

Brawford 2027

GIBBONS

STAMP WEEKLY

A POPULAR WEEKLY STAMP JOURNAL
PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED
FOR ALL CLASSES OF POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS

EDITED BY
STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

VOL. VII
JANUARY—JUNE, 1908

LONDON
STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391 STRAND, W.C.
NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY

CONTENTS

Figures in italics refer to cover-pages facing the ordinary pages of the same number.

Abyssinia, 45, 59, 285
 Advertisements, Smart, 291
 Afghanistan, 175, 400
 Afghanistan Mail Service, 400
 Aitutaki, 221
 Albania, 226
 Album, a Pica for a Blank, 396
 Alexandria (Va.), 67, 96
 Alwar, 372
 American Notes, 76, 123, 381
 Andrews, W. H., 347
 Answers to Correspondents, 32, 64,
 93, 144, 176, 192, 207, 224, 256,
 288, 320, 352, 366, 384
 Antigua, 190, 239
 Antrobus, R., 295, 320
 Apology, An, 262
 Approval Department, Notes from
 our, 347
 Argentine Republic, 269, 365
 Armstrong, D. B., 5, 21, 40, 53, 68,
 85, 101, 118, 133, 148, 166, 181,
 203, 212, 224, 230, 244, 277, 292,
 309, 325, 340, 356, 372, 388, 403
 Australian Commonwealth, 110, 350
 Australian Protection, 156
 Australia's Income from Stamp Col-
 lectors, 19
 Austria, 29, 46, 62, 71, 175, 286, 410
 Autobiography of a Penny Black,
 279
 Automatic Machine, 285

Bad Copies, 266
 Ball Dress of Stamps, A. 4
 Barbados, 110
 Barnsdall, W. P., 1, 17, 33, 49, 65,
 81, 97, 113, 129, 145, 161, 177,
 193, 209, 225, 241, 257, 273, 289,
 305, 321, 337, 353, 369, 385, 401
 Bavaria, 110, 126, 400
 Bavaria, "Eisenbahn" Stamps of,
 400
 Beginners, Points for, 27, 42, 105,
 153, 183, 218, 250, 280, 311, 348,
 380, 398
 Beirut Provisional, 19
 Belgium, 71, 156
 Ben, 21, 42, 75, 90, 139, 170, 186,
 206, 215, 235, 263, 276, 301, 313,
 321, 342, 362, 375, 407
 Bermuda, 46
 Bernstein, I. J., 11, 16, 25, 37, 70, 86,
 119, 172, 252, 284, 288, 298, 334,
 399, 411
 "Be United, United, United," 312
 Bhopal, 388
 Birmingham Philatelic Society, 32,
 169, 249, 368
 Black Republics, The, 231, 264
 Boom in the Stamp Album Trade,
 323
 Boston Philatelic Society, 180
 Boswell Junior, 60, 254, 282, 412
 Bound Volumes, 52, 123
 Brancker, H. R., 106
 Brazil, 79, 172, 379
 British Bechuanaland, 13
 British Guiana, 60, 75, 239
 British Guiana Phil. Society, 68, 288,
 320, 384
 British Honduras, 13, 142
 British Levant, 19, 40, 46, 126, 207,
 222
 British New Guinea, Notes on, 295,
 320

British Philatelist, The, 211
 British Solomon Islands, 380
 British South Africa, 366
 British Stamps used Abroad, 11, 25,
 37, 70, 86, 119, 172, 252, 284, 298,
 334, 399, 411
 Brown Gum and White Gum, 317
 Brunel, 166, 181, 203
 Bulgaria, 62
 Bussahir, 405
 Bypath, A Philatelic, 228, 233

