major Evans, Mr. M. P. Castle, Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, Mr. E. D. Bacon, Dr. Diena, Mr. C. J. Phillips, these were the men who under the general direction of Mr. H. R. Oldfield, who as one of the Hon. Secretaries made a genial master of the ceremonies, got the exhibits transferred from all sorts and conditions of albums and wrappings into their proper Exhibition frames. Day after day the tap, tap of the hammers as the frames were finally fitted was incessant from early morning till far into the night. And on the day of opening every frame was in its place, the floor was swept, and the busy workers of previous days moved about arrayed in frock coats, decorated with official badges, spick and span, as though they had never done an hour's work in shirt sleeves in their lives.

The Opening Ceremony

And it was a pleasant opening, made gay and bright by the summer costumes of many ladies.

There was a time when we all hoped our philatelic Prince would himself have graciously performed the opening ceremony. As Duke of York he would have done so, but as Prince of Wales and heir-apparent the great burden of his social functions

has to be limited, and in that limitation Philately has to be satisfied with the good wishes of His Royal Highness. But in passing on to an engagement at Trinity House the Prince managed to pay a visit to the Exhibition in the morning before the opening, and in a walk round thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed the good things that were displayed. Those of us who have had the pleasure of meeting His Royal Highness alongside a frame of rare stamps know how shrewd and keen a philatelist he is, and when we speak of him as a specialist it is no mere conventional *façon de parler*.

In the absence of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Earl of Crawford performed the opening ceremony.

Taking his stand in the centre gangway at a little table on which were displayed those objects of envy, the two cups offered for competition as the chief prizes.

The Earl of Crawford said: Ladies and gentlemen, I have been ordered by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to act in his name to-day in declaring this International Philatelic Exhibition duly open. I need hardly say that it gives me the greatest pleasure and honour to be appointed by His Royal Highness to open this Exhibition, and to bring before you thus officially one of the finest shows of our hobby that have ever been brought together under a single roof. I believe it is now some fifty-five years or thereabouts since the first Stamp Exhibition took place, and we get our knowledge of this fact from one of our exhibitors. Mr. Reinheimer, in Exhibit No. 254, puts in a sketch of the first Exhibition that was held in Brussels in the year 1852, drawn from memory. Since then there have been several International Exhibitions held in this country—three in London and one in Manchester. But I think when you come to look at what we are about to place before the public to-day every one will agree that nothing has ever been shown that will equal the Exhibition that we have before us now. The childish fad, as it has been called in the past, of stamp collecting is not only to children of school days, but it has grown up with the schoolboys, and goes on to middle age and getting on to old age. Not only the enthusiasm of the schoolboy is kept alive in the old man, but the knowledge and the science of putting the things together have increased in like proportion. The result is that where a collection consisted

originally of a washing-book and a gum-pot and put on dirty bits of paper, now the whole philatelic history of a country is placed on paper and illustrated by the stamps in use in that country. The result is that the person who knows nothing whatever of stamp collecting very often may see a collection and go away and say, "There is something in that, I must have a go myself." And so Philately has gone on increasing in numbers and science and joy to many hundreds and thousands of people who occupy their leisure hours with it. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, a collector who is excessively fond of our hobby and devotes a part of his spare time to it, is an exhibitor to-day in four classes; and not only that, but his son, Prince Edward of Wales, is also an exhibitor, as you will see if you go into the room on the first floor on the left-hand side. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales spent two hours here this morning going over the Exhibition, and is intending to come again another day. He ordered me to say to those who came to the opening how sorry he is not to be able to come himself to perform the ceremony; but he had an engagement at Trinity House that could not be postponed. I do not think I ought to further interfere with your pleasure in looking at the exhibits. But I ought to say a few words of thanks to those gentlemen whose labour has been something like sixteen to seventeen hours a day in getting the Exhibition ready. (Applause.)

The Exhibits

In the space at our command it is impossible to do more than single out one or two of the more remarkable exhibits in each class. We must, however, make an exception of the entries in the Championship Class, the descriptions of which we give in full from the Official Catalogue, for they cannot fail to be historical in importance. It will be remembered that this Championship Class was formed to comprise exhibits that have obtained a gold medal at either the London Exhibition of 1897 or the Manchester Exhibition of 1899, but allowing any other exhibitor the liberty to send an exhibit for this class, whether he may have previously obtained a gold medal for such exhibit or not; that is to say, certain collections that have been sweeping the decks in the matter of medals were compelled to enter in this class only, but any collector might enter and compete for the

higher-class prizes of the Championship Class if he felt strong enough to pit himself against celebrated gold medallists.

There were four entries in Section I, Great Britain and Colonies, and three entries in Section II, Other Countries. In Section I the Earl of Crawford showed his marvellous collection of Great Britain, Mr. Vernon Roberts his celebrated Cape of Good Hope, Baron Anthony de Worms his matchless Ceylons, and Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg his grand Victorians, all great historical collections.

In Section II Mr. H. R. Oldfield showed his Bolivians, Mr. W. Grunewald his French, and Mr. Henry J. Crocker his Hawaiians.

These matchless collections are thus described in the Official Catalogue :—

The Earl of Crawford's Great Britain

This exhibit includes nearly every variety of the issued stamps in unused condition, in numerous shades, with many blocks and entire panes; a special feature being the inclusion of blocks, where it has been possible to obtain them, from the corners of sheets showing the plate numbers. The collection also comprises essays and proofs of every description, and an imperforate specimen of each plate, cut from the *Imprimatur* sheets at Somerset House. Amongst the early essays of 1839-40 is an original impression of the circular design with embossed heads of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert side by side, and a specimen of the essay engraved in anaglyptograph by William Wyon showing a helmeted head of Britannia. Amongst the more remarkable unused blocks of stamps are the greater portions of entire sheets of the first 1d., black, the 2d., blue, without lines, and the 1d., black, "V.R.", impressions of the 1d. from Plates 5 and 11, printed in black and also in red; block of ten of the 2d., watermarked Small Crown, perforated 14, blocks of eight each of the 6d., 10d., and 1s. embossed stamps of 1847-54; pane of twenty of the 3d., Plate 4, watermarked Spray of Rose; a block of seventeen of the 4d., on blue paper, watermarked Small Garter; one of six of the same value on blue paper, watermarked Medium Garter; a pane of twenty of the 1s., Plate 13, orange-brown, watermarked Spray of Rose; a pane of twenty of the 2s., red-brown, and a similar pane, but imperforate, and a block of eight of the 5s., Plate 4, on blued paper, watermarked Large Anchor. Specimens of all but one of the abnormal plate numbers known are present, including copies of the 4d., vermilion, Plate 16; the 4d., sage-green, Plate 17; the 6d., chestnut, Plate 12; the 6d., pale buff, Plate 13; the 9d., straw, Plate 5, unused; and unused specimens of the 10d., Plate 2, and the 2s., Plate 3. There is a used copy of the 10d.,

Plate 1, with watermark Emblems, and the high-value stamps 10s. and £1 of 1878-83, watermarked with Maltese Cross and with Large Anchor, are all represented unused, as well as the £5 on blued and white paper. The collection also includes a large number of the postal fiscal stamps, and of the stamps overprinted for official use and for British Post Offices in the Levant. Amongst the Postal Fiscals are a block of four and a pair of the 1s. imperforate embossed pink stamps printed *tête-bêche*; a strip of three of the 2s. 6d., embossed in vermilion, perforated 12½, watermarked Small Anchor, and a specimen of the same value watermarked with Orbs. The Official stamps comprise five unused specimens of the 5s., including two on blued paper and a pair; ten of the 10s., including a block of four and two pairs; and three of the £1 (two watermarked with three Crowns and one with three Orbs), overprinted for the Inland Revenue Department in 1885; two unused specimens of the £1, green, 1892; and an unused specimen of the 5s., 10s., and £1 with the King's Head with similar overprint. The Government Parcels series include three specimens (two unused) of the 1d. with inverted overprint, and there is also a used copy of the 1s. with inverted overprint. There are large blocks, unused and used, of the 5d. and 10d., Queen's Head, and an unused copy and block of six of the 10d., King's Head, overprinted for the Office of Works. There are large unused blocks of the 3d. and 1d. for use by the Royal Household; the Board of Education series is complete, unused, with the exception of the 1s., King's Head; and the sets with the two varieties of the overprint for use by the Admiralty are complete unused. The Telegraph stamps both of the private companies and of the Government are also shown. The former series includes the 1s. franked form of the Electric Telegraph Company issue of 1851, of which only one other specimen is known to exist; several values of the adhesive stamps of this company; a copy of the 4s. value of the British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company; and several unused and used specimens of the South Eastern Railway set. The Government issues are largely represented in unused state, with specimens of all the various plate numbers, and include unused copies of the 3s., watermarked Crown (the only one known unused); the 5s., Plate 2, perforated 14; the 5s., Plate 3, perforated 15 by 15½, watermarked Maltese Cross (an uncatalogued variety); the 5s., Plate 3, perforated 14, watermarked Anchor (the only one known unused); and one of the only two known unused specimens of the £5. The Military Telegraphs and Army Telegraphs stamps are represented complete, the former including one of the very few sets of those stamps known to exist unused. The exhibit also comprises the best known collection of the local postage stamps used at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge during the years 1871-85.

Mr. Vernon Roberts's Cape of Good Hope

Fine copies of the 1d. on blue paper, and 4d. on blue, including a pair of the latter, unused.

All the stamps of the Perkins Bacon printing most extensively shown, both used and unused; a great range of shades in the unused in singles, pairs, and large blocks, including, among others, the 4d. rouletted, a block of four of the 6d., unused, on white paper, and a pair on the blue, a block of sixteen 1s., used, and block of thirty-two, unused.

Woodblocks upwards of two hundred in number, amongst which will be noticed a block of four 1d., unused, and six pairs and a block of four, used. Of the blues, a pair of the light blue, unused, and nine pairs, used, and a particularly strong collection of the errors—three 1d. blues and a pair 1d. and 4d. *se tenant*, two 4d., red, and a block of four (three 1d. and one 4d.) red *se tenant* used on entire letter-sheet, which is additionally interesting from the fact that it is dated March 26, 1861, this being a month earlier than the stamps have been chronicled as being issued. Of the 4d., blue, there are also five specimens with the corner retouched.

The De La Rue stamps are also shown very extensively, fine ranges of shades, including pairs and blocks of thirty-two of all the values unused.

Amongst the later issues will be seen a pair of the 3d. on 4d., blue, showing the rare error PENCH unused, and also an unused copy of the "Half-Penny" on 3d., wmk. CC.

Baron Anthony de Worms's Ceylon

This collection contains among many other noticeable stamps:—

Imperforates, unused.— $\frac{1}{2}$ d., block of ten; 1d., block of twelve; 2d., block of thirty-four; 10d., block of four. Pair of 5d., two pairs of 1s. 9d. Of the 4d., 8d., and 9d., two mint copies of each; two of the 1s., 1s. 9d., yellow-green, and 2s., four specimens. Of the various shades of the 6d. there are twenty-three copies.

Imperforate, used.—Many shades of all values and several in pairs, including 4d. and 2s.

Perforated, unused.—1d., block of ninety-six, and pairs of nearly all the other values, besides blocks of four of 2d., 4d.; rose-red, 8d.; yellow-brown, 9d.; deep brown, 1s. and 2s., two shades.

Perforated, used.—All the values are again represented in many shades and pairs.

No watermark, unused.—In this series there are several of each value, besides blocks of four of 1d., 5d., 6d., 1s., and four copies of 1d., perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Among the *used* there are pairs of every variety.

Watermark Crown CC, unused.—1d., block of fifty; three copies of 1d., perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$; 2d., yellow-green; and four of 10d., vermilion; and among

many blocks of all the other values is a unique block of four of the 6d., perf. 13; and among the *used* there is a block of twenty of the same stamp, also a strip of three 1d., perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.

The "cents" and all the later issues are shown unused in several shades of each variety, and include 2 c. and 8 c. in blocks of four, perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ \times 14, and a copy of both 2 c. and 4 c. perf. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$.

In this exhibit are shown three hitherto unknown varieties:—

Watermark Star.—4d., dull rose, with clean-cut perforation (unused).

Watermark Star.—5d., pair with blind perforation (used).

Watermark Crown CC.—9d., perforated 13 (three copies used).

Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg's Victoria

Practically complete, all the earlier issues being shown used as well as unused.

The features of this exhibit are the reconstruction of the sheets of stamps of some of the early issues.

The chief stamps (unused unless otherwise stated) include: 1850.—1d., brown, clear impression, first printing by Thos. Ham, mint copy; 1d., brick-red, second printing by Thos. Ham, stamps close together, block of twelve, mint, and five singles; reconstructed block of twelve, used. Campbell and Fergusson printings: 1d., vermilion, three pairs and strip of three; 1d., brown, strip of six, pair; 1d., rose and pink, various shades; 1d., rose, reconstructed pane of twenty-four, including thirteen unused; 1d., brown, reconstructed sheets of ninety-six; 1d., rose, reconstructed sheet of ninety-six.

The chief distinguishing plate marks and transfer varieties are illustrated, and the various retouches, including the one with the whole of the words ONE PENNY redrawn.

2d., fine background and borders, fine copy, unused, a pair used; 2d., fine border and coarse background, nine unused; 2d., coarse border, many shades, including a block of four. There are a pair and two singles of the variety with the value obliterated, in different shades, besides several retouches.

3d.: Block of three and pair of the first printing.

3d., close printing. This is subdivided into two, with full shading on shawl behind neck and with hardly any shading. These appear to be separate printings, or different states of the intermediate stone. Strip of three and three pairs unused, reconstructed block of twelve, and various retouches.

3d., medium spacing: Block of eight, mint, and reconstructed sheet of ninety-six, and retouches.

3d., coarse printing and wide apart: Reconstructed pane of twenty-four and sheet of ninety-six.

Rouletted: 3d., mint pair, 1d., and three pairs of the 3d., used.

Perf. 12: 3d., one copy, mint, strip of four,

and three pairs, one being imperf. vertically, used.

1852.—2d., engraved: Block of ten and block of four.

1854.—2d., litho: Two strips of three, six pairs, and singles, including several of the rare red-lilac, unused.

All the known varieties of wrong lettering: GM.SX, WA.HN, UV.BF, TX.MQ, SW.GM, DI.WA CH.RW.

6d., orange, two pairs, imperf.; 6d., serpentine, and 6d., rouletted, unused; 6d., serrated on three sides and rouletted along top (uncatalogued), used.

Too Late: Strip of three mint, and one without the overprint TOO LATE and SIXPENCE.

2s., green, perf. and imperf.: Reconstructed pane of twenty-five, including fourteen unused; Reconstructed sheet of fifty.

2s., rouletted: Pair and single on originals.

2s., blue on green, perf. 12, 13: Block of four and reconstructed sheet of thirty, all unused, and sheets perf. 12, and in dark and pale shades.

1854.—1s., octagonal, blue, rouletted, two unused, and several retouches, used. Emblems: Chief varieties, unused; 4d., wmk. Star, rouletted; 4d., no wmk., imperf.; 4d., laid vert., imperf.; 2d., wmk. TWOPENCE, red-lilac. Used: 1d., Star wmk., rouletted; 1d., perf.; 1d., wmk. ONE PENNY, imperf.

1860.—Beaded oval, chief stamps unused: 3d., laid; 6d., orange; 6d., black, block of four; 3d., marone, perf. 12½; 4d., wmk. FIVE SHILLINGS, pair and single mint.

From 1862 the stamps are arranged according to the perforations, which are 11½-12, 12½-13, and compound like the New South Wales early perforations. Some of the varieties are extremely rare.

1864.—Wmk. single-line figures, perf. 12, 13, and compound. Chief stamps: 1d., wmk. "4," "6," "8," mint, block of four of each; 1d., wmk. "4"; 1d., wmk. SIXPENCE; 6d., wmk. FOURPENCE, all unused; and 6d., wmk. "2," used; 10d. surcharged NINEPENCE, double surcharge.

All the later issues are shown in blocks of four in all shades. One of the most noticeable stamps is the 2d. of 1873-83 on lilac paper, similar to that of the previous issue.

The issues from 1887 are for the first time divided according to the two types of the wmk. V and Crown. The first type does not appear to have been used much after 1898. All the specimen and reprint sets are shown.

Mr. H. R. Oldfield's Bolivian

Complete sheets of the 1866 and 1867 issues illustrating the seven plates of the 5 centavos value, including the exceedingly rare Plate 7 in green and one unused and one made-up plate in the lilac shades, a complete made-up sheet of the 10 centavos, brown, which includes the error "Bollvia" (No. 12 on plate), two sheets each (in different shades) of the 50 centavos, orange, and of the 100 centavos, blue, and a partly made-up plate of the 50 centavos, blue, together with a

complete made-up plate of the 100 centavos, green.

A small *displayed* collection illustrating the different varieties and retouches of these two issues and contrasting the division of the 5 centavos value into seven plates with Mr. Moser's division of the same stamps into the original plate, four re-engravings, and six retouches.

These stamps are followed by selected specimens of the succeeding issues, including the following rarities: Various copies of the 500 centavos, black, of 1867 and 1869, unused copies of the various values of the 1878 issue, the 10 centavos, blue (error of colour), of the 1894 issue on thick paper.

Copies of the so-called interior stamps in black and in blue, some of them used on originals.

Various forgeries and impressions from the forged *cliché* in the Berlin Imperial Post Museum.

One album containing a larger and more detailed collection of the various issues of this country.

Mr. W. Grunewald's French

A representative collection of used and unused in blocks, pairs, and single copies. Amongst the particular stamps are the following: The first issue 1 franc, orange, unused, and five used, and the following unused—1 franc, carmine, five singles, pair, two blocks of four; 15 c., green, one single and two blocks of four; Presidency, 10 c. bistre, pair; Empire, 20 c., blue on green paper, and a block of four blue on blue paper. In the Bordeaux issue there are extensive shades of all values, notably two singles of the 20 c., first type. There are also thirty-three *tête-à-tête* copies, notably in the first issue, the 10 c., 25 c., and 1 franc used, two used copies of the 80 c. Empire, imperf., and used and unused 80c., perf. Also the 4 c., grey, unused, and eighteen *tête-à-tête* of the issues 1870-3.

Mr. Henry J. Crocker's Hawaiian

The most complete collection of these stamps known. The so-called Missionary stamps of 1851 are strongly represented. The 2 c., certainly one of the rarest stamps in the world, is here in Die 1 only. Of the 5 c. there are two specimens on letters and two single specimens, all used. Of the 13 c. there is a unique strip of three on original letter, being two of Die 1 and one of Die 2, and of the same value there are unused copies of Dies 1 and 2, and four used copies, two of each die.

The issue of 1853 includes some beautiful specimens of the 5 c., thick paper, on original letter, two of the Provisionals 5 on 13, and a number of entire panes.

A most interesting portion of the collection is the Inter-Island postage stamps with large numeral in centre. Mr. Crocker has made an exhaustive study of these stamps and has reconstructed nearly all the plates, and there is an immense amount of original work in this collec-

tion. Amongst the better things here, there is a superb block of six of the 2 c., blue on bluish white, of August, 1859, a reconstructed plate of the same stamps used, as well as a considerable number of single stamps on envelopes. The 1 c., blue on bluish, is shown in a reconstructed plate, complete with the exception of one stamp, and including five unused copies.

Sub-varieties of both values, termed Plates 2a and 2b, are also shown plated. The 2 c. on greenish blue, the so-called duck's egg, is shown in a complete reconstructed plate, including two unused specimens. The other values and papers are shown nearly all plated and including almost every known error and variety both in the stamp and in the cancellation.

The stamps of the Provisional Government of 1893 are mostly shown in complete panes, with the errors, and single pieces of the double, inverted, and misplaced surcharges.

CLASS II

Mr. Harvey Clark, New South Wales

Commencing with the 1d. Sydney Views, upwards of forty specimens are shown unused, including all the varieties, various shades, etc., of both plates. Used: Complete reconstructed plates on various papers of both plates.

The 2d. Sydney Views are shown unused from the very earliest down to the very latest state of the plate, amongst them the varieties *CREVIT* omitted, two of the retouches of Plate 2, and a pair on laid paper. Used: All the plates reconstructed, seventeen specimens of the Plate 2 retouched, and a *tête-bêche* pair used on the entire envelope.

The 3d. Sydney unused on yellowish wove and laid papers, and bluish wove in various shades; and complete used reconstructed plates on yellowish and bluish paper. 1851, amongst the unused: 1d., red, block of four, with unfinished stars in corner, three specimens of the varieties with no leaves to the right of SOUTH and three specimens with the two leaves only, and three specimens of the error WALE; also three specimens on laid paper. The 2d. are shown in various shades, including five specimens with the stars in corner and a pair of the re-engraved. 3d., a block of six, four pairs, and various singles in shades, including the error WAGES. 6d. in various shades, in pair and block of four. The 8d. in yellow and orange.

Used: Reconstructed plates of the 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 8d.

1854.—Unused: All varieties of the 1d., the 2d. with engine-turning, and two specimens of the 3d. error WAGES. Used: Reconstructed plates of all values, and one pair and two single specimens of the 3d. error wmk. "2."

1854-6.—Block of twenty-four 1d. rouletted, unused, attached to an official document. The 2d.'s: one pair and two singles of the error wmk. "5," and eight specimens of the 3d. unused. Amongst the used, a large number of

the 2d. retouched, including four pairs, and the error wmk. double-lined "1"; the 3d., pair with the error wmk. "2."

1855.—Unused: Numerous shades and varieties of all values, including, amongst others, a pair and block of four of the 6d., six copies of the 8d., yellow and orange, four specimens of the 6d. with error wmk. "8," and a block of four 1s. with error wmk. "8." Used: Pair of the 5d., two pairs of the 8d., and various shades.

1860, perf. 12.—Unused: 3d., yellow-green; pairs of the 5d.; large range of shades of the 6d.; a pair and four singles of the 8d.; various shades of the 1s. and 5s.

1863.—Unused: Specimens of the 1d. and 2d. errors of wmk., including a block of twelve of the 2d. wmk. double-lined "5."

1885.—Unused: 5s., 10s., and 20s. in various perfs.

1888.—Unused: 5s. and 20s. in various shades and perfs.

1891.—Unused: 1d., grey, error without surcharge.

Registered stamps: Two pairs and strip of three unused, imperf.; shades of the no wmk., perf. 12, unused.

Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, New Zealand

All unused, unless otherwise stated. The stamps of the first type are shown used also. Practically complete unused.

London print: 1d., fine copy with large margins. 2d. (three), 2d., *bleuté*, and 1s., *bleuté*, mint. Half 1s. used as 6d. on original.

1856.—Colonial print on blue paper: 1d. (two), 2d. (two and mint corner strip of four), 1s., mint, perhaps the rarest New Zealand unused. Two copies of the 1s. cut in half and used as 6d. on original.

1858, no wmk., include the following rare shades: 1d., deep orange; 2d., milky blue; 2d., worn plate; 1s., blue-green (two); 1s., yellow-green.

No wmk., serrated: 1d., 6d., 1s., all used. Rouletted: 2d., unused; 1d., 6d., 1s., used. Pin-perf.: 1d., 6d., used. Perf. 13: 2d. (two), unused.

Pelure paper, including 1d., perf. 13, and pair of 1s., perf. 13; unused 1d., rouletted; and the newly discovered 6d., serrated, used.

1862.—Wmk. Star, including 2d., first colonial print (pair unused); 2d., slate-blue (two); 2d., greenish blue (two); 3d., brown-lilac (block of ten); 3d., lilac (four); and 3d., mauve. 1d., double print, the words NEW ZEALAND coming right across the face. Rouletted: 1d., 2d., mint; 2d., slate-blue, used. Serrated about 19: 1d. (two); 2d. (three), one being imperf. horizontally, and pair from worn plate; 6d. (two). Serrated about 38: 2d. Serrated 13½-14: 3d., 6d. (two). Pin-perf. about 9 (uncatalogued): 2d., pair. All used.

The perforated stamps are divided up according to the perf.—those that were done at

Dunedin, gauging 13, and which are the earlier; and those done at Auckland, which gauge 12½-12¾. The holes of the former, which was a single-line machine, are smaller and more cleanly cut than those of the 12½, which was a comb machine. In most cases the colours of the stamps perforated by the Dunedin machine are the early ones, while hardly any of these early shades were perforated by the Auckland machine.

All the pelure paper stamps appear to have been perforated at Dunedin.

Perf. 13: 1d., orange, vermilion; 2d., deep blue, slate-blue, pale blue (worn plate); 3d., brown, lilac; 6d., black, black-brown, red-brown; 1s., dark green, deep blue-green. Perf. 12½: 1d., orange, vermilion; 2d., pale blue (worn state, Plate 1), pale blue, deep blue (from Plate 2 only); 3d., brown-lilac (very rare perf. 12½); 6d., red-brown; 1s., green, yellow-green.

Wmk. N.Z.—6d., imperf., mint. Rouletted: 1d., 2d., unused. Perf. 13: 2d., 1s. Perf. 12½: 2d., 6d., 1s. (used only, very rare in this perf.).

Wmk. Star, perf. 12½: Retouches, 2d., Plate 2. Various of the most prominent are shown, both imperf. and perf. They are very rare unused. The lower eight rows of the plate are reconstructed so as to show the positions of the retouches. Many of them are unused.

4d., deep orange.

Perf. 10 by 12½: 2d., blue (uncatalogued).

1871.—1d., perf. 10, mint pair.

10 by 12½, and 12½: 6d., mint; 2d., Plate 2, retouched, singles, pairs, and a block of four showing various retouches.

Reconstructed eight lower rows of sheet, mostly unused, showing positions of the retouches.

No wmk.: 1d. (two); 2d., retouched singles in different states and mint block of eighty-four, being the lower seven rows of the sheet, with full margins, showing all the retouches, except one very small one. Wmk. N.Z.: 1d., brown, used; 2d., two pairs; and an unused copy of one of the retouches. Lozenge wmk., sheet of paper showing complete wmk.: 2d., unused, strip of three used, and three different retouches.

2d., with portrait of script wmk., and a pair and single showing portion of wmk., T. H. SAUNDERS, the maker of the "Lozenge" and other papers.

1882.—Perf. 12½: 1d., 2d., 2½d., used. 12½ by 10: 1d., block of four, unused; 2d., used; 3d., pair and single, unused; 1s., used. Perf. 12 by 11 (uncatalogued): 4d., pair, mint. Perf. comb, 12 by 11½ on three sides and 10 on other: 4d., unused (uncatalogued).

All the other issues in blocks of four and shaded.

Mr. R. B. Yardley, Transvaal

An almost complete collection arranged after the articles in the Philatelic Society's work,

Africa, Part III. Amongst the greater rarities, we draw attention to:—

1869.—The 1d., lake, fine roulette, used; 1s., deep green, unused and used.

1870.—3d., pale reddish lilac, printed *tête-à-tête*.

4 April, 1870.—1s., carmine-red, fine roulette, unused pair and singles.

26 April, 1870.—1s., green, fine roulette, unused and used. The *Borrius* prints on thick soft paper, 6d. and 1s., fine roulette, mint, unused.

1876.—Pelure paper, 1d., orange-red, fine roulette, unused, and a pair of the 1d., pin-perf. 10½, used. Ditto, 3d. and 6d., fine roulette, unused.

1876.—Hard-surfaced paper, block of four used of the 6d. with fine roulette and brown gum.

1876-7.—Coarse soft paper, 1d., brick-red, pair imperf., unused, and singles, fine roulette, unused, and wide roulette, used. Ditto, 1s., green, fine roulette, unused, and wide roulette, used.

FIRST BRITISH OCCUPATION

Black surcharge on hard paper, a block of ten of the 1d., bright red, No. 11 in the sheet being the wide-spaced overprint.

The red surcharges are very strong and include the 3d., imperf., unused, 3d. with surcharge on the back, and 3d. with fine and wide roulette. 6d. with overprint wide spaced; 6d., fine roulette, used; pair of 1s., imperf., unused; and 1s., wide spaced, imperf., used; 1s., fine roulette, used; 3d., surcharged in red and in black, used. In the black surcharges, coarse soft paper, are included the 6d. and 1s. with the wide-spaced surcharge, a block of four of the 1s., imperf., containing the *tête-bêche* variety.

1d. on the hard paper, surcharge inverted, unused; 1d. on the same paper, fine and wide roulette, unused. 3d. on the coarse paper, surcharge inverted; and the 1d. and 6d., double surcharge, used. 6d., vertical pair, surcharge inverted. 1s., inverted surcharge, imperf., fine roulette and wide roulette. 1s., imperf., inverted surcharge, strip of three on letter. 6d., blue on rose paper, surcharge omitted, imperf., used. 6d., blue on rose paper, wide roulette, used. In the 1d., red on blue, of 1877, we have the rare error "Transvaal," imperf., and imperf., inverted surcharge. 3d., mauve on buff, V.R. roman, inverted surcharge, used. 6d., blue on green, roman V.R. with full-stop in front of "R," imperf. and fine roulette. The same stamp with small "v" in "Transvaal," imperf. and fine roulette. 6d., blue on blue, surcharge omitted, and variety with broken "Y" used for "V." 1879, 3d., mauve and green, there is the surcharge omitted and with the roman and italic V.R. with surcharge inverted. In the printing of September, 1879, small V.R., there is a strip of four of the 3d., mauve on green, with the small "T" in "Transvaal," and in the 1d., red on orange,

a pair containing the variety with small "R" (August, 1879). The varieties with the small "T" are also very strong, including the rouletted. Of the provisional of April, 1879, there is an uncut sheet of the 1d. on 6d., black, showing all varieties of the surcharge and strips of the red surcharge showing similar varieties.

The later issues are practically complete, and show all varieties, including many full panes. The whole collection is highly specialized, and includes a number of partly reconstructed panes of the old issues and a large number of stamps on envelopes.

CLASS III

Mr. W. Moser, Japan

This collection is arranged to show type and plate varieties, used and unused specimens being placed together. The particular feature is the large number of errors which it contains. In the first issue there are a number of blocks, including two differently engraved plates of the 48 mois. The 1 sen, blue (Gibbons' 36, etc.), are divided into three different types and the existence of ten differently engraved plates is shown. A complete plate of the 20 sen, violet (No. 49); and of the 4 sen, rose, there are seven entire differently engraved plates and single stamps which together show that at least ten plates exist on native paper. Of the syllabic stamps nearly every variety is shown, only three or four specimens being missing.

In all, this collection contains forty-seven complete plates, and the later issues are very strong and fairly complete in varieties of perforation.

Mr. G. L. Pack, Canada

A highly specialized collection, including a number of rare varieties, amongst others being one single and three pairs of the 12d. Twenty-four copies of the 6d. unused on various papers and all the varieties of the ribbed paper, mostly unused. In the 1868 there are the large 1 and 3 cents on laid paper, unused. Three copies of the 6d., perf. 12, unused, as well as a large number of pairs, blocks of four, etc. etc.

CLASS IV

Mr. T. W. Hall, Uruguay

Fifty-eight copies of the "Diligencias" in numerous shades and many types, some unchronicled, including the rare second type of the 60 centavos, seventy-nine copies of the block letters (including a rare *tête-bêche* pair of the 120, blue, and a block of four of the 180, green, so-called second issue with pearls at the side in place of CORREO), and a block of eight of the 240 cent., showing a white space in centre in lieu of a stamp. The issues of 1859 and 1860, with thin and thick figures, are shown in profusion both used and unused, many of the

former on the original envelopes, and including a proof (?) pair of the 180, thin figures, on blue paper, and an entire uncut pane of the 80, yellow, thick figures, and an entire uncut sheet of the 180, green, thin figures. The "Oriental" issues of 1864 and 1866 are shown in all known shades and on the wider-ribbed paper; an uncut sheet of the 20 on 6 c., showing flaws on the plate, also numerous errors of the surcharges, including surcharges on the wrong values. The numeral values of 1866 are also strongly represented, including entire sheets of the perforated 5, showing all the types, and of the perforated 10 cents., and a page of the various "Welker" German essays. In the issue of 1877-9 the unissued 1 peso, blue, with Arms reversed. Two copies of the rare 25 c., brown, of 1895, with centres inverted, numerous errors of surcharge, many die and colour proofs, and a full page of Official surcharges, with several uncatalogued varieties and forgeries for comparison.

Mr. A. S. Tomson, Barbados

A most complete collection, comprising a great range of shades unused in pairs and blocks of the imperf., amongst others a block of four 6d., unused, and various bisected stamps. A fine lot of the pin-perf., 14 and 12½, unused. Three copies of the 1d., blue, clean-cut, unused. The rough perfs., no wmk., are particularly strong, especially the 4d. and 6d., which are shown in great range of shade, also in pairs and blocks.

A pair of 1s., imperf. between, and the 1s., blue, error, and various other varieties imperforate.

The Large and Small Stars, both clean-cut and rough perfs., are particularly strong, especially the 4d. and 6d.; among others, a pair of the 4d., Large Star.

A particularly strong exhibit of the C.C., 12½, 6d., bright and dull yellow; and the C.C., perf. 14, are well represented by a fine range of shades and blocks of each value. All the 4d., compound perforation.

The provisional stamps consist of ten used pairs of the 1d. on 5s., showing all types; surcharged to the right and to the left, with slanting serif and with straight serif, and straight and slanting *se tenant*; and in addition a strip of three used as 3d., and also three singles and a pair unused.

Amongst the later issues, which are well represented, will be found the ½d. "Half-Penny" double surcharge in red and black, two blocks of four, and a vertical pair showing varieties with and without hyphen; also one used on entire.

Dr. A. Levin, Sweden

A very highly specialized collection of the stamps of this country, practically complete, and strong in singles and blocks of four. Of the error 20 öre, inscribed TRETIO, there are several copies, both used and unused. The 5 öre, brown, current issue; the only copy known in private collections. The 3 öre, 1863, printed on

both sides. Service stamps with inverted surcharge, the Service 10 öre on 12 öre with surcharge inverted, but perforated 14. Several imperforate stamps, sets of reprints in blocks of four, and a very fine general collection throughout.

CLASS V

Ernst Vicenz, Hamburg

A special collection of the stamps of Hamburg as a Free town and as a Hansa town. The collection shows the entire postal history of Hamburg with about 8500 stamps. The first part contains colour shades of the type-printed stamps, about 1000 in number, used and unused. The second part, colour shades and lithographed stamps, with special reference to reprints on the original watermarked paper, arranged in whole sheets. The third part, colour shades of relief stamps and the town post stamps, used and unused. The fourth part, errors of watermark, errors of plate, proofs, etc. The fifth part, blocks and original sheets. The sixth part, overprints of Hamburg town and suburban post offices. The seventh part, the foreign post offices in Hamburg, such as Prussia, Hanoverian, Thurn and Taxis, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Danish, Schleswig-Holstein, Swedish. The eighth part, colour shades and obliterations of Hamburg wrappers, post office orders, both used and unused. The ninth part, reprints and forgeries of Hamburg postage stamps.

Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, Holland

1852 issue includes a strip of four of the 5 c., *true milky blue*; also two blocks of ten and one of fifteen of the 10 c., three blocks of four of the 15 c., in addition to many singles and pairs of the three values in a variety of shades.

The 1864 issue includes blocks of nine and four of the 5 c., blocks of four and ten of the 10 c., strip of five of the 15 c., etc.

1867-8: All types and varieties of perforation are included, as well as many large blocks, notably three blocks of twenty and one of twenty-five of the 15 c.; also a block of twenty-five of the 10 c., and a strip of five of the 15 c., Type 2, perf. 13-14.

1872-88: Pair of 12½ c. and single 25 c. in the regular clean-cut perf. 14 (large holes).

1891-8: Innumerable shades of all values in blocks of four.

The Unpaid are shown practically complete in the various types and perforations.

Proofs and colour trials, etc., in great variety are inserted throughout the collection, after each issue.

Used.

No less than thirty-one pages of shades of the first two issues, including all values of the first issue in blocks of four.

1867-8: Three specimens of the 10 c., Type 1, and five of the 15 c. (Type 2), perf. 10½ by 10.

Thomas Buck, Tonga

Very exhaustively shown. 1886, perf. 12½: Pairs, blocks of four and eight of the 1d. unused. Large blocks and complete panes of the 1d., 2d., 6d., blue, 6d., orange, and 1s., green, in both issues. Panes of 4d. on 1d. with varieties.

1891.—Stars in corner, panes of the 1d. and 2d., and all known varieties of the 1d. with 3, 4, and 5 stars; 3 and 4 stars, and 4 and 5 stars *se tenant*.

1893.—All values in complete panes showing all varieties.

1894.—½d. on 1s., double surcharge, in block of four.

1895.—Complete panes of all values with varieties in sheet, surcharged on the blue.

1895.—Complete panes of all values with varieties in sheet, surcharged on the red.

1896.—Surcharge "Half Penny" on 1½d. on 2d., value reading downwards, complete panes.

1896.—Surcharge "Half Penny" on 7½d. on 2d., value reading downwards, complete panes.

1896.—Surcharge "Half Penny" on 7½d. on 2d., value reading upwards, complete panes.

Blocks of various varieties, stops instead of hyphens, two stops, with error "Henny," misplaced surcharges, double prints, etc.

1897.—The error 7½d. with head inverted, two singles and a block of four unused.

1899.—Error in two blocks, one pair, and two singles.

1893.—G.F.B. Service stamps, all values in pairs and blocks.

1893.—G.F.B. Service stamps, surcharged, particularly well represented, all values being shown in large blocks, etc.

Royal Visits

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales paid a visit to the Exhibition on Wednesday, and spent a couple of hours inspecting the various exhibits, and his two sons, Prince Edward and Prince Albert, visited the Exhibition on Friday.

The Entertainments

The official banquet took place at the Imperial Restaurant, Regent Street, London, on Friday, 25 May, 1906. To this banquet the Judges were invited, and were treated to a short toast list and a pleasant entertainment given by Dr. Byrd Page and "The King's Musketeers." It was a "Ladies' Night," an almost unknown concession by inveterate smokers of the philatelic persuasion.

THE AWARDS

The following is a list of the Judges' awards of the cups and medals. The country for which the award is made is placed within brackets after the name of the winner:—

The Championship Class

Section 1

Great Britain or any of its Colonies in separate exhibits

The Cup: The Earl of Crawford (Great Britain).

Gold Medal: Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg (Victoria).
Extra Gold Medal: Baron Anthony de Worms (Ceylon).

Section 2

Other Countries in separate exhibits

The Cup: Mr. Henry J. Crocker (Hawaii).
Gold Medal: Mr. H. R. Oldfield (Bolivia).

Class I.--Great Britain

Section 1

Postage Stamps (including Official Stamps and Fiscals available for postage). *Unused only.*

Gold Medal: Mr. J. S. Higgins.
Silver Medal: Sydney Loder.
Bronze Medal: H. R. H. the Prince of Wales.

Section 2

Postage Stamps (including Official Stamps and Fiscals available for postage). *Used only.*

Silver Medal: Mr. T. H. Hinton.
Bronze Medal: Mr. J. Bignold.

Section 3

Telegraph, or Railway Letter Fee, or College Stamps, in separate exhibits.

Silver Medal: Rev. H. Cummings.
Bronze Medal: Mr. W. Matthews.

Class II

Section 1

British Guiana.	United States of America
Hawaiian Islands.	(including Post-
Mauritius.	masters' Stamps).
New South Wales.	Switzerland.
	Afghanistan.

Gold Medal: Mr. Harvey Clarke (New South Wales).

Silver Medal: Lieut.-Col. F. H. Hancock (Afghanistan).

Silver Medal: H. R. H. the Prince of Wales (Mauritius).

Section 2

Victoria.	Italy and States.
Transvaal.	France and all Colonies.
New Zealand.	Confederate States of
South Australia.	America (including
Ceylon.	Postmasters' Stamps).
Germany and States.	

Gold Medal: Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg (New Zealand).

Gold Medal: Mr. R. B. Yardley (Transvaal).
Silver Medal: Mr. Martin Schroeder (Germany and her States).

Class III

Section 1

Western Australia.	French Colonies.
Colombia and States.	Roumania and Moldo-
Straits Settlements (in-	Wallachia.
cluding Bangkok,	Indi.
Johor, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Selangor, Sungei Ujong, and Federated Malay States).	Spain.
	Philippine Islands.
	Japan.
	Tasmania.
	Portuguese Indies.
France.	

Gold Medal: Mr. W. Moser (Japan).
Extra Gold Medal: Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg (India).

Silver Medal: B. de L'Argentière (France).
Silver Medal: Mr. Franz Reichenheim

(France).
Extra Silver Medal: Mr. Martin Schroeder (Roumania).

Extra Silver Medal: Mr. A. Bagshawe (Straits Settlements).

Section 2

Finland.	Mexico.
Canada.	Turks Islands.
Queensland.	Sicily.
Cape of Good Hope.	Peru.
Natal.	Dominican Republic.
Trinidad.	Fiji.
Bolivia.	

Gold Medal: Mr. G. L. Pack (Canada).

Silver Medal: Mr. P. Kohl (Mexico).

Silver Medal: Mr. R. Frenzel (Mexico).

Extra Bronze Medal: Mr. Henry Grey (Queensland).

Extra Bronze Medal: Mr. T. Wickham Jones (Sicily).

Class IV

Section 1

Orange Free State.	Uruguay.
Orange River Colony.	Shanghai.
Greece.	Turkey.
Portugal.	Indian States (viz.
Nevis.	Chamba, Faridkot,
Griqualand.	Gwalior, Jhind,
Modena.	Nabha, Patiala).

Gold Medal: Mr. T. W. Hall (Uruguay).

Silver Medal: Mr. C. J. Daun (Orange River Colony).

Bronze Medal: Mr. M. Jonas (Greece).

Section 2

Newfoundland. Uganda.
 Buenos Ayres. Cashmere.
 Austria. Grenada.
 Tuscany. Argentine, with Cor-
 doba, and Corrientes.
 St. Vincent. Barbados.

Gold Medal: Mr. A. S. Tomson (Barbados).

Silver Medal: Mr. A. Passer (Austria).

Bronze Medal: Lieut.-Col. Hancock (Cash-
 mere).

Section 3

Naples. Oldenburg.
 Nova Scotia and New Brazil.
 Brunswick. Chili.
 Wurtemberg. Bhopal.
 Azores and Madeira. Russia, with Livonia,
 Sweden. Wenden, and Poland.

Gold Medal: Dr. A. Levin (Sweden).

Silver Medal: Mr. R. B. Yardley (Azores and
 Madeira).

Bronze Medal: Mr. F. N. Schiller (Chili).

Class V**Section 1**

Belgium. Norway.
 Russian Locals. St. Helena.
 Russian Levant. New Republic.
 Dutch Indies, Curaçao and Surinam. Egypt, Sudan, and Suez
 Canal.
 Austrian Italy. Oil Rivers, Niger Coast,
 Any two German States Northern and South-
 not in Class IV or in ernal Nigeria.
 the other sections of Zanzibar.
 this class, and exclu- Siam.
 sive of Heligoland. China.

Gold Medal: Mr. Ernst Vicenz (Hamburg).

Silver Medal: Mr. T. W. Hall (Zanzibar).

Extra Silver Medal: Mr. M. Schroeder (Berge-
 dorf and Brunswick).

Bronze Medal: The Hon. E. R. Ackerman
 (Norway).

Bronze Medal: Mr. C. J. Daun (Oil Rivers
 and Niger Coast).

Extra Bronze Medal: Mr. P. Kleeberg (China).

Section 2

Holland. British Central Africa.
 Denmark and its British East Africa.
 Colonies. British South Africa.
 Heligoland. Labuan.
 Cyprus. North Borneo.
 Hong Kong. St. Christopher.
 Persia. Costa Rica and Guana-
 Venezuela and LaGuaira. caste.
 British Honduras.

Gold Medal: Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson (Holland).

Silver Medal: H.R.H. the Prince of Wales
 (Hong Kong).

Extra Silver Medal: Mr. J. C. North (Cyprus).

Bronze Medal: Baron R. Lehmann (Holland).

Bronze Medal: Mr. J. Elster (Denmark and
 Colonies).

Section 3

Baden. Bahamas.
 Saxony. British Bechuanaland
 Luxembourg. and Protectorate.
 British Columbia and Serbia.
 Vancouver. Any four or more
 Cuba, Porto Rico, and Indian Native States
 Fernando Poo. not in Class IV.

Any two Portuguese Colonies not in Class
 III, Section 1, or Class IV, Section 3.
 Any two Italian States not in Classes III and
 IV.
 St. Lucia.

Gold Medal: Mr. Thomas Buck (Tonga).

Silver Medal: Mr. J. H. Abbott (Servia).

Extra Silver Medal: Mr. A. Passer (Hungary).

Bronze Medal: Mr. Vernon Roberts (St. Lucia).

Bronze Medal: Mr. H. R. Oldfield (Servia).

Class VI**Section 1**

Malta. Roumania (without
 Ionian Isles. Moldo-Wallachia).
 Leeward Isles and Cay- Paraguay.
 man Islands. Denmark.
 Montserrat. Ecuador.
 Roumelia and South Hayti.
 Bulgaria. Honduras.
 Montenegro. Nicaragua.
 Bosnia. San Salvador.
 Monaco. Swaziland and Stella-
 Guatemala. land.

Silver Medal: Mr. C. H. Coote (Roumania).

Silver Medal: Mr. G. B. Duerst (Roumania).

Bronze Medal: Mr. A. Holland (Hayti).

Bronze Medal: Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht
 (Guatemala).

Extra Bronze Medal: Mr. Hugo Griebert
 (Montenegro).

Extra Bronze Medal: Mr. J. H. Abbott (Hayti).

Section 2

Bermuda. Zululand.
 Jamaica. Bulgaria.
 Antigua. Crete. Congo.
 Abyssinia. Sarawak.
 British New Guinea. San Marino. Liberia.
 Dominica. Prince Edward Island.
 Falkland Isles. Corea.
 Gambia. German Colonies.
 Samoa. British Somaliland.
 Cook Islands. Madagascar
 Gibraltar and Morocco (British Consular Mail).
 Agencies. Iceland.
 Gold Coast. Danish West Indies.

Silver Medal: Mr. T. W. Hall (Danish West
 Indies).

Silver Medal: Mr. H. L. Hayman (Liberia).

Extra Silver Medal: Rev. W. N. Usher
 (Iceland).

Bronze Medal: Mrs. D. Field (Sarawak).

Bronze Medal : Mr. F. J. Melville (Sarawak).
 Extra Bronze Medal : Mr. Vernon Roberts
 (Gambia).
 Extra Bronze Medal : Mr. C. A. Howes
 (Corea).
 Extra Bronze Medal : Dr. R. Stanley Taylor
 (Jamaica).

Class VII

To consist of General Collections in Printed Albums.

Section 1.—Without limit as to number.

Gold Medal : Mr. A. H. Stamford.
 Silver Medal : Mrs. H. L. Hayman.
 Bronze Medal : Major Baron Bror. S. von
 Otter.

Section 2.—Containing from 5000 to 10,000
 stamps.

Bronze Medal : Miss A. J. Lindner.
 Bronze Medal : Mr. H. Mecklenburg.

Section 3.—Containing not more than 5000
 stamps.

Bronze Medal : Mr. O. Fearnley.
 Bronze Medal : Mr. T. H. Hinton.

Class VIII

To consist of General Collections in Plain Albums.

Section 1.—Without limit as to number.

Gold Medal : Mr. M. Shroeder.
 Silver Medal : Mr. J. E. Heginbottom.
 Silver Medal : Mr. J. Cooper.
 Extra Silver Medal : Mrs. Herxheimer.
 Bronze Medal : Mr. C. J. Tyas.
 Bronze Medal : Mlle M. Berenbach.

Section 2.—Containing from 5000 to 10,000
 stamps.

Bronze Medal : Mr. W. Cowland.

Section 3.—Containing not more than 5000
 stamps.

Silver Medal : Mr. D. M. de Heer.
 Bronze Medal : Mr. R. M. Mann.
 Bronze Medal : Mr. Nelson Zambra.

Class IX

For Junior Collectors only

To consist of General or Special Collections in any kind
 of Album.

Section 1

For Collectors aged from 16 to 21 years.

Division 1.—Collections containing over 5000
 stamps.

Silver Medal : Messrs. Carl and Alfred Lugner.

Division 2.—Collections containing from 3000
 to 5000 stamps.

Silver Medal : Mr. J. S. Higgins.
 Bronze Medal : Miss C. B. Carter.
 Bronze Medal : Mr. C. H. M. Thompson.

Division 3.—Collections containing not more
 than 3000 stamps.

Extra Silver Medal : Mr. L. W. Crouch.
 Bronze Medal : Miss Oldfield.
 Bronze Medal : Mr. L. Quinton.

Section 2

For Collectors under 16 years of age.

Division 1.—Collections containing over 2000
 stamps.

Bronze Medal : Miss A. Degols.

Division 2.—Collections containing under 2000
 stamps.

Bronze Medal : Master H. C. Bevan.

Class X

For Exhibits by Stamp Engravers and Manufacturers of
 Postage Stamps and Telegraph Stamps.

Stamps shown in this Class must be limited to
 specimens of work done by the exhibitor's own
 Firm or Company, and may comprise Stamps as
 issued, Proofs, or Essays, or all three.

Gold Medal : Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co.

Class XI

Special Arrangements of Stamps, Proofs, Essays,
 Curiosities, and Objects of Interest in connexion
 with Philately and the Postal Service.

Silver Medal : Mr. S. Loder.

Silver Medal : Mr. A. Coyette.

Bronze Medal : Mr. C. Stuart Dudley.

Bronze Medal : Consul C. George.

BRITISH AFRICA POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

Owing to the fact that the war in South Africa has caused great attention to be drawn to the stamps of the British Possessions on that continent, and to the enormous increase in the number of collectors that has ensued from the issue of the War Provisionals in Mafeking, Bloemfontein, Pretoria, etc., we think this a good time at which to place before the public a new and very complete Album, designed for the British Possessions, etc., on the African Continent. The Album is designed upon the well-known plan of the Imperial Albums—the stamps in numbered spaces of the correct sizes on the right-hand page, and the description, full particulars, and illustrations on the opposite page. In order to make this a *permanent* Album we have provided from one to four blank pages *after each country*, thus making the Album available for the issues of many years to come. 220 pages. Size, 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ × 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Post-free in Great Britain, 10s. 7d.

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FORGERIES AND REPRINTS

HOW TO DETECT THEM

By REV. ROBERT B. EARÉE

ALSACE

Issue of 1870-71. 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 20,
25 Centimes. Perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{1}{2}$.



The normal type has the points of the *burelé* or network upwards; the scarcer type has the points downwards. As the stamps were printed at two operations—the *burelé* first, and the lettering and numerals after-

wards—it sometimes happened that the sheets were put in the press upside-down for the second printing, hence the inverted *burelé*.

Genuine.—Engraved in *épargne*, on moderately stout, white wove paper, perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{1}{2}$. The lettering, value, and inside edge of the coloured border are all more or less sunk into the paper, and very distinct. The network of the background is not at all prominent, so that it does not interfere in any way with the inscription. The E of POSTES has its upper, central, and lower tongues drawn out into sharp points; while each E of CENTIME (or CENTIMES) has them all quite blunt. The left-hand edge of the upright stroke of the P of POSTES is 3 mm., or even more, from the inner edge of the frame.

First Forgery.—Of this I possess only the 2 c., and have never seen any others; but there may be a full set. Very badly lithographed, on thin, hard paper, unperforated, or pin-perf. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13$, very badly. No portion of the design is sunk into the paper, and the whole stamp is dreadfully smudged. The network is much too dark, so that the lettering does not stand out from it. The E of POSTES has all three tongues blunt. Of the lower inscription, only the letters CENT are readable; the rest are smudged. The P of POSTES is only $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. from the inside edge of the frame. This coarse forgery is not likely to deceive any one who has once seen the genuine stamps.

Second Forgery.—I think there is a full set of these, but I am not quite sure. They may be easily detected by the curious, misty appearance of the (inverted) network, which looks almost as if the paper had moved in the very act of printing. They are lithographed, on rather soft, white wove paper, with very regular grain-*ing*, perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$. The little tongues of the E of POSTES are much blunter than in the genuine, and the P of that word is hardly $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. from the inner edge of the coloured frame.

Third (Official) Forgery.—These are commonly called "reprints," but, as the type of the inscriptions had to be reset, they are evidently what philatelists would call, or ought to call, "forgeries." They were made for a Hamburg dealer in 1885. They are said to be always with inverted *burelé*, but I fancy I have seen one or two with normal *burelé*, and these would probably be accidents. They are engraved in *épargne*, like the originals, with the same perforation, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{1}{2}$. The chief test is the P of POSTES, which is only $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. from the edge of frame, instead of 3 mm., or more.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—1, 71.

First Forgery.—Uncancelled, or 101.

Second Forgery.—Generally uncancelled.

Third Forgery.—Similar to 1.

AMOY

Bogus Stamps. 3 (cents?), blue;
5, red; 10, yellow.

These stamps are found in some old collections, but are not at all common now. They are nearly as large as the old Shanghai stamps, and no doubt did duty for them with our youthful friends, in the earlier days of Philately. Nicely lithographed, on rather thin, white wove paper, with numeral of value in each corner, SHANGHAI to left, AMOY at the top, NINGPO to right, and HONGKONG at the bottom. The central rectangle contains an eagle, with outspread wings, and a scroll, labelled FANQUI, in his beak. Below this is a mandarin, with an open umbrella, walking to left; a pagoda (like a set of seven saucerpans) in the centre, and (mock) Chinese characters to the right. Below all this there is a man-of-war steaming to left. As will be seen from the above description, the designer was determined to give plenty for his money! I fancy I remember these stamps being advertised for sale in my youthful days; but I am not sure whether they ever got into the old catalogues as genuine stamps. I mention them here so that those who possess specimens may know where to class them. My copies are all uncancelled.

(To be continued.)

EDITORIAL NOTES

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to Edward J. Nankivell, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Correspondence.—The Editor regrets that he has no time for direct correspondence. All letters requiring a reply will be dealt with under the head of "Answers to Correspondents."

Examination of Stamps.—This work is done by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., whose terms for the examination of stamps sent to them for their opinion are, cash in advance: 2s. 6d. per dozen; a minimum charge of 1s. being made if less than twelve stamps are sent. Postages extra. The stamps should be sent lightly fastened on sheets, with sufficient space above each stamp for the insertion of the desired information.

The following abbreviations are used in giving an opinion:—B. Bogus, i.e. never existed; F. Forged; G. Genuine; G.F. Stamps genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark. The charge for marking the forgeries in a collection in its entirety is at the

rate of 10s. per 1000 stamps examined, the minimum fee being 5s. Postages extra. If a correspondence is desired, the charge is 1s. for each letter written.

Subscriptions.—Subscriptions must be sent to the publishers as set out on the front page of cover, or to booksellers or railway bookstalls, but never to the Editor.

Covers for Binding Vol. II.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. II of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d. post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. I. January to June, 1905, including the rare early numbers. 400 pages, 10s. 9d., post-free. Vol. II. July to December, 1905. 444 pages, price 4s. 9d., post-free.

Philatelic Societies.—We wish to make a special feature of the prompt publication of the reports of Philatelic Societies, and trust we may have the kindly co-operation of the honorary secretaries in this matter. Reports should be written on one side of the paper, and dispatched to the Editor by the earliest post.

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Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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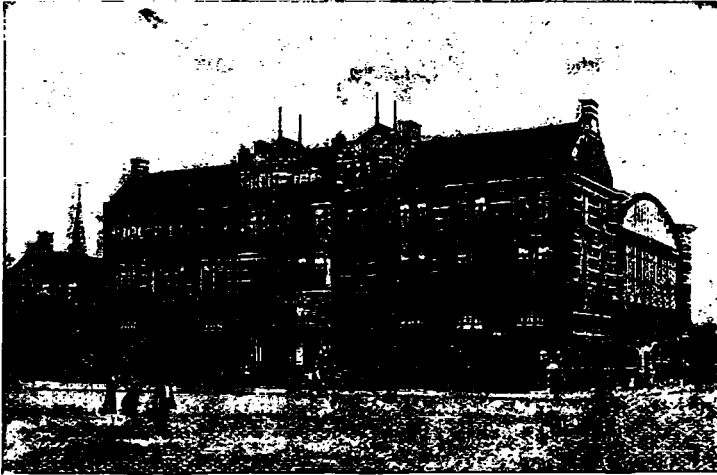
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VOL. III.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1906

By THE EDITOR



THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL HALL

The Herts Banquet

THE dinner given by the Herts Philatelic Society to celebrate the International Philatelic Exhibition was held in the International Hall of the Café Monico, London, and it was, as we all anticipated, a huge success—indeed, next to the opening ceremony, it was the event of the Exhibition. The attendance was a record one, both in numbers and in names. Almost everybody who is anybody in the philatelic ranks was there. Jotting down from memory a few names of those present, we noticed the following: Mr. Franz Reichenheim, President (in the chair), Mr. H. L. Hayman, Vice-President, and Mr. H. A. Slade, Hon. Secretary of the Herts Society; Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., Sir William Avery, Baron A. de Reuterskiöld, Baron Anthony de Worms, Dr. Kloss, Dr. Diena, Mr. J. N. Luff, Mr. M. P.

Castle, J.P., Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, Mr. H. R. Oldfield, Mr. J. Oldfield, Mr. C. J. Phillips, Mr. Frank Phillips, Mr. Barnsdall, Mr. W. H. Peckitt, Mr. W. Lincoln, Mr. Adolf Passer, Mr. J. Heath (Perkins Bacon and Co.), M. Coyett, Mr. Dorning Beckton, Mr. G. Fred Gibson, Mr. J. W. Jones, Mr. Wickham Jones, Mr. W. Temple, Mr. W. T. Hall.

The company forgathered in an ante-room, and exchanged greetings and congratulations on the marked success of the Exhibition.

The menu was a choice example of art printing by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., and was decorated with a reproduction in colour of the rare one shilling, orange-vermilion, of Newfoundland, and even the cigars, generously ordered *ad lib.* by the President, were handed round sealed down with an unused British Colonial stamp.

When the menu had been got through, the President proposed the toast of "The King." He said:—

It is a good old custom that whenever and wherever English people are gathered at an official or semi-official banquet or club or daily mess dinner, they always remember their Sovereign and drink his or her health, and when I ask you, gentlemen, to-night to express our loyal feelings towards our King, I know you all will respond very heartily, and I am sure our foreign guests will join us not only for sheer politeness towards their hosts, but with great enthusiasm, recognizing in His Majesty King Edward VII the guarantor of the peace of the world.

This having been drunk with honours and the singing of the National Anthem by Mr. Furness Williams,

The President next proposed "The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." He said:—

The second toast I have the honour to propose is "The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the other Members of the Royal Family."

It is one of the privileges of a queen to organize and survey the principal charity institutions of the country, and we all know what an active interest Queen Alexandra takes in every arrangement to relieve the distress of the poor and unemployed. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales have only just returned from a long and tedious journey, undertaken solely for the purpose of becoming personally acquainted with that important part of our vast Empire over which His Royal Highness is destined to reign at a future date, and have been compelled to leave their home and children again on representation duty at the Court of Madrid. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is looked upon not only by the members of the Philatelic Society, London, but also by all Englishmen interested in Philately, as their leader, and has shown himself as a very keen philatelist and an able philatelic writer for the benefit of his brother collectors, and we all congratulate him heartily on the awards he has gained at the present Exhibition. I am sure that the young princes will soon follow their father's example.

Among the other members of the Royal Family, I think it my duty to mention Princess Ena Victoria, who is just going to marry the King of Spain, and coupling her name

with this toast, to express the wish that this union may be a very happy one, not only for the young couple and the two Royal Families, but also for the two countries concerned. (Cheers.)

Then Mr. H. L. Hayman, Vice-President of the Herts Philatelic Society, proposed "Our Guests."

He said: Gentlemen, it is with especial pleasure and satisfaction that I rise to propose the toast of "Our Guests," since amongst those present I am happily able to count many personal friends of long standing. On behalf of the Herts Philatelic Society, I can only say that we are proud to see gathered together at our table so large a number of visitors, who have come from all parts of Europe, and from still more distant regions, to take part in the great Philatelic Exhibition of 1906. It would take more time than is allotted to me if I were to attempt to name individually all those who are present as our guests; but we are particularly pleased to receive to-night Mr. Henniker Heaton, that great postal reformer who has been striving with unabated energy through so many years for international penny postage, and in Parliament has been the unremitting critic of so many Postmasters-General; Dr. Kloss, President of the Dresden Verein, the largest of all philatelic societies; M. Coyett, President of the French Philatelic Society; Dr. Diena, of Italy; Baron Reuterskiöld, representing Switzerland; Mr. Heath, Chairman of Perkins Bacon and Co., the firm which produced the first English postage stamp, and also the artistic souvenirs which are on our tables this evening; Mr. Oldfield; Mr. Castle (Hon. Vice-President of the London Philatelic Society); Mr. Dorning Beckton, President of the Manchester Philatelic Society; Sir William B. Avery; our American cousin, Mr. John N. Luff; and many other distinguished philatelists, including my smiling fellow-townsmen, Mr. Charles J. Phillips, the grandfather of Philately. (Roars of laughter.)

This gathering is, then, evidence of the international good fellowship which results from the pursuit of so instructive and inexpensive a hobby. (Great laughter.) Apart from this, we have with us representatives of many interests—Government, law, the Church, the drama, literature, music, trade, and industry—and although these are not themselves held together by the same common bond as we who are philatelists, yet we

may, I think, take it that by their presence they bear testimony to the services which Philately renders to all mankind. One word as to the Herts Society. Under the nursing care of our energetic Secretary, Mr. Slade, it has grown rapidly from boyhood to manhood, and can now stand alone. In addition to the work which it has done so far, we hope that it may be possible to widen the sphere of our activities by encouraging the interchange of ideas with foreign societies, and by endeavouring to affiliate ourselves with kindred home societies, thus following the admirable example of the Dresden Verein.

And now, as brevity of speech is the order of the day, I will ask you to drink with me a bumper to our guests, and to couple with the toast the name of one whom we all recognize as the representative of International Philately—Mr. Henniker Heaton. (Applause.)

Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., in responding for the guests, said:—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—When I received the invitation to appear here to-night from that astute young man Mr. Slade, he touched a note which filled me with admiration. He asked for a short speech. Well, it is known to a great number that I belong to that society for the suppression of long speeches. (Laughter.) But to-night I must compliment, as you compliment, the proposer of this toast for his statesmanlike speech, in which he has in a few words expressed your welcome to your guests to-night. In regard to the main portion of his toast, it has long been said that I have been engaged in the delightful task of sticking the Empire together with a Postage Stamp. (Cheers.) I have endeavoured (and I have had the most cordial assistance from Mr. C. J. Phillips and other members of your Society) to make communication between the various parts of the Empire as free as air. (Cheers.) Now as to this great Society, it is impossible to say anything original, but I can say that it consists of the best-looking men in the kingdom—(loud laughter)—and that it is less criminal than any other society that I have ever heard of in my life. (Roars of laughter.) I know the sore temptations of those who are engaged in building up great collections of rare stamps, I know the delightful anxiety to secure the treasures and the rarest things of the philatelic world, and knowing those temptations, I say that the

percentage of the offences, in view of the enormous number of collectors, attests the fact that yours is an eminently moral Society. (Great laughter.) I say that it has given me the greatest delight to be associated with you, and I repeat that your Society is less criminal than any other society in the British Empire. (Roars of laughter.) When I was in Australia, the Postmaster-General of Melbourne told me of a letter which had been received in their office addressed "To an honest man in Melbourne," and they marked it "Not known here; try heaven." (Loud laughter.)

Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., Hon. Vice-President of the Philatelic Society of London, then proposed the toast of "The Herts Philatelic Society." He said:—

I have the pleasure of proposing the last toast, but I think you will agree with me that it is not the least, the toast of the Herts Society. (Hear, hear.) We have enjoyed the magnificent hospitality of the Herts Society, and we appreciate the hospitality and philatelic enterprise that mark the occasion. It is a little difficult for me to do justice to this toast, for I occupy the dual position of Vice-President of the Herts Society and Hon. Vice-President of the Philatelic Society of London, but I can re-echo the feelings of the older Society that we one and all most cordially appreciate the remarkable strides made by the Herts Society since its inception eight years ago. We in the older Society, perhaps, go in for more philatelic drudgery, but we nevertheless recognize the fact that the way to induce people to become serious philatelists is to get them within the fold, and the Herts Society has done much to popularize the cult of collecting postage stamps. They have had a great success, and the members of the older Society congratulate them most heartily on that success. I am quite sure that the members of the Herts Society will agree with me that they could not possibly have a better President, Vice-President, or Secretary. (Cheers.) I have been a collector of stamps for some forty years or more, but I have never seen stamps in ice before this evening—(laughter)—and I may also say that I have been to a great many philatelic banquets, and hope to go to a great many more—(laughter)—but I have never been present at a more pronounced success than this—(cheers)—nor ever sat down with better company in my life. (Great laughter and applause.)

Mr. H. A. Slade, who on rising was greeted with rounds of cheers, said:—

It is exceedingly gratifying to me to be the appointed medium of reply to the very kind remarks that have fallen from Mr. Castle's lips. He has been of the greatest assistance to us in the past. He has read papers to us, and he has given us displays at several meetings, but never has he proposed this toast under more brilliant auspices. As the mouthpiece of the Society, I may tell you that we eagerly seized the opportunity that arose of offering our hospitality to the Executive and Judges of the Philatelic Exhibition, and we hope that they and all who are interested in stamps have spent a pleasant evening here, and that they will carry away with them pleasant recollections of the Herts Philatelic Society. As a Society we are comparatively young, and we are exceedingly modest (Laughter.) We have been in existence only a few years. We started with a membership of thirteen, and I am proud to say that I have seen the baby grow up into a sturdy youngster. The members of the Herts Society have come well to the front at the Exhibition. They

have obtained eight gold medals, nine silver medals, and ten bronze medals—(cheers)—and that is no mean average of the total.

Mr. Wickham Jones then said: We are all indebted to one gentleman in particular for the magnificent repast we have had to-night. He has been engaged for weeks past in arranging this banquet. It shows what Philately can do when it is applied to the everyday affairs of everyday feeding. (Laughter.) We are indebted to Mr. Hayman for this display, and I only hope it will be an annual affair. (Loud laughter.) I invite you to drink the health of Mr. Hayman.

The audience thereupon rose and sang "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow!" with great enthusiasm.

An excellent entertainment followed the dinner, arranged by Mr. Harrison Hill, and including a "Philatelic Fantasy" specially written for this occasion, and cleverly hitting off several well-known collectors. This "Fantasy" was very happily entitled by the popular entertainer "A Union of Herts," as showing how Philately cements friendship and strengthens the *entente cordiale*.

THE GREAT STAMP EXHIBITION

By W. E. IMESON

THE Exhibition is—that is

It was a big success
Before this *Weekly* (with this weakly
Poem) went to press.
These lines, dashed off at pressure high,
Display no erudition,
Yet no stamp-poet dare ignore
The great Stamp Exhibition.

O the Exhibition!
The O.K. Exhibition!
Tho' I, for one, would say "O.G."
For one and all will all agree
That rarely we've a chance to see
Such stamps in mint condition;
The talk of all the town has been
The great Stamp Exhibition.

When looking in I met a host
Of philatelic pals,
And ladies too (for mere rhyme's sake
I'm bound to call them "gals").
'Pon Philatelia's daughters fair
So "gone" was my condition,
I asked, "Is this a stamp-show—or
A beauty competition?"

O the Exhibition!
The peerless Exhibition!
I noted each "new issue"—that's
The "latest thing" in toques or hats.
Were I a Cræsus (don't cry "Ruts!")
I'd sign, with expedition,
A cheque for—seven figures, say—
And clear the Exhibition.

One Philistine persuaded I
To "do" with me the show.
This one-time scoffer, 'pon my soul, 's
Converted quite, I know.
Of billiards erst he'd only talk,
And stamps send to perdition,
But now he only talks about
The great Stamp Exhibition.

O the Exhibition!
"Reclaiming" Exhibition!
No more I'm bored with billiard-talk;
He took my cue (that needs no chalk).
I say (for ne'er his hopes I'll balk,
Tho' keen the competition)
He'll take a Mogul's medal at
The next Stamp Exhibition!

THE GEOGRAPHICAL INTEREST OF STAMP COLLECTING

By Rev. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

(Continued from page 329.)

THE ornithorhynchus, or duck-billed platypus, one of the lowest mammals, found in the rivers of Australia and Tasmania, is depicted on the 1880 series of postal fiscals of Tasmania.

Of birds there is a fair amount in the way of illustration. One calls to mind the parrot of the Tonga Islands, the ostrich and lyre-bird of New South Wales, the wild goose of China, the eagle of Japan, the argus pheasant of Labuan, the quetzal of Guatemala, the ptarmigan of Newfoundland, the plantain-eater and great egret on the 1906 issue of Liberia, and the kakas, kiwi, and huias of the New Zealand issue of 1898. Nor must we omit the swan of Western Australia.



The distribution of plants has not received the same amount of attention at the hands of the stamp designers as the zoological department. The Congo State presents us with a fine example of a palm tree on the 15 c. of the 1896-98 issue.



Samoa, Labuan, and Liberia also illustrate specimens of native trees, while the orange tree figures on the stamps of the quondam Orange Free State. In a few other cases of

pictorial designs, vegetation of various kinds is depicted to add to the beauty of the landscape, as in certain issues of New Zealand, Madagascar, and Salvador. On the whole, however, the geographical distribution of plants does not find much wealth of illustration on postage stamps.

Political geography treats of the countries into which the earth's surface is divided. It also deals with the occupations, conditions, and government of the people dwelling in those countries. On this branch of the subject the studious philatelist ought to be a walking encyclopædia, for nowadays few states consider themselves too small and obscure to issue postage stamps, even though they may have little or no use for them, and, consequently, the collector becomes more or less familiar with the names and geographical positions of many states of which otherwise he might have been altogether ignorant. Witness a few names taken at random from a current catalogue: Djibouti, Gaboon, Kiautchou, Majunga, Tahiti, Wadhwan. Knowledge of names and geographical positions is, however, but a small portion of the philatelist's mental acquisitions. From the study of stamps he learns much of the nature of the government; he can, in many cases, trace the changes of government. He reads between the lines, and seeks to learn why the head of a ruling monarch on one series gives place to the symbol of a republic on the next. One of the most interesting of the stamps which deal with political changes from the geographical standpoint is the 10 cents of the United States issue of 1904.



The map illustrates the purchase of Louisiana from the French in 1803. The

territory thus bought occupied the whole western basin of the Mississippi from Mexico to the Canadian Lakes. Claimed for France by La Salle in 1682, it was afterwards handed over to the Mississippi Company under John Law. It was ceded to Spain in 1762, and reverted to France in 1800. Napoleon sold it to the United States in 1803 for 60,000,000 francs.

The stamps which present views of various places of interest would in themselves form quite a panorama. Views of public buildings such as post offices, theatres, municipal institutes, are seen on the stamps of Costa Rica, Peru, German Empire, etc. Scenes of emigrant life figure on the 1892 issue of the United States; while the commemorative series of 1901 illustrates modes of travelling by sea and land. Industries also figure prominently in the Newfoundland issue of 1897; while the inventions of man, from the native boat of Fiji to the cruiser *Cartagena* of Colombia, and from the mail coach of Mexico to the latest thing in American expresses, find ample illustration in the stamps of many countries.

Nor are the landmarks of ancient geography forgotten. Have we not the Pyramid and Sphinx of Egypt, and the ruins of Hadrian's Aqueduct of Tunis? The romance

of geographical discovery also looms largely in the designs of the stamps of many countries. Columbus, Cabot and Cook, Prince Henry of Portuguese fame, Jacques Cartier, Marquette and Vasco da Gama, are written in large letters on the minds of philatelists as the pioneers and discoverers of countries hitherto unknown.

In conclusion, then, enough has been written to show that postage stamp collecting, if intelligently followed up, may prove a most valuable stimulus to the acquisition of geographical knowledge. In fact, I am convinced that anyone who takes the trouble to find out where the countries to which his stamps belong are, and, further, to



ascertain the connexion, historical or geographical, between the designs and the countries whose production they are, will accumulate more useful knowledge of geography in a few months than he has acquired in all the years which he has already numbered.

PARLIAMENTARY FRANKING

A PRIVILEGE OF THE PAST

By HARRY J. MAGUIRE

"REACTIONARY" is perhaps the last epithet which one would think applicable to the present House of Commons—the most democratic in the history of the British Parliament—still less to its most progressive section, the Labour party. Yet by a strange irony of fate this very party has proposed the resurrection of one of the most scandalous abuses of the "bad old times," parliamentary franking. Mr. Keir Hardie has been prominent in the attempt to secure the concession, pointing out that the postal expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties are a heavy strain upon the finances of the poorer members. To several questions on the subject the Postmaster-General has replied that the re-introduction of the privilege is inadvisable;

but the matter is not yet by any means settled, although for the time being shelved in favour of more urgent problems.

Thus is reopened what to philatelists is naturally one of the most interesting chapters in the history of the Post Office, for the flagrant misuse of franking was one of Sir Rowland Hill's most serviceable arguments in his agitation for penny postage. A short sketch of its history and of the abuses which finally caused its abolition may therefore be acceptable to the readers of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, but first it may be as well to explain what the term really means. Franking was the right formerly possessed by members of the House of Lords and of the House of Commons of free postal transmission of all their correspond-

ence. One striking exception, however, was made—Catholic peers were debarred from this privilege, in spite of repeated protests and petitions, until the passing of the Emancipation Act in 1829. m19J

The Post Office in England was primarily established for the special use and benefit of the monarch and his advisers, and for the safe and speedy transmission of their dispatches. Its origin is apparent from the title which it bears to the present day—the “Royal Mail.” From the beginning it would appear that members of both Houses of Parliament were allowed to avail themselves of it without charge, and under the Stuart regime its advantages were extended gradually to the general public, who had, however, to pay pretty heavily for the concession. In the reign of Charles II the system was reorganized, and by the Post Office Bill of 1660 the postal revenues were granted to the “Merry Monarch.” The Commons, with their new notions of independence, inserted into the Bill a proviso confirming to them the franking power which they had already begun to exercise as a right. This clause the Peers refused to pass, characterizing it as mean and undignified. The true reason for their conduct appeared subsequently—no provision had been made for their lordships’ letters. Three years later a compromise was effected, the Government promising that the members of both Houses should continue to enjoy their immunity from postal charges, subject to certain restrictions. Parliament is traditionally jealous of its rights, and this one was no exception; for, as may be seen by an entry in the House of Lords Journal, it was ordered in October, 1666, that one Edward Roberts “be sent for in custody of the Sergeant-at-arms or his deputy, to answer his abuse and breach of privilege in exacting money of the members of this House for post letters.” We may be sure that the offender was not set free until he had purged his offence by an ample apology to the wounded dignity of the noble lords. m19J ! m19J

In those days members who wished to obtain the right of franking had to apply to Government for the issue of a Treasury warrant authorizing the Postmaster-General to grant it. In the Agents’ Letter Book amongst the muniments of the Post Office there is preserved a record of the articles carried under these warrants by the Post

Office packet service at the end of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth centuries.* Many curious and illuminative facts are to be found in this book relative to the manner in which the franking privilege was then exercised, and those who have experienced the stringency of present-day Post Office regulations will wonder at the elastic interpretation which was once allowed to be put on the word “correspondence.” Amongst the extraordinary items entered as being thus sent are:—“Fifteen couple of hounds, going to the King of the Romans with a free pass”; “Two maid-servants going as laundresses to my Lord Ambassador Methuen”; and “A deal case with flour fitches of bacon.” However our modern legislators might lapse in smaller matters, it would require a considerable strain on our imaginations to picture one of them franking a clergyman through the post. Yet that is what a seventeenth-century member did with a divine of that day, the Reverend Dr. Crichton, who carried with him, we are told, “a cow and divers necessaries,” presumably to supply him with milk and food on the journey. Imagine Mr. Birrell walking into St. Martin’s-le-Grand some day and dropping the Archbishop of Canterbury into a letter-box, with a label addressed to Hong Kong or some equally warm region! We find in the same volume entries of the dispatch of “three suits of cloaths, for some nobleman’s lady at the Court of Portugal,” and, as if in proof that the other sex dressed quite as extravagantly, we read also of two bales of stockings being sent “for the use” (!) of the Ambassador to the same Court. Perhaps, though, the Ambassador may have been of an economical disposition and retailed hosiery in his spare time. Other “letters” franked by the omnipotent Treasury warrant contained boots, curtains, medicines, books, tea, game, and even pianos.

These grave abuses, strange to say, were tolerated for nearly a century before any attempt was made to check them. Originally the privilege was supposed to be exercised only during the session of Parliament and for forty days before and after; but in practice the members recognized no such restrictions. In 1764 a committee was appointed to inquire into the whole

* The Post Office had a packet service of its own for the transmission of the mails. See Norway’s *History*.

subject, and in consequence of its report an Act was passed in that year directing that the entire address should be in the member's handwriting, and that letters intended for him should be addressed either to his residence or to the Houses of Parliament. In 1784 the dating of letters by members and the posting of the letters on the dates which they bore were made compulsory, but the limits of time and weight were abolished. It was further enacted in 1795 that no member could send free more than ten letters per day, or receive more than fifteen, and that postage would be charged on any letter if the member was not within twenty miles of the town of posting on that day or the day previous. The same law limited the weight of franked letters to one ounce.

All this legislation was nevertheless of little avail; corruption increased instead of diminishing. Many cases might be quoted in which the privilege was abused as flagrantly as it ever was in the days of the Treasury warrant, but a couple of instances will suffice. Wraxall relates in his *Posthumous Memoirs* that a member once franked from Edinburgh to London by the one post thirty-three "letters" containing nothing but garden seeds. The Postmaster-General brought the matter to the notice of the Speaker, but as the offender was a supporter of the Government no action was taken. The House of Lords has a similar case to its discredit. A packet bearing the frank of the Duke of Queensberry—"Old Q," as readers of Thackeray's *Four Georges* will remember him—received some rough handling during its transmission from Edinburgh to London. The wrapper of the parcel became undone, and the postal officials were surprised to find that it contained a number of letters addressed to various London tradesmen and gentlemen, which, if sent in the ordinary way, would have had to pay postage to the amount of £4. 15s. A still worse case is on record. A gentleman, wishing to remove his pack of hounds from one of his country seats to another, conceived the ingenious idea of sending the animals through the Post Office in instalments of two or three, at the public expense!

Members kept in their desks packets of covers ready franked, just as people now keep stamps in their pocket-books, and supplied them liberally to their friends and acquaintances. One M.P., a member of a

London banking establishment, saved his firm over £700 per annum by franking its correspondence; and many mercantile houses paid members for sending their letters under cover of their autograph. Sir Benjamin Hammett was accused of having made over £2400 a year in this way. People used frequently to send their letters under cover to an obliging member, who would forward them to their destination. In cases where the member was above making money out of his privilege, his servants used to get him to sign large numbers of envelopes and wrappers, by the sale of which they added not a little to their wages. Even the sacred precincts of the "Mother of Parliaments" did not deter the cadgers for franks, who continually pestered members in the lobbies and corridors.

At this period the Irish Post Office was a distinct establishment, and remained so until its amalgamation with that of England in 1831. Here matters were quite as bad as across the Channel, if not worse. An Inspector of Franks was dispatched from Dublin in 1773 to report upon the extent of the abuse. He visited nine towns, remaining in each seven days, the entire inspection lasting over two months. His report is surprising. During his week's visit to Waterford 588 letters were posted purporting to bear franks; 234 of these were found to be forged. At Clonmel the examination revealed a still more extraordinary state of affairs, for out of 1035 franks only 509 were genuine. The other towns were almost as bad, the Inspector's report showing that the counterfeits outnumbered all the other postal letters combined. The Post Office had no remedy against this forgery of franks; like the ancient and honourable profession of smuggling—another flourishing institution in those days—so many participated in its advantages that it was impossible to procure conviction. To quote Sir Edward Lees, then Secretary to the Irish Post Office: "There is scarcely a magistrate in Ireland who will take examinations on the Post Office laws; and certainly in no instance has this office prevailed in getting the bills of indictment found by a grand jury." The same official stated his belief that there were very few clerks in the country who were not guilty of this imposition, and that he would even include "almost every pretty little miss capable of joining her letters." Indeed, it seems that the worst offenders were of the gentle sex, for

Richard Twiss states in his *Tour in Ireland* (1776) that he saw "more than one lady of rank counterfeit the signatures of many persons with so perfect an imitation that I must do them the justice to say that they could hardly be distinguished from the originals." He also mentions that he had been "informed that all the inhabitants of a town sometimes had leave to frank letters in their member's name"!

Until the year 1840, when Rowland Hill's scheme of reform revolutionized the Post Office, letter-writing was a luxury beyond the reach of the working classes, owing to excessive and complicated postal rates. Letters were charged according to the distance and the number of sheets, weight being immaterial, and the slightest enclosure of any sort would double the cost. For this reason envelopes were little employed except in ultra-fashionable circles, being counted as extra sheets; people generally wrote on one side of a large quarto sheet of paper, which was then folded and sealed so as to leave a blank front for the address. There were about forty different rates for inland postage alone, the lowest being 4d., which would prepay a single sheet for a distance of fifteen miles. Dear postage explains to some extent why people of rank and education did not think it dishonourable to evade the rules of the Post Office as much as possible; but the restricted franchise and lack of popular representation were also responsible for much fraud and corruption. Had there been a higher standard of public morality, franking would not have been so extensively abused.

The number of franked letters was altogether out of proportion to the ordinary postal matter. The loss to the Post Office from this cause rose from £24,000 in 1715 to £170,000 in 1763. The Parliamentary Committee of 1764 reported that one man had counterfeited no less than 14,400 signatures within a period of five months. In other words, this one forger was capable of imitating over 30,000 franks per annum. In spite of subsequent legislation, members' letters still caused an annual loss to the revenue of nearly £90,000, the enormous sum of £1,400,000 having been thus lost between 1818 and 1837. In one week in November, 1836, 94,700 franks were *posted in London alone*, and it was estimated in 1838 that the Post Office carried over seven millions of these letters annually.

Rowland Hill pointed out to the public the enormous extent of this abuse, and alarmed it to the fact that whilst all these franks cost as much proportionately to collect and deliver as ordinary letters, yet they did not pay a penny in postage. The consequence was that the ordinary correspondence of the people had to bear extra taxation so as to make up the deficiency. Therefore, said Hill, franking must go; and go it did. The Penny Postage Bill of 1839 contained a clause abolishing the privilege. The Lords alone showed a disposition to oppose this reform; but when Queen Victoria voluntarily surrendered her right the Peers succumbed to her example and to public opinion, as they must always do in the end.

On 10 January, 1840, the Act came into operation, and the right of franking, so far as Members of Parliament were concerned, died with the old rates of postage. Members soon began to complain of the inconvenience, as stamps had not been yet issued, so it was decided to make a special temporary issue for them. In Sir Rowland Hill's Diary for 13 January we find the following entry: "Called on the Speaker of the House of Commons in consequence of a note which he addressed to Mr. Baring on Saturday; arranged with him, and afterwards with the officers of the Houses of Parliament, for a sort of stamped cover for the use of the members, and had specimens prepared at the Stationery Office." They were issued on 16 January; they were four in number: a 1d. cover for the House of Lords, printed in red; a 1d. cover for the House of Commons, printed in black; and two covers for the Houses of Parliament, of the values of 1d. and 2d., both printed in black. These were to be had at the office for the sale of parliamentary papers in the members' waiting-room, and could only be posted within the Houses of Parliament. One of the House of Lords covers is illustrated in Hardy and Bacon's fine work *The Stamp Collector*, Plate II, illus. 25.

One curious and well-known relic of the old privilege still exists, and is largely exercised. When a Bill has passed its first reading in Parliament, it is distributed in printed form to the members, who have the right of sending a certain number of copies post-free to their constituents. The copies are sent out from the Vote Office, the member signing his name on the wrappers.

Undoubtedly there is a great deal to be said in favour of the Labour members' plea that their heavy correspondence entails proportionately heavy expense, which they cannot afford, but which their duty to their constituents will not allow them to neglect. Nevertheless, the revival of an ancient abuse is hardly the proper way to remedy an existing grievance. One way out of the

difficulty would be to issue to each member a limited number of wrappers, envelopes, and adhesive stamps of a special design, which he might use for such correspondence, signing and dating each letter, as used to be the case. Without some such safeguard the revival of parliamentary franking would be a serious mistake.

THE ST. KILDA MAIL

VIA SHETLAND

FROM "ST. MARTIN'S-LE-GRAND"

THERE are many and various ways of conveying His Majesty's mails by land and sea, but among all the antiquated and modern methods of sending letters through the post, there is surely none more novel than that which is here illustrated, and

afloat, to drift hither and thither, perhaps out into the broad Atlantic never to be seen again, perhaps to the nearest shore, to be dashed against the rocks, chafed to pieces, and the contents gradually reduced to pulp.



which shows how the St. Kildians communicate with the outer world. St. Kilda is a remote island lying on the west coast of Scotland. It is thirty miles from the nearest land. There is no regular mail communication with the mainland, and when the St. Kildians are seized with *cacoethes scribendi* they cannot, like mortals in more favoured localities, write their letters or post cards and drop them into the nearest pillar box, assured that they will be at their destination in the course of a few hours. No, they resort to the strangest of all mail-bags. A sheepskin buoy is made, the letters are enclosed in a tin canister with sufficient money to pay postage, a wooden label is attached bearing the inscription "St. Kilda Mail, please open," and the mail-bag is sent

The St. Kilda Mail does not always reach its destination. The particular one here shown was sent off on 21 June; it was one of three sent adrift at the same time. Two have never been found, so far as known. This one was picked up at Bigton, Dunrossness, Shetland, after having drifted for two months and a day. That can scarcely be counted as an instance of quick dispatch. Water had got into the tin, and two of the addresses on the missives were almost indecipherable. The mail comprised eight post cards and two letters, which were duly forwarded from Lerwick Post Office to their destination.

The St. Kilda bag remains in the custody of the Lerwick Postmaster. It is one of the curiosities of the service.

PORTRAITS ON STAMPS

By BOSWELL JUNIOR

Hanover

George V, King of Hanover, was born in 1819. On Queen Victoria's accession to the throne of England in 1837, the kingdom of Hanover, which had been ruled by King William IV of England, became a separate kingdom under Ernest, Duke of Cumberland, the next surviving brother of William IV, and fifth son of George III. King Ernest died in 1851, and was succeeded by his blind son, George V. This king seems to have held very extreme and out-of-date ideas with regard to the kingly power, and



for fifteen years he struggled against the will of his people in defence of his absolutist ideas. In 1866 Hanover joined Austria in the "Seven Weeks' War" against Prussia. The Hanoverian army was surrounded, and capitulated at Langensalza. Peace was made, and Hanover, with some smaller states, was annexed by Prussia. George V was banished. Up to the time of his death in 1878 he laid claim to the throne, which claim was then maintained by his only son, Ernest Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, who was born in 1845. He finally abandoned the claim in 1892. Eight years ago he was made a general in the British Army.

FORGERIES AND REPRINTS

HOW TO DETECT THEM

By REV. ROBERT B. EARÉE

ANGOLA

Issue of 1870. Thick white paper with enamelled face. Perf. 12½. 5, 10, 20, 25, 50, 100 Reiss

Issue of 1871. Medium paper. Perf. 12½. 5, 10, 20, 25, 40, 50, 100, 200, 300 Reiss

Issue of 1875. Same as last. Perf. 13½. 5, 10, 20, 25, 40, 50, 100, 200, 300 Reiss

Issue of 1881. Colours changed. Perf. 12½. 10, 20, 25, 40, 50 Reiss

Issue of 1885. The same. Perf. 13½. 10, 25, 40, 50 Reiss

The above are the issues of the Crown type, as catalogued by Gibbons. In the 1881 issue there are two types of the 50 reiss, blue—one with an almost straight neck to the 5, and the other with a slanting neck. I cannot say whether the forgers have imitated the changed colours and new values of the later issues, the counterfeits in my possession consisting only of the 5, 10, 25, 50, and 100 reiss. Not only the



Angola stamps, but also the whole of the stamps of this type, of the various Portuguese colonies, have been extensively forged, and appear to have been prettily well patronized by a too confiding public.

Genuine.—Engraved in *épargne*; paper and perforation as above, according to the issue. The crown in the centre is very well done, and all the pearls on the arches of the said crown can be easily counted. The numbers of these pearls on the various arches, beginning with the right-hand arch, are 9, 10, 5, 10, 9. The arms of the cross, on the top of the crown, are hardly as wide as the orb or ball on which the cross stands. There are 121 oval white dots round the central circle, and they are almost perfectly uniform all the way round. The frame of the stamp, at the sides, is composed of two parallel, vertical lines—a thick outer line, and a thin inner one, placed close together. The thick line, above the value, cuts into the thick outer line of the frame, as well as into the thin inner one, on both sides. The frame round *ANGOLA* is nearly 15 mm. wide, and 2½ mm. high. The frame round the value, at the bottom of the stamp, is exactly 15 mm. wide and 2½ mm. high. The letters of *ANGOLA* are slightly smaller than those of *REISS*. The square Etruscan ornaments in the four corners of the stamp are exactly like those of our illustration. The floriated ornaments in the four

spandrels are also very like those in our illustration, with a sort of heart-shaped, seven-lobed leaf pointing to each corner.

First Forgery.—Lithographed, on thickish, rather hard, white wove paper; badly perforated 13. The crown is not at all well done, and seems to be slightly larger than the genuine. The pearls on the arches of the crown look rather "mixed," and cannot be counted with any certainty. As far as I am able to make out, they are the same number as the genuine, but irregular, blotched, and not at all like the real article. The arms of the cross stretch out decidedly wider than the width of the orb or ball on which the cross rests. There are 125 white dots round the central circle: they are of all sorts of shapes, and generally much smeared on the left side. The frame of the stamp, at the sides, is composed of two vertical lines, as in the genuine; but both lines are of the same thickness, and they are much too far apart. The thick line above the value, at the bottom of the stamp, only comes as far as the inner line of the frame on the right side, but touches the outer line as well on the left. The rest of the stamp is a tolerably correct copy of the genuine.

Second Forgery.—Lithographed, on stout, hard, white wove paper; badly perforated 12½. The numbers of the pearls on the arches of the crown, beginning with the right-hand arch, are 9, 8, 4, 9, 9. They are not difficult to count. The arms of the cross stretch out wider than the width of the orb on which the cross stands. There are only 108 white dots round the central circle. The thin inner vertical line of the frame, on the left side, is broken, in some copies, near the top. The thick line above the value, at the bottom of the stamp, cuts into the thick outer vertical line of the frame, as well as into the thin inner one, on both sides, as in the genuine.

(To be continued.)

In this forgery the frame round ANGOLA is 14½ mm. wide and 2¾ mm. high; and the frame round the value, at the bottom of the stamp, is 15½ mm. wide and 2½ mm. high. The letters of ANGOLA are larger than those of REIS. The square Etruscan ornaments in the four corners of the stamp are all like the one in the left top corner of our illustration. The floriated ornaments in the right top and left bottom spandrels are a colourable imitation of the genuine; but the other ones in the left top and right bottom corners have the projecting leaf of quite a different shape, and that in the right bottom corner has eight lobes.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—Two concentric circles, with date in centre, and name between the circles, and below the name a pair of crossed branches: also 11, 27, 46, 55.

Forged.—22, 54 (with blank centre); also some undefined blotches of no particular pattern.

REPRINTS

These were issued in 1886, on stout, chalky-white wove paper, perf. 13½ only. The 50 reis stamps, both green and blue, are reprinted from the second type; i.e., with the neck of the 5 slanting, instead of upright.

ANJOUAN

FORGED POSTMARKS

For an account of the forged cancellations which have lately been applied to genuine stamps, I will refer the reader to the list and description under French Colonies.



INGLE-NOOK YARNS

THE SAVING OF JACK FOX

By ARTHUR MONSOTH

JACK FOX, boatman, stood at the door of his humble cottage, gazing abstractedly up the river Teign. After a lovely autumn day a cold easterly breeze had sprung up towards evening, ruffling the surface of the tidal river Teign into white horses, and the sun was setting in an angry blaze of clouds over distant Dartmoor, clearly foretelling a storm.

A fine specimen of a Devonshire boatman was Jack, with his tall, wiry frame, bronzed countenance, and honest blue eyes; but on this particular evening the ugly look of the weather was reflected in his face, and the darkness that was settling over the earth seemed to be settling down over his own fortunes.

The life of a boatman is ever a precarious one, made up as it is of pleasure-boating and fishing in the summer and more serious fishing in the winter, and of late Jack had had what he called "an uncommon run o' bad luck." Illness during the past winter meant, of course, no money coming in, and though he had been nursed through it successfully by his old mother, with whom he lived, still it left him heavily in debt to the tradespeople of the town. He hoped, however, by a good summer to pay off all his debts and start the winter with a clean slate.

Unfortunately his expectations were not realized, as it turned out an exceedingly bad season

for all the boatmen. Visitors did not come to Teignmouth in such numbers as formerly, and those that did come did not seem inclined to spend much money in boating or fishing.

Now the summer had gone, leaving Jack with his debts still unpaid and tradesmen pressing for their money; they naturally thought that if he could not pay them in the summer he certainly would not in the winter, which was true enough.

So on this autumn evening things looked very gloomy for Jack Fox as he stood at the door of his cottage, where the waters of the river lapped the doorsteps at high tide. Out in the stream, but a short distance off, were his little yacht *Sandbar* and the three pleasure-boats that he owned.

"Yes," he said, looking at them, "there's no help for it; they'll have to go, an' then what's to become o' me?"

A mist had arisen on the river shrouding everything from view, and the twilight had given place to night, when Jack turned and went inside.

Entering the little kitchen, he found his old mother reading by the fire.

"Mother," said he, "so far's I can see there's naught for it but to sell the yacht an' boats. Them bills must be paid soon, or it'll be a law-court job." (Jack, like most simple souls, had a horror of the law.)

"Well, Jack," the old woman answered, "sorry as I sh'd be to see 'em sold, I reckon as you knows best."

Silence prevailed for a time between them, chiefly because neither know what to say to comfort the other; then the old lady, thinking to divert her son's thoughts from his troubles, let her eyes stray over the newspaper on her lap, seeking some interesting paragraph. After a while, finding what she wanted, she looked up and said:—

"Ah, Jack, 'tis wonderful what some folks does wi' their money, when they've got plenty. I see 'ere as one gen'lman 'as just given £500 for just one little, dinky [tiny] stamp. Think o' that, now! An or'nary stamp like us puts on our letters!"

"Oh, yes, mother," said Jack, trying to appear interested, "heaps o' people collects stamps now, and pays big prices for 'em, too. I did 'ear as our vicar himself 'as a big collection."

"Did yer really, now?" she exclaimed. "Well, I shouldn't ha' thought as the gentry would ever take up such a fad as that."

Hanging on the wall above the mantelpiece was the picture of a typical old salt, which, from its likeness to Jack, was evidently a portrait of his late father, who had been dead some years. Nodding towards this, the old lady went on:—

"Why, I can mind th' time when yer old dad used to save up stamps and stick 'em in a book. When he was a little bye 'e used ter pester the cap'n's o' all th' ships as come in ter

give 'im furrin stamps. The purty colours of 'em seemed ter tickle 'is fancy, an' a rare lot o' pleasure 'e used ter get out of 'em, spite o' the other byes laughin'. And when 'e grew up an' went ter sea, all th' letters 'e wrote 'ome from furrin parts 'is mother kept and put 'em aside along wi' 'is stamp book. 'Owever, when 'e come home fur good, and married me an' settled down ter fishin', 'e seemed to lose interest in stamps, an' they was all put down th' bottom o' his old sea-chest, and forgotten. Forty year ago that mus' be, an' I reckon they'm there still. I shouldn't think they'd be worth nothin' now, bein' so old."

"I don't know so much about that, mother," said Jack, who had pricked up his ears during the foregoing. "You know old-fashioned things be sometimes worth more'n new. Didn't ye hear about old mother Hook sellin' 'er grand-father's clock to a gen'lman t'other day fur £10? Tell ye what, mother; us'll look them stamps out and show 'em to the vicar. 'Tis just possible they may be worth somethin'."

That very night they emptied the old sea-chest of all its motley assortment of odds and ends, and at the very bottom, as the old woman had said, they found what they were in search of.

Yes, there lay the ancient exercise book in which Jack's father had formed his primitive stamp collection, and also the letters he had sent home from "furrin parts," each in its original envelope with stamps untouched. Even at the present time many people keep their dear ones' letters in envelopes intact, and much more did they do so in the old days when letters were rarer than they are now.

Jack picked up the book and looked it through. It contained about two hundred stamps, mostly used, chiefly Europeans, with a good sprinkling of Australians, and all stuck down tightly to the page in the old way.

He was no philatelist, so could not judge the value of the collection, and privately did not think it worth much, though he clung to the chance that it might prove of value, as a drowning man clutches at a straw.

After carefully putting the book and the letters away in a safe place, Jack and his mother went to bed.

It was a wild night; the wind increased in violence until it howled around the cottage like a demon, and the waters of the river rose higher and higher until the doorsteps were covered, which had happened before at spring-tides. But this was an exceptionally high spring owing to the influence of the strong east wind.

However, towards morning the gale abated, and when, with the first blink of dawn, Jack got up and went out, the tide had gone down and the wind had almost died away. But what a scene of desolation the storm had left! All up and down the river boats had been smashed and sunk, yachts had left their moorings and been stove in, and planks, masts, and bits of wreckage, of all descriptions were floating on

the surface of the water, and being washed up on the beach.

Jack's first thought was for his own yacht and boats, and, to his dismay, he discovered that the former had broken loose and was lying on the beach, some little distance down, with her side stove in. She had been dashed against the piles of a small jetty, after which the river, as though tired of its plaything, had thrown her up on to the beach—a wreck!

Jack walked down to where she lay, and stood sadly gazing at her. This was the last straw; it would now be impossible to sell her to pay his debts, and his boats, which were happily uninjured, would not fetch sufficient by themselves; while to repair her would cost at least £10, which he certainly did not possess. It would mean the Union for his mother and a foremast hand's job for himself, was Jack's thought, as he stood looking at his unfortunate *Swallow*.

But Jack was not the only one who had suffered during that stormy night, and in helping others he forgot his own troubles for a time.

The Rev. Austin Graham, vicar of the little town, was a fine, manly fellow, much liked by the fishermen, and, hearing what damage had been caused by the storm, he came among them during the morning sympathizing, comforting, and offering what help he could.

As soon as Jack perceived him, he thought of the conversation of the night before, and, when the opportunity offered, he went over to the vicar and asked him if he would be good enough to look in at the cottage that evening.

"Certainly, Fox, with pleasure," replied the Rev. Graham, wondering to himself what it was that Jack wanted.

All through that day Jack was hard at work, and it was late in the afternoon when he went home to his well-earned tea.

The meal over, he got the stamps in readiness, and awaited the vicar's coming with what patience he could command.

At last, about eight o'clock, the Rev. Graham arrived.

"Good evening, Fox," he said; "and what can I do for you?"

"Well, sir," replied Jack, "'tis about these 'ere old stamps that I wanted to ask you."

So saying, he placed the book and letters before his visitor, who had at once become interested at the magic word "stamps."

"Hearin' as you collected stamps yourself, sir," Jack went on, "I thought as you might be able to tell us whether these old 'uns, as b'longed ter my father, be worth anything now.

O' course, sir, you knows our position as well as us does ourselves, and now the yacht's smashed every shillin' us can get'll be uncommon useful."

The vicar turned over the pages of the book, and then looked at the old letters for a long time without a word; and then, turning to Jack, he said:—

"Fox, I really believe that these old stamps *will* turn out to be worth something. Now, although I am a stamp collector, I am not sufficiently expert to tell you off-hand what they are worth, but if you will let me take them I will send them to a London firm with whom I deal, who, I am sure, will make you a fair offer for them. I don't want to raise false hopes that may never be realized, but I think I can promise that these stamps will, at least, pay for the repairs to your yacht."

"Why, sir," said Jack, "that'll be a matter o' ten pounds!"

"Yes, I know," returned the vicar, "and they should certainly be worth that, if not more."

Jack and his mother were naturally overjoyed, and when the clergyman left the cottage that evening he took with him the stamp book and the loose stamps which Jack had cut off the envelopes.

Next day they were sent off to the firm of stamp dealers, and a few days later the Rev. Graham received a letter from the firm stating that they were willing to give £50 for the lot!

"How pleased Jack Fox will be!" he thought. "I must go down and see him at once!"

The joy of Jack and his old mother when the vicar brought them the good news is better imagined than described; they could scarcely comprehend that it was true.

"Oh, sir," cried Jack, "I never dreamt as they'd fetch so much as that! Just think of it! Fifty golden sovereigns! Thirty of 'em will pay my old debts, ten'll do for repairin' the yacht, and then there'll be ten left to go on with. And to think that it's father's old stamps as have saved us! 'Tis simply grand!"

With a few kindly words of congratulation, the vicar went out and left the two alone with their joy.

Since then things have prospered with Jack Fox, and if ever you go to Teignmouth you must look him up. He is now a stamp collector himself, and, under the vicar's guidance, bids fair to have a collection that in point of numbers, if not value, will leave his old father's far behind.

APPROVAL SHEETS AND COLLECTIONS

New Sheets of Stamps for beginners and medium collectors. We have just been arranging our Approval Sheets of Stamps on an entirely new and much simpler plan than formerly. The Stamps are mounted on Sheets, containing an average of 100 Stamps per Sheet. They are all arranged in the order of our New Catalogue. First, Great Britain and the Colonies, then all Foreign Countries. These Sheets contain about 500 different Stamps, and a Sheet of any particular country will be sent on demand. The Sheets arranged to date are over forty in number, and contain all Great Britain and the Colonies, and all Foreign Countries.

THE POSTAL UNION CONGRESS

SIR JOSEPH WARD, Postmaster-General of New Zealand, speaking yesterday to a representative of Reuter's Agency on the subject of the results of the International Postal Congress, which has practically concluded its labours, said that the most important decision was that to reduce all sea and land transit charges by 5, 10, and eventually 15 per cent. This decision had enabled the unit of weight for international letter postage to be increased from half an ounce to approximately three-quarters of an ounce. In practice the effect in Great Britain would be that the foreign postage rate will be 2½d. for an ounce instead of for half an ounce. It was also decided that every twenty grammes after the first twenty should be charged only 1½d.

An interesting British proposal for the introduction of a "reply-paid letter" system was also adopted. Coupons will be issued by the International Bureau at Berne to the world's post offices. These coupons will be exchanged for stamps in any country and will possess many of the advantages of an international postal

stamp, which for sentimental reasons cannot be introduced just now. Many restrictions with regard to post cards, in particular picture post cards, money orders, and postal orders have been removed and administrative reforms of a far-reaching character have been adopted.

Referring to the question of international penny postage, Sir Joseph Ward said that it was bound to come. Delegates representing 125,000,000 persons voted in favour of it at the Congress, the American delegate being among them. Every country has the right to enter into an agreement with any nation for a restricted penny postage, and he foreshadowed an arrangement to this effect being arrived at shortly between Great Britain and the United States. The moment this had been accomplished the rest of the world would have to follow suit. He hopes on his way home to be able to return *via* the United States and come to an agreement with the United States Postmaster-General for an agreement of this sort. Egypt was working hard to secure a similar convention with Italy.—From the *Times*.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Junior Philatelic Society Manchester Branch

THE seventh ordinary meeting (the last of the session) and the first annual meeting were held at the Y.M.C.A., Peter Street, on 17 May, 1906. Forty-five members were present, and Mr. Bernstein presided. The reports of the Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, and Packet Superintendent were received and passed. The branch now has seventy-three members. All the officers were re-elected. It was decided that the Society should have a picnic on 14 July, and Messrs. Ward and J. Taylor were elected a sub-committee to make the arrangements. A competitive display was then held. The Committee offered prizes of stamps, to be chosen by the winners, for the best exhibits of any one country. Neatness of mounting and condition of specimens to be the chief points, money value of exhibits not to be considered. Messrs. J. H. Taylor, A. Jones, and J. S. Higgins, jun., were appointed judges. The results were: Section for members over eighteen—first, Mr. Atkinson, France; second, Mr. Ascough, Bulgaria; third (extra prize given by Mr. A. Jones), Mr. Horner, British East Africa. Section for members under eighteen—first, Mr. Cansino, jun., Canada; second (extra prize given by Mr. Heywood), Mr. H. Heywood, Cayman Islands. Messrs. Ascough and Heywood presented their prize money to the library fund.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: J. H. M. Swooga.
Secretary: A. S. Allender, 71 Canning Street, Liverpool.
Meetings: Angel Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool. 7 p.m.

THE usual fortnightly meeting took place at the Angel Hotel, Dale Street, on Monday, 7 May, 1906. After

the preliminary business, the election of officers, etc., for the ensuing season was proceeded with. The following were elected:—President, Mr. J. H. M. Savage; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. W. Gill and Herbert Woods; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. A. Gordon; Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. S. Allender, 71 Canning Street, Liverpool; Hon. Exchange Secretary, Mr. F. W. Calloway; Committee, Messrs. J. Hughes, A. Phelps, Hill, W. Rockliff, and Dr. Ackerley.

Deep regret was expressed at the resignation of Mr. Halfpenny from the position of Hon. Secretary, which he has filled so ably for many years past, and a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him for his long services. To the retiring officers and Committee a cordial vote of thanks was also tendered.

The session of 1905-6 has proved a most successful one. The membership has risen from sixty-four to about eighty, and the programme of meetings has been the best which the Society has ever enjoyed. The displays have been excellent, and the prize scheme has proved very attractive.

Sheffield Philatelic Society

President: J. E. Bartlett.
Secretary: W. G. Laycock.

A MEETING of the members of this Society was held in their rooms at the King's Head Hotel, on Wednesday, 2 May, 1906. In the absence of the President, Mr. J. F. Peace occupied the chair.

The evening was devoted to an exhibit of the stamps of Scandinavia. The principal collections shown were those of Messrs. Peace, Ashton, and Chapman, all of which were very complete and contained many good varieties of perforations and shades.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to Edward J. Nankivell, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Correspondence.—The Editor regrets that he has no time for direct correspondence. All letters requiring a reply will be dealt with under the head of "Answers to Correspondents."

Examination of Stamps.—This work is done by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., whose terms for the examination of stamps sent to them for their opinion are, cash in advance: 2s. 6d. per dozen; a minimum charge of 1s. being made if less than twelve stamps are sent. Postages extra. The stamps should be sent lightly fastened on sheets, with sufficient space above each stamp for the insertion of the desired information.

The following abbreviations are used in giving an opinion:—B. Bogus, i.e. never existed; F. Forged; G. Genuine; G.F. Stamps genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark. The charge for marking the forgeries in a collection in its entirety is at the

rate of 10s. per 1000 stamps examined, the minimum fee being 5s. Postages extra. If a correspondence is desired, the charge is 1s. for each letter written.

Subscriptions.—Subscriptions must be sent to the publishers as set out on the front page of cover, or to booksellers or railway bookstalls, but never to the Editor.

Covers for Binding Vol. II.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. II of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d. post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. I. January to June, 1905, including the rare early numbers. 400 pages, 10s. 9d., post-free. Vol. II. July to December, 1905. 444 pages, price 4s. 9d., post-free.

Philatelic Societies.—We wish to make a special feature of the prompt publication of the reports of Philatelic Societies, and trust we may have the kindly co-operation of the honorary secretaries in this matter. Reports should be written on one side of the paper, and dispatched to the Editor by the earliest post.

GIBBONS STAMP WEEKLY

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

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Edited by MAJOR E. B. EVANS

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Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

No. 24
Whole No. 76

16 JUNE, 1906

VOL. III.

ON RELIGIOUS DESIGNS

By Rev. T. C. WALTON, M.A.

IN dealing with the subject of Postage Stamp Devices, we have already had occasion to dwell at length on the many representations of the gods of ancient classical days which occur in the postal issues of Crete. The present article is an attempt to write up some account of other stamps which savour of a religious interest.

The first that calls for notice is the Belgian issue designed to commemorate the Brussels Exhibition of 1897. On the 5 centimes value Michael, the warrior angel, is depicted as triumphing over the Dragon, while the 10 centimes value presents a view of Michael on the point of slaying his Satanic Majesty with a lance. For the benefit of those unversed as yet in the subtleties of the French and Flemish tongues, it may be useful to add that the printed matter on the perforated slip at the bottom of the stamp indicates that the letter on which that slip appears is not to be delivered on Sunday. If a correspondent wishes his letter to be delivered on Sunday in the usual way, he merely tears off the slip when affixing the stamp.



NE PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE
NI ET DESTELLEN OP ZONDAG

NE PAS LIVRER LE DIMANCHE
NI ET DESTELLEN OP ZONDAG

Another Commemorative label of a religious nature is seen in the 1900 issue of Brazil. Vincente Pinzon, who followed Columbus in his first voyage, discovered Brazil in 1500. Hence the signification of the date in the left-hand corner of the 500

reis value. An angel of mercy is represented as bringing succour to some forlorn and supplicating figures on the beach.



Several countries depict scenes in the lives of holy men on their stamps. Malta, in her 1899 issue, presents a very dramatic illustration of the shipwreck of St. Paul on the island of Melita. The doomed ship lies in the offing, two struggling figures are seen emerging from the waves; while the viper, erect on his tail, calmly watches the raging waters—with one eye, undoubtedly, on his victim.



The St. Anthony of Padua Commemorative issue of Portugal in 1895 recalls a well-worn legend. St. Anthony was born



at Lisbon in 1195. He is garbed as a Franciscan monk on the 1000 reis value,

while various scenes in his life are portrayed on other values. The 2½ reis value presents his vision of the infant Christ. His appeal to the fishes, when men refused to hear him, appears as the design on the 25 reis.

On the back of these Portuguese Commemorative stamps appears a quotation from St. Bonaventure, viz:—

Centenario de Santo Antonio.

MCXCV. ✠ MDCCCXCV.

O lingua benedicta, quæ Dominum semper benedixisti et alios benedicere docuisti: nunc perspicue cernitur quanti meriti fueris apud Deum. S. Boaventura.

The translation is as follows:—

Centenary of St. Antony, 1195-1895.

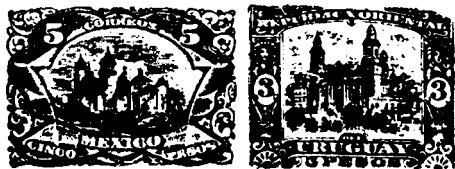
O blessed tongue, which hast always blessed the Lord and hast taught others to bless him; now clearly is it seen how great is thy merit with God. S. Bonaventure.

The 1 cent value of the 1898 United States issue commemorative of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition at Omaha represents an interesting scene in missionary enterprise. Marquette, a Jesuit missionary, started from Canada in 1673 and penetrated into the countries now forming the States of Wisconsin and Illinois, and journeyed some way down the Mississippi. On this 1 cent value he is seen preaching to the Indians.



For the figure of the Virgin Mary on the stamps of the Virgin Islands, the reader is referred to p. 136 of this volume of *G.S.W.*

The Temple of Minerva may be seen on a 10 drachma Greek stamp of 1896, and, strangely enough, we have a fine picture of the same on a 6 centavos value of the 1902



series of Guatemala. America seems also to have a monopoly of cathedrals as devices for postage stamps. They figure on stamps of Guatemala, Mexico, and Uruguay.

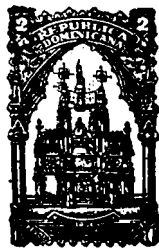
Religious symbols appear on many stamps. The tiara and keys on the Roman States issues take precedence in interest. The tiara is supposed to take its origin from the turban worn by the Jewish priests when performing their sacred offices. From the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* of 1869, I learn that Pope Damasius II was first crowned with the tiara, which was at that time (1053) a high round cap. It is not certain when the first and second princely crowns were added. Urban V (1362-70) added the third. The circle of three crowns is considered to be symbolical of the Pope's temporal authority. The keys are the symbolical keys given to St. Peter by Jesus Christ, and represent the Pope's spiritual authority.



The Cross is a feature in the designs of the stamps of Switzerland, while the planting of the cross appears on a Venezuelan stamp issued in 1893 to commemorate the discovery of the country by Columbus in 1498.



A cross over an open Bible supported by flags figures on various issues of the Dominican Republic. The same country is responsible for a set of labels issued in 1899 to raise funds to build a mausoleum for the remains of Columbus. Representations of the sarcophagus and the mausoleum appear on the 5 centavos and 2 pesos values.



A UNION OF HERTS ; OR, THE PARLIAMENT OF STAMPS

TOPICAL SKETCH. WRITTEN AND COMPOSED BY HARRISON HILL

FOR THE DINNER OF THE HERTFORDSHIRE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

CAFÉ MONICO, LONDON, 29 MAY, 1906

The Parliament of Stamps

Air: "Tramp, Tramp."

Now the nations of the world, with their postage stamps unfurled,
Meet upon the 29th of May,
For a Parliament of Stamps—not in rival party camps,
But in an *entente cordiale* kind of way.

Chorus. Stamp, stamp, stamp, the boys are marching,
Ready to unite and take their parts,
Singing "Vive le Capital of the Entente Cordiale,"

And the Philatelic Union of Herts.

The Parliament of Stamps combines all the merits, but none of the faults of the Reichstag of Germany, Le Chambre des Deputies of La Belle France, The Cortes of Spain, The Storting of Norway, the Duma of Russia, and the Parliament of Great Britain. Piccadilly Circus is a veritable Place de la Concorde, for les frères des timbres, who quaff a goblet of champagne to the royal owner of a complete collection of Mauritius, are brothers indeed.

The Royal Visit

Our sailor Prince of Wales who from India lately hails—

And well he did his royal duty there—
Is the patron of the craft, and he walked both fore and aft,
And admired the Exhibition everywhere.

"Briséz mes timbres" (Shiver my timbers), said His Royal Highness, as he looked longingly at a Blue Mauritius—

Chorus. Stamp, stamp, stamp, the boys are marching,

Every man a stamp collector true,
And they hail the Prince of Wales whose kindness never fails,
And Prince Edward, he's a stamp collector too.

The Speaker takes the chair.

Franz Reichenheim

Air: "Home, Sweet Home."

Franz Reichenheim, Franz Reichenheim,
He is our President ;
With such a speaker in the Chair
We're more than quite content.
To make the Herts Society the best is all his aim,
So here's to Mr. President,
Franz Reichenheim his name.

Heim, Heim, Reichenheim,
So here's to Mr. President,
Franz Reichenheim his name.

M. P. Castle

Air: "Champagne Charlie."

I sing of M. P. Castle,
A stamp collector bold,
He's made some big collections
Of Australians, I am told,
Vice-President of the London Society is he.
So here's to M. P. Castle,
Philatelist, J.P.

Chorus. Oh, M. P. Castle is his name,
M. P. Castle is his name,
M. P. Castle is his name, my boys,
Very great is Castle's fame, my boys,
M. P. Castle is his name—
M. P. Castle is his name.

E. J. Nankivell

(Cornelius Wrinkle.)

Winkel, Winkel, what a star,
In the firmament you are,
Always some nice thing to say,
Says it in the nicest way.
Winkel, Winkel, give a cheer,
May he twinkle many a year.
Sold his Transvaals—bought a place
In the country, where, with grace,
He does gardening all day
In his usual kindly way,
Grows the cabbage and the rose,
Every other flower that blows.
Winkel, Winkel, give a cheer,
May he twinkle many a year.

Herbert R. Oldfield

Air: "My Irish Molly."

He is the Secretary, and his work is never done—
But very great distinction has Herbert Oldfield won,
And every time we gaze into the catalogue so clear
We think of Herbert Oldfield, and we're proud to see him here.

Oldfield, to Herbert Oldfield,
Great credit must be due,
Oldfield, to Herbert Oldfield,
Here's luck and health to you.
Here's to the Secretary
Of such a splendid show,
Here's his luck and here's his fame
And often may he do the same,
Here's to you, Herbert O !

H. L. Hayman

The Member for New Zealand,
Vice-President so true,
First type are all his specimens
And he is first type too.
You cannot get such men as he
In large blocks, strips, or pair,
For like his postage stamps he is
A specimen most rare.

Hayman, to H. L. Hayman,
Vice-President so true—
Hayman, to H. L. Hayman,
Here's luck and health to you.
You're Member for New Zealand,
Long may you live and thrive,
On goodwill you are intent,
And you are our Vice-President :
Here's to H. L. Hayman, O.

W. M. Moser

Air : " Yankee Doodle."

His name is William Moser,
And he bought the English Fleet,
His Japanese, and such as these,
They are a perfect treat.
He's Buenos Ayres too,
And stamps of many a nation—
They're all so neat, and most complete,
In point of perforation.

J. N. Luff

Oh ! J. N. Luff has stamps of buff,
Of Red and Green and Blue, sir,
And to the firm of Stanley G.
He always is most true, sir.
Here's a health to J. N. Luff,
Hip, hip, hip, hooray, sir,
May he direct the New York firm
For many and many a day, sir.

Major Evans, R.A.

Oh ! here's to Major Evans—
He is a soldier keen,
At banquets and such functions
Not often he is seen.
But he could not resist, sir,
The invitation here,
So here's to Major Evans,
And give his name a cheer.

H. A. Slade

As treasurer and secretary—
Right well he plays both parts—
What should we do without him
In the Union of Herts ?
Appointed to the double rôle
Most promptly he obeyed,
His work is known to all of you,
So here's to H. A. Slade.

The Semi-Philatelist

We much regret Philately
To some folks is a myth ;
How sad to think that thus it is
With Alderman Partridge Smith.
But fame has found the Alderman,
And he has now been made
A sort of semi-philatel
As father-in-law to Slade.

Beckton and Gibson

Now W. Dorning Beckton, G. F. H. Gibson too,
Two Manchester Philatelists who are both well
known to you.
They both are keen collectors
And I hardly need to tell,
Like citizens of Manchester
They do their work right well.

Sir William Avery

Sir William Avery, Baronet,
A neighbour of the king,
He lives at Windsor, and of him
This little verse we sing—
And why he got his title
The reason's clear to see,
For service he had rendered
To the cause of Philately.

Boys of the Stamp Brigade

Where are the boys of the Stamp Brigade ?
Here at the Monaco,
Heniker Heaton, our M.P.,
Whose postal work you know.
Here is James Heath, whose famous firm
The first English stamp engraved,
Whose name is known where'er the flag
Of England has been waved.

Chorus. Then steadily, shoulder to shoulder,
Steadily, blade to blade,
Steady and strong,
Marching along
Go to the boys of the Stamp Brigade.

Charles J. Phillips

Here is Charles J. Phillips—
What he says, is Philatelic law.
Two Lincolns with their treasures come,
And from the Straits, Bagshawe.
T. W. Hall with Zanzibars ;
Yardley, Transvaals will bring ;
Here's J. C. Bartlett, i.s.o.,
Whose courtesy we sing.

Chorus. Then steadily, etc.

Bradley, Frentzel, etc.

Here with Australians Bradley comes,
Cool, with his Malta too,
And Frentzel comes with Mexicans—
Harvey and Simpson too.

Here Standen still without a chill,
Tho' Chili are his stamps—
And Sidebotham, Librarian,
Whom nothing ever damps.

Chorus. Steadily, shoulder to shoulder,
Steadily, blade to blade,
Steady and strong, marching along,
Come *Boyes* of the Stamp Brigade.

Monsieur Coyette

" Marseillaise."

And now to greet a famous guest,
We have our looked-for Chance,
So "à votre santé" to Coyette,
The President from France.

We greet you, sir, and welcome you,
 Long may we play our parts
 In the Union of Herts;
 Santé, Santé,
 We're proud, you bet,
 To see Monsieur Coyette.

Doctor Kloss

"Wacht am Rhein."

And here from Dresden comes a guest;
 How great would be our loss
 Should we miss Doctor Kloss.
 Lieutenant-Colonel, here's to you,
 For here we all are brothers true;
 Here's to the Fatherland,
 And here's to you—
 Here's to the Fatherland, and here's to you.

Baron de Reuterskiöld

Now Baron de Reuterskiöld, excellent man,
 He comes from a beautiful place called Lausanne,
 He bikes and he acts, he collects, and I'm told
 Does all very well—Baron Reuterskiöld.

Dr. Diena

"SCOTS WHA HAE."

Air: "Scots are Rounning Everywhere."

Dr. Diena comes from Rome,
 And we hope he feels at home,
 For we're glad to see him here
 In England once again.
 Dr. Diena, here's to you,
 You're a stamp enthusiast true—
 Herts and hands united be
 In all fraternity.

Lieut. F. H. Napier

"Pinafore."

Lieutenant F. H. Napier, he
 The only stamp collector in the Royal Navee,

Tho' surely that must be quite wrong,
 And I'll correct it in my little song—
 For of an Admiral I'll tell
 Who lives at Marlborough House, Pall Mall.

J. A. Tilleard

Just here your philatelic bard
 Would like to name J. A. Tilleard,
 The opportunity's propitious
 To add a few more Blue Mauritius,
 Or some such stamps so rich and rare,
 For the neighbourhood of St. James's Square.

George B. Burgin

"A CHIEF AMANG YE."

There's a novelist here whom we know,
 And he's taking a note of the show,
 And he'll put all the lot
 In the form of a plot,
 In his very next novel 'twill go.
 The hero philatelist he,
 The heroine also will be
 A lady collector, and he will protect her—
 Now, Burgin—commission for me.

Baron A. de Worms

"WHO SAID CEYLON?"

I, said the Baron,
 I've got Ceylon,
 Yes, many a one,
 I've got Ceylon.

And the birds of the air
 Went a sobbin' and a sighin';
 For the famous Ceylons
 They were jolly well dyin'.

Who's got the other?
 I, said his brother,
 I've got the other.

PORTRAITS ON STAMPS

By BOSWELL JUNIOR

Prussia

Frederick William IV, King of Prussia (1840-1861), son of Frederick William III, was born in 1795. His one idea of reigning was to continue an out-of-date despotism. Again and again did the people struggle for a constitutional form of government, but Frederick managed to wriggle out of the promises

of reform which he felt compelled to make at the beginning of his reign to appease the popular clamour. The divine right of kings was his creed of life. The French



Revolution of 1848 was followed by a further outbreak of feeling on the part of the Prussians. Matters reached a climax with the storming of the arsenal and the seizing of the palace of the Prince of Prussia, afterwards the Emperor William I. The king gave way. In 1850 a representative parliament, based on democratic principles, was summoned. Seven years later, recurring attacks of insanity caused Frederick William to resign the direction of public affairs. His brother and heir acted as regent until his own accession as William I on the death of Frederick William in 1861.

FORGERIES AND REPRINTS

HOW TO DETECT THEM

By REV. ROBERT B. EARÉE

ANTIGUA

1863-86. One Penny

There are several varieties of this stamp :



1863, small star, rough perf. 14 to 16, lilac-rose, dull rose, vermilion; 1873, CC, perf. 12½, lake, scarlet; 1873, CC, perf. 14, lake, lake-rose; 1884, CA, perf. 12, carmine-red; 1886, CA, perf. 14, carmine-red, rose. The

stamp which the forgers have tried to imitate is the vermilion one of 1863.

Genuine.—Engraved in *taille-douce*, machine-perforated 14 to 16, compound, on pinkish-white paper; watermark, star. The groundwork, behind the head, is composed of strips of two different patterns of engine-turning, disposed alternately, nine in all. Each strip is separated from its neighbours by a fine white vertical line; the central strips being, of course, more or less hidden by the head. The first and last strips have 17 very prominent, diamond-shaped dots running down their centres. One of the inner rows, bearing the same pattern as the two just mentioned, shows one of these dots, just where the hair springs, on the forehead, below the coronet; and this dot is a little larger than the rest. There are two rows of jewels in the band of the coronet; the top row consists of pearls, and the lower row of a few oblong jewels. The lower half of the ear is visible; the face is shaded all over, as is also the neck; and there is no shading *behind* the face, on the background, except just beneath the chin.

Forged.—Lithographed, on yellowish paper, pin-perforated 13, no watermark. The beautiful engine-turning in the groundwork of the genuine is here represented by dots. The 17 dots on the outer rows are not at all conspicuous, and would hardly be noticed at a first glance. Where the hair springs, in front of the forehead, beneath the coronet, there is a dim blotch, not at all resembling the sharply-defined dark spot in the same place in the originals. The band of the coronet is jewelled with two rows of pearls; but there is one of the oblong jewels to be seen under the second cinquefoil. There is an indistinct mark where the ear ought to be; but it would require a very strong effort of imagination to resolve this mark into an ear. The lower part of the cheek and the back of the neck are heavily shaded (I do not refer to the dark shading on the background *behind* the neck, as this is

common to both genuine and forged), and the upper part of the cheek, below the eye, is left unshaded. The background is shaded behind the whole profile of the face.

1862-86. 6d., green.

The following are the varieties:—1862, no watermark, rough perf. 14 to 16, blue-green; 1863, small star, same perforation, blue-green, yellow-green; 1873, CC, perf. 12½, blue-green; 1873, CC, perf. 14, blue-green; 1884-86, CA, perf. 14, deep green.

Genuine.—Engraved in *taille-douce*, varieties as above. The die is exactly the same as the 1d., value only excepted, and therefore the tests for the genuine 1d. will hold good for the genuine 6d.

Forged.—Lithographed, pin-perf. 13, no watermark. This forgery need not detain us long, as it is from the same matrix as the forged 1d., value only excepted, so that the tests for the forged 1d. will hold good for the forged 6d. The colour varies from a pale chalky green to a fair imitation of the blue-green tint; it is printed on very white wove paper.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—1, 54, 64. Our readers will probably be aware that the 1d. was post-marked A12 for St. Christopher in 1890, and A18 for Barbuda.

Forged.—37, 38, 42, all without central numerals.

ANTIOQUIA

Issue of 1868. 2½, 5, 10 c., 1 Peso

All the stamps of this issue are very scarce, and I do not think they have been extensively forged. At present I have only come across counterfeits of the 5 c. and 10 c.

5 c.

Genuine.—Lithographed, on white wove paper, unperforated. The letters *MI* of *COLOMBIA* touch each other at the bottom. The top stroke of the 5, at the bottom of the stamp, points obliquely upwards, towards the *A* of *ANTIOQUIA*. The curved scroll below the condor is very distinct. The neck of the condor is set on properly, in the centre of the body. There is no dot above the *E* of *DE* in the lower half of the oval.



5 c.

Forged.—The bottoms of the letters *mb* do not touch each other. The top stroke of the 5, at the bottom of the stamp, points almost straight to the right. The curved scroll below the condor is hardly visible at all. The neck of the condor is set on too much to the left of the centre of the body of the bird. There is a distinct dot to be seen above the *e* of *DE* in the lower half of the oval.

10 c.



Genuine.—Paper, etc., as in the 5 c. There is a stop after *CORREOS*, and a stop also under the *s* of *c*!

10 c.

Forged.—There is no stop after *CORREOS*, and no stop under the *s* of *c*!

REPRINTS

These were rather common about fifteen years ago, but I have not seen any for many years now. The 2½, 10 c., and 1 peso were reprinted from new lithographic transfers, made from the old matrices. These matrices, when they became obsolete, had been defaced by scoring diagonal lines across them. The reprinter tried to remove the lines, and did pretty well with the 10 c., but they are easy enough to see on the 2½ c. and 1 p. They are on bluish-white wove paper. The real 5 c., like the illustration above, was never reprinted.

BOGUS REPRINT



For the 5 c. value, a bogus reprint was made from the 2½ c., of the annexed design, by altering the value to "5," and adding a "5" in each of the upper spandrels. This is, therefore, a forgery, pure and simple.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—I have never seen any cancellation beyond a written word.

Forged.—Uncancelled, or with a written word, in imitation of the genuine.

Issue of 1869. 2½, 5, 10, 20 Centavos

These stamps are lithographs; but they are very fairly done, and will bear a pretty close inspection. All the forgeries, except the second forgery of the 20 c., have a woolly, misty look, which condemns them at once; though I should fancy that speci-

mens adorn the albums of a good many of our schoolboy friends.

Genuine.—Lithographed, on rather thin, soft, white wove paper. I will first give a description of the points common to all the values, and then take each value separately. The *e* of *ANTIOQUIA* has a distinct tail. The condor in the arms, or rather above the shield, is a condor, and the ring of feathers at the base of its neck is very distinct. The *c* of *COLOMBIA* comes just between the *rr* of *CORREOS*; that is to say, a line drawn down between the two *r*'s would cut through the *c*.

Now for each value separately.

2½ c.

Genuine.—There is a stop after *CORREOS*, another after *COLOMBIA*, and another after *ANTIOQUIA*. Each large figure 2 has its tail perfectly straight. The inner outline of the oval containing the name is very slightly curved inwards, just at the top, the bottom, and the middle of each side; but I think this would hardly be noticed, unless it were expressly looked for.



5 c.

Genuine.—There is a stop after each of the letters *e* and *s* in the words *E. S. DE ANTIOQUIA*. There is also a very distinct white spot in the dark ground of the ornamental spandrel to the left of the aforesaid *e*, and another to the right of the last *a* in *ANTIOQUIA*. In most copies, the words *CORREOS* and *CINCO CEN* are so large as to almost entirely fill up the labels containing them; but there appears to be more than one type of this stamp, and some have the letters a little smaller than others; still all the copies have the said letters of a good size.



10 c.

Genuine.—There is a stop after each of the words *CORREOS*, *ANTIOQUIA*, and *COLOMBIA*. The band containing the name is divided at the sides, and immediately opposite to the division on each side there is a white dot in the dark spandrel, to the left of the left-hand division, and to the right of the right-hand division. Each of the little roses in the top corners has a white spot in its centre.



(To be continued.)

STANLEY GIBBONS PRICED CATALOGUE OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD

Vol. I. Great Britain and Colonies; post-free, 2s. 9d. Vol. II. The Rest of the World; post-free, 2s. 9d.

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NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Barbados.—We give an illustration of the design of the Commemorative labels which we chronicled on page 217. The *Monthly Journal* says:—

The excuse for their issue appears to be the fact that the statue represented upon them was the "First



Monument erected to Nelson's memory, 1813." They have the Crown and CC watermark customary in stamps of that size, and the paper is not chalk-surfaced. All the values appear to have been printed in sheets of sixty, five horizontal rows of twelve, but great excitement has been caused by the discovery that the bottom row was removed from all the sheets of the 2d. stamps before they were sent out to the colony. This is regarded, locally, as an insufferable outrage; one of the colonial papers calls upon the Executive to ascertain the cause and make it known to the public. It is manifest that, if there was an interesting and valuable error in this row of stamps, local speculators ought to have had a chance of collaring it. What are these issues for, except to raise money for impoverished colonies and deserving philatelists?

Bechuanaland Protectorate.—A correspondent writes to us as follows:—"There has just arrived from Mochudi, South Africa, addressed to the principal of the firm I am engaged with, a 2s. 6d. Transvaal, revenue, King's Head, red-brown and black, surcharged in two lines, 'Bechuanaland Protectorate.' It is postally used on parcel." We shall be glad of any further information concerning this overprinting of current Transvaal stamps for use in Bechuanaland.

Canal Zone.—We quote the following from *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*:—

In an article previously published in the *Weekly*, the various issues up to that time were enumerated. Now, however, two new issues have to be recorded.

2 cts. on 1 peso.
1 ct. on 20 centavos.

These stamps become necessary on account of exhaustion of the supply of 1 cent and 2 cent stamps both in the Canal Zone and Republic of Panama post offices.

The new permanent set for Panama has been promised for some months, but delay in ordering the same resulted in a complete exhaustion of stamps of

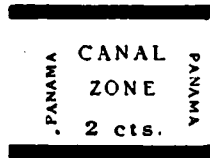
these denominations of both the new Panama series and those of the old Colombian design.

The Canal Zone authorities desired that the 1 cent and 2 cent of Republic of Panama stamps be furnished, and requested the Panama authorities to have a sufficient supply printed and forwarded. This they did not do, as the complete series of stamps for Panama, in new design, had already been ordered, and they did not want more printings made of the 1 cent and 2 cent. The Panama authorities offered the 1 cent and 2 cent provisionals that they had prepared to meet their postal needs for stamps of these denominations, but the surcharging has been so poorly done that the Zone authorities would not accept them, and after several days' delay and much correspondence, the old Colombian stamps were furnished. All the surcharging, PANAMA, bars and value, was done by the Canal Zone authorities.

This type of Canal Zone is entirely different from that on previous issues, as a new setting was made, the words CANAL ZONE being smaller and the letters closer together. The stamps were surcharged in panes of 50. The quantities printed are:—

2 cts.	:	:	:	200,000
1 ct.	:	:	:	100,000

We illustrate the overprint referred to.



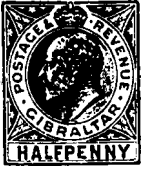
Falkland Islands.—We have received the 5s. on multiple C.A. paper. It will be remembered that the King's Heads of this colony have never appeared on single C.A. paper. The design of the 5s. is the same as that of the 3s., which we illustrate.



Wmk. Multiple C. A. Perf.

½d., yellow-green.
1d., vermilion.
2d., mauve.
2½d., ultramarine.
6d., yellow.
1s., olive-bistre.
3s., dull green.
5s., dull lake.

Gibraltar.—The 6d. has been received on multiple CA paper.



Wmk. Multiple C A. Perf.

- ½d., green.
- 1d., purple on red paper.
- 2d., green and carmine.
- 6d., purple and black.
- 1s., black and carmine.
- 2s., green and blue.

Gold Coast.—The 2s. 6d. which has been chronicled for some time on multiple CA paper has at last been received.



Wmk. Multiple C A. Perf.

- 1d., purple and carmine.
- 2d., orange-red.
- 3d., orange.
- 2s. 6d., green and yellow.

Salvador.—We have received three further values of the new design chronicled on page 202.



Perf.

- 1 centavo, green.
- 2 centavos, vermilion and black.
- 3 " yellow "
- 5 " pale blue "

St. Lucia.—The 1s. value has been received on multiple CA paper.



Multiple C A. Perf.

- ½d., purple and green.
- 1d., " carmine.
- 2½d., ultramarine.
- 3d., " yellow.
- 6d., " black.
- 1s., green and black.
- 5s., " carmine.

Straits Settlements.—We have received several values on multiple C A paper.

Wmk. Multiple C A. Perf.



1 c., green.



- 10 c., purple and black.
- 25 c., " green.
- 30 c., dark grey and carmine.
- 50 c., green and carmine.
- 51 " black.
- 52, purple and black.

THE IMPROVED POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM, No. 0

One Hundred and Tenth Thousand. The best and largest Shilling Album ever published. 176 large pages. Spaces for 4700 Stamps. 48 extra pages added in this edition without extra charge. This Album is now selling at the rate of over 1000 copies a month. The demand for this Album has simply been phenomenal, and it gives universal satisfaction—not a single complaint has been received. The last edition had nearly 20 extra pages added, and now another 48 pages have been added, and all the Geographical and Historical Notes brought up fully to date. All the newest stamp-issuing countries, such as Bussahir, Canton, Cayman Isles, Hoi-hao, Dahomey, etc. etc., have been added. At the top of each page there is the name of the country, and a mass of valuable information, including date when Stamps were issued, population, area, reigning sovereign, capital, etc. Spaces of proper sizes are provided for all Stamps, and the book is bound in a superior manner in art cloth. The Album contains a pocket to hold duplicate Stamps, and fifty Stamps will be presented gratis with each Album. There is also an illustrated Frontispiece of the Rarest Stamps, with prices attached that we pay for each. Price, bound in handsome art cloth, post-free, 1s. 3d. E. S. says: "I asked a friend where the best place was to buy a Stamp Album cheap. He referred me to you, saying that he had bought one and sold it next day for 1s. 6d., after keeping the stamps." A. A. writes: "I received your Stamp Album on Thursday, and I wonder how you can sell it so cheap; for as soon as a friend saw it he offered me 2s. for it. Please send me another."

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Great Exhibition

THE Great International Philatelic Exhibition of the present year of grace, held in London, has closed its doors, dismantled the show cases, and returned the exhibits to their respective owners. It is rather early yet to collate the opinions of celebrated critics as to the show as a whole and its probable effect. But I may, meanwhile, venture the opinion that it will be universally conceded that it has easily eclipsed all previous philatelic exhibitions. And when, and where, will the next be? Ah, there's the rub! As a matter of fact, the Royal Horticultural Hall, which we all thought would afford ample space, turned out to be much too small. Another such hall could easily have been filled. The next exhibition will have to be located in a building with several floors given up to it, and still greater precautions will have to be taken for the protection of stamps from the sun's rays. Shades of some sort will have to be devised to cover each frame, for with all the precautions that were taken at the Royal Horticultural Hall, it became necessary to spread protective tissue paper over some of the stamps, and as the trend of postage stamp production is in the direction of making further use of sensitive coal-tar colours, an increasing number of stamps will have to be classed as too delicate to stand exposure.

The Best Exhibitions

After all, the best exhibitions are our own little displays amongst ourselves in our own philatelic meetings, or at meetings of philatelic friends at our own houses. No exhibition can yield the same real pleasure as the quiet study of the stamps of a country with a few illuminating notes by the owner of the display, and, if possible, the comparison of several other collections.

Nelson: Barbados v. Canada

THE "respectable" colony of commemorating fame seems to have made a slight mistake in its Nelson series of commemoratives. The inscription on the series stating that the Barbados monument was the "first monument erected to Nelson's memory, 1813", is now contested by Canada. The Century Stamp Company, of Montreal, send me a photograph of a monument erected to the memory of Nelson in Montreal in 1808 bearing the following inscription: "In memory of the Right Honourable Admiral Lord Viscount Nelson, Duke of Bronté, who terminated his career of naval glory at the memorable battle of Trafalgar, on the 21st Oct. 1805, after inculcating by signal a maxim that can never

be forgotten by his country, 'England expects every man to do his duty.' This monument pillar was erected by a subscription of the inhabitants of Montreal, in the year 1808." And I am further informed that the subscriptions to the Montreal monument started the night that the news of Trafalgar reached the city.

I would suggest to the postal authorities of Barbados that this little slip merely affords a grand excuse for a further issue with the inscription corrected to "second" instead of "first." It would be a godsend to those who are engaged in the business of gulling young collectors.

The Gambia Gamble

THE Gambia gamble is being worked for all it is worth. The provisional "Half-penny" and "Penny" surcharges, of which we are told 4000 each were issued, are now in the hands of collectors, otherwise speculators, in the colony. The whole thing seems to have been very neatly arranged. It would not be amiss for the Colonial Office to display a little curiosity as to the little game that is in course of being played. The temptation to while away the time with a little surcharging must be very great in some of our far-off colonies. If I were appointed Postmaster-General of, say, Tristan da Cunha, I believe I should have a fine waack of provisionals, inverted, double, printed on back, with mixed perfs., and omitted surcharges *se tenant*, etc., galore, ready for the next call of the *Vulhalla*. But as we collectors are built on the Jekyll and Hyde principle, the Jekyll element in me would rise in righteous indignation at the nefarious traffic.

Death in Stamps

I HAVE just had such a fright in reading the following paragraph which is going the round of the sensational rags of the daily Press:—

There is enough poison to kill a man in fourteen postage stamps, says this week's *Lancet* in an article calling attention to the dangerous colouring matter used in the familiar 3d. yellow variety.

The poison is chromate of lead (chrome-yellow), and it is so deadly that recently two children died who sucked one-fifth of a grain of it from some pastry ornament.

"Each 3d. postage stamp," says the *Lancet*, "weighs rather more than half a grain, of which 2.53 per cent. is chromate of lead. On this basis seventy stamps would contain one grain of poisonous lead salt."

The 3d. stamp is in considerable use, especially for parcels, and although in all post offices wet pads are provided, most people wet stamps with their tongue.

Of course, a Press representative immediately called to know if this was true, and to ascertain

the exact rate of mortality up to date. Hence the following par. :—

Regarding the statement in the *Lancet* that the yellow colouring on the threepenny postage stamps was due to chromate of lead, and that a fatal dose of this poison was contained in fourteen stamps, Mr. Gore, the Controller of Stamps and Stores at Somerset House, told a Press representative on Saturday that the chromate was not contained in the substance used for colouring, but in the yellow paper, and that no possible injury could result unless the stamps were swallowed. The colouring used upon these stamps was purple, and was perfectly innocuous.

The matter, he added, was under the consideration of the laboratory. So far as he knew it was practically impossible to secure a yellow colouring without the use of chromate of lead.

The next move will be to call upon the Controller of Stamps to know when the poisonous yellow paper is to be abandoned, and having got the straight tip, to rush out and buy up all the "poison."

A Find of Turkeys

THERE has been a find of Turkeys—not Christmas turkeys, but old Turkish postage stamps. The news runs thus :—

The many valuable collections of old postage stamps which during the last fifty years have been allowed to remain undisturbed in the vaults of the General Post Office at Constantinople are to be sold by the Ottoman Government.

The proceeds will be devoted towards the expenses of building the railway to Mecca. It is stated that religious reasons have hitherto been the cause for refusing many tempting offers for the collection.

When a fellow is as hard up as Abdul is, it is not at all a bad plan to nose round the vaults for old postage stamps. But this is a bit too previous. There should have been a few inspired preliminary paragraphs sent round throwing out the suggestion that it might be worth while to have a search in the vaults for old stamps, and then, after working up the excitement, make the discovery.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Our Victorian Letter

MELBOURNE, 10 April, 1906

New Federal Issues

SINCE I last wrote you, several new Federal issues have appeared, namely, the 10d. value of New South Wales on the new Federal paper, also the 9d. of Tasmania on same paper, and the 8d. South Australia with the word "Postage" in thick letters.

Philately in the Antipodes

During the past three months, being the summer season in this part of the world, very little interest has been taken in Philately. With the thermometer standing at 109° in the shade,

"Stamp Romances" Indeed

A Cork evening newspaper, waxing eloquent on stamp collecting, informs its readers that "some time ago the Prince of Wales bought the one penny 1847 Mauritius stamp at auction, paying £2500 for it." Truly the price is going up by leaps and bounds from the £1450 actually paid. Then, again, this Cork paper tells us that "the finest collection in the world is owned by Count de Ferrary of Paris," and that "another great stamp collector is M. Phillippe la Rénotiére of Paris." These are what may be termed corkers.

The Commonwealth Issue

It was recently stated in the *Melbourne Argus* that it had been finally decided that the stamps of the Commonwealth shall bear the King's head. Interrogated on the subject a few days ago, the Postmaster-General said: "Interwoven with the question of stamp printing for future use is the question of a uniform design for the whole of the postage stamps of Australia, and this matter will be dealt with very soon."

This information I gather from a column in the *Otago Witness*, to which paper a philatelist, under the *nom de plume* of "Pelure," contributes an interesting and a regular letter on stamps and stamp collecting.

The Famous Deats Collection

I HEAR that the United States authorities have decided not to purchase the famous Deats Collection. Mr. Deats' ambition was to make a complete collection of the revenue proofs of the United States, and thus restore to the country a collection that should have been preserved by the Government itself. The entire collection filled a large trunk and weighed over 200 pounds. It consisted of over 20,000 specimens, and was commercially valued at thirty-five thousand dollars, but it was offered to the United States Government for twenty thousand dollars. The collection has taken Mr. Deats fifteen years to complete. As circumstances compel Mr. Deats to realize, the collection will presumably now be broken up.

it is easy to understand that collectors lay aside their collections and seek for something in the shape of an iced drink to cool the inner man, rather than look for stamps to fill the blank spaces in their collections. But with the approach of the winter, I hope that the business will again revive.

Another 4d. West Australia with Inverted Swan

Another specimen of this stamp with inverted swan has turned up in West Australia, having been found in a collection left to a young lady living in that State by a relative in England. I understand that the lady has refused an offer of a good sum for the stamp, made by a wealthy

Australian collector, whose pocket, however, is not fathomless, like some of those of the other side of the world. The stamp has been sent to London to be sold by auction, and the Prince of Wales has been notified by cable that the stamp has been forwarded to a leading firm of London auctioneers for disposal.

Marriage of a Victorian Collector

A promising Victorian philatelist, who has for years resisted the charms of the fair sex and has led the life of a crusty old bachelor, at length shows signs of relenting, and contemplates joining the ranks of the Benedicts. I hope at a very early date to send you particulars of the philatelic wedding of the happy pair, and hope that the bridegroom will find married life in a seaside suburb preferable to "baching" it in a two-pair back.

And still they Come

I had the pleasure of looking through quite a nice little find of early Australian stamps a few days ago. The lot comprised four copies of the 6d. Victoria, 1854 issue, serrated, four copies of the 1d. laureated issue of Victoria, watermarked Six Pence, and several of the pence watermarks

of the 6d., laureated, quite a nice lot of the 3d., lilac, laureated, and 10d., slate, same issue, of Victoria, and six copies of the 3d., surcharged in red on 4d. of South Australia, and a sprinkling of early issues of New South Wales, Tasmania, and West Australia. The stamps were found in the cellar of one of the country branches of a leading Melbourne bank.

A Find of Unused Victorian "Emblems"

I also saw an unused mint block of six of the one penny value of the "Emblems" series of Victoria, watermarked "One Penny." The block was in a splendid state of preservation, but was not well centred, and was found inside an old letter in a writing-desk, where it had lain forgotten for years past.

A Find of New Zealand Stamps

A collector living in a Victorian country town informs me that he purchased for a nominal sum a lot of early New Zealand stamps that were turned out there. The lot consisted of four nice pairs of the one penny value, on blue paper, several specimens on paper watermarked N.Z., and a selection of the later issues.

CHARLES B. DONNE.

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

HENRY'S STAMP DEAL

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON

CHAPTER I

HENRY MILLIGAN, ship's boy of the *Seacat*, sat on a keg of cement, against the sides of which he contentedly kicked his heels. In the absence of the captain, Henry surreptitiously puffed at the end of a cigar lately discarded by his skipper and emitted dragon-like volumes of smoke.

"Don't reckon much o' the skipper's cigars," said he, eyeing the stump critically for a moment and then throwing it overboard; "sooner have a Woodbine any day. Ugh! ain't it 'ot; I'm all a-trembling too; don't feel up to the mark; think I'll try a glass o' water. Good thing cookie ain't 'ere, 'spect he's busy with his stamps, he'd say it was the cigar wot 'ad upset me. 'Tain't though, never knew a man yet wot couldn't tackle a cigar. But it was a brute." And Henry jumped from the cement keg and attempted to walk to the companion-ladder with unconcern. But his legs felt weak, and after making a zigzag course he arrived at the hatch, down which he descended rather more precipitately than gracefully. He lay where he fell for some time, feeling slightly stunned. "Oh! oh!" he moaned; "misfortunes never come single."

The cook, hearing the noise, came out of the galley and accosted Henry. "Well, young

feller my lad, wot yer bin up to now? Thought it was a earthquake or somethink; my word, the poor ole ship'll feel it; yer fair shivered her timbers."

"Oh, cookie," replied Henry, "I stepped on a step what wasn't there and fell on my head."

The cook looked at the boy wistfully. "Wot yer bin up to, eh?"

"Ain't been up to nothink, but I've bin dahn one companion-ladder on to my poor head."

"Yer ain't looking yerself," replied the cook, "seems to have shook yer. P'raps yer had better turn in."

"Think I will," responded the boy, feeling sick and dizzy. And without troubling to undress himself, Henry fell into his bunk, and pulling a blanket round his slim figure, was soon sleeping soundly.

After a time he moved uneasily, and lay between sleeping and waking, and voices sounded on his confused brain. The continuance of the conversation gradually awakened him fully, and he listened attentively, but quietly.

"Yes, Mr. Cheriton," said a voice, "forty pounds is the sum left to you in the will, and if you will call at my office to-morrow morning I will give the money to you."

"Forty pounds!" said another voice, which Henry recognized as that of the cook, "and all

my own, and from a aunt wot I've no recollection of ever 'avin' seen," and he concluded his utterance with a long whistle.

"But you must be the legatee mentioned in the will. You are Mr. William Henry Chertoni, are you not?" asked the stranger.

"Suppose I am," said the cook; "but I've bin called 'cookie' so long that I almost forget my proper name."

Henry, in trying to get a glimpse of the two speakers, whose backs were turned to him, made a slight noise. The cook turned quickly round and looked quizzingly at the boy's reclining figure. Henry gave a slight snore to give to his now feigned sleep a touch of reality, but kept quite still. The cook then peered at the boy's closed eyes, and followed this by a double shuffle to satisfy himself, so Henry gave vent to another sonorous utterance, to make the cook believe his slumbers were really genuine. But this worthy still seemed to be in doubt, and so uttered a vigorous "Booh" close to the boy's face, to which he replied with another nasal vibration.

"Oh! it's all right enough," said the cook to the stranger. "Thought as p'raps the young imp was listening, and I don't want 'im to 'ear that I've come into a fortune. Why he's that cunning and wicked that he'd have the lot of it before you could unfurl a reef or cook a stew."

"Well, will you come and have a drop of something before I leave you?" said the stranger.

"Don't mind if I do, thankee," answered the cook, and the two departed.

The boy opened his eyes carefully to make sure that the intruders had really gone, then raised himself on one elbow and peered around.

"So cookie's come into some splotch, 'as he? 'Um, shan't forget that in a 'urry. Now what's that my old schoolmaster at Wapping board school used to say? 'To 'ear is 'uman, to forget divine.' That's where education comes in. 'To forget divine.' There ain't much o' the divine about me, I'm thinkin'. Well, cookie my boy, I wishes yer luck!" and after this soliloquy the boy dropped his head on to his pillow and was soon in the land of dreams.

When next he awoke the ship was rising and sinking on an incoming tide. The cook was spluttering and splashing over a tub of cold water, making his face shine like a well-rubbed apple. He paused in the operation and beheld Henry watching him with amazement.

"'Ello, my boy," said the cook jocosely, "feelin' better? I'm just going on shore to buy a few stamps for my collection, got permission, shan't be long. D'yer know it's half-past nine? Told the captain o' yer accident, so bein' in a good humour, 'e let yer sleep a little longer. Yer bump 'as gone down a little. Good boy not to cry, weren't yer, deary?" and the cook, rubbing his face vigorously with a coarse towel, continued in a bantering tone, "When we get to Bollington I'll buy it something nice."

"That's a good cookie," responded Henry mockingly. "Threepenn'orth o' Scotch, eh?"

"Yes," replied the cook. "Butterscotch."

"Yer very smart this morning, cookie," said Henry petulantly, and in an insinuating manner continued, "and yer looks 'appy. Had good news?"

"Little boys shoulnd't ax questions," said the cook, and diving into his coat, vanished.

"It ain't a dream arter all," mused the boy. "Cookie has had some monee left to him, and I'll 'ave some of it too, or I'm a Dutchman."

At midday the ship left her moorings, and by six in the evening had arrived at Bollington, where she was to discharge a cargo of pig-iron. After getting alongside the quay, and the business for the day being finished, Henry asked the captain for leave to go ashore to visit some friends in the town, and this was granted. He walked along with his hands in his pockets, whistling the latest popular airs, until he arrived at Albert Road. "Let me think," said he. "Mrs. Snow, Pakenham House, that's it. Sort o' surprise them, I bet."

Arriving at the friend's house, he knocked loudly. An old-fashioned dame answered the summons.

"Good evening, Mrs. Snow," said Henry. "Don't yer know me?"

"Why, bless me, if it ain't little 'Eury Milligan," said the woman, as she lifted her hands in surprise.

"Little 'Eury grewed up," replied the boy indignantly.

"Well, come in," replied the lady.

After the usual salutations and inquiries as to what had become of sister Jane, what was brother Tom doing now, and how were other members of the family progressing, Mrs. Snow left Henry with her son William, the two being old friends, and having been at the same school together.

"Bill," said Henry, "we've a fair epidemic on board our craft. Every one 'as started stamp collecting—cook, captain, mate, all the lot. Captain was a-thinkin' o' gettin' married, but started philatelicizing."

"Philowotsisname?" said Bill.

"Philatelicizing, why that's the scientific name for stamp collecting. Well, the captain started philatelicizing, and gave up the idea o' gettin' married. Said he couldn't afford both, so would 'ave to give up one."

"What did he do then?" inquired Bill.

"Why," said Henry, "he tossed up wiv a two-headed penny—heads he kept to stamps, tails he didn't get spliced. And the stamps got it."

"Lumme," said Bill in amazement, "I wouldn't give up walking out with my young lady not for all the stamps in the world."

"Well, yer see, it's this way," continued Henry: "the skipper weighed it up in one hand and then in the other. 'Stamps are apt to get more valuable every day,' thought he, 'and it's different with a wife.' And he thought if he got tired of stamp collecting 'e could chuck it up, and yer know yer can't do that with a wife."

After delivering himself of his philosophy, Henry leant back in his chair and asked whether

Bill thought Mrs. Snow would mind him having a smoke. Receiving permission to woo My Lady Nicotine, he produced a rusty case, offered his friend a mild cigarette, and took one himself.

Pulling at the weed, he said, "Bill, when we was young and at school together, long, long years ago, didn't you have a stamp collection wot used to belong to yer uncle wot 'ad bin a sailor?"

"Yes," said Bill, "and I have it now. It ain't exactly a stamp collection, just about two or three hundred stamps in a exercise book."

"Do just as well," said Henry ponderingly. "Would you like to realize on it?" asked he.

"Realize, wot's that?" asked Bill.

"Why, sell it for money, o' course," replied our nautical friend.

"Lumme, rather!"

"Well, I think I could perhaps get you a sovereign for it, and we divide the swag. Is it a bargain?" asked Henry.

"Wot oh!" replied Bill. "Yer 'and on it then—shake." And the two concluded the bargain with a solemn handshake.

"Come with me, then, to the Battery Inn tomorrow at seven, bring the stamp collection wiv yer, and then—well, so long, I must be goin' now." And Henry, picking up his cap, shouted a good-bye to Mrs. Snow and returned to the ship.

(To be continued.)

THE FOREIGN AND COLONIAL POST

FROM "THE TIMES"

IT is said that Mr. Fawcett a short time before his death, on surveying the postal system and the remarkable series of reforms which he had achieved, came to the conclusion that the most pressing improvement remaining to be effected was a reduction in foreign postal rates. Imperial penny postage was not conceived in those days, and Mr. Fawcett had in mind a general reduction in rates throughout the Postal Union. The second jubilee of the Queen saw the birth of Mr. Henniker Heaton's child; but it has taken twenty-two years to bring about any change of the kind contemplated by Mr. Fawcett, and that although since 1897 great anomalies have necessarily existed. At the present moment a letter of half an ounce travels from Great Britain to India, through France and Italy, by the most expensive services, for a penny, while it costs a similar letter 2½d. to reach Paris or even Boulogne. Probably such anomalies will not be redressed until the advent of universal penny postage; but the benefits conferred upon the public by the Postal Union Congress which has just completed its labours are substantial; and it is pleasant to reflect that to a large extent they have been secured at the instance of the British Postmaster-General, and through the skillful diplomacy of the British delegates, Mr. Babington Smith, Mr. A. B. Walkley, and Mr. Davies.

Everything which Mr. Sydney Buxton proposed has not, indeed, been achieved; and it must also be admitted that one or two other countries went even beyond Great Britain in the desire to cheapen international postal communications. Sir Joseph Ward, the Postmaster-General of New Zealand, advocates a universal penny post, and he was supported at the Congress by the United States. But the older

countries do not apparently think the time opportune for risking large reductions of postal revenue, and the proposal fell to the ground. The British suggestion was more moderate. Proceeding by steps, Mr. Buxton asked the Congress to substitute for the present rate of 2½d. per half-ounce throughout the scale an initial rate of 2d. per half-ounce, and 1d. for each additional half-ounce. Such a scale would have met with great favour in this country, and it is to the credit of the Treasury that they should have faced the considerable loss which would at first have been entailed. But other European countries were not prepared to make similar sacrifices; even Germany, which used to be in the forefront of postal reform, being in a cautious mood. From a revenue point of view, the critical question is the minimum payment; the number of half-ounce letters in the foreign post is, of course, out of all proportion to those of a greater weight, just as in the inland post penny letters represent over 90 per cent. of all the letters posted. It was to any alteration in the minimum payment that there was so strong an objection, and the British proposal on this head was lost. But the case for altering the scale after the first point is almost unanswerable, when once fairly put. To double the charge for postal operations in the case of light letters, because the weight is doubled, cannot be justified. The collection, sorting, and delivery of a letter of an ounce is not appreciably more expensive than the collection, sorting, and delivery of one twice the weight. In actual carriage alone does weight tell, and then principally where distances are long and the rate of transit heavy. These considerations, but probably still more the fact that a comparatively small amount of money was at stake, enabled

the British delegates, in the face of much opposition, to score a success, though not quite to the full extent desired by the British Post Office. In the result the Congress agreed almost unanimously to an advance by steps of three halfpence, instead of twopence halfpenny, after the first point.

But this reduction in postage does not represent the full advantages which the public will derive from the resolutions of the Congress. Some of the countries which were strongly opposed to any lowering of the initial rate of postage had no objection to carrying a little more for the same money. Hitherto the Postal Union unit of weight has been 15 grammes, which roughly corresponds to half an ounce. Many countries using the decimal system were in favour of substituting 20 grammes, and this change was finally carried. The position of the Postmaster-General then became rather difficult. Five grammes is nearly a sixth of an ounce, and 20 grammes equals five-sevenths, or a trifle more than two-thirds of an ounce. But no British scale of weights ascends by sevenths or thirds of ounces, and the public would have unanimously condemned any attempt to introduce so strange and troublesome a gradation. Even three-quarters of an ounce is an objectionable starting point; and there remained no choice but either to adhere to the old British rate of half an ounce, or, if the Treasury were liberal, and the Congress could be persuaded to accept the equivalent, to take 1 oz. as the starting point. The Postmaster-General prevailed upon the Treasury to be generous, and it remained only to deal with the objections of other countries. As each country retains its own postage, the adoption of a high equivalent affects other countries only indirectly; but the indirect effect in leading the public of such countries to demand more for their 25 centimes is not to be altogether ignored. Happily the judicious treatment of the subject by the British delegates overcame the objections on this score, and the rates finally adopted are, as regards standard international rates, 25 c. for the first 20 grammes and 15 c. for each additional 20 grammes, and, as regards this country, 2½d. for the first ounce, and 1½d. for each additional ounce. Thus a letter to a foreign country will, from the time the new rates take effect, cost 2½d., if it does not exceed an ounce, and 4d. if it does not exceed 2 oz. At present an ounce costs 5d., 2 oz. 10d. The importance of this reduction will be realized by those who have had to correspond over a considerable period with some member of the family who, let us say, is wintering in Switzerland or the Riviera. An ordinary social letter may generally be kept within the half-ounce, but directly it becomes necessary to enclose another letter or some paper, that weight is exceeded, and the price of the letter rises by leaps and bounds. In business correspondence the lower weights must be still more often ex-

ceeded and the postage must become an appreciable item of expense. A saving of 6d. on a 2-oz. letter, and the ability to send a 1-oz. letter for 2½d., will probably, therefore, bring about a radical change in the character of Continental and American correspondence. At the same time, those who participate in the Imperial Penny Post will reap a like benefit. Their penny will carry a letter of an ounce to India and the Colonies, and the progression will be by 1d. an ounce. It will thus be possible to send to India and Canada for a penny a letter of the same weight as that which up to 1897 used to pass for the same sum between one part of the United Kingdom and another. This is a very remarkable advance in postal administration.

The reduction in letter postage overshadows all other changes effected by the Congress. No alterations have been made in the posts for printed and business papers, though some efforts in this direction were made by other countries. A small, but welcome, innovation of another kind was, however, adopted, again at the instance of the British Post Office. It has been for some time desired to invent new means by which a reply to a foreign letter might be prepaid. The difficulty has lain in the fact that the agreed equivalent of the fundamental Union rate of 25 centimes, in the currencies of different countries, does not correspond with the actual exchange value, 2½d. being, as we have said, considerably more than 25 c.; and, on the other hand, the recognized equivalent in some other countries being considerably less. Consequently, if replies could be prepaid by means of stamps, it might be worth the while of persons of large correspondence to purchase stamps for replies in the country where the declared equivalent was below the real value, and to send them for use in the country of a high equivalent. This difficulty is got over by the introduction of coupons for 25, 10, and 5 centimes, to be issued by the International Postal Bureau, and to be exchanged in any country of the Union accepting the scheme for postage stamps of same face value. A provision that the coupons shall be sold at something more than face value—probably a 25 c. coupon for 30 c., or, in England, 3d., and so on—precludes their use by collusion to escape payment of full postage in the country of reply, and restricts their interchange to the purpose of the *bona fide* prepayment of a reply by the sender, or of transmitting trifling sums by post. The coupons will, in fact, become a very small international currency, and, with increasing intercourse, will probably be found very useful.

The newly signed Convention will take effect upon the 1st of October, 1907. The advantages upon the enjoyment of which the public will then enter, taken in conjunction with the several improvements announced in the Budget Speech, will constitute a considerable body of postal reform, with which Mr. Sydney Buxton's name will be gratefully associated.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR *G. S. W.* READERS

I*N the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.*

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

Foreign and Colonial readers will be supplied with these bargains if they dispatch their orders within one week of receipt of the number containing the offer.

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

IS AS FOLLOWS:—

MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY.

1892-93. Overprinted on Type 2 of Mozambique.

5 reis,	black.
10	„ green.
20	„ rosine.
25	„ purple.
40	„ brown.
50	„ blue.
100	„ brown.
200	„ grey-lilac.
300	„ orange.

The set of nine stamps, used, is catalogued at 6/6.

**Special Bargain Price:—
1/3 the nine, post-free.**

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

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

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THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

British East Africa



NOT a little romance surrounds the beginnings of what promises to be a most important British colony in East Africa. British intervention in that part of the world began as early as 1824, when Mombasa was temporarily annexed. That annexation was repudiated by the Home Government of the day, which apparently regarded the act of annexation as a useless and profitless business. Many years afterwards, in 1879, the Sultan of Zanzibar offered Great Britain a Protectorate over his dominions; but we did not want to be bothered with the Sultan of Zanzibar or his dominions, so his kind offer of himself and all his belongings was politely declined with

thanks. But circumstances were too strong for us. Germany in 1884 got hold of a slice of the coast opposite Zanzibar, and established a Protectorate over Witu, in and near the Tana Delta, in the following year. So we returned to the despised Mombasa and once more annexed it, this time in real earnest, and we also accepted administrative rights over the Sultan of Zanzibar's territory on the mainland, and a chartered company under the name of the Imperial British East Africa Company was entrusted in 1888 with the administration and development of our new possession. The charter of incorporation authorized the company to hold and retain their various grants and concessions,

and to exercise the powers necessary for government, for preserving public order, and protecting their territories. The company was further empowered to make fresh treaties and acquisitions subject to the approval of the Secretary of State.

After much trouble and tribulation in the work of extending and developing British interests, the company, exhausted and tired of its uphill task, handed over the administration of the country to the Crown in 1895.

Lord Hindlip, who has acquired a large tract of country in this new colony, has recently published a very outspoken criticism of British shortcomings in the matter of administration and development, under the title of *British East Africa, Past, Present, and Future*. His description of the land and the prospects of settlers is well worth quoting. He writes:—

The Protectorate is bounded on the east by the Indian Ocean, on the north by the Italian Benadir coast and the Juba river as far as the undefined Abyssinian boundary, on the west by Uganda and the Victoria Nyanza, and by German East Africa on the south. The country can be divided for present purposes into three zones, of which the coast or first zone should, to be accurate, be subdivided into three; Mombasa, the chief port and terminus of the railway, is naturally in the first or actual coast zone, which stretches for some ten to twenty miles or more inland from the sea. In the town the official tables show that in the cool season, July to October, the thermometer falls in the evening to 70 degrees Fahr. (I should have thought lower), and in the hot season, January to April, the nights are cool, and the temperature does not rise in the daytime above 90 degrees; these figures, I suppose, apply to the whole coast belt. This strip is tropical and not too healthy; but it is rich, and offers a greater field for immediate returns on speculation than the healthier or higher plateau. The vegetation consists of mangrove forests, coconut palms, mangoes, fibrous plants, such as sisal and sansvéret; while bananas, pineapples, oranges, limes can be obtained at the proper time of year. There are also forests of valuable timber and of rubber, while the mangrove forests have been already successfully exploited. Labour is fairly easily obtained; and if the natives had, like the tramps at home, to show "visible means of sustenance," it would be very much more plentiful. Within ten miles of the island European vegetables are grown to a certain extent, such as potatoes, cabbage, carrots, beetroot, and turnips, while maize, native cassava, and sweet potato, are also cultivated; and these foregoing remarks can, I believe, be applied to Lamu and the Tana river districts, where it is expected that cotton will be grown to a considerable extent, but where the question of labour is a serious one, and where the river is not under control. Beyond the twenty miles or so of coast strip the bush becomes thicker and wider, interspersed with fibrous plants; at Tamburu, forty-three miles from Mombasa, and 910 feet above sea-level, low scrub and euphorbias predominate, and, while maize is grown, water is very, very scarce. There is nothing further of any great interest till Makindu, miles 209; and from there to Kiu, some fifty-eight miles, might be termed the third subdivision of the coast zone. In this part there is some fair grazing land, but nearly up to Kiu water is scarce,

and the soil is thought to be too porous for the construction of dams. This is the opinion of the three South African colonists, who also state that they found excellent grazing for cattle, goats, and indigenous sheep, which they think should thrive. They express doubts as to the rainfall being sufficient for agricultural purposes, and fear that owing to the scarcity of water irrigation would be hardly possible. Personally, although in this respect I do not care to put my opinion forward against theirs, I think and sincerely hope that they have exaggerated the drawbacks of this district. I believe that in time some of the subterranean rivers which are universally believed to flow somewhere under this part of the country will be tapped, and the country supplied with water by means of artesian wells. At mile 61, the Government were boring for water in October last, and their experiments will be followed with great interest. I now come to the second zone, or the real white man's country. The Kapiti and Athi plains extend from mile 280 to Nairobi 328, and are noted chiefly for the herds of game, gangs of gunners, and the quantity and ferociousness of the ticks; near the Athi river, mile 311, these pests are particularly bad. These plains will do for stock, if the ticks are not too deadly. At present I am afraid they would be. South of the railway and these plains is the Masai Land game reserve in which the East African Syndicate's soda-lake lies, and to which they will build a railway probably from Kiu. At mile 328 is Nairobi, the future capital of the Protectorate, at an altitude of 5450 feet. The days are not very hot, and the nights are cool, if not actually cold. The head-quarters of the railway and troops are here, while the other Government departments will probably very soon be established here also, with the exception of one or two, such as the Customs, which are inseparable from the coast. A building-stone of good quality is plentiful in the vicinity, and is being freely used. Three hotels—one recently failed, I believe—were running last year, but another well-built one, with first-class accommodation, situated on the hill should pay. A town hall, marketplace, Indian and native bazaars, all find their places; while to provide amusement are a race-course, where races are held twice a year, cricket ground, an agricultural show, and the Colonists' Association rooms. Quite a number of blue gums have been planted, which serve three extremely useful purposes: they provide shade, they look very well, and they diminish the unhealthiness of a malarious situation. Although living is cheap in Nairobi, as the Government is so backward in the matter of a survey of the country, they might well assist intending settlers, and might provide accommodation for *bona fide* men at a minimum rate. Nairobi is, not unnaturally, at present the chief centre of settlement, and land has been taken up towards Fort Hall and the north for a distance of some thirty miles; this, the Kikuyu country, on the whole, is essentially an agricultural district as opposed to a grazing and stock-raising one, though for the combination of the two I prefer the land further west, where the stock-raising prospects are infinitely superior and the agricultural possibilities, in my mind, hardly inferior. Passing from Nairobi along the line there is evidence on all sides of the strides made during the last two years, and no doubt on my return I shall, I hope, see more signs of increasing development and prosperity. After cresting the Kikuyu escarpment the railway brings one down to the fine grazing lands round Naivasha Gilgil and Elmentcita, to the north of which lie the valuable sheep runs of the East African Syndicate, which, owing to the Masai flocks, are perhaps better prepared to be immediately stocked with wool-bearing sheep than any other land in the country. Near Naivasha are also the Government stock farm and zebra ranch. Beyond Elmentcita, Nakuru is reached, and northward from here towards Lake Baringo some twenty-three farms have, I

believe, been taken up for South African farmers. These nestle under the foot of the hills of Laikipia, on the high plateaux of which range is the land reserved for the Masai. Almost adjoining the farms on the north of the line is Lord Delamere's station, a leasehold property of 100,000 acres, a great deal of which, although not the finest land, is a tract of country well fitted for carrying a large stock of sheep, and apparently sufficiently watered to guard against even a most serious drought. On the south side of the railway between Nakuru and Njoro stations lies my own station, which, although in an embryo state, may show not uninteresting trials and experiments, and where the *bona fide* settler of whatever means will always be cordially welcomed. Southward is the Lumbwa country, and south again the Sotik, which country is at present disturbed and unfit for colonization, but both of which will no doubt shortly provide a considerable tract for settlement. West of Londiani and north of the railway beyond the foot-hills lies the Nandi plateau, said to be one of the most promising districts in the whole country, but which, owing to the turbulence of the natives, is practically a closed district. North of the Nandi plateau is the Uasingishu plateau, which was offered to the Zionists, and which will, I am sure, prove to be both a stock-raising and agricultural district which will be very hard to beat. This plateau extends for a considerable distance northwards. Returning to the line after dropping down from the main plateaux Fort Ternan (mile 536) is reached, and here, with the exception of the high ground to the north, the edge of the white man's country proper is reached. Beyond Fort Ternan another drop of some 800 feet runs before at Mohoroni, the third zone begins stretching to the lake at mile 584. The country lying to the north of Kenia and across the Guaso Nyiro is practically an unknown quantity, and by many is supposed to be useless; personally I am very sceptical of this.

According to *Hazell's Annual* the Protectorate, which is administered by a Commissioner and Consul-General, who is also British Agent and Consul-General at Zanzibar, is divided into the following districts, each under a sub-commissioner:—

The Coast Province,	capital	Mombasa.
Ukamba	„	Nairobi.
Tanaland with Witu	„	Lamu.
Jubaland	„	Kismayu.
Kenya	„	Fort Hall.
Naivasha and Kisumu.		

The chief ports are Mombasa, population 27,000, Lamu, Vanga, and Kismayu. A railway 582 miles long connects Mombasa with Lake Victoria Nyanza. The estimated area of the Protectorate is 200,000 square miles, and the population 4,000,000. The revenue for 1903-4 is given as £108,857, and the expenditure as £350,958. The imports in 1903-4 amounted to £604,500, and the exports to £160,000.

From all of which it will be gathered that this interesting philatelic favourite of ours is, as yet, but a colony in the making.

Its Philatelic History

Its philatelic history commences with the year 1890, when three of the current stamps

of Great Britain were overprinted with the words BRITISH EAST AFRICA COMPANY and the values in Indian currency. As to this curious adoption of the Indian currency for use in an African colony, Lord Hindlip says:—

The Indian currency was another incident of the Indian invasion, and apparently, as a parting shot in a death struggle, the Foreign Office proposed and has forced upon the unfortunate country that bastard coinage, the rupees and cents of Ceylon. The one saving clause is that paper notes will be issued, which will save great trouble and expense; but why, in the name of all that is wonderful, a coinage only current in a small Eastern island should be foisted upon a young, rising white colony, whose trade will in future be with white countries where the English coinage runs, passes all comprehension.

In 1890-1 a full series from $\frac{1}{2}$ anna to 5 rupees was issued. This series was inscribed IMPERIAL BRITISH EAST AFRICA COMPANY, the full official title of the Chartered Company. Various provisionals, some with the postmaster's initials, followed in 1891-5.

In 1895, when the Foreign Office took over the administration, the full series of the Company's stamps in stock at Mombasa was overprinted with a handstamp with the words BRITISH EAST AFRICA. When these were exhausted, a supply of the current stamps of India, all values from $\frac{1}{2}$ anna to 5 rupees, was overprinted with ordinary type with the words BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

In 1896 the colony was supplied with a series of special and uniform design bearing the head of Queen Victoria.

In 1897 a shortage of low values was provided for by overprinting six of the then current stamps of Zanzibar with the words BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

At the end of 1897 a series of eight rupee values, from 1 rupee to 50 rupees, was issued. These rupee stamps were in the matter of design an enlargement of the special design of 1896.

This enlarged series closes Chapter I of the philatelic history of "British East Africa." The further philatelic history of the colony is transferred in our Catalogues to the new name given to the combined administration of British East Africa and Uganda, namely, "East Africa and Uganda Protectorates." This first chapter very appropriately closes with the last issue of Queen's Heads, and the new chapter as appropriately opens with the issue of King's Heads. In this first chapter are included many expensive stamps, all of which are probably destined to go higher and higher, so that the administrative change of name that has taken place allows of what to

many collectors will be a very acceptable division between stamps running beyond the reach of the ordinary collector and issues that are still moderately priced. Moreover, the older issues are the happy hunting ground of the specialist. For the specialist these first issues of British East Africa will always have a great attraction. Their historical interest is undoubted. We may trace the establishment and development of the Chartered Company in the first two issues, the process of change to Imperial administration in the overprinting of the Company's stamps with the words BRITISH EAST AFRICA, omitting the word COMPANY, and the final establishment of Imperial rule in the issue of the Queen's Heads. Some say that when the struggling, subsidized, young colony has blossomed out into great commercial prosperity, with a teeming population of busy workers, and a revenue mounting upwards from its present stunted £108,857 into millions, we shall be proud of the history revealed in those early stamps of its infancy.

1890 (May). Three values. Design, the contemporary stamps of Great Britain, overprinted in black, with the words BRITISH EAST AFRICA in three lines at the top, and the value in one line below, in Indian currency. This overprinting was done by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. The numbers overprinted were as follows:—

½ anna, 1440
1 „ 1440
4 annas, 780

We illustrate the overprints of the ½ a. and the 1 a.; the 4 a. was of the type of the 1 a.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA COMPANY		BRITISH EAST AFRICA COMPANY	
HALF ANNA		1 ANNA	
<i>Wmk. Crown.</i>	<i>Perf.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>Used.</i>
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
½ anna on id., lilac		30 0	25 0
1 „ ad., green and carmine		75 0	50 0
4 annas on sd., lilac and blue		75 0	50 0

1890-1. Thirteen values. Design, the Arms of the Company, i.e. the Sun surmounted by the Imperial Crown, enclosed in a horseshoe frame with inscriptions. The rupee values are of similar design in larger size, embellished with additional scrollwork. These stamps were designed,

engraved, and printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co., London, and were first printed on paper watermarked with the paper-maker's monogram "W.C.S. & Co.", William Collins, Sons, & Co., with the words "Pure Linen" above and "Wove Bank" below. This watermark extended over nearly each entire sheet of sixty stamps. Subsequent printings were made on unwatermarked paper. Any stamp showing signs of a watermark may, therefore, be recognized as of the first printing, but as the watermark did not cover all the stamps, the absence of watermark does not necessarily pronounce the stamp to be of the second printing. In the first printing the outer edges of the sheets were left without perforation, so again any stamp with a plain margin on one edge may be identified as of the first printing. These matters properly affect only the specialist, but as they will afford an explanation of matters that may puzzle the beginner I mention them here. It will also be noted that the 8 annas is listed in grey as well as blue, and the 1 rupee in grey as well as in carmine. The following extract from a letter from the Imperial British East Africa Company, recently published in the *Monthly Journal*, explains the variation in colour:—

As regards the grey stamps, it was at first intended to use these more especially for Inland Revenue purposes, but as it was not found convenient to have two stamps of the same value in different colours, it was decided to use up those already printed for postal purposes. Fortunately, only a few of the 8 anna and 1 rupee had been printed. The 4 anna, grey, had not got beyond the imperforated stage, and those we had in that form were sold and used along with the 8 anna and 1 rupee in the usual course.

I quote the following interesting record of numbers printed from the *Monthly Journal* of 31 July, 1903:—

½ anna, dull brown	54,000
½ „ dark brown (2nd printing)	30,000
½ „ pale brown (3rd printing)	60,000
1 „ green	54,000
1 „ dark green (2nd printing)	60,000
2 annas, vermilion	54,000
2½ „ black on buff	15,000
2½ „ „ (2nd printing)	15,000
2½ „ „ yellow (3rd printing)	30,000
3 „ „ dull red	21,000
3 „ „ brighter red (2nd printing)	30,000
4 annas, brown	54,000
4½ „ purple	21,000
4½ „ red-lilac (2nd printing)	30,000
8 „ bright blue	54,000
8 „ grey	1,500
1 rupee, carmine	54,000
1 „ grey	2,100
2 rupees, brick-red	15,000
3 „ dull purple	15,000
4 „ ultramarine	15,000
5 „ olive-green	15,000



Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ anna, brown	0 3	0 4
1 ,, green	0 5	0 6
2 annas, vermilion	0 9	2 6
2½ ,, black on yellow	1 0	0 9
3 ,, ,, red	0 4	—
4 ,, brown	0 5	1 0
4½ ,, purple	0 6	2 6
8 ,, bright blue	0 8	3 0
8 ,, grey	40 0	40 0
1 rupee, carmine	1 0	5 0
1 ,, grey	30 0	30 0
2 rupees, brick-red	2 6	5 0
3 ,, dull purple	3 9	7 6
4 ,, ultramarine	5 0	8 6
5 ,, olive-green	6 0	12 6

Provisionals.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 a. on 8 a., bright blue	20 0	25 0
7½ a. on 1 r., carmine	20 0	25 0

1894. Dec. As soon as possible a supply of the new values uniform with the current design of the anna values was prepared by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, & Co. and forwarded to the colony. The 5 a. was printed in black on grey-blue paper, and the 7½ a. in black on white paper. Sixty thousand of each value were printed.

Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 annas, black on grey-blue	0 6	3 0
7½ ,, ,, white	0 9	4 0

1895. Second issue of manuscript provisionals. Owing to an unusual run on the ½ anna stamps and a fresh supply not having arrived from London, a number of the current 3 a. value were surcharged at Mombasa "½ anna" in pen and ink and initialed "T. E. C. R." by Mr. T. E. C. Remington, Postmaster at Mombasa. A shortage of the 1 a. value was similarly provided for by surcharging a number of the same 3 a. value "1 anna" and initialing them in a similar manner. These provisionals were the last stamps issued under the authority of the Imperial British East Africa Company.

Manuscript Provisionals. Second Issue.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ a. on 3 a., black on dull red	35 0	30 0
1 ,, ,, ,, ,,	—	—

1891. Manuscript provisionals. Several values were surcharged in pen and ink to provide for a shortage of lower values, and only sufficient were issued for postal purposes until a fresh supply of the regular stamps arrived from London. There were four varieties used in 1891. Three of them, the ½ a. on 2 a., ½ a. on 3 a., and 1 a. on 4 a., were initialed "A. B." by Mr. A. Brown. The 1 a. on 3 a. was initialed "V. H. M." by Mr. Victor H. Mackenzie.

Manuscript Provisionals.

Handstamped in dull violet, and initialed in black.

	Unused.	Used.
½ a. on 2 a., vermilion ("A.D.") (Jan.)	—	£8
1 a. on 4 a., brown ("A.B.") (Feb.)	—	£15

Value and initials in MS., in black.

½ a. on 2 a., vermilion ("A.B.") (Jan.)	—	£8
½ a. on 4 a., brown ("A.B.") (April)	—	£8
½ a. on 3 a., black on dull red ("A.B.") (May)	—	£8
1 a. on 3 a., black on dull red ("V.H.M.") (June)	—	£8

1894. Nov. Provisionals. New values of 5 a. and 7½ a. being needed to provide for a reduction in the rate of postage, 1800 of the 8 a., bright blue, of the 1890 series were surcharged in black "5 annas," and a similar number of the 1 r., carmine, of the same series were surcharged "7½ annas," by Bradbury, Wilkinson, & Co. and sent out to Mombasa.

1895. July. When the Imperial Government took over the administration of the colony the stock of the Company's stamps unsold in British East Africa were overprinted with a handstamp at Mombasa with the words "British East Africa." Concerning this interesting overprint, Mr. Thos. E. C. Remington, Postmaster-General, wrote me under date of 12 March, 1896, from the Zanzibar Post Office as follows:—

The surcharging of the late I. B. E. A. Company's stamps was done at Mombasa by a handstamp, under my supervision. This handstamp was made by fixing printer's type into a wooden handle with a hollow at one end, and the type secured by pouring in melted lead. This was the only way to overcome the difficulty that presented itself when the Government took over the territory of the late I. B. E. A. Company, as I was unable to get them overprinted at a printer's in Mombasa, and there was no time to send them to Zanzibar.

The record of the numbers thus over-

printed of each value is officially given as follows:—

½ a., brown	4980
1 a., green	1040
2 a., vermilion	180
2½ a., black on yellow	4020
3 a., brown on dull red	2230
4 a., brown	3240
4½ a., purple	3780
5 a., black on grey-blue	780
7½ a., black	1140
8 a., bright blue	1900
1 r., carmine	2349
2 r., brick-red	520
3 r., dull purple	719
4 r., ultramarine	868
5 r., olive-green	558

Considerable doubt has been expressed as to the correctness of the number 180 given as those printed of the 2 a., vermilion, and it is generally agreed that the number which has come into the market points to the probability that 180 was a clerical error for 1800. Mr. Remington, in the letter which I received from him in 1896, and from which I have already quoted, says that, roughly speaking, of the anna values and the 1 rupee about 3000 of each were printed, and of the other rupee values about 1000, "excepting the 2 annas stamp, and there were very few of these in stock." If the number printed was not smaller than those printed of any other value, it would not have been referred to as *exceptionally* small, therefore smaller than the number printed of the 5 annas, which was only 780.

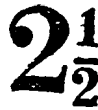
**BRITISH
EAST
AFRICA**

Handstamp overprint on Company's stamps. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ a., brown	10 0	10 0
1 a., green	65 0	40 0
2 a., vermilion	60 0	40 0
2½ a., black on yellow	30 0	20 0
3 a., brown on dull red	10 0	10 0
4 a., brown	7 6	5 0
4½ a., purple	40 0	30 0
5 a., black on grey-blue	90 0	80 0
7½ a., black	25 0	25 0
8 a., bright blue	15 0	12 0
1 r., carmine	12 6	10 0
2 r., brick-red	£5	80 0
3 r., deep purple	50 0	40 0
4 r., ultramarine	35 0	32 6
5 r., olive-green	£5	65 0

1895. Provisional. In his letter to me Mr. Remington says of this provisional 2½ a.: "It was owing to the fact that the stock of stamps was so small at this time at Mombasa that I was compelled to issue the Provisional

2½ a., surcharged on 1½ a. I.B.E.A. Company's stamp overprinted 'British East Africa.'" Our illustration shows the surcharge, a very large numeral and fraction, printed in red.



Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2½ on 1½, purple	40 0	30 0

1895. Nov. All the provisionals on the Company's stamps having been used up, and the permanent series ordered from London not having arrived, a fresh supply was provided by overprinting current Indian stamps which were available, as the Zanzibar Post Office then formed part of the Indian Post Office. This overprinting was done at the *Zanzibar Gazette* office. The numbers printed are given as follows:—

	From Zanzibar stock.	Supply from India.	Total.
½ a.	7440	3600	11,040
1 a.	7680	3600	11,280
1½ a.	9800	2400	12,200
2 a.	6800	2400	9200
2½ a.	9600	3600	13,200
3 a.	1000	1560	2560
4 a.	1000	2400	3400
6 a.	1000	960	1960
8 a.	1000	960	1960
12 a.	1000	—	1000
1 r.	2000	1200	3200
2 r.	200	192	392
3 r.	200	192	392
5 r.	200	192	392

This surcharge, which we illustrate, was much more clearly done than in the case of the handstamp overprint.

**British
East
Africa**

*Indian stamps overprinted.
Wmk. Star. Perf.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ a., green	1 0	1 0
1 a., plum	1 6	1 0
1½ a., sepia	2 0	2 0
2 a., ultramarine	1 6	1 6
2½ a., green	2 6	1 6
3 a., dull orange	5 0	5 0
4 a., olive-green	6 0	4 0
6 a., bistre	4 0	—
8 a., mauve	7 6	10 0
12 a., brown on red	7 6	7 6
1 r., slate	20 0	15 0
1 r., carmine and green	10 0	—
2 r., yellow-brown and carmine	30 0	30 0
3 r., green and brown	35 0	—
5 r., violet and ultramarine	40 0	—

1895. Provisional. Indian current 1½ a. surcharged "2½," an unusual surcharge, as it raises the value of the surcharged stamp, the practice being to overprint a high value with a lower as a safeguard against fraud.

2½

Provisional.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2½ on 1½ a., sepia	15 0	15 0

1896. May. Fifteen values. Design, Head of Queen Victoria. At last the permanent series designed, engraved, and printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. was received from London and issued on 19 May, 1896. The stamps were printed on paper watermarked Crown A, and perf.



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ a., yellow-green	0 1	0 1
1 a., carmine	0 2	0 1
1 a., scarlet	0 2	0 1
2 a., chocolate	0 4	0 3
2½ a., deep blue	0 6	0 2
2½ a., violet-blue	0 6	0 2
3 a., grey	0 8	—
4 a., deep green	0 9	0 9
4½ a., orange-yellow	1 0	1 3
5 a., bistre	1 0	1 3
7½ a., mauve	1 6	2 0
8 a., stone-grey	1 6	1 0
1 r., dull blue	7 6	7 6
1 r., ultramarine	7 6	7 6
2 r., vermilion	7 6	7 6
3 r., violet	12 6	12 6
4 r., carmine-lake	8 6	10 0
5 r., deep brown	10 0	10 0

1897. Provisionals. Owing probably to some misunderstanding, only 5040 each of ½ a., 1 a., and 2 a., and 5280 of the 2½ a. being sent with the first supply of the permanent series, further overprinting was resorted to. Consequently a supply of the current stamps of Zanzibar was overprinted with the words "British East Africa."

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.



Stamps of Zansibar overprinted. Wmk. Quatrefoils. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ a., green and red	17 6	—
1 a., blue	20 0	20 0
2 a., red-brown	12 6	7 6
4½ a., orange	12 6	7 6
5 a., bistre	12 6	10 0
7½ a., purple	12 6	10 0

A further provisional was provided by surcharging the 1 a. and 3 a. of Zanzibar with the figures "2½" in addition to the words "British East Africa."

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2½ on 1 a., blue and red	17 6	20 0
2½ on 3 a., grey	15 0	15 0

1897. Nov. As a further distinction between the higher and lower values a new series of the rupee values was issued in the shape of an enlargement of the smaller design.



Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf.

	Unused.
	s. d.
1 r., dull blue	7 6
1 r., ultramarine	4 0
2 r., orange	6 0
3 r., dark violet	9 0
4 r., carmine	12 0
5 r., black-brown	15 0
10 r., bistre	30 0
20 r., yellow-green	40 0
50 r., lilac	100 0

FORGERIES AND REPRINTS

HOW TO DETECT THEM

By REV. ROBERT B. EARÉE

ANTIOQUIA—continued

Issue of 1869. 2½, 5, 10, 20 centavos
20 c.

Genuine.—There is a stop after each of the words ANTIQUA, COLOMBIA, and CENT. The name is written, “E S U S DE COLOMBIA”; and



there is a sort of guiding-line running almost all round the tops of these letters. The condor has a flat head and a hooked beak, and seems to be looking obliquely upwards, towards the *u* of *u*^s. The neck is thin and long. The stars above its head are asterisks, formed in this way (*). Each petal of the roses in the top corners has an inner line of shading at the broad end, and no other shading. In the centre of each rose there is a round white ball, shaded by a semicircular line. There are no dark rays proceeding from either ball. There is a distinct double line, separating the top compartment of the shield from the middle one, and a similar double line separating the middle compartment from the bottom one. The upper sea in the bottom compartment is very large, the lower sea very small, and the centre of the isthmus is a mere thread. There is a round, coloured stop after COLOMBIA, a large, square coloured stop after ANTIQUA, and a faint white stop after CENT. There is also a small coloured stop after the 20 in each lower corner.

Forged.—The following description holds good for all the forged values except the second forgery of the 20 c. Lithographed, on thick, white wove paper. There is no indication of a tail to the *q* of name, which thus appears to be ANTIQUA. The bird above the shield seems to be an eagle. There is no ring of feathers to be seen on its neck.

2½ c.

Forged.—There is no stop after either of the words CORREOS, COLOMBIA, or ANTIQUA. The tail of each large figure 2 has its end curled up. The *s* of *es* is absurdly slanted away from the *e*. The inner outline of the band containing the name is bulged very much towards the centre, at the top, at the bottom, and in the middle of each side; so much so that any one looking at the stamp would notice it immediately. The *c* of COLOMBIA comes just under the second *r* of CORREOS.

5 c.

Forged.—There is no stop after the letters *E* and *s* of *ES DE ANTIQUA*. There are no

white spots in the spandrels, at the places named in the description of the genuine 5 c. The words CORREOS and CINCO CEN are in short and rather thin letters, which do not nearly fill up the bands containing them. The *c* of COLOMBIA comes just under the second *r* of CORREOS.

10 c.

Forged.—There is no stop after CORREOS or ANTIQUA. There are no white spots in the dark spandrels, opposite to where the name-label is divided. The little roses in the top corners have dark spots in their centres, though the one on the left seems to have some little attempt at shading. The *c* of COLOMBIA comes just under the first *r* of CORREOS.

20 c.

First Forgery.—Stop after COLOMBIA only. The name is written, “E U DE COLOMBIA.”; and these letters do not show any marks of the guiding-line at their tops. The roses in the top corners have dark spots in their centres, though the one on the left seems to have some little attempt at shading. The *c* of COLOMBIA comes just under the first *r* of CORREOS.

20 c.

Second Forgery.—I first saw this in 1902. It looks infinitely better than the first forgery, and, in some respects, it is better than the genuine in appearance. Typographed (my single specimen is in a brownish *pink*), on thick, hard white wove paper. The condor has a round head, like a pigeon, with a round eye, instead of the long eye of the genuine, and it appears to be looking rather down, towards the *e* of *es*. The beak is that of a pigeon. The neck is thick and short. The stars above its head are real stars, with six rays, though one or two have only five rays. There is no line of shading following the outlines of the petals of the roses, but there are a number of coloured rays surrounding the white balls in the centres of the said roses. There is no line of shading in either ball. There is a single line separating the top compartment of the shield from the centre one, and a similar single line separating the central compartment from the bottom one. The two seas in the bottom compartment are of about equal size, so that the upper one is too small, and the lower one too large; and the isthmus makes a good broad band between them. There is no stop after COLOMBIA, the stop after ANTIQUA is very small and round, and the white stop after CENT is too large and prominent. There is no stop after the 20 in either corner.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—None of my copies are cancelled with anything but a word, or letter, written in pen and ink, so I cannot say what is the regular handstamp used for this purpose.

Forged.—All the forgeries just described are cancelled with 37 (without numerals), except the second forgery of the 20 c., which is uncanceled.

As the originals are lithographs, and I have not been able to procure whole sheets of each value, it is quite possible that some of the copies of each value may vary slightly from my descriptions. For instance, I have a copy of the 10 c. which is labelled quite distinctly "correos," instead of *correos*. However, I think my tests, taken from several copies of each value, will be sufficient.

GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Summer Season

WHAT are you going to do with your stamps during the summer months? Going to put them away and try to forget all about them till the winter meetings commence again? I expect so. But why? Because you need a rest! Ah, well, that may be; some people seem to be easily satiated, others require constant changes of diet, and so I suppose it will ever be in this vigorous land of ours. We need a change from one form of excitement to another. We acquire the habit at school, where we change from football to cricket, and so on. Still, I am rather inclined to imagine that those of us who keep our philatelic eyes open, summer as well as winter, pick up stray crumbs that make the game worth the candle, and that we run less risk of gaps that otherwise would be hard to fill.

The Philatelic Monthlies

WHERE, oh, where are the monthlies gone? Up to the time of writing I have not received one of the great philatelic monthlies for the sweet month of May. The *Monthly Journal*, the *London Philatelist*, and the *Philatelic Record*, they are all "overdue," as they put it at Lloyd's. That Exhibition was a terribly demoralizing business. The editors of all three journals were on the list of judges, and now, what has become of them? They were last seen at the Herts Dinner; since then—

What the Critics will say

And all the while we are most impatient to know what those eminent have got to say about the Exhibition. We expect from them what we are not likely to get elsewhere, and that is a really critical estimate of the principal exhibits and of the show as a whole. When a man is a philatelic eminent and also a judge, he becomes, perforce, Sir Oracle. If they have survived the tag and the festivities, we all hope they will favour us with their most critical opinions, for even such a grand success must be open to some "buts" and "ifs."

My Little Growl

I confess I find it difficult to do any growling over the business, but there are one or two points on which it seems to me there might be

room for improvement. To an ordinary common garden visitor it is a bit disappointing on consulting the posted list of medals, and then turning to inspect the be-medalled exhibits, to find that only three or four pages out of a large collection are shown, and on inquiring the reason to learn that the exhibitor, for economical reasons, paid for only a little space, and entered the rest of his exhibit in albums at the rate of 2s. 6d. per volume, none of which were open to general inspection. What would be said of the award of a medal at a horse show if only a horseshoe were exhibited as representative of the prize winner?

General Lack of Artistic Arrangement

Another point that struck many visitors, and was the subject of much comment, was the general lack of artistic arrangement observable in the exhibits. In only a few cases was there any attempt at the effective and artistic arrangement of the stamps shown. The neat, artistic display of stamps on a page makes all the difference in the presentation of a collection. An ugly frame will spoil the best picture, and stamps jumbled up in a page suffer in much the same way. Apparently, in the eyes of most of the exhibitors, so long as "they are all there," and in some sort of order of issue or value, nothing else matters.

Overdoing it

Of course, you can go to the other extreme, and swamp your stamps with surrounds of elaborate design. One fine collection shown in albums suffered from over-elaboration; every stamp was mounted in a little coloured frame, printed on separate pieces of paper, and gummed on to the album page. After trying all sorts of ideas, I have come to the conclusion that nothing beats a plain page with the stamps artistically grouped, the date of issue in the centre of the top of the page, a few crisp notes about watermark, perforation, paper, etc., underneath, or at the left, and the name of the engraver in a line at the foot of the group. It is an old question in another form; we say of a lady that she is neatly dressed, or overdressed, or badly dressed, and the effect is the same, whether it be in stamps or in dress.

Bargains in Philatelic Publications

You can pick up bargains at our auctions in philatelic publications if you can watch and attend the sales. The celebrated monographs of the Philatelic Society of London, with their grand plates, generally run into long figures, fetching from £1 to £4 and £5 per volume; but some one picked them up as regular bargains at Glendinning's on 23 May last. Here are the prices they realized:—

	s.	d.
British Isles	7	0
Oceania	10	0
West Indies	11	0
India and Ceylon	7	0
Africa, Parts I and II	11	0

I have never known the volume on the West Indies to go for less than 50s. in private sale, and it has often changed hands at £4 to £5.

Another U.S.A. Philatelic Journal

I HAVE just received an intimation of another philatelic journal that is to be started in America, where philatelic journals are as plentiful as—as—as niggers. The promoter of this proposed new journal has been asking his philatelic public whether they prefer their doses weekly or monthly, and with or without advertisements. The result is a compromise to a fortnightly, and most of the replies given indicate a preference for good matter unadulterated with advertisements.

In this matter of advertisements it must be admitted that in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* you are saved no end of worry. You are not torn with conflicting doubts as to whether Codlin's the friend or Short. You are generously told that it is Gibbons, and there's an end to it. How much sweeter and simpler would life be if some equally reliable authority would tender us equally generous direction in other lines of daily necessities!

But this journal—there is to be a capital put down on the nail for 24 issues of 32 pages each to the tune of \$8400 = £1680.

Our own Weekly

Well, the last time I met the financier of our own weekly he looked down at heel, a tail missing from his coat, toes protruding from his boots, and trouser pockets hanging out empty. He used to dine in state at the Hotel Cecil. Says I, "What's the matter, old chap?" Says he, "G. S. W.!" Says I, "How much?" Says

he, "£2250." "What!" says I. "In how long?" Says he, "Just one year!" and he sighed like the wind up a back chimney on a stormy winter's night, and turned tottering down his alley.

Postscript

SINCE writing the above I have received the *Monthly Journal* for May. It is a grand number of forty pages, with nine full-page photo plates of rarities shown at the Exhibition, and no less than twenty pages of careful criticism of the exhibits by Mr. Charles J. Phillips, himself a born specialist. I have not had time to thoroughly enjoy it yet, but I am anticipating a real treat, for few men engaged in stamps are so endowed by experience as C. J. P. for estimating the real value of a philatelic display. As a dealer, of course, he is apt to lean to the market view of value rather than to the philatelic.

Market v. Philatelic Values

At first sight these views would seem to be one and the same, for the value of a postage stamp to collectors must be its philatelic value. Nevertheless they do not run on all fours. It is but natural that there should be a trade preference for those rarities that sell best at high figures with plenty of margin for individual pricing; and yet if you reduce it all to its lowest common denominator, you will find that there are few stamps that fetch high prices whose popularity is not based on their philatelically historical interest. The exceptions to this rule are to be found in freaks in printing, for the stamp collector dearly loves a printer's error.

A Philatelic Collection

But many most interesting collections, whilst being philatelically valuable, have but a very poor corresponding market value, for the simple reason that they are not in the line of popularity. The true collector is most attracted by philatelic value; the dealer prefers the country that sells well, and naturally so. Some shrewd collectors whose collecting and investment instincts are closely interwoven generally compromise with their philatelic conscience by running some country or group for purely philatelic reasons. Such is the case of yours truly. I am quite gone on a country which will probably be of little service to me when my time comes to apply to the State for one of the Old Age Pensions to be.

THE KING'S OWN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

This Album has been specially designed for those collectors who either commence a collection with the Postage Stamps of King Edward VII, or who collect these stamps as a supplement to a General Collection. The King's Own Album contains 100 pages of heavy white plate paper outlined with a neat border of neutral grey, with quadrillé background inside the grey border, and name space at the top of each page. Exact size of leaves from the outer edge, 7½×9½; available for mounting stamps, 6½×8½. The title-page is printed in the Royal Colours, with the King's Cypher Monogram and Crown. Strongly bound in cloth, bevelled boards, with the Official Cypher Monogram and Crown in gold on cover. Post-free, 8s.; abroad, 8s. 9d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

HENRY'S STAMP DEAL

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON



"Well, young feller me lad, wot yer bin up to now?"

(Continued from page 386.)

CHAPTER II

THE following morning when Henry was assisting in the preparation of breakfast, he cogitated as to the best means of broaching to the cook the question of Bill's stamp collection. A too peremptory allusion to it might make the cook think that the selling of it was a preconcocted arrangement to relieve him of some of his legacy, of which Henry might by some means have gained knowledge.

So while busy in the culinary department, Henry started humming a vivacious refrain and worked with an affected happiness and assiduity. The cook stared at him once or twice, and rubbed his eyes to make sure that he was really awake; he had never before seen in Henry such Spartan devotion to duty, and wondered what could account for it.

"Funny," muttered he, "'tain't at all usual in the lad," and then stifling his curiosity no longer, he asked—

"What makes yer so 'appy to-day, eh? Mind yer don't hurt yourself."

The boy looked at him and said, "It's you wot makes me 'appy, cookie."

"Me?" said the cook in astonishment.

"Yes, you," replied Henry fervently. "I think what a lucky young dog I am to be with you, always so good-tempered, kind, open-hearted, generous and patient, and fair all right, that you sort of act as a medicine on me and make me better than I should be otherwise."

"Golly, Lord 'elp any one who was with 'Enery if he was worse than he is," thought the cook.

Then there was a short silence, and Henry again spoke. "I always think, cookie, as 'ow yer should 'old a better position in life than yer do. You're clever and 'ave got brains," ventured the boy.

"P'r'aps," answered the cook.

"P'r'aps! it's a dead cert. Why, look 'ow yer soon got to know a lot about stamps. Yer need to have brains to be able even to take an interest in 'em; but to be able to understand 'em as you do, lor'!"

And Henry took a stealthy glance at the cook to glean what effect his remarks had on his superior.

The cook busied himself with the pans, hummed a little, and said, "Henry, you're a promising youth; there's more in yer than onewould think."

"Yes, cookie, there is: gratitood for all yer've done for me."

The eulogistic praises sung by Henry pleased the cook, who had never before received such favourable criticism. Unlike most seamen, he never spent money unless absolutely compelled.

"Yer know, cookie, when I was ashore yesterday I wanted to do something for yer, but couldn't."

"Ow's that?" asked the cook interestedly.

"Well, I met a bloke as I know, and he had a stamp collection for sale. Thought I, 'That's just the thing for dear cookie.' 'Ow much is it?' said I. 'A suverin to you,' says he. 'O,' says I, 'I ain't got a suverin. Would you sell it by easy instalments?' said I. 'No,' says he. So I had to give up all 'ope."

"Oh!" said cookie in response. "Did yer think it was worth the price he asked?"

"Well, I don't know much about stamps, but I felt somehow as it was a real good lot goin' cheap," answered Henry.

"A suverin," said the cook meditatively. "Twenty bob. D'yer think I could see the stamps?"

"Think so," said Henry hesitatingly. "If yer come ashore to-night, and will condescend to 'ave a drink with yer inferior, cookie, I might see the bloke wot as 'em in the Battery Inn. 'E's often there."

"I'll come then," said cookie, and silently dreamt of what he would do should the collection prove to be valuable.

Henry arranged to meet the cook at the Battery Inn at half-past seven in the evening, taking care to inform him that they must pretend to have met quite by accident, as the holder of the stamps wasn't very keen on selling, and might think the stamps were valuable if he knew cookie had gone specially to see them.

"I'll do that all right," answered the cook.

It was partly Henry's love of mischief, and partly a desire to cajole the cook into the belief that he would, in buying the collection, be making an unusual bargain, which prompted the boy to settle upon this course of action when the two should meet later in the evening.

Calling on Bill, the two proceeded to the Battery Inn to await the cook's arrival, and meanwhile Henry regaled his companion with an account of how he had persuaded the cook to appear surprised at seeing him.

"It will add to the fun, Bill, yer know; and if cookie thought I'd brought him here specially to buy the collection, we'd not get a brass farden from 'im."

Punctually at the time arranged the cook entered slowly, took a look round the sanded parlour, cast his optics on Henry, took a step or two backwards, and opened his mouth in mock surprise, as though Henry were the last person in the world he would expect to see there.

"Why, if it ain't Henry, bless my soul. 'Ow are yer, my young man?" and he shook the boy's hand vigorously.

"Great snakes!" replied Henry, taking a sly glance at his friend Bill, "if it ain't my old friend, Mr. Cheriton. Bill, let me interjuice yer."

"Pleased to meet yer," said he.

"Same 'ere," said the cook affably.

The trio sat at a well-scrubbed table in the bar, and Henry asked the two to "make their choice."

"My usual," said the cook, and then corrected himself and said, "'Arf a bitter in a tin."

"Glass o' bitter," said the other.

Henry called for the drinks, and while the cook took a long draught said to Bill, "Just the sort o' lark I like, this; I ought to 'ave been a hactor. Next to pirates it's the best thing going."

The cook smacked his lips and peered with one eye shut into the now empty tankard.

"'Ave another," said Bill, "wiv me this time."

"Thankee, sir, the same as before," answered the new arrival.

"'Ow yer getting on now?" asked Henry.

"Orright," replied the cook; "and you?"

"The same. Took to stamp collecting. Was just talking about buying a collection from my friend Bill 'ere; but although I'm certain it's a good 'un, it's more than my slender pocket can afford."

"Funny," replied the cook.

"Wot's funny?" asked the boy.

"Why, I collect stamps too!"

"Bravo!" shouted Henry.

"Allejulia to it," said the cook, laughing uproariously at his attempt at a witty retort, and the other two laughed as well.

"You ain't 'arf a goer," said Bill.

"I wonder if the collection would be anything in my line," asked the cook. "May I see it if yer 'appen to 'ave it wiv yer?"

"Certainly," replied Bill, and produced from his pocket the old exercise book containing the stamps.

The cook took it on his knee, and wetting his thumb turned over the leaves slowly.

"Ain't many picture stamps in it, and that's wot I like," said the cook. "'Ere, Bill, order drinks round, will yer?" and he flung sixpence on the table.

While Bill was ordering the liquid refreshment at the counter, the cook said to Henry, "Wot yer mean by bringing me 'ere to see them stamps? for, mucky looking things, they ain't worf a kick, I warrant, bust my beans."

Henry was about to offer a word of apology and remonstrance when Bill returned.

"'Enery," whispered he, "if I drink any more I'll be a goner."

"So will I," replied the boy. "Chuck it on the floor when you gets the chance, or better still, fill up cookie's pot, git 'im on a bit, and we'll manage to sell the collection, otherwise the sale's off."

And as the ale in cookie's tankard lessened, one of the boys would fill the tankard from his own glass, while the other attracted the cook's attention, and so they kept him drinking until he reached a stage of levity and joviality.

"Le's 'ave a look at c'lection 'gain," said he, with which request Bill complied.

The cook again pondered over the stamps.

"Wot's this ugly thing, eh? a circle and 'British gimcracks."

The two boys looked at the stamp referred to.

"No, 'British Guiana,'" they corrected him.

Mr. Cheriton then turned the leaves over and over in an aimless manner.

"D'yer know, my boys, I cud buy it ten times over, and then 'ave enough for a pipe of baccy. Ah! ah! boys, 'ow d'yer do it, 'ow d'yer do it, eh?" and producing a handful of gold from his pocket, said—

"Look at 'em. Look at 'em. Shiny boys, shiny boys. Orright, ain't they?" and he leered at the boys in a drunken manner.

"Yes," said Bill, "they're orright; but I'd sooner 'ave these stamps than a couple o' them."

The cook looked at him in bewilderment.

"Garn, bit touchy in the topknot, I should say."

"No, I ain't," said Bill. "These stamps is worth something, or I don't know nothin'."

Again the cook asked to have another look at them, and went through the same elaborate performance of wetting his thumb, and turning over the leaves carefully this time and scrutinizing the stamps as though he were a philatelic expert.

"'Ere, wot's this funny-lookin' thing, eh? Look at it, figures on it, and, eh, wot's that, 'Iliawatha poteggs,'"

"'Wot d'yer say?" said Henry, taking a look at the stamp. "No, that says 'Hawaiian Postage.'"

"Don't look up to much," ventured the cook.

"No," replied Henry, "but it may be a good 'un all the same."

The cook closed the book with a snap, threw it to Bill, and said, "I don't want 'em, keep 'em."



"Who says I don't want 'em?"

"That's wot I intend to do," replied he.

"Oh, yer do, do yer?" replied the cook vindictively.

"Course I do," responded Bill.

"I'll fight yer for 'em," bawled out the cook in an offensive manner, and rising, proceeded to divest himself of his coat.

"Put that on again," said Henry, steadying the cook and assisting him to replace his garment. "Bill 'ere is a friend o' mine, and 'sides, wot's the good o' fighting for the stamps if yer don't want them?"

(To be continued.)

The cook was now in a very bellicose humour and very obstinate, the result of his excessive drinking.

"Who says I don't want 'em? 'Ere you are, two pounds for 'em," and turning to Bill, gave him two sovereigns. "'And 'em over smart. I'm a philatellicer of the first water. Look 'ere, shiny boys, shiny boys; they'd all go on stamps if I saw anything to suit me; that's the sort of chap I am, and don't forget it."

And after this speech the cook began to dance a hornpipe to his own vocal accompaniment, and invited all present in the bar to have drinks with him.

"Jim Blinkins was a sailor bloke, wot sailed the wintry sea. Come along, boys, 'ave a drink with me."

"Seems to me we'd better leave 'im now," said Henry to Bill. "Come on," and the two stepped out into the night.

"'E's fair on now," said Bill, referring to the cook. "Enjoyed yer evening, 'Enery?"

"Fust rate," answered his companion.

"That's good. Wot time 'ave yer to be on board?" Bill inquired.

"Ten thirty," replied Henry.

"Quarter of an hour to do it in," said Bill, looking through the bar-parlour window at the clock inside. "Wot time do you sail tomorrow?"

"Seven in the morning," answered Henry.

"I must be going now, Bill, so pass over my share o' the spoil and I'll bid yer adieu"; and he held out his hand for a moiety of the cash result of the stamp sale.

"Yer've 'ad a real enjoyable evening, 'ave yer?" asked Bill, pretending to search his pockets for the two sovereigns.

"As I said afore, fust rate."

"Well, be satisfied with that," responded Bill, and giving Henry a quick blow, sent him sprawling, and ran away with all possible speed.

Henry lay where he fell for a moment trying to discover whether any bones were broken, and when he at last resumed a standing position, peered through the darkness in an endeavour to catch a glimpse of Bill.

"Well, if that ain't a bit of all right," said the boy. "It's cost me a bob 'as to-night's fun. Cookie will tumble as to 'ow we've 'ad 'im on the hop, and most likely have his revenge tomorrow, trust him for that, and all I get is a shove in the mud. Well, I'm blest if that ain't wot I call dishonest of Bill, and no error."

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Packet No. 67, 1000 varieties. This packet contains 1000 different Stamps (and no Envelopes, Bands, and Cards), and is the cheapest packet ever offered by S. G., Ltd., satisfaction being absolutely guaranteed. The price it is offered at is the lowest ever quoted for such a collection, embracing as it does scores of scarce varieties, provisionals, new issues, and many very fine and obsolete varieties. 15s., post-free and registered.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

Johannesburg Philatelic Society

Secretary: J. Glasser, P. O. Box 4967, Johannesburg.
Meetings: Masonic Temple, Plein Street, Johannesburg.

Annual Report, 1905-6

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—In presenting to you the Seventh Annual Report of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society, I do so with the greatest of pleasure, as my year of office has been marked by a general advance and effectual carrying out of the various aims of the Society.

Meetings.—During the period under review—30 April, 1905, to 30 April, 1906—twenty-three meetings were held, the total attendance being 293 members and 88 visitors.

Members.—Our roll of membership consists of thirty-four members, amongst whom I am pleased to state we have two lady members, who by their regular attendance manifest a keen interest in Philately, which through their kind assistance I should like to see extended to others of their sex. During the year thirteen members joined, and I hope shortly that this Society will have the honour of counting amongst its active members Sir Henry McCallum, who has asked for particulars of this Society with the intention of joining.

Committee.—The *personnel* of the management and Committee, who now relinquish their offices, consists of the following gentlemen:—President: Mr. C. R. Schuler. Vice-President: Mr. M. P. Vallentine. Committee: Messrs. E. Harford, L. Rhoder, J. C. Hand, and A. Law. Treasurer, Librarian, and Exchange Superintendent: Mr. W. P. Cohen. Secretary: Mr. J. Glasser. Counterfeit Expert: Mr. E. O. Meyer, who, however, resigned his position during the year, much to our regret.

The warmest thanks of the Society are due to the gentlemen who so ably assisted me, and for the work done by them, and I wish to particularly express my very sincerest appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Mr. M. P. Vallentine, your Vice-President, who by his ardent and genuine desire to see this Society prosper has sacrificed much of his valuable time to the interests of the Society and individual members. Mr. J. Glasser, our Secretary, has filled his post well, and has been most painstaking in carrying out the various duties of his office. Mr. W. P. Cohen, our Treasurer, Librarian and Exchange Superintendent, has been acting in this capacity for some years, and most worthily. All the offices being honorary, it is indeed very gratifying to me as your President to be able to place on record the unstinted zeal displayed by these gentlemen in their various capacities.

Exhibitions.—Amongst the various exhibitions held during the year, and fully recorded in the minutes, I may mention the very fine and valuable exhibit by Mr. G. C. Herbert, one of the keenest philatelists of Johannesburg, of his nearly complete collection of African stamps; the exhibit by Mr. A. J. Cohen of his unique collections of local and telegraph stamps of the world, envelopes and wrappers, proofs and essays; Mr. M. Neuburger's very fine collection of post cards; and an exhibit of stamps not usually taken into much account by collectors, namely, Scandinavian countries, was shown by Mr. T. Henderson. All these exhibits, without exception, proved to be of great interest and most instructive.

In August and September of last year an exhibition was held at the Technical Institute in honour of the then visiting members of the British Association, to which this Society was invited to contribute; and I am pleased to report that the following members

availed themselves of it: Messrs. A. J. Cohen, T. Henderson, W. P. Cohen, L. Schuler, M. P. Vallentine, and myself, with the result that a very fine display of South African stamps was on view—a credit to this Society.

Correspondence.—A vast amount of correspondence has been received and attended to from various parts of South Africa and abroad, and confirms my belief that this Society is steadily gaining ground. Our thanks are due to Miss Robertson for the valuable assistance she has on every occasion rendered in typing various matters for this Society. I also wish to place on record the services rendered by Mr. O. Mangold in various capacities: services for which this Society is indeed very thankful.

Papers on Philately.—The papers read on Philately comprised the following: "Forty Rarest Stamp Errors," C. R. Schuler; "New Issues Question," W. C. Townsend; "Fortunes in Stamps," J. C. Hand; "Philately in its Early Days," A. J. Cohen. These papers proved highly interesting and a source of much healthy and vigorous discussion, and I cannot but recommend their continuance at every available opportunity.

Press.—The thanks of the Society are due to the proprietors, editors, and reporters of the various daily papers and periodicals, both here and abroad, who at all times have gratuitously placed their columns at the disposal of this Society for the insertion of the proceedings at the various meetings and other philatelic matter.

Library.—The Library is well stocked with useful works, the Society being a regular subscriber to the most interesting periodicals, and having acquired many highly interesting books on Philately. Gifts have been received from the following members: Messrs. C. E. Hawley, T. Henderson, J. Glasser, A. J. Cohen, F. Greville, W. P. Cohen, C. R. Schuler.

A Library Committee was lately elected to assist the Librarian, and one of the members of this Committee attends at the Library every Wednesday afternoon from 5 to 6 to lend works to members, several of whom have availed themselves of this opportunity. Members must, however, bear in mind that all such works or periodicals borrowed should be returned promptly to the Librarian, so as not to deprive other members.

Society's Collections.—The general collection now consists of 1790 stamps, mounted in Stanley Gibbons' Imperial Album in three volumes, as well as a collection of forgeries, reprints, etc., mounted in Bright's Permanent Albums, a record being kept in a diary of the name of the donor and the date at which each stamp was presented to the Society. The following gentlemen have contributed liberally to these collections during the past year: Messrs. A. J. Cohen, J. Glasser, C. E. Hawley, T. Henderson, F. Greville, A. V. Hayne, and W. P. Cohen. The smallest contributions will be acceptable.

Exchange Department.—During the past year three packets of stamps, to the value of £58. 3s. 4d., were circulated among members. This department has been very poorly supported, and the cause may be attributed to the commercial depression which has so much affected all. I trust the forthcoming year will see a general improvement.

General Remarks.—The Society's property is insured in the South British Insurance Co. On account of the closing of the premises lately used by this Society, the incoming Committee will have to secure other suitable premises. The Committee has decided to hold a banquet at the Carlton Hotel on 15 May next,

to celebrate the seventh anniversary of the Society, and I hope to see every member present.

Finance.—The balance sheet, which will be read to you by the Treasurer and is now tabled for your inspection, shows a credit balance at the Standard Bank at 30 April, 1906, of £24. 2s. 9d., which at the same period of last year stood at £43. 13s. 9d. This difference is accounted for through our having had in the previous year the use of the Masonic Hotel rent-free for our meetings. On its demolition we fixed our meeting-place at the Masonic Temple, where rent was incurred.

Further, your Committee, with your approval, purchased many valuable works on Philately and a stock of stamps, as more fully set forth in the balance sheet.

Closing Remarks.—In closing this report I must also personally thank the various officers of the Society for their very hearty co-operation, as through it my task has been an easy and pleasant one. I trust that throughout the ensuing year and years this Society will continue to progress, and that every member will derive the instruction and benefit he seeks.

Yours faithfully,

C. R. SCHULER, President.

JOHANNESBURG, 1 *J/ny*, 1906.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

The Editor regrets that he has no time for direct correspondence. All letters requiring a reply will be dealt with under the head of "Answers to Correspondents."

A. H. D. (Montevideo).—Samples of stamps are overprinted with the word "Specimen" for distribution amongst postal officials. Such stamps are what they pretend to be, official specimens and nothing more. Their value is, of course, depreciated by the overprint, but many collectors are glad of "Specimens" of high value or rare stamps, and so they have some value, though not a fixed one that can be quoted. We shall be glad of a monthly newsy letter about stamps, collectors, and collecting in your part of the world.

W. F. C. H. (Highgate).—Your friend on the Gold Coast who writes you that the Gold Coast King's Head, single wmk., 2½d., lilac and ultramarine, Gibbons, No. 41, does not exist has been misinformed. We have the stamp in our own collection. As the 2½d. value is now required for foreign postage only it is probably scarce used, but we have no reason to believe that the value has been discontinued. You had better secure an unused copy from our publishers as you are going in for Gold Coast specially.

W. F. (London).—There was a great rush for the new French 10 c., and the first supply was so rapidly exhausted that in a very short time not a copy was to be had. It can only be obsolete in the sense of being temporarily sold out, for it is the current stamp.

A. C. B. (Quorn).—Your U. S. stamp, overprinted "Dayton, Ohio," is of no more value than any ordinary cancelled stamp. The names of the towns are in many places in the States overprinted on stamps supplied to those who use large numbers, and save the post office the labour of cancelling with the office stamp.

Jovis (Rhy).—When the incorporation of Lagos in the colony of Southern Nigeria was announced, we imagined that the issue of separate stamps for Lagos would cease. We cannot say whether our supposition may be correct. At present supplies seem still to be coming from the colony. The value of a reconstructed plate of 1d., reds, Small Crown, perf. 14, would depend upon the condition of the copies so largely that it would be useless attempting to hint at a value. The catalogue value of a single specimen varies according to shade and die, for there are two

dies, from 1s. to 5s. You will find the two dies illustrated in Gibbons Catalogue, page 2.

A. H. M. (Berkeley).—The Siam 1 att was surcharged in 1905 on the then current 14 atts, and the 2 atts on the then current 28 atts. There are not two lots of surcharges. The references in *G.S.H.*, vol. 1, p. 284, and in the current volume, p. 57, are to the same provisionals. The first reference was a quotation from a Siamese newspaper; the second was written with the stamps before us.

A. B. D. (Bolton).—There are many albums with illustrations of the stamps printed in the squares the real stamps should occupy. Stanley Gibbons' new "Ideal" album is mainly on those lines.

A. C. H. (Manchester).—Many thanks for the cutting about Counani, which you will see we have used.

A Disgusted Collector (Egham).—It was found necessary to close the Exhibition earlier on Friday than was anticipated in order to give time for the very heavy work of clearing the enormous number of exhibits. Was it not very unwise of you, living so far away, to put off your visit till the last moment? We are sorry you were disappointed, for it was a bad miss not to have seen the finest philatelic display ever got together.

J. C. (Dunkeld).—The term "multiple paper" means paper in which the watermarked Crown CA instead of appearing only once on each stamp is now arranged so closely that parts of two, three, or more Crown CA watermarks are visible; that is to say, the old watermark is repeated, or multiplied, on each stamp; hence, "multiple paper."

S. G. C. (Calcutta).—We wrote you some time ago that we should be glad to receive from you good philatelic stories. We are still open to do so, but have made arrangements which will monopolize all available space for the first six months of 1907.

W. L. (Delhi).—Your stamp overprinted for official purposes is only a misplaced overprint, some letters falling on one stamp and some on another, instead of in their proper place on one stamp. It has no value, except as a curiosity. It is the result of careless printing, and is common to most overprinting.

Editorial Address—EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

A VERY HANDSOME PRESENT

Packet No. 69, 2000 varieties. A grand packet, every stamp being different and genuine, and thus forming a choice collection in itself. £3, post-free and registered.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

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I*N the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.*

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In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

These special offers will be open for one week only from the date of the number in which they appear. After the expiration of a week the stamps will be supplied at the regular rates only, and, in the majority of cases, the Catalogue prices will be maintained, instead of being reduced, as hitherto, as the result of the purchase of bargain parcels.

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OUR SPECIAL OFFER

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MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY.

1892-93. Overprinted on Type 2 of Mozambique.

20	reis, rosine.
25	„ purple.
40	„ chocolate.
50	„ blue.
100	„ brown.
200	„ grey-lilac.

The set of six stamps, unused, is catalogued at 4/9.

Special Bargain Price:—

1/- the six, unused and post-free.

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

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EDITED BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

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VOL. III.

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Bhopal

BHOPAL is a Native State of Malwa, Central India, some 325 miles south-west of Allahabad. Dr. W. W. Hunter, in his *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, gives the following history of this very interesting State:—

The Bhopal dynasty was founded by Dost Muhammad, an Afghan in the service of Aurangzeb, who took advantage of the revolutions which followed the death of the Emperor to establish his independent authority in Bhopal and the neighbouring country. The Bhopal family have always manifested an amicable feeling towards the British Government. In 1778, when General Goddard made his bold march across India, the State of Bhopal was the only Indian power which showed itself friendly; and in 1809, when another British expedition, commanded by General Close, appeared in that part of India, the Nawab of Bhopal earnestly, but in vain, petitioned to be received under British protection. The Nawab then allied himself with the Pindaris, and made a most gallant defence against the attempts of Sindhia and Raghaji Bhonsla to crush him; their efforts were finally restrained by the intervention of the British power. In 1817, at the commencement of the Pindari war, the British Government formed a close alliance with Bhopal. It was chiefly by the aid of the Pindaris that Bhopal had been able to defy the attacks of Sindhia and the Raja of Nagpur; but his connection with these freebooters was distasteful to the Nawab, and only tolerated on account of his inability to control them. A treaty was made in 1818 by which the British Government guaranteed his possession of the State; and the Nawab agreed to furnish a contingent of 600 horse and 400 infantry, and received five districts in Malwa as a reward for his services, and to enable him to maintain the contingent. The Nawab soon afterwards met his death from a pistol accidentally discharged by a child. His nephew, an infant, was thereupon declared his successor, and betrothed to the infant daughter of the deceased prince. But the widow of the Nawab, Kudsia Begam, wished to keep the State in her own hands, even after the declared heir had resigned his claim to the State and to the hand of the Nawab's daughter, Sikandar Begam, in favour of his brother, Jahangir Muhammad. After much discussion, lasting through several years, in 1837, by the mediation of the British Government, Jahangir Muhammad was restored to power, and installed as Nawab. On his death in 1844 he was succeeded by his widow, Sikandar Begam, who ruled Bhopal until her death in 1868. She made a name for herself by faithful services to the Government of India during the Mutiny, and by the ability she displayed in the management of the State. She was succeeded by the present (1881) ruler, Shah Jehan, who is no unworthy successor, and is distinguished by the same loyalty to the British Crown. Her first

husband died in 1867, leaving her one daughter, Sultan Jahan Begam, above mentioned. After her husband's death, Shah Jehan, following the footsteps of her mother, threw aside the restrictions of the *pardah*, conducted business with vigour, and was always accessible. In recognition of her high administrative qualities and her loyalty, she received in 1872 the honour of the Grand Cross of the Star of India. In 1871 she contracted a second marriage with Maulvi Sadik Husain, and since then has withdrawn from personal supervision of State affairs, and resumed the retirement which the *pardah* imposes. The same honours are paid to her present husband as were enjoyed by his predecessor, and he has received the title of Nawab. The Sultan Jahan Begam was married in 1874, with the consent of the Government, to Ahmad Ali Khan. He is of the same tribe as that to which the Bhopal family belongs, the Mirazai Khel, but he is not a member of the family.

The population of the State is given as 1,200,000, and Bhopal, the capital, 77,000.

Its Philatelic History

The peculiar varieties of the issues of this State almost defy all attempts to simplify them, but if any one of my readers is hungry for a country that will give him plenty of food for reflection, let him specialize the issues of Bhopal. Major Evans, who has been devoting his days and nights, for many years, to the stamps of the Native States of India, declares that the stamps of this State are the most troublesome of all, "owing, not so much to the number of distinct issues, as to the fact that a few more or less primitive designs have each been redrawn, over and over again, and each time in as many varieties of type as there are stamps on the sheet." Then he adds: "They are all, I believe, printed by lithography, yet in no single instance has the process of lithographic transfer been employed for producing a sheet of stamps identical in type throughout; and even in a few cases in which the same drawing was employed for more than one value, it is almost certain that the same identical stone was used for the two or more values, the necessary alteration in the characters being

made after a sufficient number of copies of a particular value had been printed off."

For our purposes it will be sufficient to follow the classification by types adopted by our ever-lamented friend the late Mr. Gordon Smith, in planning out the Century Postage Stamp Album published by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. First come the large square designs differentiated by double-lined frame, single-lined frame, and large lettering; then two rectangulars, next a reversion to the square type easily separated with the help of our illustrations, and lastly, several series of rectangulars, which our illustrations will clearly identify. The local engraver rang so many changes on the English inscription that it may be well to say that the correct lettering should read: H.H. NAWAB SHAHJAHAN BEGAN.

1877. Two values. Design, large square stamp with inscription in octagonal frame.



Imperf.
Double-lined frame.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, black	—	—
$\frac{1}{2}$ " red	3 0	4 0



Single-lined frame.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, black	—	—
$\frac{1}{2}$ " red	4 0	4 0



Large lettering.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, black	0 3	1 0
---------------------------	-----	-----

1878-9. Two values. Design, oval inscription on a rectangular stamp.



Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, green	0 3	—
$\frac{1}{2}$ " red	0 6	0 6
<i>Perf.</i>		
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, green	1 0	—
$\frac{1}{2}$ " red	0 4	—

1881. Five values. Design, large square stamp with inscription in octagonal frame, large lettering.



Imperf.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., black	—	—
$\frac{1}{2}$ a., red	0 4	—
1 a., brown	0 4	—
2 a., blue	0 6	—
4 a., yellow	1 0	—
<i>Perf.</i>		
$\frac{1}{2}$ a., black	0 2	—
$\frac{1}{2}$ a., red	0 6	1 6
1 a., brown	0 6	—
2 a., blue	0 9	1 0
4 a., yellow	0 8	1 6

1895. Three values, similar design to last, but smaller lettering.



Imperf.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., black	0 4	1 6
$\frac{1}{2}$ a., "	0 3	—
$\frac{1}{2}$ a., red	2 0	—
1 a., brown	1 0	—

1884-96. One value. Design, rectangular stamp with oval inscription. No letters in corners.



	<i>Perf.</i>	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
½ a., green	.	2 0	—
½ a., black	.	0 3	—

1884-95. One value. Similar design to last, but with letters in all four corners.



	<i>Imperf.</i>	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
½ a., green	.	0 4	0 6
½ a., black	.	0 9	—
½ a., red	.	0 2	1 0

	<i>Perf.</i>	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
½ a., green	.	0 3	—
½ a., black	.	0 4	1 0
½ a., red	.	0 4	1 0

1890-I. One value. Design, square, with inscription in a small inner circle.



	<i>Imperf.</i>	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
8 a., blue	.	10 0	—
8 a., green-black	.	2 0	4 0

	<i>Perf.</i>	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
8 a., blue	.	10 0	—
8 a., green-black	.	2 6	—

1902. Seven values. Design, rectangular stamp, with corner letters in circular rings.



	<i>Imperf.</i>	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
½ a., red	.	0 1	0 4
½ a., black	.	—	—
1 a., brown	.	0 2	0 3
2 a., blue	.	0 4	—
4 a., orange	.	1 0	—
8 a., mauve	.	2 0	—
1 r., rose	.	3 6	—

Bhor

Bhor is a small Native State within the political Agency of Satara, in the Deccan, Bombay, with an area of 1500 square miles and a population of about 150,000.

Major Evans, referring to the suspicion as to the nature of some of the stamps, expresses the belief that only the ½ anna oval and the 1 anna oblong stamps, printed in various red tints, were ever issued as postage stamps. Even this supply will probably be found ample for our readers.

1879. Two values. Designs, an oblong oval with native inscriptions for ½ anna and an oblong rectangular stamp with native inscriptions for the 1 anna. Printed in water-colour, very blotchy and indistinct, on thick to thin native paper.



	<i>Imperf.</i>	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
½ anna, red	.	0 4	—



1 anna, red	.	2 0	2 6
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Bundi

According to the *Philatelic Journal of India*—

Bundi is a Chohan Rajput State, situated in the south-east of Rajputana. It has an area of 2220 square miles, and a population of 295,675. It has a postal system of its own, with ten post offices and connecting lines. It does a general postal business. Articles on "State Service" travel free, but private correspondence, etc., requires to be paid for. Prepayment has, since 1st May, 1894, been effected by postage stamps.

1896. Six values. Design, a dagger pointing to right, with native inscriptions.



	<i>Imperf.</i>	
	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
½ a., slate-grey	0 2	—
1 a., red	0 3	—
2 a., green	1 0	—
4 a., "	—	—
8 a., red	—	—
1 r., yellow on blue	2 0	—

1898. One value. Design similar to previous issue, but with the point of the dagger turned to the left.

	<i>Imperf.</i>	
	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
4 a., pale green	0 8	—

Bussahir

This is one of the Punjab Hill States, with an area of 3320 square miles and a population (1881) of 64,345. It is governed by a Rajah who is credited with being able to trace his descent for a hundred and twenty generations. At first its stamps were received with considerable suspicion, but they were eventually put into use and accepted by philatelists.

1896. Eight values. Designs all different, as illustrated. Surcharged with a monogram "R.S." in rose, blue, or violet.



	<i>Imperf. or perf.</i>	
	Unused. <i>s. d.</i>	Used. <i>s. d.</i>
½ a., pink	—	—
½ a., grey	1 0	—
1 a., red	1 6	—
2 a., yellow	1 9	—
4 a., violet	2 0	—
8 a., brown	2 0	—
12 a., green	2 6	—
1 r., blue	7 6	—

1899-1901. Five values. New designs, surcharged with a fresh monogram "R.S."



	<i>Perf.</i>	
	½ a., violet	0 3
½ a., blue	0 6	—
1 a., olive	—	—
2 a., olive	—	—
<i>Imperf.</i>		
½ a., vermilion	0 2	—
1 a., "	0 4	—
2 a., orange	2 0	—
4 a., claret	—	—
<i>Perf.</i>		
½ a., vermilion	0 3	—
1 a., "	—	—
2 a., orange	1 6	—
4 a., claret	—	—

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Catalogue, and are, therefore, the Prices at which Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., will have pleasure in supplying any of the stamps that may be needed by any of our readers.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1906

By THE EDITOR

THE general body of the philatelic public, so far as we have been able to gather, is unanimous in its praise of the Exhibition. No one grumbled, as at previous exhibitions, that they could not find what they wanted to see. Everything was plain and easy. We turn for criticism to the great philatelic journals, and again there is little but praise. No one will pretend that the experience gained in this Exhibition will not be useful in doing even better at the next. In one matter only does there seem notable room for improvement. The show was not properly advertised. Held as it was in an off street not easy to find, it should have been extensively advertised; but it was not. One irreverent individual suggests that that part of the business must have been managed by some one who has very recently stepped out of Noah's Ark.

What Major Evans says

Few have more experience of exhibitions than Major Evans. He writes in the *Monthly Journal* as follows: "A Triumphant Success! There can be no doubt that it is not only the largest and most valuable collection of stamps that has ever been brought together, but that it is also the very finest from a purely philatelic point of view. As time goes on stamps increase in number and the rarities increase in value; therefore, naturally, exhibitions of stamps will occupy more space and their contents will be of higher value; but it is far more gratifying to be able to record the fact that succeeding exhibitions show greater signs of real research and philatelic study, instead of merely greater accumulations of rarities. A careful examination of the whole of the exhibits would not perhaps justify us in asserting that what is termed "bloating" has entirely ceased, but it is quite certain that a more rational and scientific form of collecting is rapidly taking its place, and we are glad to see that the leading collectors are beginning to recognize the fact that the addition of a

great number of actual duplicates of rare stamps takes away from the real interest of a collection, instead of increasing it."

What Mr. Charles J. Phillips says

Mr. C. J. Phillips, who has written a careful criticism of the principal exhibits and of the awards in the *Monthly Journal*, says: "I may say at once that in every way this Exhibition has been far and away the best that has ever been held, and not only the best, but the most international. We have had no less than fifty-two exhibitors from outside the limits of the British Isles, these gentlemen and ladies sending their treasures from France, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Holland, Sweden, Denmark, Roumania, Belgium, Austria, United States, Brazil, India, South Africa, etc."

What Mr. Castle says

Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., writing editorially in the *London Philatelist*, says: "Success—brilliant and unqualified—is the universal verdict with regard to the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1906. This triumphant issue of the long-protracted labours of the Executive Committee and of the Hon. Secretaries and Treasurer must have gone far to reward these gentlemen for their lavish expenditure of time and energy during the preceding twelve months. Most cordially do we join in the general chorus of congratulations to them on the success of the Exhibition, and in a profound appreciation of the magnificent work that has produced this result."

The Attendance

It seems extraordinary that so much labour should be expended on the getting up of such a magnificent Exhibition, and yet stop short of the one thing needful to make it a really brilliant success from every point of view. But it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that is forced on one when considering the report of the attendance

of visitors. Here is the record from the *London Philatelist* :—

The exact number of visitors to the Exhibition was as follows :—

	By ticket.	By payment.
23 May	177	98
24 "	89	245
25 "	78	164
26 "	1056	7
28 "	116	180
29 "	120	160
30 "	1316	—
31 "	92	139
1 June	39	47
	<hr/>	
	3683	1040
	1040	
	<hr/>	
Total	4123	

making an average of little over 450 per day, even including the free days, for which tickets were given away broadcast by the philatelic journals and by dealers. If we except the free days, the average attendance drops to little more than 300 per day. A well-managed local provincial show of carrots and turnips would be considered an egregious failure if it did not produce a better record.

The Official Banquet

We quote the *Monthly Journal's* report of this banquet :—

The official banquet of the Exhibition was held on Friday, May 25th, at Oddenino's Imperial Restaurant, Regent Street, W.

The Earl of Crawford presided, and amongst others present I noticed the following: Mr. and Mrs. Hausburg, Mr. and Mrs. Yardley, Mr. and Mrs. Bagshawe, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Oldfield, Baron and Baroness von Buch, Baron and Baroness A. de Worms, Mr. and Mrs. Slade, Mr. and Mrs. S. de Wilde, Mr. and Mrs. Reichenheim, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Gibson, Dr. and Mrs. Chance, Mr. and Miss Kohl, Mr. and Mrs. Griebert, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton-Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Field, Mr. and Mrs. Giwelb, Mr. J. Henniker-Heaton, M.P., Mr. H. F. Bartlett, Comptroller of Stamps, Mr. Revolva, Dr. Diena, Baron de Reuterskiöld, Dr. Kloss, Mr. M. P. Castle, Mr. E. D. Bacon, Mr. J. D. Heath (Perkins Bacon and Co.), Mr. J. N. Luff, Mr. W. D. Beckton, Mr. C. H. Coote, Mr. W. H. Peckitt, Mr. Poole, Mr. F. Melville, Mr. Grunewald, Mr. Albrecht, Mr. Sonder Fim, Mr. W. T. Wilson, Mr. F. Ransom, Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Lane Joynt, Mr. P. L. Pemberton, Mr. W. Moser, Mr. F. Fulcher, Captain Stanley Castle, Mr. Martin

Schroeder, Mr. Frank Phillips, Mr. Neville Biggs, Mr. J. H. Abbott, Mr. Stanley Mann, Mr. Frenzel, Mr. von Valkenburg, Mr. H. Mueller, Mr. Hilmer Djurling, Mr. Elster, Mr. Vicenz, Mr. R. Friedl, Mr. A. Passer, Mr. H. M. Hansen, Mr. F. Bepler, Mr. Tyas, Mr. T. W. Hall, and many others, the total attendance at this banquet being 130, a record for any stamp dinner hitherto given in this country.

After dinner the Chairman proposed the usual loyal toasts. In giving that of "The King," Lord Crawford mentioned that amongst His Majesty's many merits his philatelic side had been overlooked, and that we looked upon him with all the more regard as being the father of a most philatelic son.

The Chairman then asked any lady present who objected to smoking to hold up one hand. As there were no objectors smoking became at once the order of the evening.

The Chairman, in proposing the health of "The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family," stated that the Prince is perhaps dearer to us than any other member of the Royal Family, inasmuch as he knows what he is about when he speaks on stamps, and has read a most able paper on stamps before our Philatelic Society. The Prince and Princess of Wales have been carrying the prestige of this country all over India, and as regards other members of the Royal Family, he must specially refer to a lady who left this land yesterday to become the Queen of Spain, and he must therefore couple the name of Princess Ena of Battenberg with the toast he had the honour of proposing.

Lord Crawford then announced that at the commencement of the dinner he had sent a telegram to the Prince of Wales, stating that "The philatelists assembled at the official banquet of the Exhibition present their duty to your Royal Highnesses, and trust that your journey to Spain may be in every way satisfactory."

A reply telegram had just been received from the Prince, who said :—

"Please thank my brother philatelists for their good wishes on the occasion of our visit to Spain, and I hope that you are all spending a very pleasant evening."

Mr. H. R. Oldfield proposed the toast of "The Guests," and drew attention to the

world-wide nature of our hobby, and ventured to prophesy that Philately would be prosperous when Esperanto had been forgotten. He was also delighted to see that many of the honours of the Exhibition had been taken by our philatelic cousins in America, Germany, France, and Austria; and, finally, he drew attention to the fact that this was the first of our philatelic banquets at which ladies had been present.

Baron von Buch responded, and stated that he could not talk very wrong about Philately, as he knew nothing whatever about it, and that was why his friend Mr. Oldfield had asked him to reply to the toast. The *entente cordiale* does not seem to exist amongst stamp men, because as he understood it two friends go about for days with one another until each has succeeded in securing the best stamp from the other. He concluded by proposing the health of the Judges and the Executive Committee, and coupled with this the name of an old friend to whom he gave the title of "Doctor" Luff.

Mr. John N. Luff, in responding for the Judges, stated that some men are born to honour, some men achieve honour, and some have honour thrust upon them, and it is by the latter method that he had acquired the title of Doctor. Mr. Luff went on to state that he thought it unkind of his friend Mr. Oldfield to state that all Americans were amusing, as he was not when he made a speech, Mr. Moser with his cards and golf balls being much more entertaining. It was the boast of the Cæsars that all ways led to Rome, but nowadays all philatelic highways lead to London, and at your feasts are gathered together the ability, the beauty, and the intellectuality of the philatelic world. He wished to refer to the fact that the task of the jury had been onerous but lightened by the interest of the exhibits and the harmonious spirit prevailing, and it had been their endeavour to reward brains and not mere money, and to confer the honours on collections showing evidence of study, research, and grasp of the subject rather than expenditure of pounds, shillings, and pence. He stated one of the American humorists had said: "My son, consider the postage stamp; its chief merit consists in

sticking to a thing until it gets there." After seeing the collections in the Exhibition, he agreed with Carlyle, who had stated that "Genius is only the capacity for taking infinite pains."

Mr. F. Reichenheim responded for the Executive Committee, and especially thanked the many volunteers who had helped to lighten the onerous duties of that committee.

Mr. M. P. Castle proposed the health of the Chairman, and especially referred to the new school of Philately he had founded, which was really one teaching a scientific and historical arrangement of stamps, and in conclusion congratulated his lordship upon the great and well-deserved reward he had secured in taking the cup in the first section of the Championship Class.

Lord Crawford, in replying, stated that nothing was more difficult than to respond to a toast given in such terms as his had been. He could assure those present that when abroad on his yacht it had given him great pleasure to write up and study his stamps, and that he often worked at them from the time the sun rose almost until it set. He thought that the Chancellor of the Exchequer ought to pay more attention to philatelists than he had hitherto, as from the derivation of the word "philatelist" they were the only body of people who were fond of taxation. Lord Crawford, in conclusion, stated that when he took up their hobby he wanted to learn what it was and how it ought to be done, and very early decided that every page of his album should be written up so that a complete history of each issue could be shown from his collection.

After dinner, and interspersed with the toasts, a capital entertainment was given by "The King's Musketeers."

Dr. Byrd-Page showed some marvellous new tricks with cards, etc., and called upon Mr. W. Moser as the best-looking and the most good-natured man in the room to assist him.

Mr. Percival Mackenzie delighted the company with a series of his wonderful and rapid lightning sketches.

The party broke up about 11.30 p.m., after a most enjoyable evening.

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BENADIR SURCHARGES

By R. MEZZADRI

AS a result of the change of the postage rate for domestic letters in Italy and for its colonies, the rate being reduced from 20 c. to 15 c., the colony of Benadir was obliged to provide itself at once with stamps of this value. Consequently, in December last, the post office at Mogadiscio (the chief place in the colony) asked the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs, by telegraph, for the authority to reduce, by surcharging, the value of the *5 anna* to *15 centimes*¹ and the value of the *10 anna* to *40 centimes*,¹ this last representing the future charge established for registered letters.

Having obtained the authorization asked for, the office at Mogadiscio provided the surcharge, which was printed at Zanzibar in the precise quantity of three thousand of the 15 centesimi and four thousand of the 40 centesimi. These provisionals were first issued on December 30, 1905.²

Moreover, the Italian Government was carrying on negotiations for regaining the undivided administration of the colony and this was successfully accomplished early in January last.

Then the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs wished to furnish directly to the colony—which, since that time has been no longer called *Protettorato Italiano del Benadir*,³ but *Somalia italiana meridionale*⁴—postage stamps of 15 centesimi. To carry

¹ The original distinctly says "centimes," but we believe that "centesimi" was intended, as it is hardly likely that an Italian colony would use the units of French currency. Besides this the fac-similes of the surcharges themselves read "centesimi."

² The illustrations show that these surcharges consisted of the word "CENTESIMI" in ordinary sized type, but of a thin and very open style, above was "15" or "40," as the case may be, in similar type.

³ Italian Protectorate of Benadir.

⁴ Italian Central Somali.

out this idea there were surcharged, by the Government printing office (*Officina Carte Valori*) at Tarin, 10,000 of the *2 annas*, which were sent to Benadir a little later and put into circulation about the middle of March last.¹

Furthermore, because of this change of denomination and administration, the type of the postage stamp itself will be changed, and they will use, maybe provisionally, the current Italian stamps, with the name of the colony surcharged upon them, as is done for the colony of Eritrea. Naturally, the cancelling stamps must be changed also, as they bear the words: "*Protettorato Italiano*."

Until now the postage stamps of Benadir have not been sufficiently appreciated, because, at first, it was believed that they were not recognized by the International Postal Union. But, as the stamps bear the words: "*Regie Poste Italiane*"; as they are printed by the Government printing office and upon paper with the same watermark as is used for the Italian stamps; as they have been accepted by the International Office at Berne and, in consequence, became regular issues since November 1st, 1902, paying the postage without any other stamps, all doubts as to their standing as official stamps must, necessarily, cease.

It is worth noting, also, that in such small post offices as Mogadiscio, Merca, Giumbo and Brava, a very limited number of stamps will be actually used upon mail matter, so that used specimens will be far from common, and these bearing the surcharge printed at Zanzibar should become very rare.—Translated from *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* by the *American Journal of Philately*.

¹ This surcharge is very similar to that used on the Italian stamps excepting that it has a thick, wavy line between the bottoms of the "C" and "15."

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NEW ISSUES

The Editor will be grateful to his readers if they will help him with the earliest possible information concerning new issues. News from the Colonies in particular will be much appreciated. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and should be addressed to

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Haiti.—The *Monthly Journal* says: "The whole series of stamps of 1898 and 1903 has been overprinted with a device consisting of the words EX—PIASTRES—FORTES enclosed in an oval band lettered SERVICE EXTERIEUR—PROVISOIRE, impressed in red. The meaning is, we gather, that postage on letters going out of the country is to be paid in gold, or American dollars, not at the local currency rate. Doubtless the revenue will be increased one way or another. We note that both colours of the 1 c., 2 c., and 3 c. were in stock."

Types 8 and 9 with red surcharge.

1 c., blue.	5 c., sky-blue.
1 c., yellow-green.	7 c., grey.
2 c., orange.	8 c., carmine.
2 c., carmine.	10 c., orange.
3 c., green.	15 c., olive-grey.
4 c., red.	20 c., black.
5 c., brown.	25 c., brown-lake.
	1 gourde, reddish purple.

New Zealand.—The following letter announces an intended issue of rubbish by the postal authorities of this colony.

"DEAR SIRS,—I beg to advise you officially that it is proposed to issue a special set of stamps, commemorative of the New Zealand International Exhibition.

These stamps will be issued by the Postal Authorities of the Colony, and will be available for postal purposes over a limited area, which, however, will include the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth of Australia, and the colony of New Zealand.

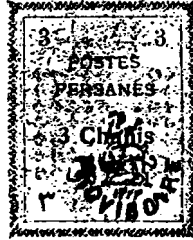
The stamps will only be purchasable at the Post Office established within the Buildings of the New Zealand International Exhibition.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) G. S. MURRO,
Executive Commissioner."

It will not be forgotten how energetically the postal authorities and the Agent-General of the Colony protested a year or so ago against Mr. Castle's strictures and suggestions that they were prostituting the work of a great Government department to base uses in the manufacture of senseless varieties for the purpose of milking collectors. But could they drag the good philatelic name of the colony more in the mud than they will do by this show-label business? Has the management of the Post Office been handed over to a low-class advertising showman of the coster fraternity?

Persia.—We quote following from *The Monthly Journal*: "We have received specimens of what we believe to be the labels referred to last month, the design of which is shown more or less indistinctly in the accompanying illustration." The type-set portion of the design is in colour, and there is a handstamped surcharge, in black, consisting of the Lion and Sun, some Arabic characters above it, PROVISOIRE in a curve below, and a date immediately under the Lion. The date is probably '1323', but it might equally well be '1322' or even '1324' on the copies before us; '1324' commenced on February 25th, 1906. We

have the 1 ch., perf. 10 to 12 on three sides, and imperf. on the fourth, and the other values imperf. all round.



1 ch., mauve and black.
2 ch., grey
3 ch., green

"*L'Echo de la T.* notes some other varieties, which appear to be as follows: The 1 kran of 1902, Type 22 overprinted with Type 27 (No. 247 in the Catalogue), further surcharged 1 CHAHIS—SERVICE INTERIEUR, accompanied by Persian characters, in blue: the 1 kran, purple, of the same year, No. 249, without the overprint in rose: and the 2 Chahis, Type 34, overprinted with Type 31, instead of Type 36."

- 1 kr., purple (Type 29); without overprint.
- 1 ch. on 1 kr., carmine-red (No. 247).
- 2 Chahis, red-brown (Type 34); surcharged with Type 31.

Switzerland.—We quote the following interesting note from the *Monthly Journal*:—

"The following paragraph from *The Globe* seems to be finding its way into the philatelic Press:—

"The Swiss system of postage stamps illustrates the opposing qualities of two methods of work—printing and lithography. Swiss stamps of all values from 2 to 15 centimes are printed; all above that figure are produced by lithography. The ugliness of the printed issues contrasts strongly with the finer quality of the others, but they are cheaper, and the Federal Council, to the deep regret of all interested in artistic printing, has decided to abolish the lithographic series and to print all grades. Unhappily, this will involve some changes in the design of the stamps of values higher than 15 centimes."

Our non-philatelic contemporary has probably been led astray by an incorrect translation of some Swiss newspaper. The execution of the higher values of the current Swiss stamps (with the exception perhaps of those that have recently been re-engraved) is very poor, but we believe that it is copper-plate printing, not lithographic reproduction of a die engraved in *taille-douce*. Besides, we have always understood that lithography is the cheapest of all methods, and therefore the reason given for the change would be incorrect. Mr. Westoby, in his book on the *Stamps of Europe*, said that both designs were typographed, but in this, we think, he was mistaken; the impression of the higher values seems to show all the characteristics of copper-plate printing of not very good quality."

GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Herts Dinner: Postscript

A WICKED friend of mine, Dawber by name and profession, sends me what he terms "A Post-script to the Herts Dinner." Here it is:—



St. Peter: "Your wife has been looking for you."

New Arrival: "I hope you told her I was detained at the Herts Dinner?"

A Masquerading Editor

Says Mr. C. J. Phillips in the *Monthly Journal*, summing up his account of the Herts Banquet—

The party broke up about 11.30 p.m.; but not to go home. Most of us adjourned to various clubs and hotels for coffee, etc. I hear of some friends who got home at 4 a.m. Some never got there at all—that night; and it was indeed a sad sight next day, at the Exhibition, to see the editor of a well-known stamp paper appearing at 11 a.m. in his evening dress!

Now, who was that masquerading editor of a "well-known stamp journal"? The only "well-known stamp journal" of my limited acquaintance is the *London Philatelist*, of which Mr. Castle, J.P., is the editor; but then, the idea of Mr. Castle trotting about in broad daylight with evening-dress evidence of a night out is too painful to contemplate.

The Barbados Mystery

THEY seem to have something up their sleeve in this "respectable colony." The bottom row of stamps has been carefully removed from certain sheets of the so-called Nelson series before issue, and the curious are all agog to know the why and wherefore. The speculator scents an error, and by hook or by crook he will get his finger into the pie of that bottom-row mystery. Up to the present it remains a mystery, but it

will all leak out in good time with probably coveted specimens at 25s. each.

Mr. J. N. Luff

A MUCH used copy of the talented author of the *History of the Stamps of the United States* has been returned to the Great Republic with many thanks. He sailed on Tuesday, 19 June, 1906. He has been a hard worker at the Exhibition, both in the preliminaries and in the equally severe work of judging. And we have all come to the conclusion that an International Philatelic Exhibition in our village without J. N. Luff would be simply out of the question.

Herts for ever!

As you will suspect, dear reader, I was present at the Herts Banquet, and what struck me most was, not the food, nor the champagne, of which I was frequently urged to order *another* magnum, but just a few ominous words from my friend Mr. H. L. Hayman. In his speech he said:—

Under the nursing care of our energetic Secretary, Mr. Slade, it has grown rapidly from boyhood to manhood, and can now stand alone. *In addition to the work which it has done so far, we hope that it may be possible to widen the sphere of our activities by encouraging the interchange of ideas with foreign societies, and by endeavouring to affiliate ourselves with kindred home societies, through following the admirable example of the Dresden Verein.*

Now, in the Herts Society Mr. Reichenheim, the genial and energetic President, Mr. Hayman, and Mr. Slade, the Hon. Sec., are a host in themselves, and if they take this work in hand we shall have some interesting developments before long.

Shaking the Dry Bones

The dry bones of philatelic activity want a lot of shaking up all over the country. In Leeds and a few other places they seem to be waking up, but generally speaking there is plenty of room for energetic work. If the Herts takes up this work it will do it. Mr. Hayman is one of those quiet workers who like to pull hard behind the scenes. I shall not soon forget the trouble I got into by electing him President of the Herts Society.

Why not Annual Philatelic Congresses?

I hope the Herts programme of affiliation will include a movable annual congress of philatelists to discuss vital matters concerning our hobby. Such a congress would do much to unite us, and to develop and spread a knowledge of Philately and bring recruits to the ranks. As a body we are influential enough to make a movable congress a great success in all our chief cities, and the missionary work that could be done by energetic management would be immense. We sadly want an energetic philatelic society. My almost dead hopes in this direction have been once more galvanized into life by Mr. Hayman's words, for I know words with him will only be a prelude to action.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mauritania

FRENCH COLONIES.—*French West Africa*.—We glean from *Le Journal des Philatélistes* some details as to the French possessions in this part of the world, which seem to be now grouped together philatelically, and for which one series of stamps might well suffice.

In September, 1902, these territories were officially divided into the colonies of Senegal, French Guinea, Ivory Coast, Dahomey, and Senegambia and Niger; to these has now been added, we are told, by the Postal Administration of the Colonies, a division termed Mauritania, the geographical position of which appears to be unknown! Our contemporary assures us that the officials at the Colonial Office in Paris do not know where to send the stamps supposed to belong to this mythical colony. But surely that little detail should give them no trouble, the destination of all these labels is the same; a set more or less can make little difference to those who can afford to collect French Colonials. The whole stock of the Mauritanian issue should be consigned to the department which supplies stamps to collectors and dealers.

M. Bernichon tells us that Mauritania is situated between Senegal and Morocco, being the western portion of the Sahara; it is separated from the sea by the Spanish Colony of Rio de Oro. It was in this territory that the well-known French explorer, M. Coppolane, was assassinated last year by the Moors. It would be only right that a portrait of M. Coppolane should appear upon the stamps.

The Monthly Journal.

The Hyderabad Rupee

SOME months ago we quoted a statement regarding the relative values of the rupee of Hyderabad and that of British India, respectively, which Dr. Byramji Shavakshah has assured us is incorrect. He states that in 1904, on account of misunderstanding between the people and money changers and lenders, the Government of the State issued an order that for the time being (until further notice, presumably) 115 rupees local currency were to be taken as equivalent to 100 rupees of British India. The expression "hal-i-sicca" (this he says is the correct way of writing it, though it is given as "hallee secca" on the sheets of the second issue) means practically "current coin," "hal" meaning "present" or "current," "i" = "of," "secca" = "a coin," thus "coin of the present day."

The history of this currency was given us by Dr. Byramji Shavakshah, somewhat as follows:—Some four or more different currencies have been in use in the State. Among these were "Alumgiri" rupees, when Alumgir, the Mogul Sultan, was ruler of Aurangabad and "Chulnee" rupees, which superseded them under the

present dynasty. The title "chulnee sicca" was given to the latter currency, "chulnee" meaning "usage," and thus at that time "chulnee sicca" meant "coin in use." The "chulnee" rupee, however, was found not to be of equal value with the "Alumgiri," and consequently a third series of coins was issued, under the designation "hal-i-sicca," of the same value as those of Alumgir. The last named, we gather, have practically disappeared, but the "chulnee" coins are still to be met with in outlying parts of the State, and are reckoned at 109 to 111 = 100 "hal-i-sicca" rupees. The stamps have to be paid for at the "hal-i-sicca" rate.

The rupee, as we know, is divided into 16 annas, and our informant states that the smaller silver coins in use in Hyderabad are 2, 4, and 8 annas, respectively. The poorer classes, however, prefer copper coins as being more substantial, and the rupee is further divided into 96 piasas ("piesc" is the plural) of copper or brass. A Hyderabad piasa, he tells us, is an oblong bit of metal, about one inch long, half-inch broad, and one-fourth to one-sixth inch thick; these pieces vary in shape, size, and weight, weighing from $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. to 1 oz. each. The Doctor tells us that he once had to distribute about 10 rupees in pay to a number of coolies, and as they would not take silver he was obliged to obtain copper, which was brought to him from the bank in a wheelbarrow! More recently, he is glad to say, a regular piasa coin, about the size of a farthing, has been introduced. Four "piesc" = one "gunda," a word which we are told merely means "a group of four"; six "piesc" = 1 anna.

The "piasa" of Hyderabad seems to be more or less on a par with the "pica" or "piasa" of other parts of India, which is equivalent to $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, and is itself divided into 3 pies.

The Monthly Journal.

The San Francisco Disaster

I HAVE heard from a few friends in San Francisco, and as many of my readers may like to know how our fellow-collectors came off, I add a few extracts:—

Mr. Henry J. Crocker writes that his house was saved and the stamps he had at home, but he lost stamps valued at £15,000, which he had down town, and would have lost his valuable Hawaiian collection if he had not sent it to me a few days before the earthquake.

Mr. E. T. Osborn writes that he saved his collection, but will not be able to collect again for a long time to come.

Mr. H. B. Phillips writes that he is right side up—no stamps lost, as he had them over in Berkeley; but all the rest is swept off the map!

Mr. W. A. Cooper, collection and home saved, but lost valuable duplicates left with a friend, who is burnt out.

Mr. W. J. Gardner is, I hear, very hard hit, and has lost a lot of property, and probably most of his stamps; but when he wrote the safe had not been opened.

Mr. W. H. Crocker has been entirely burnt out. His magnificent mansion, with all its art treasures, is completely destroyed, and his bank is gutted. The bank vaults are said to be among the best in the city, and as he generally kept his collections there, I expect they are safe; but the vaults had not been opened when we last heard.

Mr. Frank Koning has lost his business, and I hear that if all insurance is paid he will be some £15,000 to the bad. His house was saved. His stamps were probably all saved, as they were mostly in the Crocker Safe Deposit Vaults.

Sellschopp and Co. saved most of their stock, fully 90 per cent, but lost their albums, library, and all outside the safes.

Makins and Co., I hear, lost most of their stock, but managed to save the Stoltz Collection which they had recently bought.

— Smith was blown up, his building and its contents scattered to the four winds of heaven.

Mr. J. S. Wilson saved his collection.

Mr. A. H. Weber, I hear, saved his collection; but unfortunately his father, who was in delicate health, did not survive the shock.

Mr. A. H. Greenbaum saved his collection and home.

C. J. PHILLIPS, in the *Monthly Journal*.

INGLE-NOOK YARNS

HENRY'S STAMP DEAL

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON

(Continued from page 401.)

CHAPTER III

IN the glimmer of the early morn following the incident of the Battery Inn, Henry, wrapped in slumber, lay peacefully in his bunk. For once his mind was free from an endeavour to perpetrate some fresh impish outrage on his fellow-sailors. And as he slept as soundly and tranquilly as an innocent babe some one nudged him. The boy moved and moaned and then lay still again.

"'Enery, 'Enery," whispered a gruff voice, "wake up."

Henry opened his eyes, blinked and frowned, and in the greyness of the early hours beheld a ruffled hairy head.

"Cookie, cookie," he said.

"Don't make such a noise," said the cook.

Henry took another glance at him, dishevelled and unkempt, with his face all dirty. As the boy's mind gradually awakened, facts of the incident of the previous evening came before him.

"Oh, cookie. yer quite safe are you?"

"Never mind abah't that," whispered the cook huskily. "'As the old man been asking arter me?"

"Don't think so," responded Henry.

"Ugh! I shiver when I think of it all," replied the cook. "If I'd missed the ship and it ad sailed without me, the old man would 'ave kicked up a row and no mistake; no one can cook his breakfast bacon like me, he sez. But get up, 'Enry, quietly, and come on deck, I want to 'ave a talk wiv yer." And the cook, with his boots in his hand, crept silently to the ladder, turned round and shook a warning finger at Henry, then went on deck.

The boy felt inclined for sleep; he looked at his watch. "Four o'clock. Suppose I'd better

do as the cook wants. 'Ope 'e ain't got a rope-end wiv 'im. Never mind, if 'e strikes me, I'll scream for all I'm worth, and then won't the old man go for cookie! My word, it ud be worth getting a rope-ending almost to see the fun o' that."

Getting silently out of his bunk, Henry quietly dressed, and, following the cook's example of carrying his boots in his hand, went noiselessly with naked feet on to the deck. No one was astir; but the cook, looking ill and dejected, was sitting on a winch. The forlorn attitude of the man made a little of the better nature rise within the boy, and made him feel sorry that he had been a party to a stratagem which had brought his friend the cook to such a pass.

"It's awful, 'Enry," said this embodiment of misery. "After looking at them stamps last night, I don't seem to right rec'lect wot 'appened, until this morning when the sun was a-beginning to peep from its resting-place over the horizon, I found myself sitting on a seat on the promenade with a disrespectable land-lubber, who was fast asleep."

"Ah, cookie, that was a bit poetic-like about the sun and its resting-place; but I'm glad to see yer safe and sound agen."

"P'r'aps it was; yer 'ave to feel things afore yer can make poetry, and I'm a-feelin' now a touch of conscience," replied the cook. "Ay, I've bin a fool, but it'll be a long time afore Mr. Cheriton, cook o' the *Seacat*, loses 'is 'ead agen and makes a beast of himself."

And when he had finished speaking, he started counting on his fingers, and the boy looked on in sorrow.

"'Enry," he continued, "keep quiet abah't wot I'm goin' to tell yer; can I trust yer?"

"Cookie, if ever I never play 'onest Injun wiv yer, split on yer, or do yer any 'urt, may me

miserable carcass go to Davy Jones. I'm yer pal for life."

"Well said, my lad," was the cook's rejoinder. "Well, I 'ad some money left to me, forty pounds, from an old aunt. I carried it abaht wiv me in a little bag in case o' accidents, and last night 'ad it wiv me. This morning I've only got twenty-five pounds. Goodness knows where the other 'as gone to; I've been robbed."

"Lumme," said Henry, feeling inexpressible sorrow as he viewed the pitiful picture of the cook, "if I'd that sum, I'd give it to you, straight I would, cookie."

"Why?" replied he, "it ain't nothin' to do wiv you: you didn't rob me?"

"No, but—well, never mind, cookie," rejoined Henry, and took a turn up the deck.

On his return the cook spoke to him.

"'Enery, I'm feeling remorse. Look at the stamps I could 'ave bought wiv that lost money. A whole shopful. It's awful feeling remorse; 'ave you ever felt it, my boy?"

"Can't say as I 'ave," replied Henry; "wot's it like?"

The cook sat deep in thought, and then producing from his pocket a discoloured pipe, filled it with thick twist, applied a match, and puffed at the glowing weed.

"Remorse," said he musingly, "remorse. Well, it's a feelin' in the innards like goin' a couple o' days without food, and yer belt can't be pulled in any tighter. That's remorse. But it takes more than a good square meal to satisfy it."

"Oh," drawled Henry, "anything like a touch o' sea-sickness, eh?"

"Sumthing," replied the cook. "It's the first time I've made such a beast of myself, and I 'opes from my 'eart it'll be the last. But I'll punish myself for it, I will, I'll punish myself; I'm goin' to do a penance. Ever done penance, 'Enery?"

"No," replied he, "don't 'xactly know wot it is."

"Well, a penance is—is—a penance—well, give me a minute and a draw at my pipe and I'll tell yer."

And the cook closed his eyes tightly to assist him in the process of thinking, pulled vigorously at his pipe, and then spoke. "I've got it. A penance is a-doin' of something wot yer ought to do though yer don't want to do it, for a-doin' of something wot yer wanted to do though yer ought not to 'ave done it."

"Oh, that's it, is it?" replied the boy, still mystified as much as ever.

"Yes," responded the cook, "but it's got to be the genuine thing, or it's no good; just abaht as satisfactory as 'avin' a album full of valuable and rare stamps, all forgeries. Well, 'Enery, they'll be stirring aboard soon, so we'd better be a-stirring ourselves too. Ship sails this mornin', yer know—returning to port of loading."

By the evening the *Seacat* had arrived at her destination, and on the following day the mate informed the cook that some one wished to speak

with him. The cook, wiping his greasy hands on his apron, of which he disrobed himself, stepped out of the galley and beheld the lawyer who had only a few days previously given him the pleasing intelligence of the legacy.

"Good morning, Mr. Cheriton," said he.

The cook returned the salutation. "Any more dockiments to sign?"

"No," replied the lawyer. "I have come to tell you some news which I am afraid will be far from pleasing."

"Oh," replied the cook in astonishment, "wot is it?"

"Since I gave you the forty pounds, I have discovered that you are not the rightful legatee; the money should be given to a Mr. Cheriton of Taunmouth. You are not of that branch, I believe?"

"No, I'm not; I was born at Peebles, though



"I must have the full forty pounds."

I've long since lost my burr, and—well, what 'ave I to do?"

"Will you call at my office to-day if you can manage it? And you must return the money."

"Return the spondulix?" said the cook earnestly. "I 'avn't got it all, but yer can 'ave wot I've got left, every penny of it."

"I must have the full forty pounds," replied the lawyer. "You must find a means of returning the whole sum to me, to be delivered to the rightful person. The captain of the ship says you may have leave this afternoon, and we must then see what can be arranged."

"Orright," muttered the cook, "I'll see wot I can do," and he returned to the galley.

"Well, if this ain't a go. I don't need to do no penance, this is retribution for my sins. Wot a miserable specimen I am to be sure."

He tried to forget his woes in the execution of his duties, but his mind could find no rest.

In the afternoon he made himself as respectable as possible for the coming interview with the lawyer.

"I'll pawn my watch and one or two odd things: it'll all 'elp. And the stamp collection: yes, it might fetch a few bob."

With a large parcel under his arm, he left for the town. As he was stepping on to the quay, Henry came up to him.

"Cheero, cookie, I wishes yer luck; yer've got a pal for life in me now."

"Thank'ee, my boy," replied the cook, and he strode manfully away to face the coming ordeal, and to turn into cash the few properties he possessed to follow the prompting of his rugged, honest heart.

About six in the evening he returned, smiling, looking contented and happy. Stepping on board, he shouted, "'Enry, 'Enry, oh, do come here."

The boy came rushing from below on to the deck. "What is it, cookie?"

"Well, who'd a thought it?" replied the cook.

"Thought what?" asked the boy.

"I'll tell yer all abaht it," said the cook.

"It was like this. I popped my watch and things when I got ashore, and then seeing a stamp shop, entered, and asked the bloke inside if 'e could buy my collection wot I got from Bill. 'E looked at the collection, then at me, then agin at the collection, and bust my beans, agin at me. 'Where did yer git it?' says he. 'I'm a sailor,' says I, 'I got it on my travels.' 'Oh,' says he, and he stroked his chin. Well, to make the story short, he was very honest with me, and said, 'Do you know you have got some good stamps here, only some are in rather bad condition?' 'No,' says I, 'but will yer buy it?' 'Yes,' sez 'e, 'I will,' and lumme if he didn't give me twenty pounds for that there collection. Twenty yellor boys, twenty of 'em. Oh, kick me, 'Enry, afore I gets too excited."

The boy looked at him in amazement. "Kick you! Twenty pounds for stamps! Nothing but little labels. Lumme! 'Ere, kick me, cookie!"

"Why?" asked the cook.

"To see if I'm awake or dreaming," replied Henry.

"Well, I went back to the lawyer's orfis, paid back the full forty pounds wot 'e'd given me," said the cook, continuing his narrative, "got back the things what I'd put in pawn, bought some baccy, give a 'a'penny to a kid wot was crying, and nah 'ave five pounds left. I'm not goin' to git aht of my penance though. I've been a fool, and I'm five pounds better off for it; so what shall I do? Do you think I ought to send Bill some of it? for he didn't know the collection was a good un when he sold it to me."

"No," replied Henry passionately, "certainly not. I'd rather it was chucked in the deep blue sea than a single stiver should go to Bill. 'E's the most dishonest chap I ever clapped eyes on, and I was too, only I'm sorry now." And he told the cook how he had overheard the lawyer on the first visit, that the selling of the collection was preconcerted and arranged to relieve the cook of some of his legacy, and dwelt in full on Bill's subsequent unfair behaviour in pushing Henry in the mud and running away with the spoil.

The cook listened to Henry's confessions.

"I'm sorry, my boy, very sorry indeed, that yer was a party to such a bit o' divilment, but I believe yer right sorry for it nah."

"I am," said Henry.

"Well, that's something; I'll do my penance, I said I would, and I will. I'm a Scotchman, and yer never knew a Scotchman do things be halves. Three sovereigns aht of the five I'll send to the Seamen's Home as a anonymous subscription, one sovereign I'll keep for myself, and one—one—I'll give to you. But you must promise 'onest Injun that if ever yer gets the worse for drink, yer'll send it as another subscription to the Seamen's Home."

"I promise that," said the boy, "and if ever I breaks it may I—well, look 'ere, cookie," and he went through a pantomimic action of tying a rope round his neck, cast his eyes wildly round him, and made a choking sound.

"And," continued the cook, "take a bit o' advice; why don't yer spend 'arf of it on starting a stamp collection? It'll do yer a lot of good."

"I think I will," replied Henry.

BRITISH AFRICA POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM

Owing to the fact that the war in South Africa has caused great attention to be drawn to the stamps of the British Possessions on that continent, and to the enormous increase in the number of collectors that has ensued from the issue of the War Provisionals in Mafeking, Bloemfontein, Pretoria, etc., we think this a good time at which to place before the public a new and very complete Album, designed for the British Possessions, etc., on the African Continent. The Album is designed upon the well-known plan of the Imperial Albums—the stamps in numbered spaces of the correct sizes on the right-hand page, and the description, full particulars, and illustrations on the opposite page. In order to make this a permanent Album we have provided from one to four blank pages after each country, thus making the Album available for the issues of many years to come. 220 pages. Size, 8½ × 11½ inches. Post-free in Great Britain, 10s. 7d.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Our South American Letter

MONTEVIDEO,
12 May, 1906

Forgeries of Argentine 1904 issue

AN important discovery has been made of forgeries of the 5 c. and 10 c. stamps of the 1904 issue, but it is not supposed that many have got into circulation. They were being sold at one of the Post Office agencies here, and the man in charge is in prison, and is likely to remain there until he confesses how he obtained them. It is rumoured that on account of the facility which the present issue offers to

forgers a new set will be ordered abroad. As you are probably aware, the present issue is being printed at the Technical School here.

Proposed Philatelic Exhibition

The Philatelic Society of the Argentine Republic have decided to hold a philatelic exhibition next October at Buenos Aires. All collectors from the neighbouring countries are invited to send their treasures.

The 1 centavo fiscal of Ecuador, 1905-6, is being used for postage.

A. H. DAVIS.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

London Philatelic Society

President: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

Hon. Sec.: J. A. Tilleard, 10 Gracechurch Street, E.C.

Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W. Alternate Fridays at 7.45.

Annual Subscription: Town, £2 2s.; Country, £1 1s.

THE twelfth meeting of the season 1905-6 was held at 4 Southampton Row, on Friday, 30 March, 1906, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, Franz Reichenheim, E. D. Bacon, Herbert R. Oldfield, William Nordheimer, T. Maycock, Leslie L. R. Hausburg, L. W. Fulcher, C. McNaughtan, J. C. Sidebotham, C. F. Dendy Marshall, J. A. Tilleard, H. M. Hansen, Thos. W. Hall, and one visitor.

The chair was taken by the Honorary Vice-President, and the minutes of the meeting held on 16 March, 1906, were read and signed as correct.

A letter was read from Sir A. Bigge acknowledging receipt of the resolution passed by the members of the Society at their meeting on 2 February, 1906, relative to the death of His Majesty the King of Denmark, and conveying the best thanks of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to the members for such communication.

The Honorary Secretary reported the death of Dr. C. W. Viner, one of the original members of the Society, and the following resolution of condolence was moved by him, seconded by Mr. E. D. Bacon, and carried unanimously:—

"That the members of the Philatelic Society, London, have heard with very great regret of the death of Dr. C. W. Viner, one of the original members of the Society, and desire to record their high appreciation of the many services rendered to Philately by their late fellow-member, and to express their sympathy with his relatives in the loss they have sustained."

The Honorary Secretary also intimated the recent death of M. Le Roi D'Étoilles, and the intimation of such death was received by the members with regret.

Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall then proceeded to read a paper entitled "A Chronological View of British Postal Issues," which he subsequently illustrated by stamps from his collection. The paper presented the stamps of this country in a new and interesting light, and at the conclusion of the meeting the usual vote of thanks to Mr. Dendy Marshall for his paper and display was unanimously carried.

THE thirteenth meeting of the season 1905-6 was held at 4 Southampton Row, on Friday, 20 April, 1906, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, L. L. R. Hausburg, L. W. Fulcher, H. M. Hansen, Thos. W. Hall, T. Maycock, Herbert R. Oldfield, A. Bagshawe, Franz Reichenheim.

The chair was taken by Mr. M. P. Castle, and the minutes of the meeting held on 30 March, 1906, were read and confirmed.

Mr. Reichenheim showed for the inspection of members some specimens of the new 10 centime French postage stamp, issued on 16 April, 1906, to defray the reduced rate of postage for inland letters in accordance with the law of 6 March, 1906.

A display of the stamps of the Straits Settlements with notes was then given by Mr. A. Bagshawe, and a portion of his magnificent collection of the stamps of this country was inspected by the members with very considerable interest.

At the conclusion of the display a vote of thanks to Mr. Reichenheim and Mr. Bagshawe was unanimously carried.

Durban and District Philatelic Society

President: J. Wallace Bradley.

Secretary: W. P. Williams, 93 Club Arcade, Durban.

Meetings: Bristow's Buildings, Durban.

Annual Subscription: Seniors, 5s.; Juniors, 2s. 6d.

THE usual fortnightly meeting was held on 1 May, 1906, when there was an attendance of fourteen members. Mr. Young, the Auction Superintendent, had not many lots to put up, but amongst them were some good stamps, including Great Britain, £5, orange, and fair prices were realized.

The first paper read before the Society was contributed by Mr. H. Roberts, entitled "Reminiscences of Stamp Collecting," and a vote of thanks was proposed and carried unanimously.

At the next meeting, to be held at Room No. 20, Club Arcade, on 15 May, at 8 p.m., an exhibition of the stamps of the West Coast of Africa will be given by Mr. W. P. Williams. Any philatelists will be cordially welcomed.

Collectors are reminded that the prospectus of the forthcoming Exhibition, to be held at the Y.M.C.A. on 6 August prox., is now ready, and can be obtained from the Hon. Sec., Mr. W. P. Williams, 93 Club Arcade, Smith Street; or Mr. H. Roberts, 3 Stillers Buildings, 350 West Street.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR G. S. W. READERS

IN the course of business there comes frequently the opportunity of buying large parcels of comparatively scarce stamps at bargain rates.

Hitherto such purchases have been added to stock, and have generally resulted in the reduction of the Catalogue quotations.

In future, instead of being added to stock, they will be offered as Special Bargains to our readers.

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Vol. III

One Penny.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly.

Edited by Edward J. Nankivell.

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We have got back a few returns from Agents, and are now able to quote prices for some of the scarce early numbers, but only a few copies of Nos. 3 and 4 are in hand, and they will be only obtainable by those who order promptly.

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The DECEMBER number contains amongst other features—

- NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES. Five pages.
- STAMPS OF THE PHILIPPINES, by L. Hanciau.
- NOTES AND NEWS, by Charles J. Phillips.
- AN UNRECOGNIZED RARITY OF THE UNITED STATES, by A. Reinheimer.
- ABYSSINIA AND ITS POSTAGE STAMPS, by L. G. Dorpat.
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20 h., brown and black	0	3
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1d., scarlet	0	2
1½d., purple and green	0	3
2d., green and scarlet	0	3
2½d., ultramarine	0	4
3d., brown on yellow	0	5
4d., green and brown	0	6
5d., purple and ultramarine	0	7
6d., purple	0	8
1s., green and scarlet	1	4
2 piastres on 5d., purple and blue	0	6
24 ,, on 5s., carmine	6	6

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1905. *King's Head. Multiple wmk.*

½ a., green	0	1
1 a., carmine and grey-black	0	2
2 a., purple and lilac	0	3
2½ a., blue	0	4
3 a., green and chocolate	0	5
4 a., black and green	0	6
6 a., violet and green	0	8
8 a., blue and grey-black	1	0
12 a., orange-yellow and grey-black	1	4

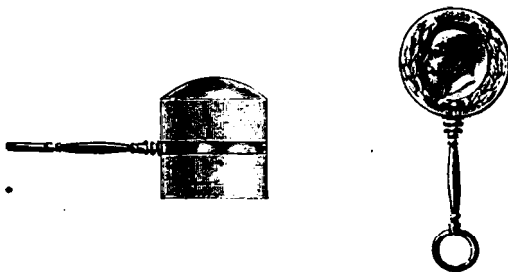
BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY.

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1d., red	0	2
2½d., ultramarine	0	4
5d., claret	0	7
1s., blue-green	1	4
2s. 6d., black	3	3
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Gibbons Stamp Weekly

Edited by Edward J. Nankivell.

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AUSTRIA.

1905. *Similar to 1904 issue, but without shiny*

2 h., black	0 1
3 h., brown	0 1
5 h., slate	0 1
6 h., orange	0 1
10 h., rose and black	0 2
20 h., brown and black	0 3
25 h., ultramarine and black	0 4
30 h., mauve and black	0 5
35 h., green	0 6
50 h., slate-blue	0 8

BARBADOS.

1904-5. *Type 6. Multiple wmk.*

2½d., ultramarine	0 4
6d., mauve and carmine	0 8

DENMARK.

1905. *Type 15.*

3 öre, grey	0 1
-------------	-----

NEW SOUTH WALES.

1905. *Type 53. Wmk. Crown over A.*

2½d., deep blue	0 4
-----------------	-----

SIAM.

1905. *Type 45 surcharged with new value.*

1 a. on 14 a., violet-blue	0 2
2 a. on 28 a., chocolate and blue	0 4

SIERRA LEONE.

1905. *King's Head. Multiple wmk.*

¼d., purple and green	0 1
1d. " rosine	0 2
1½d. " black	0 3
2d. " orange	0 3
2½d. " ultramarine	0 4
3d. " grey	0 5
4d. " rosine	0 6
5d. " black	0 7
6d. " purple	0 8
1s., green and black	1 4
2s. " ultramarine	2 8
5s. " carmine	6 6

VICTORIA.

1905. *Type 67. Wmk. Crown over A.*

3d., orange-brown	0 5
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1905-6.

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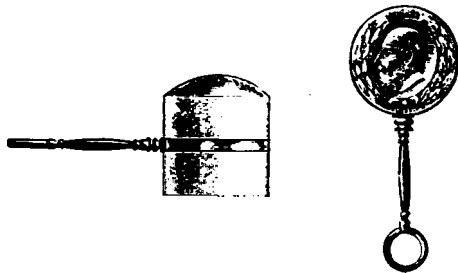
In issuing the New Edition of our Priced Catalogue, we wish to draw attention to the chief alterations made therein.

After a trial for some years of small illustrations, we have come to the conclusion that they are not suitable for the *leading Stamp Catalogue*, chiefly from the fact that when they have been used in printing two or three large editions of this work all the fine lines wear out, with the result that, in many cases, the young collector has had great difficulty in identifying varieties. We therefore decided to go to the great expense of inserting new and exact-sized illustrations throughout our Catalogue. The cost has been close upon £800, and we leave our readers to judge whether the result is not greatly superior to any that has hitherto been attained by similar trade lists. A comparison of this new edition with any other catalogue will, we venture to think, conclusively prove that for general get-up and for beauty and clearness it far excels any previously published.

We are rather sorry to say that in order to place the large illustrations in double column it has been necessary to enlarge the Catalogues by about an inch, both in width and length.

In this edition also a more expensive paper is used, which being thinner than that in former use, is better adapted for bringing out the type and illustrations more clearly.

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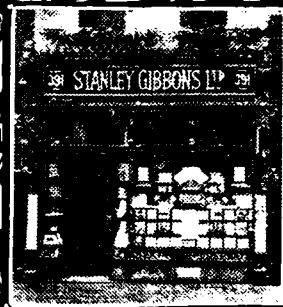
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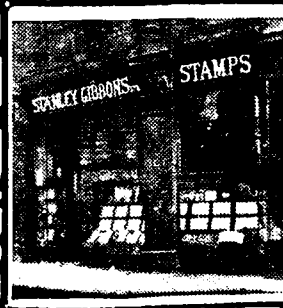
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CANADA.

1903-4. King's Head.	s. d.
7 c., olive-yellow	used 0 1
10 c., brown-lilac	" " 0 2

CHINA.

1898-1904. Type 31.	
\$1, carmine and salmon	used 2 0

DANISH WEST INDIES.

1905. Provisionals.	
5 bit on 4 c., blue and brown	} Set of three used 1 0
5 " 5 c. blue	
5 " 8 c. brown	

HONG KONG.

1900-2. Queen's Head.	
10 c., ultramarine	used 0 1

1903. King's Head. Single wmk.

8 c., grey-black and mauve	used 0 2
10 c., lilac and ultramarine on blue	" " 0 2
20 c., grey-black and chestnut	" " 0 3

MACAO.

1903. Type 29.	
3 avos, slate and black	used 0 1

1904. Postage Due.

½ avo, blue-green	used 0 1
1 " yellow-green	" " 0 1

MOROCCO AGENCIES.

1905. King's Head. Single wmk.	
1 peseta, black and carmine	4 6
2 pesetas, black and blue	10 0

N.B.—Only a small consignment of these has been received, and prices may be further advanced with next lot.

NEW CALEDONIA.

1903. Centenary issue. Variety "1" in CENTENAIRE omitted.

1 c., black on azure	in block of six	4 0
2 c., purple-brown on buff	" "	6 0
4 c., " on grey	" "	10 0
5 c., green	" "	15 0
5 c., yellow-green	" "	15 0
1 c. on 2 c., purple-brown on buff	" "	5 0
2 c. on 4 c., " on grey	" "	10 0
4 c. on 5 c., green	" "	10 0
4 c. on 5 c., yellow-green	" "	10 0
10 c. on 15 c., grey	" "	15 0

TUNIS.

1906. New pictorial types.	
1 c., black on yellow	0 1
2 c., carmine on pink	0 1
5 c., deep green on greenish	0 1
35 c., sage-green and brown	0 6
40 c., sepia and red-brown	0 6
75 c., claret and vermilion	1 0

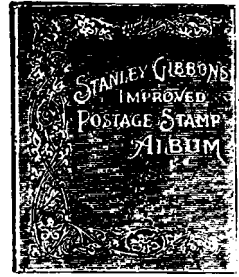
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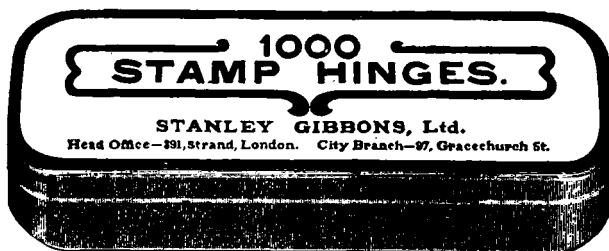
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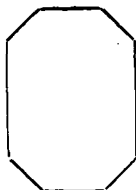
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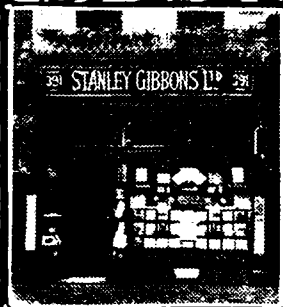
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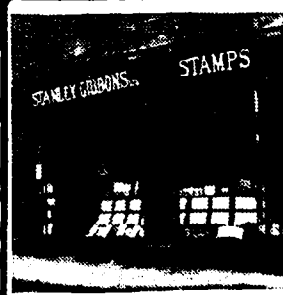
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1905. *Type 28. Multiple wmk.*

4 c., purple and ultramarine	0 3
5 c., purple and blue on blue	0 4
6 c., grey-black and ultramarine	0 5

RUSSIA.

1903. *Type 9.*

3 r. 50 k., grey and black (No. 115)	used 5 c
--------------------------------------	----------

SALVADOR.

1903. *Postage Due. New type.*

1 c., deep green (No. 550)	0 6
2 c., carmine (No. 551)	0 6
3 c., orange (No. 552)	0 6
5 c., deep blue (No. 553)	0 9
10 c., dull lilac (No. 554)	1 3
25 c., green (No. 557a)	2 6

(Numbers 555 to 560 do not exist.)

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

1905. *King's Head. Multiple wmk.*

½d., green and black	0 1
1d., carmine "	0 2
2d., orange-brown and black	0 3
2½d., ultramarine "	0 4
4d., olive-green "	0 6
6d., mauve "	0 8
1s., black and green	1 4
2s. 6d., brown and black	3 3
5s., yellow and black	6 0
£1, violet and green	25 0

SUDAN.

1904. *Army Official. Error with ! for 1.*

1 m., brown and carmine (No. 203 addm.)	used 5 0
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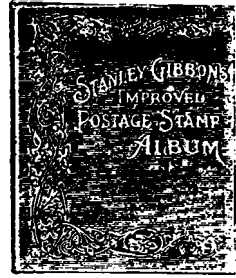
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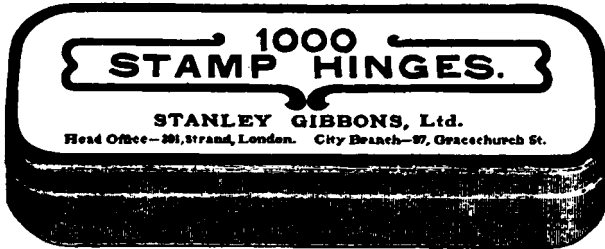
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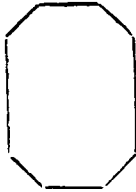
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Penny.

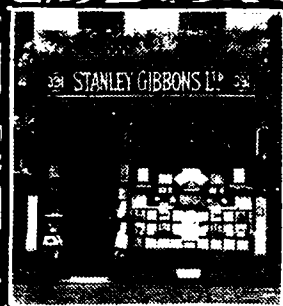
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Edited by Edward J. Nankivell.

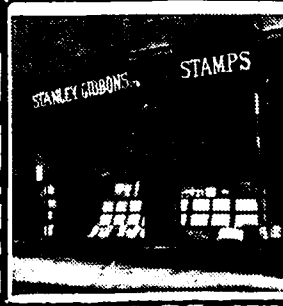
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- NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES. Five pages.
- STAMPS OF THE PHILIPPINES, by L. Hanciau.
- NOTES AND NEWS, by Charles J. Phillips.
- AN UNRECOGNIZED RARITY OF THE UNITED STATES, by A. Reinheimer.
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FINLAND.

1902-3. Type 15. Engraved. s. d.
10 m, drab and black 12 6

HOLLAND.

1906. Unpaid. Provisional.
50 c. on 1 g., blue and red 1 3

NICARAGUA.

1905. New type. Perf. 12.
1 c., green 0 1
2 c., red 0 1
3 c., purple 0 1
4 c., vermilion 0 2
5 c., blue 0 2
10 c., yellow-brown 0 3
15 c., olive 0 5
20 c., claret 0 6
50 c., yellow 1 3
1 p., black 2 6
2 p., deep green 5 0
5 p., violet 12 6

SALVADOR.

1903. Type 82.
10 c., dull lilac 0 5
12 c., slate 0 6
13 c., red-brown 0 6
24 c., scarlet 1 0
26 c., yellow-brown 1 0
50 c., yellow 2 0
1 p., pale blue 4 0

SIAM.

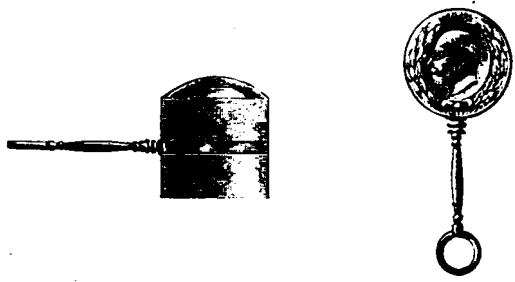
1900. Type 44.
1 att, green (No. 84) used 10 0
2 atts, green and red (No. 85) " 7 6

URUGUAY.

1902. Postage Due. Type U1.
1 c., greenish blue }
2 c., carmine } Set of five 12 0
4 c., violet }
10 c., deep blue }
20 c., orange }

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WE have pleasure in bringing to the notice of our readers the new Magnifying Glass shown in the above illustrations. It is specially useful for the examination of stamps, to find out the plate-numbers and for the detection of forgeries in conjunction with the new edition of *Album Weeds*. It is used by placing the flat side in contact with the stamp to be examined.

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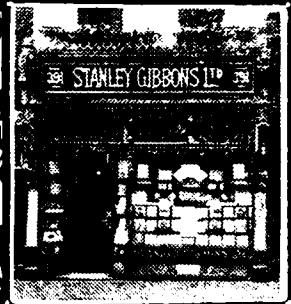
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Edited by Edward J. Nankivell.

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1905. *King's Head. Multiple wmk.*

½ a., green	0 1
1 a., carmine and grey-black	0 2
2 a., purple and dull lilac	0 3
2½ a., bright blue	. . . . .	0 4
3 a., green and chocolate	. . . . .	0 5
4 a., black and green	. . . . .	0 6
6 a., violet and green	. . . . .	0 8
8 a., pale blue and grey-black	. . . . .	1 0
12 a., orange-yellow and grey-black	. . . . .	1 4

CAYMAN ISLANDS.

1905. *King's Head. Multiple wmk.*

½d., green	0 1
1d., carmine	0 2
2½d., ultramarine	0 4

CHILI.

1905. *Type 27.*

10 c., black and grey	0 3
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DUTCH INDIES.

1902. *Type 11.*

20 c., greenish slate used	0 6
25 c., mauve	0 2
30 c., chestnut	0 2
50 c., lake-brown	. . . . .	0 3
10 c. on 20 c. greenish slate	. . . . .	0 3

IVORY COAST.

1905. *Parcel Post. Surcharged on French Colony 1894 Postage Due.*

50 c., 1 fr., 2 fr., 4 fr., and 8 fr.; set of five	55 0
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NEW SOUTH WALES.

1905. *Wmk. Crown and A.*

½d., green	0
4d., brown	0 6
9d., brown and blue	1 0
20s., ultramarine	25 0

VICTORIA.

1905. *Wmk. Crown and A.*

9d., rose	1
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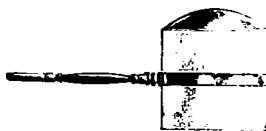
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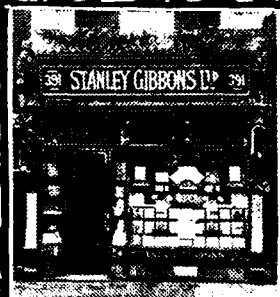
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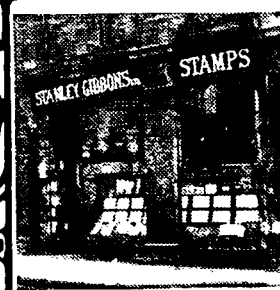
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NEW STOCK BOOKS. Etc.

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BOLIVAR.

1903. Type 25. Laid paper. Imperf. s. d.
5 pesos, carmine on yellow reduced to 2 0

CUBA.

1905. Type 15. No wmk. Colour changed.
1 c., blue-green 0 1
2 c., carmine 0 2

GERMAN MOROCCO.

1905. German Stamp surcharged.
5 c. on 5 pf., green (error REICHS POST) used 7 6

HONDURAS.

1903. Type 20.
2 c., carmine-rose used 0 2

MOROCCO AGENCIES.

1905-6. King's Head. Multiple wmk.
10 c., purple on red 0 2
20 c., green and carmine 0 3

NICARAGUA.

1901-5. Type 15 surcharged as Type 33, in blue.
1 c. on 2 c., orange-red (1901) 0 2
1 c. on 2 c. " (1902) 0 0

1901-5. Stamps of 1900 surcharged with new value and date.
1 c. in black on 1 p., blue (1901) 0 3
1 c. in red on 1 p., blue (1902) 0 3
2 c. in blue on 2 p., orange (1902) 0 3
3 c. in red on 5 p., black (1901) 0 4
1 c. in black on 2 p., orange (1901) 0 6
1 c. in red and in black on 1 p., blue (1901) 4 0

SIAM.

1885. Type 1 surcharged as Type 6.
1 tical on 1 lotte used 10 0

SUDAN.

1905-6. Type 2. Surcharged ARMY SERVICE.
1 m., brown and carmine used 0 2
2 m., green and brown " 0 4
3 m., mauve and green " 0 5
5 m., carmine and black " 0 2
1 p., blue and brown " 0 8
2 p., black and blue " 1 9
5 p., brown and green " 6 0

SWITZERLAND.

1906. Type 12. Wmk. Type 13.
25 c., pale blue (re-engraved) 0 4

WURTEMBERG.

1875-97. Official and Municipal Service Stamps surcharged to celebrate Kingdom Centenary.
2, 3, 5, 10, and 20 pf., Municipal; and 2, 3, 5, and 10 pf., Official; set of nine used 3 0
25 pf., Municipal; and 25, 30, 40, 50 pf. and 1 m. Official; set of six 7 6
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WE received nearly 1000 answers, and it has taken us nearly two weeks to go through them and select the best one. The task of re-joining the small portions of stamps has proved easier than we anticipated, and a large number of competitors were correct; but the neatest and best arranged were easily sorted out.

A good many persons failed over the two stamps of Holkar, by mixing up the native inscriptions on the left-hand side.

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2nd PRIZE.

MR. PAUL PARIDONT,
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3rd PRIZE.

MISS GERTRUDE HARE,
Elms Villa, Bruce Grove,
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M. ADOLPHE NOLTE, Belgium.
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MR. W. SALTER, Ilford.
MISS F. MILNES, Bradford.
MR. J. F. HORNER, Macclesfield.
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Vol. III

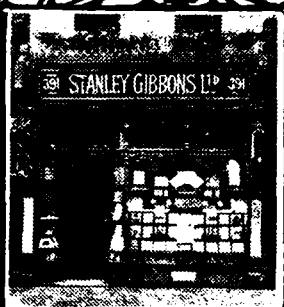
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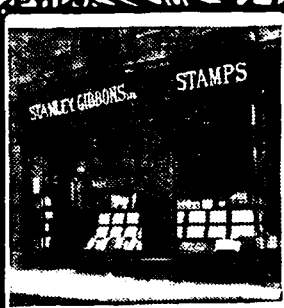
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NOTES AND NEWS, by Charles J. Phillips.

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1906. *Arms type. Multiple wmk. s. d.*
1d., black and carmine 0 2

NEW SOUTH WALES.

1905-6. *Wmk. Crown and A.*

½d., green 0 1
1d., scarlet 0 2
2d., ultramarine 0 3
2½d., deep blue 0 4
4d., orange-brown 0 6
6d., orange-yellow 0 8

PATIALA.

1903. *King's Head.*

3 pies, grey used 0 1

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

1903-4. *Surcharged on U.S. "Series 1902."*

2 c., scarlet 0 2
3 c., mauve 0 2
4 c., deep brown 0 3
5 c., blue 0 4
6 c., lake 0 5
8 c., grey-violet 0 6
10 c., brown 0 8
13 c., purple-brown 0 10
15 c., olive-green 1 0
50 c., orange 2 9
\$1, grey-black 5 3
\$2, blue 10 6

1905. *Colour changed.*

1 c., blue-green 0 1

SWITZERLAND.

1906. *Type 12. Perf. 11½ × 11. New wmk.*

40 c., grey 0 6
1 fr., carmine 1 3

TRINIDAD.

1906. *Type 10. Multiple wmk.*

2½d., lilac and blue on blue 0 4

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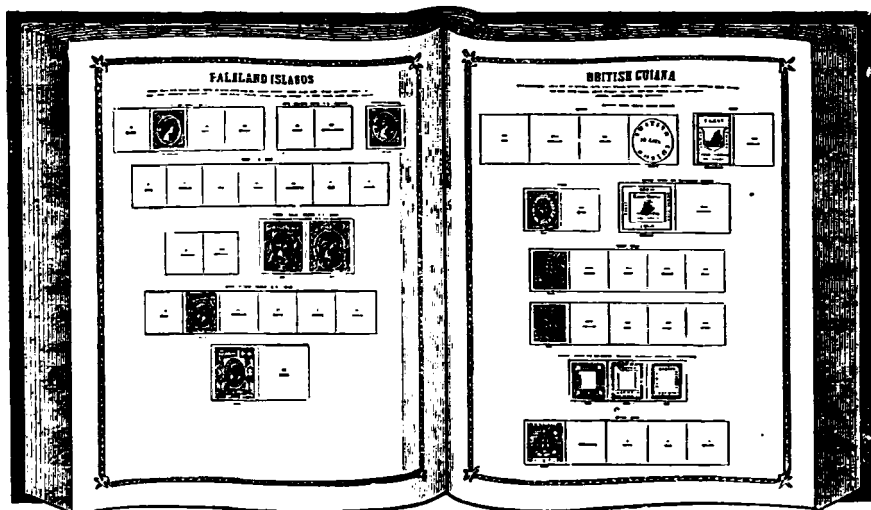
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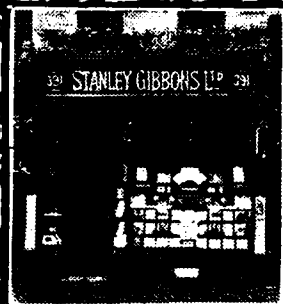
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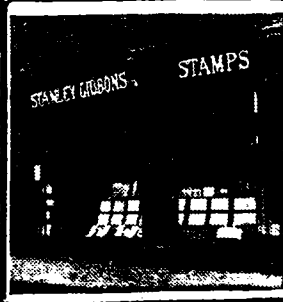
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GERMAN EMPIRE.

1906. Type 17. With new wmk.	
10 pf., carmine	0 2

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1885. Service. Curved surcharge.	
1 a., brown-purple	used 0 2
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2 a., blue	used 0 4
4 a., green	„ 0 8

1903. Service. King's Head.

½ a., pea-green	used 0 2
1 a., carmine	„ 0 2
2 a., lilac	„ 0 4
4 a., green	„ 1 0
8 a., magenta	„ 2 0

NICARAGUA.

1903. No. 202 surcharged in black.	
1 p. on 10 c., mauve (No. 237)	used 1 9
5 p. „ „ (No. 238)	„ 8 6

PATIALA.

1903. King's Head.	
3 a., orange-brown	used 0 5

TRANSVAAL.

1906. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
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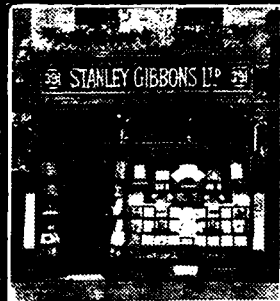
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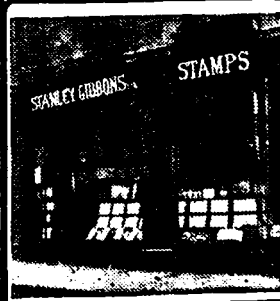
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1904-5. *King's Head. Multiple wmk.*

½ pi., green and carmine	used	0	1
1 pi., carmine and ultramarine	"	0	2
2 pi., blue and marone	"	0	4
4 pi., olive-green and marone	"	0	8
6 pi., sepia and green	"	1	0
9 pi., brown and carmine	"	1	6

MAURITIUS.

1905. *Type 36. Single wmk.*

15 c., purple and ultramarine on bluish	0	0	4
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NEW SOUTH WALES.

1905-6. *Various types. Wmk. Crown and A.*

9d., brown and ultramarine	1	0
1s., purple-brown	1	4
2s. 6d., emerald-green	3	3

SALVADOR.

1903. *Official. Type 204.*

1 c., deep green	used	0	2
2 c., carmine	"	0	2
5 c., deep blue	"	0	3
10 c., dull lilac	"	0	4
13 c., deep brown	"	0	4

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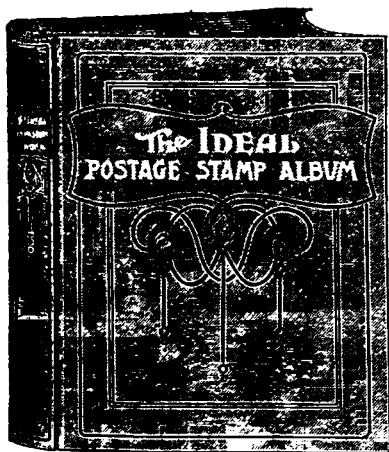
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20 öre, blue	"	0	1

GIBRALTAR.

1904-5. *King's Head. Multiple wmk.*

½d., dull green		0	1
1d., lilac on red (C)		0	2
2d., green and carmine (C)		0	3
1s., black and carmine		1	4
2s., green and blue		2	8

MOROCCO AGENCIES.

1906. *King's Head. Multiple wmk.*

5 c., green (C)		0	1
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SALVADOR.

1906. *New type, with head in frame.*

1 c., black and green		0	1
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SUDAN.

1905. *Army Official.*

1 m., brown and carmine (large surcharge)		0	9
1 m. " " (small ")		8	6
1 m. " " (variety with " ! ")		10	0

TUNIS.

1906. *Pictorial types.*

10 c., red		0	2
15 c., lilac on salmon		0	3
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25 c., blue		0	4
1 fr., brown and red		1	3
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1903. *Error of colour.*

5 c., orange-yellow	reduced to	0	3
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DANISH WEST INDIES.

1905. *Ship design.*

1 fr., green and blue	}	set of three	10	0
2 fr., orange-red and brown				
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GAMBIA.

1906. *King's Head. Multiple wmk.*

4d., brown and ultramarine	0	0
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HOLLAND.

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10 gulden, orange-red	21	0
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NORTH BORNEO.

1905. No. 49 overprinted with TYPE 48 in carmine.			
\$1, scarlet, obsolete	price raised to	6	0

SALVADOR.

1905-6. *Types 74 and 82 surcharged.*

3 c. on 13 c., red-brown (Type 82)	0	2
5 c. on 12 c., slate (,,)	0	3
6 c. on 13 c., red-brown (,,)	0	3
10 c., blue (Type 74, but dated 1900) "1905"	0	5

1905-6. *Official. Type 204 surcharged.*

3 c. on 13 c., deep brown	0	4
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URUGUAY.

1904. *Surcharged "PAZ—1904".*

1 c., green; 2 c., orange-red; 5 c., blue; set of three	used	2	6
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WURTEMBERG.

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2, 3, 5, 10, and 20 pf., Municipal; and 2, 3, 5, and 10 pf., Official; set of nine	4	6
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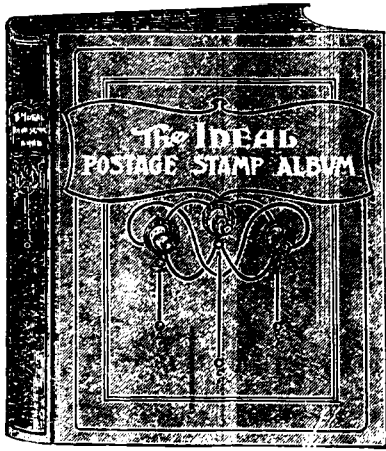
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E. J.
NANKIVELL.

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20 c., black and orange (Great Egret)	1	1
25 c., grey and blue (new $\frac{3}{4}$ coin)	1	4
30 c., violet (figures of value)	1	8
50 c., black and green (Liberian Flag)	2	6
75 c., black and brown (Hippopotamus)	3	9
\$1, grey and pink (Liberty)	5	0
\$2, black and green (Mandingoes)	10	0
\$5, grey and maroon (Pres. Barclay and Executive Mansion)	25	0
1 c., 2 c., 5 c., and 10 c. Set of four	1	0
1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 25 c. Set of seven	4	0
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\$1, \$2, and \$5. Set of three	37	0

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5 c., blue-green	0 1
HOLKAR (Indore).	
1904-6. Types 4 and 5.	
$\frac{1}{4}$ a., orange	0 1
3 a., violet	0 5
4 a., blue	0 6
1904. Service. Same types.	
$\frac{1}{4}$ a., lake	used 0 2
1 a., green	0 2
HYDERABAD.	
1906. Small type, inscribed "Postage."	
$\frac{1}{4}$ a., blue	0 1
JAIPUR.	
1904-6. Type 2.	
$\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue	0 1
1 a., carmine	0 2
2 a., green	0 3
4 a., brown	0 4
8 a., violet	1 0
1 r., orange-yellow	1 9
KISHENGARH.	
1904. Type 12.	
$\frac{1}{4}$ a., carmine	0 1
$\frac{1}{2}$ a., chestnut	0 1
1 a., blue	0 2
4 a., brown	0 6
8 a., violet	1 0
SIAM.	
1900. Type 44; rejected die.	
1 att, green	used 10 0
TRANSVAAL.	
1906. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
2d., grey-black and purple	0 3
3d. ,, sage-green	0 5
TUNIS.	
1906. New Pictorial type.	
5 fr., blue and purple	5 3
VICTORIA.	
1906. Wmk. Crown and A.	
4d., ochre-yellow	0 6
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.	
1906. Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.	
1d., carmine	0 0
2d., yellow	0 0

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In the annexed spaces our British readers should find

ONE VICTORIA 1d. STAMP,
ONE EGYPT 5 mills. STAMP,
both used.

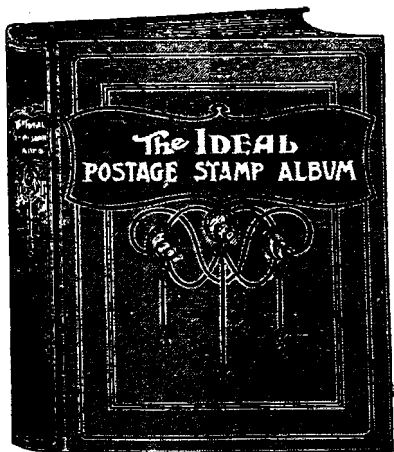


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15 c., black and brown (Agama Lizard)	0	10
20 c., black and green (Great Egret)	1	1
25 c., grey and purple (new $\frac{3}{4}$ coin)	1	4
30 c., brown (figures of value)	1	8
50 c., orange-brown and green (Liberian Flag)	2	6
75 c., black and ultramarine (Hippopotamus)	3	9
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\$2, black and lilac (Mandingoes)	10	0
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1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 25 c. Set of seven	4	0
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BARBADOS.

1906. Nelson Monument.		s.	d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ d., black and grey	.	0	1
$\frac{3}{4}$ d. ,, green	.	0	1
1d. ,, red	.	0	2
2d. ,, yellow	.	0	3
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. ,, ultramarine	.	0	4

BRITISH GUIANA.

1905-6. Ship type. Multiple wmk.		s.	d.
1 c., green	.	0	1
2 c., purple and black on red	.	0	2
4 c. ,, ultramarine	.	0	3
5 c., lilac and ultramarine on bluish	.	0	4
6 c., grey-black and ultramarine	.	0	5
12 c., purple and violet	.	0	8
24 c. ,, green	.	1	4
48 c., grey and brown-lilac	.	2	8

BRITISH HONDURAS.

1902-4. King's Head. Single wmk.		s.	d.
1 c., green	.	0	1
2 c., purple and black on red	.	0	3
5 c. ,, ultramarine on bluish	.	0	4
20 c. ,, lilac	.	1	3

1904-5. King's Head. Multiple wmk.		s.	d.
1 c., green	.	0	1
2 c., purple and black on red	.	0	2

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY.

1905. Victoria Falls.		s.	d.
1d. red	used	0	2
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., ultramarine	"	0	6

ITALY.

1906. Head of King Victor Emmanuel III.		s.	d.
15 c., grey-black	.	0	3

PERU.

1903. Type 41.		s.	d.
22 c., green	used	0	2
5 c., red	"	0	2
5 on 20 c., blue	"	0	8

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

1905. Type 15. Wmk. V and Crown. Perf. 11.		s.	d.
5d., olive-yellow	raised to	1	8
1906. Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.			
1d., carmine	.	0	2
2d., yellow	.	0	3
3d., brown	.	0	5
5d., olive-yellow	.	0	8
1906. Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.			
1d., carmine	.	0	4

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NANKIVELL.

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15 c., black and brown (Agama Lizard)	0	10
20 c., black and green (Great Egret)	1	1
25 c., grey and purple (new $\frac{1}{4}$ coin)	1	4
30 c., brown (figures of value)	1	8
50 c., orange-brown and green (Liberian Flag)	2	6
75 c., black and ultramarine (Hippopotamus)	3	9
\$1, grey and green (Liberty)	5	0
\$2, black and lilac (Mandingoes)	10	0
\$5, grey and orange (Pres ^t . Barclay and Executive Mansion)	25	0
1 c., 2 c., 5 c., and 10 c. Set of four	1	0
1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 25 c. Set of seven	4	0
1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., 25 c., 30 c., 50 c., and 75 c. Set of ten	11	3
\$1, \$2, and \$5. Set of three	37	0

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1904-6. King's Head.		s.	d.
½d., blue-green	.	.	0 1
1d., carmine	.	.	0 2
2½d., ultramarine	.	.	0 4

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1902-3. King's Head.		s.	d.
½d., green	.	.	0 1
1d., carmine	.	.	0 2
2d., brown	.	.	0 3
3d., magenta	.	.	0 5
4d., olive-green	.	.	0 6

CRETE.

1905. Types 16 and 18.		s.	d.
2 lepta, violet (Diana)	.	used	0 1
10 ,, red (Prince George)	.	„	0 1

GRENADA.

1906. New type with ship. Multiple wmk.		s.	d.
½d., green	.	.	0 1
1d., carmine	.	.	0 2
2d., yellow	.	.	0 3
2½d., ultramarine	.	.	0 4

INDIA.

1906. Service. King's Head.		s.	d.
3 pies, slate	.	.	0 2

MALTA.

1906. King's Head. Multiple wmk.		s.	d.
4d., black and brown	.	.	0 6

MONACO.

1906. Postage Due.		s.	d.
1 C., 5 C., 10 C., 15 C., and 30 c., set of five	used	1	4
1 C., 5 C., 10 C., 15 C., 30 c., and 50 c., set of six	„	2	0

NABHA.

1903-6. King's Head.		s.	d.
3 pies, grey	.	.	0 1
½ a., green	.	.	0 1
1 a., carmine	.	.	0 2
2 a., purple	.	.	0 3
3 a., orange-brown	.	.	0 5
4 a., olive-green	.	.	0 6
6 a., olive-buff	.	.	0 8
8 a., magenta	.	.	1 0
12 a., purple on red	.	.	1 4
1 r., green and carmine	.	.	1 9

NEPAUL.

1905-6. New shades.		s.	d.
1 a., ultramarine	.	.	0 2
2 a., lilac	.	.	0 4

PARAGUAY.

1906. New values and colours.		s.	d.
5 c., dull blue	.	.	0 1
10 c., ochre	.	.	0 2
20 c., green	.	.	0 3

TRAVANCORE.

* 1906. New shade.		s.	d.
1 ch., bright blue	.	.	0 2

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ANTIGUA.

1903. King's Head.	s. 6
5s., violet and grey-green	6

CAYMAN ISLANDS.

1905. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
4d., green	0 1
2½d., ultramarine	0 1
6d., brown	0 2
1s., orange	1 1

DENMARK.

1904. Provisional.	
15 Öre on 24 Öre, brown (No. 128)	used 0

GOLD COAST.

1904-6. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
1d., lilac and carmine	0 0
2d., " orange-red	0 3
3d., " orange (C)	0 5

IVORY COAST.

1906. New type, with head of general.	
1 c., green and red	0 1
5 c., yellow-green and red	0 1
10 c., red and blue	0 0

SENEGAL.

1906. New pictorial types.	
1 c., green and red	0 1
2 c., brown " "	0 1
4 c., " " on blue	0 1
5 c., yellow-green and red	0 1
10 c., red and blue	0 2
15 c., purple and red	0 3
20 c., black and red on bluish	0 3
25 c., ultramarine and red	0 4
30 c., brown and red	0 5
40 c., red and blue	0 7
50 c., black and red	0 7
75 c., indigo and red on orange	1 0
1 fr., black and red on bluish	1 3
2 fr., blue and red on salmon	2 6
5 fr., red and blue on yellow	5 4

1906. Postage Due. New type.

5 c., green and red	0 1
10 c., purple and blue	0 2
15 c., blue and red	0 2
30 c., red and blue on yellow	0 2
50 c., purple and red	0 0
60 c., black and red on buff	0 0
1 fr., black and red	1 1

UPPER SENEGAL AND NIGER.

1906. New type, with head of general.	
5 c., green and red	0 1
10 c., red and blue	0 2
15 c., purple and red	0 0

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391, STRAND, LONDON.

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NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198, BROADWAY.

HOW TO COLLECT.

CHAPTER I.—INTRODUCTORY.

We propose to lead the Collector by easy stages into Systematic Collecting, and to offer him advice as to what to buy and what to avoid.

We shall take him on tour through the most favoured countries, avoiding those that are too difficult and neglecting those that are not worth his attention.

We are Stamp Dealers; we are in business to supply what the Collector demands.

But we recognize the undeniable fact that it is the Beginner who is helped to a wise choice and judicious selection on systematic and true philatelic lines who develops into the satisfied and permanent customer.

And recognizing this fact we hope, by placing our half a century of experience at his disposal in the chapters that follow, to help the reader of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* to steer clear of the pitfalls that tempt the unwary and disappoint and discourage so many.

It is true that no Collector can now hope to make a success of attempting to collect all the countries of the world.

Nevertheless, it is well for the Beginner to acquire, as far as possible, an elementary acquaintance with as many countries as he can afford.

This elementary acquaintance need not be an expensive one.

There are very few countries in which two or three of the low values of most of the series cannot be had for a few shillings—very often for a few pence.

Indeed, most experienced Collectors would probably be surprised to find what a fine array of grand old issues can be listed from the *Gibbons Catalogue* at a penny each.

Several of the first two or three issues of Great Britain, Austria, France, Belgium, Denmark, Holland, Greece, Germany, Spain, etc., may, after all these years, still be had for an outlay of one penny each.

The ever-increasing popularity of Stamp Collecting is largely due to the fact that despite the fabulous rise in price of the general run of Stamps, many of the grand old issues of the world remain cheap and within the reach of the pence of the most modest of Boy Collectors.

The antique in all other classes of collecting gets beyond the reach of all but the wealthy, but in Stamp Collecting many of the oldest and most typical gems are still catalogued at one penny each.

(To be continued next week.)

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED.

391, Strand, London, W.C.

ALBUMS.

Some collectors like one kind of Album and some another. Indeed, there are probably few things in which stamp collectors are more at sixes and sevens than in Stamp Albums. As Philatelic Publishers we do our best to please all parties. Hence the great variety of Postage Stamp Albums included in our Publications. Here is a brief list. If you cannot find the Album you want in this list your case must be hopeless.

IMPROVED No. 0.—176 pages. Spaces for 4,700 stamps. With Geographical and Historical notes brought up to date. Fifty stamps presented gratis with each Album.

Price, in Art Cloth, 1/-; post-free, 1/3.

IMPROVED Nos. 2, 3, and 4.—304 pages, oblong. Size, $10 \times 7\frac{3}{4}$ in. Divided into Continents. 600 stamps and eighty watermarks illustrated in actual size. Strongly bound in artistic cover. One hundred stamps, all different, presented with each Album.

No. 2.—Plain Cloth, gilt lettered, 3/6; post-free, 3/11; abroad, 4/6.

No. 3.—Art Vellum, lettered in gold and colours, 5/-; post-free, 5/6; abroad, 6/2.

No. 4.—Art Vellum, gilt lettered and gilt edges, with extra leaves for new issues, 7/6; post-free, 8/-; abroad, 8/9.

THE STRAND.—320 pages. Size, $9\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Six maps. Well arranged, reliable, and thoroughly correct.

No. 14.—200 pages, spaces for 8,000 stamps, cloth, 2/6; post-free, 2/11; abroad, 3/4.

No. 15.—400 pages, six maps, eighty extra leaves, cloth, 5/-; post-free, 5/5; abroad, 6/-.

No. 16.—400 pages, half morocco, six maps, gilt edges, 8/6; post-free, 9/-; abroad, 9/6.

THE KING'S OWN.—For collectors of King Edward VII. Stamps.

Cloth, 7/6; post-free, 8/-; abroad, 8/9.

Three-quarters Levant morocco, 21/-; post-free, 21/8; abroad, 22/6.

THE IMPERIAL.—In three fine volumes. Size, $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The most popular of all our Albums. With numbered spaces for the stamps on the right-hand page, and full description in catalogue form, with illustrations on the left-hand page.

VOL. I.—Stamps of British Empire.

VOL. II.—Stamps of Europe and Colonies, and Possessions of European States.

VOL. III.—Foreign Countries, except Europe and its Possessions.

Vol. I.—Great Britain and Colonies. 526 pages. About 1,800 illustrations.

No. 5.—Cloth, gilt lettered, 10/-; post-free, 10/9.

No. 7.—Half-bound, gilt edges, 15/-; post-free, 15/9.

No. 8.—Half-bound, green morocco, gilt edges, 25/-; post-free, 26/-.

No. 9.—Half-bound, finest green Levant morocco, bevelled edges, patent expanding lock, 50/-; post-free, 51/-.

Vol. II.—Stamps of Europe and its Colonies and Possessions.

544 pages. 1,700 illustrations.

No. 65.—Cloth, 12/-; post-free, 12/9.

No. 67.—Half-bound, 17/6; post-free, 18/3.

No. 66.—Half green morocco, 27/6; post-free, 28/6.

No. 69.—Half-bound, finest green Levant morocco, patent expanding lock, 50/-; post-free, 51/-.

Vol. III.—Foreign Countries, except Europe and its Possessions.

412 pages. 1,500 illustrations.

No. 95.—Cloth, 10/-; post-free, 10/9.

No. 97.—Half-bound, 15/-; post-free, 15/9.

No. 98.—Half-bound, green morocco, 22/6; post-free, 23/3.

No. 99.—Half-bound, finest green Levant morocco, patent expanding lock, 45/-; post-free, 45/9.

BRITISH AFRICA.—For Specialists. A very complete Album for the stamps of the British Possessions on the African continent, on the plan of the Imperial Albums, with blank pages after each country for new issues.

No. 25.—Cloth, 10/-; post-free, 10/7.

No. 26.—Half-bound morocco, art vellum sides, in strong box, 21/-; post-free, 21/8.

BLANK ALBUM.—Each page neatly bordered in neutral grey with quadrillé background.

No. 31.—Bound in three colours—red, blue, or green, 100 leaves, $9\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$.

Price 7/6; post-free, 8/-; abroad, 8/9.

No. 32.—Bound in two colours—marble or dark green, 150 leaves, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$.

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THE ORIEL.—Well known as the Castle Album. Size, $10 \times 10\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Fifty movable leaves, hand-made paper, bound in red morocco, fitted into a drop-in case lined with lamb's-wool.

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LEAVES, either plain or with quadrillé background, 4/6 per dozen, or 32/6 per 100.

THE "G. H. S." ALBUM.—With Patent Binding, which allows of the removal and replacing of any or all the leaves in a few moments, combining all the essentials of a well-bound book and a movable leaf Album. Bound in whole padded morocco, special hand-made paper, with gilt edges, each leaf backed with Japanese silk tissue paper, and in cloth-covered case, lined with swan's-down.

Price 40/-; patent expanding lock and key, 5/- extra.

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GIBBONS

**E.J.
NANKIVELL,**

STAMP WEEKLY

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New Issues.

IMPORTANT.

Don't delay in getting your new issues. Whatever country you go in for, be sure to secure the new issues of that country directly they are to be had, so as to make sure of getting them at the ordinary new-issue rates. Recent experience proves that it is no longer safe to treat new issues as obtainable at any time. Circumstances have arisen, and are still operative, necessitating many changes of design, and other changes in the methods of production that give rise to more or less ephemeral varieties. As a consequence, many new issues, accepted and sold as permanent issues, have suddenly become obsolete, and from causes which no collector or dealer could foresee have run up to extraordinary prices. For instance, we received and sold, at new-issue rates, our first supply of the Single CA Morocco Agencies 2 pesetas. This stamp, which has suddenly been superseded by the Multiple CA, is now selling at 20s. The Southern Nigeria King's Head Single CA £1, for a few days on sale at the usual new-issue rates, now fetches £8 at auction. Therefore, don't delay in ordering your new issues directly you read our list of Latest Arrivals in G.S.W.

LATEST ARRIVALS.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

BRITISH LEVANT.

1903-6. King's Head.

	s.	d.
4 pi. (on 10d.) purple and scarlet	1	1
12 pi. (on 2s. 6d.)	3	3
24 pi. (on 5s.)	6	6
½d., pale green	0	1
1d., scarlet	0	2
1½d., purple and green	0	3
2d., green and scarlet	0	3
2½d., ultramarine	0	4
3d., brown on yellow	0	5
4d., green and brown	0	6
5d., purple and ultramarine	0	7
6d., purple	0	8
1s., green and scarlet	1	4

CEYLON.

1904-5. King's Head. Multiple wmk.

2 c., orange-brown	0	1
3 c., green	0	1
4 c., orange and ultramarine	0	1
5 c., lilac (C)	0	2
6 c., carmine	0	2
12 c., green and rosine	0	3
15 c., blue	0	4
25 c., pale brown	0	6
30 c., violet and green	0	7
75 c., blue and orange	1	4
1 r. 50 c., grey	2	9
2 r. 25 c., brown and green	4	0

PATIALA.

1903-6. King's Head.

3 pies, grey	0	1
½ a., green	0	1
1 a., carmine	0	2
2 a., purple	0	3
3 a., orange-brown	0	5
4 a., sage-green	0	6
6 a., olive-buff	0	8

URUGUAY.

1906. Type 84 redrawn, larger size.

5 c., blue	0	5
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HOW TO COLLECT.

(Continued from last week.)

CHAPTER II.—THE START.

In our endeavour to tempt the Beginner into the more useful and more profitable groove of Systematic Collecting, and to enable him to decide for himself the ever-recurring and ever-important question, "What shall I collect?" we propose to treat him as a sort of Cook's Tourist, and to act as his guide to the philatelic treasures of the countries of the world, from a collecting and buying point of view.

As we pass through the various countries we shall drop useful hints, here and there, as to what is worth buying from an investment point of view.

There is no disguising the fact that the average Collector dearly loves a little investment and—dare we say it?—a spice of speculation.

But there is also no denying the fact that straightforward collecting pays best in the long run.

Buy in good countries, and buy only such stamps as you need for your collection, and take only such picked copies as we single out from our immense stock for sale in sets, and in our approval sheets.

Don't buy defective or otherwise undesirable stamps, even at 75 per cent. off Gibbons.

Now for the start.

In the first place, you should provide yourself with the best album you can afford, and the best album for a start is decidedly our *Ideal Album*, which has just been published. It has been specially compiled to make Stamp Collecting easy for the Beginner. This album will cost you 10s. 9d. post-free, carefully packed.

In the next place you must provide yourself with a good hinge for mounting your stamps. These we provide in neat air-tight tin boxes at 7d. per box post-free.

The wealthy Collector prefers to buy his stamps singly, and to pick them from our specialized stock-books.

But the Beginner should learn to walk before he attempts to run, in stamp collecting as in other things. It is better to start on economical lines, even if you have a liberal supply of pocket-money. Later on you will have gained experience, and be able to buy rarer stamps wisely; so don't be in a hurry.

(To be continued next week.)

391, Strand, London, W.C. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED.

Gratis Stamps, Nos. 29 & 30.

READERS in Great Britain should receive with this number the two stamps described below. Subscribers residing out of Great Britain can have the gratis stamps sent to them once in six months on receipt of an addressed envelope and postage.

(This course has to be adopted in order to comply with the rules of the British Post Office.)

In the annexed spaces our British readers should find

ONE VICTORIA 2d. STAMP,

ONE ITALY 10 c. STAMP,

both used.

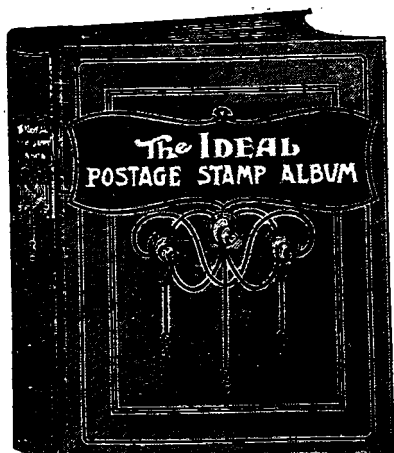


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NOW READY!



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compressed into one
handy volume.

Printed on excellent paper
and superbly illustrated.

The ^{5th} *IDEAL ALBUM*

GRATIS

with all copies of the first
edition,
200 Stamps (all different).

SEND YOUR ORDER
BY THE EARLIEST POST.

A plain, straightforward Album
for the Beginner,
from which all vexatious
varieties are excluded
and collecting made easy and
pleasant
even to the novice.

Price **10/9**, post-free;
or interleaved to prevent any
chance of Stamps rubbing, and
in superior binding,
15/9 post-free.

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GIBBONS

E.J. NANKIVELL.

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New Issues.

**JUST
RECEIVED.**

GREECE.

1906. Olympic Games Celebration.

	s.	d.
1 l., brown (Apollo)	0	1
2 l., slate (")	0	1
3 l., orange (Atlas)	0	1
5 l., green (")	0	1
10 l., carmine (Victory)	0	2
20 l., mauve (Atlas and Hercules)	0	3
25 l., ultramarine (Hercules and Antaeus)	0	4
30 l., purple (The Wrestlers)	0	5
40 l., brown (Pallas Athenae)	0	6
50 l., lake (Atlas and Hercules)	0	7
1 dr., grey (Ancient Greeks)	1	2
2 dr., rose (")	2	3
3 dr., lemon (")	3	4
5 dr., indigo (Priestly Offerings)	5	6
1 l. to 50 l., set of ten	2	3

Latest Arrivals.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.

1905. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	s.	d.
½ a., green.	0	1
1 a., carmine and grey-black	0	2
2 a., purple and lilac	0	3
2½ a., blue	0	4
3 a., green and chocolate	0	5
4 a., black and green	0	6
6 a., violet and green	0	8
8 a., blue and grey-black	1	0
12 a., orange and grey-black	1	4

EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA.

1906. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	s.	d.
½ a., green (C)	0	1
1 a., carmine and grey-black (C)	0	2
2 a., purple and magenta (C)	0	3
2½ a., ultramarine	0	4
3 a., green and chocolate (C)	0	5
4 a., black and green (C)	0	6
5 a., orange-brown and grey (C)	0	8
8 a., pale-blue and grey (C)	1	0

FRANCE.

1906. Sower type, redrawn.	s.	d.
10 c., vermilion	0	2

FRENCH OFFICES IN CHINA.

1906. Stamps of Indo-China, type 6, surcharged "CHINE."	s.	d.
2 fr., black and brown on yellow	2	6
10 fr., black and red on green	12	6

MONTENEGRO.

1905. Constitution Celebration Issue.	s.	d.
1 h., ultramarine and red	0	1
2 h., lilac and black	0	1
5 h., yellow-green and red	0	1
10 h., carmine and black	0	2
25 h., indigo and red	0	5
50 h., blue-green and red	0	8
1 kr., chocolate and red	1	3

1905. As above. Unpaid.

5 h., orange and black	0	1
10 h., sage-green and red	0	2

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Cat. No.	Various issues. Reduced prices.	s.	d.
51.	2 c., orange-vermilion . . . used	0	3
59a.	1 c., deep brown . . . "	0	9
60.	2 c., green . . . "	0	6
62.	3 c., brown . . . "	1	0
66.	1 c., green . . . "	0	4
67.	2 c., carmine . . . "	0	4
70.	5 c., purple . . . "	0	4

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HOW TO COLLECT.

(Continued from last week.)

CHAPTER III.—THE BEST COUNTRIES.

What is the best country to collect?

I want to specialize: what country can you recommend to a Beginner?

What country will pay me best?

Such are a few of the questions that Beginners are asking every day.

And the best answer that we can give is not to select a country for you, but to take you through the list and tell you all we know of the pros and cons of each, and so enable you to make your choice.

That is just what we now propose to do.

But first a word as to how you are going to buy your stamps.

To meet the needs of the Collector we make up the general run of stamps into tempting sets at tempting prices.

At the start you want to get all you can for your money.

We should prefer your buying stamps singly from us at our Catalogue prices. It would be the most profitable plan—for us, but not for you.

Your best plan, as a Beginner, will be to buy our cheap sets of the countries that you prefer. You know the saying "He who buys a house ready wrought buys many a stick and nail for nought." So it is in buying sets of stamps. He who buys a set ready made up buys many a stamp for nought. Sets are made up of those stamps that we can buy cheaply in large wholesale lots. Hence the reason why we can afford to sell them as bargains.

Sets form the best and cheapest foundation upon which to build up a fine collection. When you have got together a nice little collection of the cheaper class of stamps in sets, and you feel inclined to enrich it with rare stamps, then you can begin to fill up the gaps here and there.


Higgledy-piggledy collecting is never satisfactory. A stamp dabbed in here and there, as you may chance to pick it up, does not yield much pleasure to the Collector. At best it is a higgledy-piggledy business.

But if you take the countries in some sort of systematic way, and buy the stamps of a particular country, you will find that you will soon have some pages of which you may be proud, and the other pages you may fill up in due course in the same effective and economical way, if you follow our plan.

Next week we shall start with the countries.

(To be continued next week.)

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New Sheets
of Stamps 

FOR BEGINNERS

=====

*Don't waste your money
in buying defective
stamps. Send for a
sample of our ap-
proval sheets, and
make your own pick
from picked copies.*

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391, Strand, London, W.C.



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E.J.
NANKIVELL.

STAMP WEEKLY

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New Issues.

**JUST
RECEIVED.**

GREECE.

1906. Olympic Games Celebration.

	s.	d.
1 l., brown (Apollo)	0	1
2 l., slate („)	0	1
3 l., orange (Atlas)	0	1
5 l., green („)	0	1
10 l., carmine (Victory)	0	2
20 l., mauve (Atlas and Hercules)	0	3
25 l., ultramarine (Hercules and Antaeus)	0	4
30 l., purple (The Wrestlers)	0	5
40 l., brown (Pallas Athenae)	0	6
50 l., lake (Atlas and Hercules)	0	7
1 dr., grey (Ancient Greeks)	1	2
2 dr., rose („)	2	3
3 dr., lemon („)	3	4
5 dr., indigo (Priestly Offerings)	5	6
1 l. to 50 l., set of ten	2	3

Latest Arrivals.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

DENMARK.

1906. Type 14, with head of the late King Christian IX, but background re-engraved.	s. d.
10 öre, scarlet	0 2

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

1891-8. Queen's Head.

½d., yellow-green	0 1
2d., dull mauve	0 6
2½d., ultramarine	0 8
9d., vermilion	1 0

1904. King's Head. Multiple wmk.

1d., vermilion	0 2
2d., mauve	0 3
6d., orange	0 8
1s., olive-bistre	1 4
3s., dull green	4 0

FIJI ISLANDS.

1903. King's Head. Single wmk.

½d., green	0 2
2d., purple and orange	0 3
2½d., „ blue on blue	0 4
3d., „ mauve	0 5
4d., „ black	0 6
5d., „ green	0 7
6d., „ carmine	0 8
1s., green and „	1 4
5s., „ black	6 6
£1, black and ultramarine	25 0

FIJI ISLANDS—continued.

1904. King's Head. Multiple wmk.

½d., green	0 1
1d., purple and black on red	0 2

HAYTI.

1906. Issue of 1904 surcharged with new value in a double-lined hexagon.

1 c. on 20 c., orange	0 1
2 c. on 50 c., brown-lake	0 1

JAMAICA.

1890-97. Queen's Head. Single wmk.

2d., green	0 3
3d., olive-green (mult. wmk.)	0 5
4d., orange-brown	0 6
6d., orange	0 8
1s., brown	1 4
2s., Venetian red	2 8

1903-6. Arms type.

½d., green and black (mult. wmk.)	0 1
1d., carmine and black (mult. wmk.)	0 2
2½d., ultramarine and black (single wmk.)	0 4
5d., yellow and black (single wmk.)	0 4

PERSIA.

1906. Provisionals. New design. Teheran print.

1 sh., violet and black (perf.)	0 1
2 sh., grey „ (imperf.)	0 1
3 sh., green „ („)	0 2

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HOW TO COLLECT.

(Continued from last week.)

Chapter IV.—GROUP COLLECTING.

The most systematic and interesting method of examining the countries of the world is to take them in their natural geographical divisions or groups.

In Stamp Collecting we make two main divisions: Great Britain and Colonies, and Foreign Countries.

Then we further subdivide these into their geographical groups.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES we subdivide into :—

1. EUROPE : comprising Malta, Gibraltar, Great Britain, Morocco Agencies, and Levant. Cyprus is sometimes included in this European group, but wrongly so, as it forms part of Asia.
2. ASIA : comprising Ceylon, China Expeditionary Force (C.E.F.), Malay States, Hong Kong, India, Labuan, North Borneo, Sarawak, and Straits Settlements.
3. AFRICA : comprising Bechuanaland, British Central Africa, British South Africa, Cape of Good Hope, East Africa and Uganda, Gambia, Gold Coast, Lagos, Mauritius, Natal, Niger Coast Protectorate, Northern Nigeria, Orange River Colony, St. Helena, Seychelles, Somaliland, Sierra Leone, Southern Nigeria, Sudan, Transvaal, and Zanzibar.
4. AMERICA (North) : comprising British Columbia, Canada, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.
5. WEST INDIES : comprising Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Guiana, British Honduras, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Falkland Islands, Grenada, Jamaica, Leeward Islands, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Christopher, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad, Turks Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands, and Virgin Islands.
6. AUSTRALASIA : comprising Aitutaki, British New Guinea, Cook Islands, Fiji, New South Wales, New Zealand, Niue, Penrhyn Island, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Tonga, Victoria, and Western Australia.

Before passing on to Foreign Countries let us discuss this first main division. It is the favourite class with most Collectors at home and even abroad.

Now for a few wrinkles on economical and systematic and judicious buying. We admit that there is nothing to equal our cheap sets. The wealthy buyer frequently commences by securing the great rarities of a country first, well knowing that it will be an easy matter for him to add the cheaper stamps. The Beginner who has to consider his pence, or even his shillings, should begin at the other end, and get his common stamps first, and then, later on when he can better afford it, he may extend his purchases to rarities. Moreover, the collection of the commoner stamps will give him the insight into a country without which he can scarcely buy the rarer stamps with judgment.

EUROPEAN COLONIES.

GREAT BRITAIN, unused or used, now runs into a lot of money, but every British Collector wants to have a finger in the old country's stamps, for they are the pioneer stamps of the world. Here are a few of our Special Sets of Great Britain for choice. It will be noted that many of the grand old stamps may still be had for a few pence :—

Used. Unused.† All Guaranteed Genuine. No Reprints.*

In Ordering it is only necessary to quote Name of Country, Number of Set, and the Price.

No. of Set.	GREAT BRITAIN.	No. in Set.	s.	d.
2,000†	1d., red (Plate Nos. between 95 and 171)	11	...	6 0
2,001†	" " (" " " " 184 and 223)	11	...	3 0
2,002*	½d. " (" " " ")	5	...	0 6
2,003*	1d. " (" " " " between 72 and 140)	29	...	1 6
2,004*	2d., blue (Plate Nos.)	4	...	0 6
2,005*	2½d. (wmk. Anchor), Plate Nos.	3	...	1 6
2,006*	2½d. (" Orb), Plate Nos.	14	...	1 0
2,007*	2½ 1., blue (Plate Nos.)	5	...	0 6
2,008*	¾d., rose (" " " ")	8	...	1 6
2,009*	4d., vermilion (Plate Nos.)	7	...	0 10

(To be continued next week.)

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THE STAMPS OF — EGYPT —

THE politicians tell us that there is unrest in Egypt, that Turkey is encroaching on Egyptian territory, and that the Turk has had orders from the British Government, as the man in possession, to clear out. The process of clearing out the Turk may raise the whole question of our position in Egypt, and lead to the inevitable proclamation of our Protectorate. Then we shall have to transfer Egyptian stamps to Part I, British Colonies. Many knowing ones are already buying Egyptian stamps.

We offer the following sets, and our advice is, secure them while you can do so at these very low prices.

		* USED.	† UNUSED.	ALL GUARANTEED GENUINE.	
<i>No. of Set.</i>				<i>No. in Set.</i>	<i>Price.</i>
I,520†	1867-75, including 1, 2, and 2½ piastres			10 ...	8 0
I,521*	" " scarce values			9 ...	3 0
I,522†	1879-84, Provisionals			3 ...	1 3
I,523†	" 5, 10, 10, 10, and 20 paras, and 1 piastre			6 ...	1 6
I,524*	1879-93, including 2, 5, and 10 piastres			16 ...	1 9
I,525†	1888-93, 1, 2, 3, and 5 millièmes			4 ...	0 4
I,526†	Unpaid, 1884-86, 10 and 20 paras, 1, 2, and 5 piastres			5 ...	6 6
I,527*	" 1886-88, including 1 and 2 piastres			5 ...	1 6
I,528†	" 1889-98, 2, 3, and 4 millièmes, 1 and 2 piastre			5 ...	1 3
I,529*	" " including Official			5 ...	0 4

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BY

GIBBONS

E. J.
NANKIVELL.

STAMP WEEKLY

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1906. *Nelson Monument.* s. d.

½d., black and grey	0	1
½d. ,, ,, green	0	1
1d. ,, ,, red	0	2
2d. ,, ,, yellow	0	3
2½d. ,, ,, ultramarine	0	4
6d. ,, ,, mauve	0	8
1s. ,, ,, carmine	1	4

HOLKAR (INDORE).

1904-6. *Types 4 and 5.*

2 a., brown	0	3
3 a., violet	0	5
4 a., blue	0	6

KISHENGARH.

¼ a., carmine	0	1
½ a., chestnut	0	1
1 a., blue	0	2
2 a., orange-yellow	0	3
4 a., brown	0	6
8 a., violet	1	0
1 r., green	2	0

MAURITANIA.

1906. *New types, as Senegal, etc.*

5 c., red and green	0	1
10 c., blue and carmine	0	2
25 c., red and deep blue	0	4

TRANSVAAL.

1905-6. *King's Head. Multiple wmk.*

½d., green	0	1
1d., carmine	0	2
2d., grey-black and purple	0	3
2½d. ,, ,, ultramarine	0	4
6d. ,, ,, orange	0	8

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6d. „ „ mauve	0	8
1s. „ „ carmine	1	4

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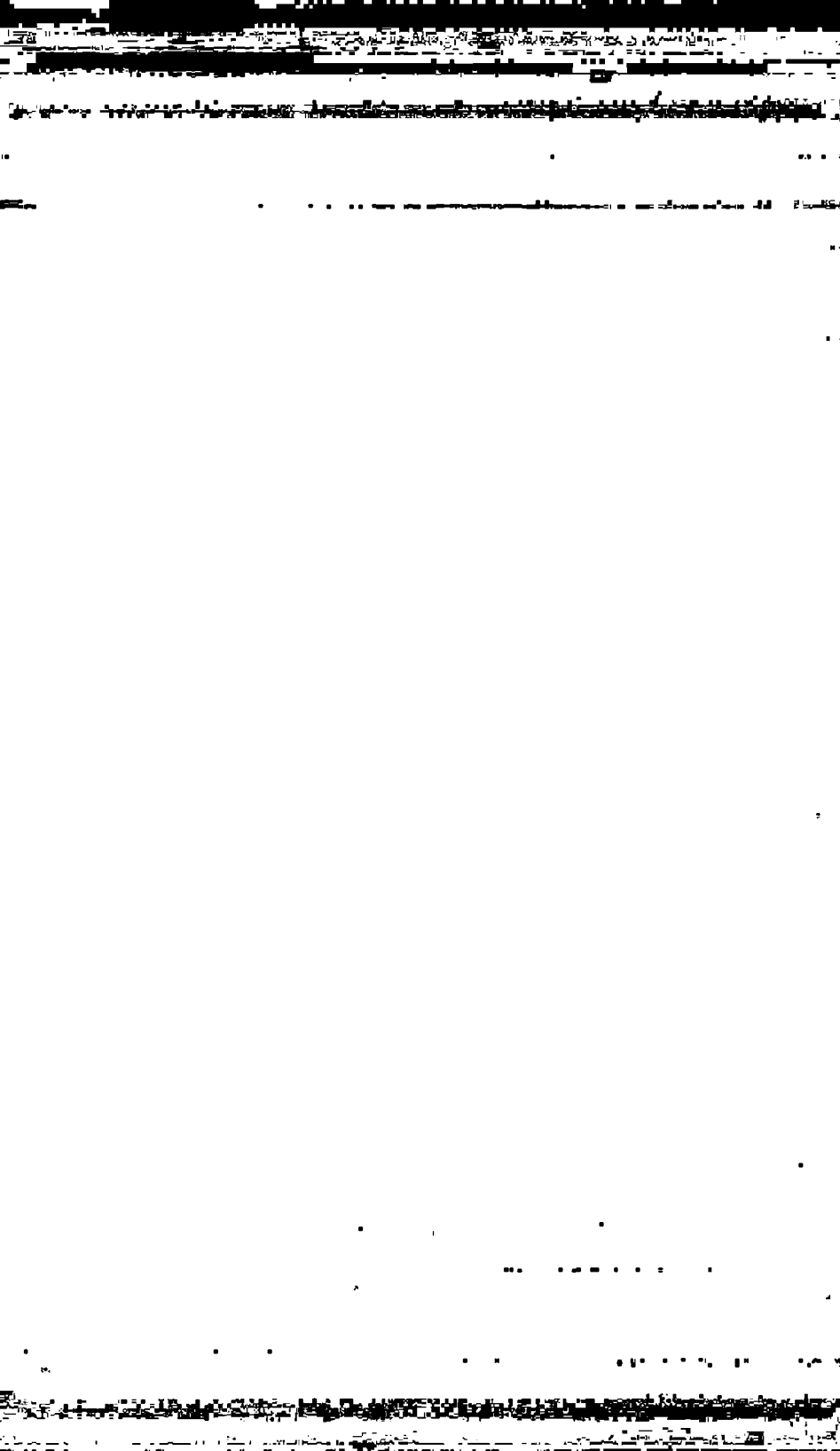
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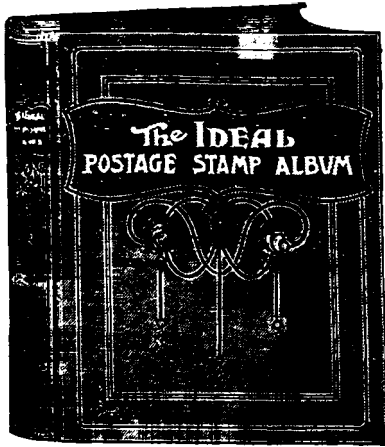
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1,521*	" " " " scarce values	9 . 3 0
1,522†	1879-84, Provisionals	3 . 1 3
1,523†	" " 5, 10, 10, 20, and 20 paras, and 1 piastre	6 . 1 6
1,524*	1879-93, including 2, 5, and 10 piastres	16 . 1 9
1,525†	1888-93, 1, 2, 3, and 5 millimes	4 . 0 4
1,526†	Unpaid, 1884-86, 10 and 20 paras, 1, 2, and 5 piastres	5 . 6 6
1,527*	" " 1886-88, including 1 and 2 piastres	5 . 1 6
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AND GENERAL COLLECTORS.

No. 21, Vol. III. (Whole No. 73).

26 MAY, 1906.

ONE PENNY.

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By the Rev. R. B. EARÉE.

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About 580 pages, demy 8vo.

THIS work is an absolute necessity to the careful Philatelist, who is naturally anxious to ensure the absence of forgeries from his collection. As a work of reference, in this particular respect, it stands entirely unrivalled, being compiled by one who has acquired a world-wide repute, and whose speciality has for many years been the description of forgeries. An immense amount of labour has been bestowed on this New Edition, so as to still further increase its usefulness. Every endeavour has been made by the Author in the description of new and dangerous forgeries, etc., to bring the work fully up to date. Amongst the numerous additions may be noted an elaborate description of technical terms met with in the course of collecting. This section will be found especially useful for the guidance of the novice or younger collector. The illustrations have been considerably augmented, and a large and most interesting series of postmarks, specially drawn, together with an index for reference, will be found included. Altogether, the Publishers have no hesitation in recommending this publication as a most valuable adjunct to a Philatelic Library, and useful alike to Collector and Dealer.

Vol. I.—Price, bound in embossed gilt cloth, 7/6: post-free, 8/.

Vol. II.—In the press, ready about Midsummer, 1906, price 8/., post-free. (Orders, PREPAID, can now be booked.) ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.,
391 Strand (Opposite Hotel Cecil), London, W.C.

HOW TO COLLECT.

Chapter I.—INTRODUCTORY.

WE propose to lead the Collector by easy stages into Systematic Collecting, and to offer him advice as to what to buy and what to avoid.

We shall take him on tour through the most favoured countries, avoiding those that are too difficult and neglecting those that are not worth his attention.

We are Stamp Dealers; we are in business to supply what the Collector demands.

But we recognize the undeniable fact that it is the Beginner who is helped to a wise choice and judicious selection on systematic and true philatelic lines who develops into the satisfied and permanent customer.

And recognizing this fact we hope, by placing our half a century of experience at his disposal in the chapters that follow, to help the reader of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* to steer clear of the pitfalls that tempt the unwary and disappoint and discourage so many.

It is true that no Collector can now hope to make a success of attempting to collect all the countries of the world.

Nevertheless, it is well for the Beginner to acquire, as far as possible, an elementary acquaintance with as many countries as he can afford.

This elementary acquaintance need not be an expensive one.

There are very few countries in which two or three of the low values of most of the series cannot be had for a few shillings—very often for a few pence.

Indeed, most experienced Collectors would probably be surprised to find what a fine array of grand old issues can be listed from the *Gibbons Catalogue* at a penny each.

Several of the first two or three issues of Great Britain, Austria, France, Belgium, Denmark, Holland, Greece, Germany, Spain, etc., may, after all these years, still be had for an outlay of one penny each.

The ever-increasing popularity of Stamp Collecting is largely due to the fact that despite the fabulous rise in price of the general run of Stamps, many of the grand old issues of the world remain cheap and within the reach of the pence of the most modest of Boy Collectors.

The antique in all other classes of collecting gets beyond the reach of all but the wealthy, but in Stamp Collecting many of the oldest and most typical gems are still catalogued at one penny each.

Chapter II.—THE START.

IN our endeavour to tempt the Beginner into the more useful and more profitable groove of Systematic Collecting, and to enable him to decide for himself the ever-recurring and ever-important question, "What shall I collect?" we propose to treat him as a sort of Cook's Tourist, and to act as his guide to the philatelic treasures of the countries of the world, from a collecting and buying point of view.

As we pass through the various countries we shall drop useful hints, here and there, as to what is worth buying from an investment point of view.

There is no disguising the fact that the average Collector dearly loves a little investment and—dare we say it?—a spice of speculation.

But there is also no denying the fact that straightforward collecting pays best in the long run.

Buy in good countries, and buy only such stamps as you need for your collection, and take only such picked copies as we single out from our immense stock for sale in sets, and in our approval sheets.

Don't buy defective or otherwise undesirable stamps, even at 75 per cent. off Gibbons.

Now for the start.

In the first place, you should provide yourself with the best album you can afford, and the best album for a start is decidedly our *Ideal Album*, which has just been published. It has been specially compiled to make Stamp Collecting easy for the Beginner. This album will cost you 10s. 9d. post-free, carefully packed.

In the next place you must provide yourself with a good hinge for mounting your stamps. These we provide in neat air-tight tin boxes at 7d. per box post-free.

The wealthy Collector prefers to buy his stamps singly, and to pick them from our specialized stock-books.

But the Beginner should learn to walk before he attempts to run, in stamp collecting as in other things. It is better to start on economical lines, even if you have a liberal supply of pocket money. Later on you will have gained experience, and be able to buy rarer stamps wisely; so don't be in a hurry.

Chapter III.—THE BEST COUNTRIES.

WHAT is the best country to collect?

I want to specialize: what country can you recommend to a Beginner?

What country will pay me best?

Such are a few of the questions that Beginners are asking every day.

And the best answer that we can give is not to select a country for you, but to take you through the list and tell you all we know of the pros and cons of each, and so enable you to make your choice.

That is just what we now propose to do.

But first a word as to how you are going to buy your stamps.

To meet the needs of the Collector we make up the general run of stamps into tempting sets at tempting prices.

At the start you want to get all you can for your money.

We should prefer your buying stamps singly from us at our Catalogue prices. It would be the most profitable plan—for us, but not for you.

Your best plan, as a Beginner, will be to buy our cheap sets of the countries that you prefer. You know the saying "He who buys a house ready wrought buys many a stick and nail for nought." So it is in buying sets of stamps. He who buys a set ready made up buys many a stamp for nought. Sets are made up of those stamps that we can buy cheaply in large wholesale lots. Hence the reason why we can afford to sell them as bargains.

Sets form the best and cheapest foundation upon which to build up a fine collection. When you have

HOW TO COLLECT—continued.

got together a nice little collection of the cheaper class of stamps in sets, and you feel inclined to enrich it with rare stamps, then you can begin to fill up the gaps here and there.

Higgledy-piggledy collecting is never satisfactory. A stamp dabbed in here and there, as you may chance to pick it up, does not yield much pleasure to the Collector. At best it is a higgledy-piggledy business.

But if you take the countries in some sort of systematic way, and buy the stamps of a particular country, you will find that you will soon have some pages of which you may be proud, and the other pages you may fill up in due course in the same effective and economical way, if you follow our plan.

Chapter IV.—NEW ISSUES.

DON'T delay in getting your new issues. Whatever country you go in for, be sure to secure the new issues of that country directly they are to be had, so as to make sure of getting them at the ordinary new-issue rates. Recent experience proves that it is no longer safe to treat new issues as obtainable at any time. Circumstances have arisen, and are still operative, necessitating many changes of design, and other changes in the methods of production that give rise to more or less ephemeral varieties. As a consequence, many new issues, accepted and sold as permanent issues, have suddenly become obsolete, and from causes which no collector or dealer could foresee have run up to extraordinary prices. For instance, we received and sold, at new-issue rates, our first supply of the single CA Morocco Agencies 2 pesetas. This stamp, which has suddenly been superseded by the Multiple CA, is now selling at 20s. The Southern Nigeria King's Head Single CA £1, for a few days on sale at the usual new-issue rates, now fetches £8 at auction. Therefore, don't delay in ordering your new issues directly you read our list of Latest Arrivals in *G. S. W.*

On another page of this number of *G. S. W.* you will find full particulars of a New Issue Service which we are just inaugurating to supply our readers with new issues as soon as they are obtainable, at a fraction over the face value. Be sure to let us have your order at your earliest convenience.

Chapter V.—GROUP COLLECTING.

THE most systematic and interesting method of examining the countries of the world is to take them in their natural geographical divisions or groups.

In Stamp Collecting we make two main divisions: Great Britain and Colonies, and Foreign Countries.

Then we further subdivide these into their geographical groups.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES

we subdivide into:—

1. EUROPE: comprising Malta, Gibraltar, Great Britain, Morocco Agencies, and Levant. Cyprus is sometimes included in this European group, but wrongly so, as it forms part of Asia.

2. ASIA: comprising Ceylon, China Expeditionary Force (C.E.F.), Malay States, Hong Kong, India, Labuan, North Borneo, Sarawak, and Straits Settlements.

3. AFRICA: comprising Bechuanaland, British Central Africa, British South Africa, Cape of Good Hope, East Africa and Uganda, Gambia, Gold Coast, Lagos, Mauritius, Natal, Niger Coast Protectorate, Northern Nigeria, Orange River Colony, St. Helena, Seychelles, Somaliland, Sierra Leone, Southern Nigeria, Sudan, Transvaal, and Zanzibar.

4. AMERICA (North): comprising British Columbia, Canada, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.

5. WEST INDIES: comprising Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Guiana, British Honduras, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Falkland Islands, Grenada, Jamaica, Leeward Islands, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Christopher, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad, Turks Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands, and Virgin Islands.

6. AUSTRALASIA: comprising Aitutaki, British New Guinea, Cook Islands, Fiji, New South Wales, New Zealand, Niue, Penrhyn Island, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Tonga, Victoria, and Western Australia.

Before passing on to Foreign Countries let us discuss this first main division. It is the favourite class with most Collectors at home and even abroad.

Now for a few wrinkles on economical and systematic and judicious buying. We admit that there is nothing to equal our cheap sets. The wealthy buyer frequently commences by securing the great rarities of a country first, well knowing that it will be an easy matter for him to add the cheaper stamps. The Beginner who has to consider his pence, or even his shillings, should begin at the other end, and get his common stamps first, and then, later on when he can better afford it, he may extend his purchases to rarities. Moreover, the collection of the commoner stamps will give him the insight into a country without which he can scarcely buy the rarer stamps with judgment.

EUROPEAN COLONIES.

GREAT BRITAIN, unused or used, now runs into a lot of money, but every British Collector wants to have a finger in the old country's stamps, for they are the pioneer stamps of the world. Here are a few of our Special Sets of Great Britain for choice. It will be noted that many of the grand old stamps may still be had for a few pence:—

Used.* Unused.† All Guaranteed Genuine. No Reprints.

In Ordering it is only necessary to quote Name of Country, Number of Set, and the Price.

No. of Set.	GREAT BRITAIN.	No. in Set.	s. d.
2,000†	1d., red (Plate Nos. between 95 and 171)	11	.. 6 0
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2,002†	1d., blue (Plate Nos. between 72 and 140)	5	.. 0 6
2,003†	1d., blue (Plate Nos. between 72 and 140)	29	.. 1 6
2,004†	2d., blue (Plate Nos. between 72 and 140)	4	.. 0 6
2,005†	2½d. (wmk. Anchor), Plate Nos. between 72 and 140	3	.. 1 6
2,006†	2½d. (wmk. Orb), Plate Nos. between 72 and 140	14	.. 1 0
2,007†	2½d., blue (Plate Nos. between 72 and 140)	5	.. 0 6
2,008†	3d., rose (Plate Nos. between 72 and 140)	8	.. 1 6
2,009†	4d., vermilion (Plate Nos. between 72 and 140)	7	.. 0 10

(To be continued.)

Stanley Gibbons' PRICED CATALOGUE

..... OF THE

*Postage Stamps
of the World*

In Two Parts



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GREAT BRITAIN and Colonies

292 pages

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PART II

Foreign Countries

550 pages

Cloth, 2/6 ; post-free, 2/9



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Made of best tough white paper. Invaluable for keeping duplicates.

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C. 4½ × 3½ . . .	8d. ...	5/9
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New Catalogue, 1906-7.

NOW READY.

Vol. II. Foreign Countries.

Price 2s. 6d.

Post-free 2s. 9d.

IN issuing our new Catalogues for the season 1906-7, we have first to note that for business reasons we have thought it best to bring out Volume II first, but Volume I is well on the road and will, we trust, be ready about July.

By publishing our Catalogues in the quiet time of the year, we give the dealers time to rearrange and price their stocks before the busy season commences.

The chief alterations throughout Part II will be found in the stamps of Europe.

These stamps—with those of other foreign countries—were considerably reduced in price during the past three years, and the result has been that our stock of the old European stamps in particular has been practically cleared out, and we have found a constantly growing demand for the many sound European countries, which are mostly free from provisionals, speculative stamps, remainders, and such bugbears.

In order to build up our stock of the older European stamps, we—in February, 1906—purchased the celebrated collection of Europeans owned by Mr. W. W. Mann, paying for the same the record price of

 **£30,000.** 

This collection—which was most scientifically arranged in eighty of our Oriol Albums—has been of the greatest use to us in revising and rearranging our lists of the European stamps. The following countries have received especial attention in this new edition of our Catalogue:—

AUSTRIA.

Entirely rewritten. The issue of 1850 divided into the three groups according to papers, and the minor varieties properly listed. The 1867-77 issue has been divided into the two printings with heavy and fine beard, etc.; also the perforations and type varieties properly classed. The 1890-1902 issues reclassified and properly grouped in sets of perforations, with many errors of printing that have not previously been listed.

The Newspaper stamps have been relisted and varieties of type clearly illustrated.

AUSTRIAN ITALY.

Entirely rewritten on similar lines to Austria.

BOSNIA.

Entirely rewritten, with correct list of perforations and varieties of plates, etc.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

The issues from 1899 rewritten and many new varieties now included.

GERMANY.

This whole group has been fully and carefully revised, and many new varieties included. A number of enlarged illustrations have been made in order to show clearly minor differences of type, etc.

GREECE.

This list has been revised and partly rewritten.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

The list of the "Interisland Postage" stamps has been rewritten and corrected by Mr. J. N. Luff.

Some time ago we decided not to catalogue varieties formed by holes punched in the stamps, such as in British stamps punched "B.T." for Board of Trade. In pursuance of this policy we now omit such varieties in the Luxemburg Officials, the Tunis Unpaid, etc. etc.

Throughout this Catalogue we have carefully revised the dates, and have stated where possible the method and place of printing of the stamps.

Owing to our very large purchases during the past year, we are now enabled to price many hundreds of rare and scarce stamps that are now in our stock.

The question of the *prices* quoted in this Catalogue has received our most careful attention. These have been most carefully revised, and higher prices have become necessary in many cases.

PART I. GREAT BRITAIN & COLONIES.

In the press. Prepaid orders now booked. Price 2/9 each, post-free. Ready early in July.

HOLLAND AND COLONIES.

Entirely rewritten and rearranged. Especial attention has been given to the list of perforations, and for help in this group we are much indebted to our friends Messrs. C. Stewart-Wilson and A. J. Warren.

ITALY AND STATES

Have been considerably revised, and much new information has been added.

MODENA.

This list is quite new, and is based upon the new handbook written by Dr. Diena.

ROUMANIA.

List fully revised and partially rewritten.

SERVIA.

The first portion of this list has been rewritten.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

These being now separate kingdoms have been placed under S and N respectively, and both have been thoroughly revised and corrected.

TURKEY.

This list has been considerably extended and revised and many new varieties are now included.

UNITED STATES.

Mr. J. N. Luff has carefully revised this list and made a number of improvements and additions.

"NEW ISSUES"

ONLY TEN PER CENT. OVER NOMINAL VALUE.

**A New Department just started by STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited,
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FOR some considerable time past we have been desirous of opening a special department to deal with "New Issues" at the lowest possible price at which they can be handled. Hitherto our great difficulty has been the lack of space—every inch of our room at 390 and 391 Strand was occupied—but last year we determined to clear out our enormous stock of upwards of three-quarters of a million post cards and envelopes, and this has at last given us ample room in which to develop this hitherto neglected branch of our business.

This new branch is going to be run absolutely as a new business, separate accounts will be kept, and we shall be obliged if our clients will send us separate letters and remittances for all transactions.

In order to start this new branch on a proper scale, we have decided to commence it with a cash capital of

£8000,

to which as much again will be added if it is found to be necessary.

We have considered most carefully as to the lowest basis of price upon which we can invest a somewhat large capital in this new branch, and after calculating the estimated expenses and the probable turnover, we have decided to supply all "New Issues" at the uniform price of

ONLY TEN PER CENT.

upon the nominal value.

In doing this we shall *not* attempt to trade with our clients' money, and we do *not* ask for any cash deposit, but we require all our new "Box Holders" to settle for all new issues within six days of receipt of same.

We intend to *pay all postages* incurred in sending new issues to our clients, as we do not wish them to be bothered with such items as debits of 1d. or 2½d. on each consignment of goods we send out.

This is our scheme. Now, what can we do for you personally?

Do you want new issues of any kind? If so, give us a fair trial, and if we don't please you (which we think we shall do), then drop us.

Each new "Box Holder" can have just what he collects put into his box and the stamps sent to him once a fortnight or once a month.

Each collector can have single specimens, pairs, blocks of four, panes, or sheets.

Specimen orders might be as follows:—

- A. All British Colonials up to £5 nominal value.
- B. " " " "
- C. British Colonies of Africa with all new issues of South America.
- D. Horizontal pairs of all West India.
- E. All French, Spanish, and Portuguese stamps with all their colonies.
And so on, in any combination.

TO STAMP DEALERS.

The terms for stamp dealers will be just the same—10 per cent. over face value.

A dealer can book an order, say, as follows:—The following quantities of

ALL BRITISH COLONIALS.		EUROPEANS.	
100	each of stamps of ¼d., ½d., or 1d.	24	each of all values under 2d.
50	" " 1½d., 2d., 2½d.	12	" " from 2½d. to 6d.
24	" " 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d.	3	" " from 9d. to 2s. 6d.
12	" " 7d., 8d., 9d., 10d., 1s.	1	" " of all higher values.
6	" " 1s. 6d., 2s., 2s. 6d.		And so on.
3	" " 3s., 4s., 5s., 6s., 7s. 6d., 10s.		
1	" " £1, 30s., £2.		

Clients should note that this "New Issue" department only supplies such stamps as they are able to buy in quantities at face value. For many varieties we have to pay heavy premiums, as many provisionals are obsolete before we can get money over for them. Such varieties will be offered from time to time in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, in which all information about changes in current issues will be announced.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

New Issues.

IMPORTANT.

Don't delay in getting your new issues. Whatever country you go in for, be sure to secure the new issues of that country directly they are to be had, so as to make sure of getting them at the ordinary new-issue rates. Recent experience proves that it is no longer safe to treat new issues as obtainable at any time. Circumstances have arisen, and are still operative, necessitating many changes of design, and other changes in the methods of production that give rise to more or less ephemeral varieties. As a consequence, many new issues, accepted and sold as permanent issues, have suddenly become obsolete, and from causes which no collector or dealer could foresee have run up to extraordinary prices. For instance, we received and sold, at new-issue rates, our first supply of the Single CA Morocco Agencies 2 pesetas. This stamp, which has suddenly been superseded by the Multiple CA, is now selling at 20s. The Southern Nigeria King's Head Single CA £1, for a few days on sale at the usual new-issue rates, now fetches £8 at auction. Therefore, don't delay in ordering your new issues directly you read our list of Latest Arrivals in G. S. W.

LATEST ARRIVALS.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

CYPRUS.

1905. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	s. d.
12 pias., red-brown and black	2 0

GAMBIA.

1904-6. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
½d., green	0 1
1d., carmine	0 1
2d., orange and mauve	0 3
3½d., ultramarine	0 4
4d., brown and ultramarine	0 6
6d., olive-green and carmine	0 8

ICELAND.

1902-4. Head of the late King Christian IX.	
<i>These stamps may any day be superseded by a new issue with the new King's Portrait.</i>	
3 aur., orange	0 1
4 " " rose and grey	0 1
5 " " green	0 2
6 " " deep brown and grey-brown	0 2
10 " " carmine	0 2
16 " " reddish brown	0 3
20 " " blue	0 4
25 " " green and brown	0 5
40 " " mauve	0 8
50 " " slate and grey	0 9
1 krona, brown and dull blue	1 6
2 " " blue and olive-brown	3 0
5 " " slate and red-brown	7 6

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

3 aur., sepia and buff	0 1
4 " " deep green	0 1
5 " " chestnut	0 2
10 " " blue	0 2
16 " " carmine	0 3
20 " " green	0 4
50 " " mauve	0 9

IVORY COAST.

<i>Parcel Post Stamps. New type of overprint.</i>	
50 c., lilac	0 9
1 fr., rose on buff	1 9

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

1901-6. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
½d., lilac and green	0 1
3d., " black	0 5

MONTSERAT.

1903. Type 4. Multiple wmk.	
½d., grey-green and green	0 1
2d., grey and brown	0 3
3d., dull orange and purple	0 5
6d., lilac and olive-brown	0 8

WURTEMBERG.

<i>1906. Official and Municipal Stamps overprinted to commemorate centenary of kingdom.</i>	
2, 3, 5, 10, and 20 pf., Official; and 2, 3, 5, and 10 pf., Municipal. Set of nine	4 6
25, 30, 40, and 50 pf., and 1 mk., Official; and 25 pf., Municipal. Set of six	7 6

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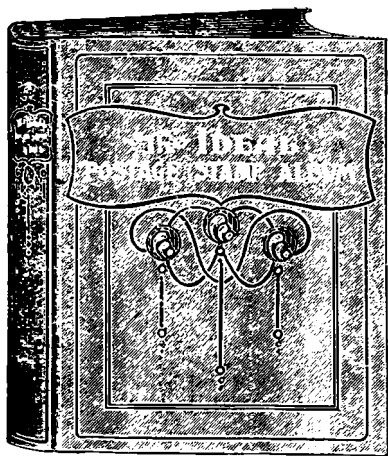
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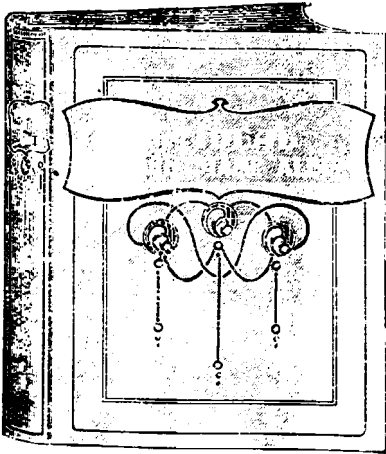
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2 JUNE, 1906.

ONE PENNY.

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BRITISH LEVANT.

1906. King's Head. Surcharged.	s. d.
1 piast on 2½d., ultramarine	0 4

GIBRALTAR.

1904-6. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
2d., grey-green and carmine	0 3
6d., lilac and violet	0 8
1/-, black and carmine	1 4

GOLD COAST.

1904-6. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
2d., lilac and orange-red	0 3
3d., " orange	0 5
2½, green and yellow	3 3

NEW CALEDONIA.

1906. New Pictorial type.	
5 c., blue on bluish	0 1
10 c., chocolate on buff	0 2
15 c., green on greenish	0 3
30 c., carmine	0 5
50 c., ultramarine on cream	0 7
60 c., olive-brown on bluish	0 8
1 fr., green on cream	1 2

NORTHERN NIGERIA.

1906. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
1d., lilac and carmine	0 2
2d., " orange	0 3
6d., " mauve	0 6
1/-, green and black	1 4
2½, " blue	3 1

ROUMANIA.

1906. Charity Stamps.	
Queen of Roumania Spinning.	
3 (10) b., red-brown	} Set of four 1 0
5 (15) b., green	
10 (20) b., carmine	
15 (25) b., lilac	
Queen of Roumania Weaving.	
3 (10) b., red-brown	} Set of four 1 0
5 (15) b., green	
10 (20) b., carmine	
15 (25) b., lilac	
Queen of Roumania Nursing Wounded Soldier.	
3 (10) b., red-brown	} Set of four 1 0
5 (15) b., green	
10 (20) b., carmine	
15 (25) b., lilac	
7 bani on the 3 bani and 10 bani each on the other values is charged in excess of the face value, the surplus being paid to charity funds.	

ST. VINCENT.

1906. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
½d., lilac and green	0 1
1d., " carmine	0 8
6d., " brown	0 8
1/-, green and carmine	1 4

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A WEEKLY JOURNAL FOR BEGINNERS
AND GENERAL COLLECTORS.

No. 23, Vol. III. (Whole No. 76).

9 JUNE, 1906.

ONE PENNY.

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CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

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New Issues

from us, through our New Issue Service, you simply tell us to send you all New Issues of your favourite country, or countries, up to 1s., 5s., 10s., or £1, and go to bed with a mind at peace: we stay up and do the rest.

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LATEST ARRIVALS.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

AUSTRIA.		
	1906. Type 19. With shiny bars.	s. d.
72 h., lilac-rose (No. 355), used		0 5

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.		
1903-4. King's Head. Single wmk.		
1d., grey and carmine		0 2
2d., purple and magenta		0 3
4d., grey-green and black		0 6
6d., grey and buff		0 8
1s., black and blue		1 4

GIBRALTAR.		
1903-4. King's Head. Single wmk.		
2½d., lilac and black on blue		0 4
4s. " green		5 3
8s. " black on blue		10 0

<i>Multiple wmk.</i>		
½d., grey-green and green (C)		0 1
1d., lilac on red (C)		0 2
2d., grey-green and carmine		0 3
6d., lilac and violet		0 8
1s., black and carmine (C)		1 4
2s., green and blue		2 5

MALTA.		
1903-4. King's Head. Single wmk.		
3d., grey and mauve		0 5

<i>Multiple wmk.</i>		
½d., green		0 1
1d., black and carmine		0 2
2d., mauve and grey		0 3
2½d., maroon and ultramarine		0 4
4d., black and brown		0 6

MAURITIUS.		
1902. Overprinted "Postage & Revenue."		
25 c., olive-yellow (No. 146)		0 8
50 c., green (" 147)		1 3

1902-4. Type 36. Single wmk.		
1 c., grey and black		0 1
3 c., green and carmine on yellow		0 1
5 c., lilac and black on buff		0 2
8 c., green " "		0 3
12 c., grey-black and carmine		0 3

<i>Multiple wmk.</i>		
2 c., lilac and violet (C)		0 1
6 c. " carmine on red		0 2

SAN MARINO.		
1903. Types 14 and 15.		
2 c., dull purple	0 1	45 c., yellow 0 7
5 c., blue-green	0 1	65 c., deep brown 0 10
10 c., pink	0 2	1 l., olive 1 3
25 c., blue	0 4	2 l., violet 2 6
30 c., lake	0 5	5 l., steel-blue 6 0
40 c., vermilion-red	0 6	

1905. Type 14. Surcharged.		
15 c. on 20 c., brown-orange		0 4

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS.		
Types 21 and 22.		
5 c., brown and green	0 1	60 c., brown and green 0 9
10 c. " "	0 2	1 l., rose 1 3
30 c. " "	0 5	5 l. " 6 0
50 c. " "	0 8	10 l. " 11 6

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HOW TO COLLECT.

(Continued from last week.)

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No. of Set.	GREAT BRITAIN—Continued.	No. in Set.	s. d.
2,010*	6d., lilac and grey (Plate Nos.)		Out of stock.
2,011*	1s., green (Plate Nos.)		Out of stock.
2,012†	Low values, including Inland Revenue	5	1 0
2,012†	1887-1900, Queen Victoria, ½d., green, 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 4½d., 5d., 6d., and 1s.	11	5 0
2,012†	1902, King Edward VII., ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	9	3 0
2,012†	2/6, 5s., 10s.	3	18 6
2,013†	Private Telegraphs, 3d., 1s., 1/6, and 2/6	4	5 0
2,313†	Universal Telegraph Co., 6d. and 1s., with various inscriptions	7	12 6
2,014†	Government Telegraphs, 3d., 6d., and 1s.	3	17 6
2,015†	British Levant, 40, 40, 80 paras, and 4 and 12 piastres	5	5 6
2,016*	1840-41, including 1d., black, and 2d., blue, no lines	4	2 3
2,017*	1854-64, early 1d.	5	1 0
2,018*	1858-62, including 6d., 9d., 1s., small letters	11	7 6
2,020*	1873-81, 5d., indigo	12	2 0
2,021*	1883-84, 2/6, 5s., 10s.	3	2 3
2,022*	½d., 1½d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	6	2 3
2,023*	1887, including 4½d. and 9d.	11	1 0

MALTA, but for the three high values of 2/6, 5/-, and 10/-, is not, from the general collector's point of view an expensive country—indeed it may be got together for a few shillings. The first type means several pounds for the specialist, but may by the general collector be very satisfactorily represented by the 1881 ½d., wmk. Crown CA, catalogued at 1/-. Our set list comes out at follows:—

No. of Set.	MALTA.	No. in Set.	s. d.
2,436†	½d., ¾d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 4½d., 5d., and 1s.	10	3 9
2,437†	2s., 5s., and 10s.	3	20 6
2,438*	½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 4½d., 5d., and 1s.		Out of stock.
2,439*	½d., yellow, ¾d., 1d., and 2½d.	4	0 6

GIBRALTAR was once regarded as too easy a country for the specialist; it was left to the general collector who preferred something simple and free from puzzling varieties. It is still a simple country, though its issues now include several very interesting sets. As will be seen from the following list (including **Morocco Agencies**) all the lot does not total up to a serious item for the general collector:—

No. of Set.	GIBRALTAR.	No. in Set.	s. d.
2,224†	1886-87, including two first issues	5	2 3
2,224†	¾d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., and 6d.		Out of stock.
2,225*	1886-98, including 1 pes., brown, etc.	9	6 0
2,226†	1889 (Aug.), 10, 25, 40, 50, and 75 c.	5	7 6
2,226†	„ („), 5, 10, 25, 25, 40, 50, and 75 c.	7	10 0
2,227†	„ 5, 10, 20, and 25 c.	4	0 8
2,228†	„ 1, 2, and 5 pesetas	3	8 6
2,229†	„ 1898, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	7	3 0
MOROCCO AGENCIES.			
2,232†	1898, Local Print, 5, 10, 20, 40, 50 c., and 1 p.	6	2 9
2,233†	„ London Print, 5, 10, 25, 40, 50 c., and 1 and 2 p.	7	3 6
2,234†	London and Local Prints		Out of stock.

(To be continued next week.)

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The Newspaper stamps have been relisted and varieties of type clearly illustrated.

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Entirely rewritten on similar lines to Austria.

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Entirely rewritten, with correct list of perforations and varieties of plates, etc.

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The issues from 1899 rewritten and many new varieties now included.

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HOLLAND AND COLONIES.

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ITALY AND STATES

Have been considerably revised, and much new information has been added.

MODENA.

This list is quite new, and is based upon the new handbook written by Dr. Diena.

ROUMANIA.

List fully revised and partially rewritten.

SERVIA.

The first portion of this list has been rewritten.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

These being now separate kingdoms have been placed under S and N respectively, and both have been thoroughly revised and corrected.

TURKEY.

This list has been considerably extended and revised and many new varieties are now included.

UNITED STATES.

Mr. J. N. Luff has carefully revised this list and made a number of improvements and additions.

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A WEEKLY JOURNAL FOR BEGINNERS
AND GENERAL COLLECTORS.

No. 24, Vol. III. (Whole No. 70).

16 JUNE, 1906.

ONE PENNY.

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LATEST ARRIVALS.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

BOSNIA.

1900. Type 3.		s. d.
1 k., carmine	used, reduced to	0 6

DANISH WEST INDIES.

1905. Type 12.		
1 fr., blue and green		1 3
2 fr., brown and orange-red		2 6
5 fr., brown and yellow		6 0

NEW SOUTH WALES.

1906. Wmk. Crown and A.		
8d., magenta		1 0
10d., violet		1 2

SARAWAK.

1899-1901. Type 17. No wmk.		
1 c., blue and rosine		0 1
2 c., green		0 1
4 c., carmine		0 2
8 c., yellow and black		0 4
10 c., ultramarine		0 5
12 c., lilac		0 6
16 c., brown and green		0 8
20 c., bistre and mauve		0 9
25 c., brown and blue		1 0
50 c., sage-green and rose		1 9
\$1, carmine and green		3 6
1901. Same type. Wmk. Type 18.		
2 c., green		1 0

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*In the annexed spaces our British readers
should find*

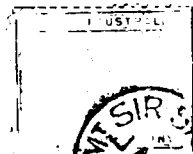
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ONE ITALY 2 c. STAMP,

and TWO different

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all used.



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GIBBONS STAMP WEEKLY

A WEEKLY JOURNAL FOR BEGINNERS
AND GENERAL COLLECTORS.

No. 25, Vol. III. (Whole No. 77).

23 JUNE, 1906.

ONE PENNY.

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BERMUDA.

1906. Type 12. Multiple wmk.	s. d.
1d., brown and carmine	0 2

BRITISH SOMALILAND.

1904. Type 2. King's Head. Single wmk.	
2 a., purple and dull lilac	0 5
3 a., green and chocolate	0 8
4 a., black and green	1 0
6 a., bright violet and green	1 6
8 a., pale blue and grey-black	2 0
12 a., orange-yellow and grey-black	3 6

CANADA.

1903-4. King's Head.	
1 c., green	0 1
2 c., carmine	0 2
5 c., deep blue	0 4
7 c., olive-yellow	0 5
10 c., brown-lilac	0 7
20 c., olive-green	1 1

DENMARK.

1908-4. Head of the late King Christian IX.
These stamps may any day be superseded by a new issue with the new King's Portrait.

Type 14.	
10 Öre, scarlet	0 2
20 " blue	0 4
25 " brown	0 5
50 " deep violet	0 10
100 " orange-buff	1 8

Type 14 (re-engraved).

5 Öre, green	0 2
------------------------	-----

HAYTI.

1906. Issue in gold currency. Types 8 and 9 overprinted with Type 19.

1 c., yellow-green	0 1	5 c., sky-blue	0 4
1 c., blue	0 1	5 c., brown	0 4
2 c., carmine	0 2	7 c., grey	0 5
2 c., orange	0 2	8 c., carmine	0 6
3 c., green	0 3	10 c., orange	0 7
4 c., red	0 3	15 c., olive-grey	0 10

MOROCCO AGENCIES.

1906. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
25 c., lilac and black on blue	0 4

SALVADOR.

Cat. No.	Various stamps. New or reduced prices.	used
409.	1 c. on 2 c., carmine	0 4
404.	3 c. on 12 c., red-brown	0 6
422.	6 c. on 12 c., slate	0 3
461.	2 c. on 26 c., yellow-brown	0 6
468.	1 c., deep green	0 1
469.	2 c., red	0 2
470.	3 c., orange	0 2
471.	5 c., ultramarine	0 3

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

1900-05. Type 1. Single wmk.			
½d., green	0 1	4d., orange	0 6
2d., sepia	0 3	6d., violet	0 8
2½d., greyish blue	0 4	1s., purple-brown	1 4
Multiple wmk.			
½d., green	0 1	1d., carmine	0 2

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By publishing our Catalogues in the quiet time of the year, we give the dealers time to rearrange and price their stocks before the busy season commences.

The chief alterations throughout Part II will be found in the stamps of Europe.

These stamps—with those of other foreign countries—were considerably reduced in price during the past three years, and the result has been that our stock of the old European stamps in particular has been practically cleared out, and we have found a constantly growing demand for the many sound European countries, which are mostly free from provisionals, speculative stamps, remainders, and such bugbears.

AUSTRIA.

Entirely rewritten. The issue of 1850 divided into the three groups according to papers, and the minor varieties properly listed. The 1867-77 issue has been divided into the two printings with heavy and fine beard, etc.; also the perforations and type varieties properly classed. The 1890-1902 issues reclassified and properly grouped in sets of perforations, with many errors of printing that have not previously been listed.

The Newspaper stamps have been relisted and varieties of type clearly illustrated.

AUSTRIAN ITALY.

Entirely rewritten on similar lines to Austria.

BOSNIA.

Entirely rewritten, with correct list of perforations and varieties of plates, etc.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

The issues from 1899 rewritten and many new varieties now included.

GERMANY.

This whole group has been fully and carefully revised, and many new varieties included. A number of enlarged illustrations have been made in order to show clearly minor differences of type, etc.

GREECE.

This list has been revised and partly rewritten.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

The list of the "Interisland Postage" stamps has been rewritten and corrected by Mr. J. N. Luff.

Throughout this Catalogue we have carefully revised the dates, and have stated where possible the method and place of printing of the stamps. Owing to our very large purchases during the past year, we are now enabled to price many hundreds of rare and scarce stamps that are now in our stock. The question of the prices quoted in this Catalogue has received our most careful attention. These have been most carefully revised, and higher prices have become necessary in many cases.

HOLLAND AND COLONIES.

Entirely rewritten and rearranged. Especial attention has been given to the list of perforations, and for help in this group we are much indebted to our friends Messrs. C. Stewart-Wilson and A. J. Warren.

ITALY AND STATES

Have been considerably revised, and much new information has been added.

MODENA.

This list is quite new, and is based upon the new handbook written by Dr. Diena.

ROUMANIA.

List fully revised and partially rewritten.

SERVIA.

The first portion of this list has been rewritten.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

These being now separate kingdoms have been placed under S and N respectively, and both have been thoroughly revised and corrected.

TURKEY.

This list has been considerably extended and revised and many new varieties are now included.

UNITED STATES.

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Summer Collecting

Many Collectors shut up their Postage Stamp Albums and put them on the shelf or in the safe during the summer months until the commencement of the winter meetings, and then they find that there have been several New Issues in their favourite countries which they have missed, and which have been sold out and become obsolete. The stamp which could have been bought for a few pence frequently requires an expenditure of many shillings.

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	s.	d.
½d., green	0	1
1d., scarlet	0	2
2½d., ultramarine	0	4

BRITISH HONDURAS.

1904-4. King's Head. Single wmk.

1 c., green	0	1
2 c., lilac and black on red	0	3
5 c., grey-black and blue on bluish	0	4
20 c., violet	1	3

1904-5. King's Head. Multiple wmk.

1 c., green	0	1
2 c., purple and black on red	0	2

GUATEMALA.

1898. Error. Surcharged on wrong value.

6 c. on 2 c., brown (No. 132)	used	10	0
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No. 132 should really follow No. 124 in Catalogue, as the surcharge is in black.

NICARAGUA.

Cat. No.	Various stamps. New or reduced prices.	Used.	
		Unused.	Used.
208.	1 c., yellow-green	0	1
209.	2 c., carmine	0	2
213.	10 c., orange	0	6
214.	10 c., yellow	0	6
290.	2 c., red	—	0
292.	4 c., vermilion	—	0
295.	10 c., yellow-brown	—	0
296.	15 c., olive	—	0
297.	20 c., claret	—	0
298.	50 c., yellow	—	0

PERSIA.

Cat. No.	Various stamps. New or reduced prices.	Used.	
		Unused.	Used.
139.	1 ch., black	0	2
144.	14 ch., orange	0	6
145.	1 kr., green	1	0
150.	5 ch., blue	0	2
152.	10 ch., carmine	0	3
168.	5 ch. on 8 ch., brown	0	3
169.	1 kr. on 5 kr., violet and silver	0	6
170.	2 kr. on 5 kr. "	0	6
210.	8 ch., orange	1	0
214.	1 kr., carmine-red	0	3
215.	2 kr., green	0	4
216.	3 kr., brown-lilac	—	1
217.	4 kr., orange-red	—	1
218.	5 kr., dull brown	—	0
291.	10 kr., deep blue	2	0
303.	5 kr. on 5 kr., orange	2	0
304.	5 kr. on 5 kr., yellow	0	6
369.	1 kr., mauve	—	0
369.	2 kr., blue	—	0
364.	5 kr., pale brown	—	0
365.	10 kr., rose-red	—	0
374.	12 ch. on 10 kr., rose-red	0	6
399.	9 ch. on 1 kr., mauve	—	0
406.	1 chai on 1 kr.	—	0
408.	2 chais on 5 kr., pale brown	—	0

URUGUAY.

1904-5. Types 81, 82, and 87. Lithographed.		Used.	
5 mills., orange		—	0
1 c., green		—	0
25 c., bistre-brown		—	0

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