Calcutta Exhibition, 131, 134
 Canada, 349, 350, 380
 Canton, 307
 Cape of Good Hope, 13, 100, 329
 Carlist Rising, Stamps of, 187
 "Cash on Delivery," 372
 Catalogue, Part I, 19
 Catalogue, Supplement to, 405
 Cat Story, A, 124
 Cayman Islands, 13, 94, 110, 199,
 350, 356, 366, 381
 Cayman Islands, Sale of Remainders,
 356
 Cecil, George, 54
 Cercle Timbologique de Bruxelles,
 157
 Ceylon, 203, 212, 230, 350
 Chamba, 30
 Champlain, Samuel, 350
 Chili, 13, 382, 400
 China, 94
 China, French P.O.'s in, 241, 257,
 273, 366
 China, Japanese P.O.'s in, 222
 China, Russian P.O.'s in, 384
 Chinese Expeditionary Force, 244,
 277
 City of London Philatelic Society,
 64, 112, 192, 210, 330
 City Stamp-sellers of Thirty Years
 Ago, 10
 Colombia, 86, 110
 Colonial Office Journal, 67, 79
 Colour Photography, 202
 Columbus, Christopher, 216, 229, 247
 Competitions, 2, 21, 42, 75, 90, 139,
 163, 170, 186, 206, 211, 215, 235,
 246, 263, 276, 301, 313, 331, 342,
 362, 375, 407
 Corea, 239, 336
 Corfield, Wilmot, 124, 192, 211
 Corner-Spokes, J., 312
 Correspondence, 16, 32, 64, 77, 93,
 123, 124, 144, 157, 173, 176, 191,
 192, 207, 224, 256, 267, 288, 320,
 352, 368, 384
 Costa Rica, 30, 45, 318
 Countries of the World, 1, 17, 33, 49,
 65, 81, 97, 113, 129, 145, 161, 177,
 193, 209, 225, 241, 257, 273, 289,
 305, 321, 337, 353, 369, 385, 401
 Crete, 94, 294
 Crete, Italian P.O.'s in, 255
 Crete, The Stamps of, 294
 Croak of a "Ravan" Lunatic, The,
 7
 Cuba, 62, 298, 308
 Cuban Republic, The, 308
 Curação, 269
 Curious Letters, 100, 291
 Cyprus, 53, 68, 79

Dalwigk, R. E. R., 8, 58, 71, 87, 150,
 168, 206, 237, 316

Danish West Indies, 317
 Davis, A. H., 267
 D. C. G., 294, 314, 327, 346, 363
 Dédeagh, 162
 Denmark, 71
 De Ruyter Stamp Scandal, The,
 67, 77
 Detectives, Dealers as Government,
 67
 Dod, A. H. Wolley, 368
 Dominica, 269, 318
 Durrien, Monsieur le Comte, 132
 Dutch Indies, 156, 269

Earé, Rev. R. B., 60, 75
 East Africa and Uganda, 142
 Ecuador, 46, 79, 95, 111, 119, 123,
 286
 Ecuador Surcharges, 1907-8, 123
 Egypt, 13, 177
 English as she is Wrote, 36
 Evolution of the Postage Due, 74
 Exhibition, Dutch Philatelic, 244
 Exhibition, First Welsh, 164
 Exhibition in Japan, 45
 Exhibition, Manchester, 1909, 308,
 355
 Exhibition, Our Philatelic Society's,
 170
 Exhibition, Scarborough Stamp, 371
 Exhibition, Sheffield Stamp, 164
 Exhibition, Stamp, London, 1908,
 37, 51, 68, 115, 152, 179, 195, 196
 Express Delivery of Newspapers, 379

Falkland Islands, 379, 382
 Farthest North P.O., 308
 Federated Malay States, 13, 47, 63,
 158
 Fernando Po, 142
 Finland, 1, 17, 237
 Finland Letter, 302
 Fiji Islands, 307
 Foreign Notes, 156, 191, 221, 238,
 285, 301, 317, 335, 349, 364, 379,
 400, 416
 Forgeries and Reprints, 60, 75, 156,
 191, 221, 238, 243, 336, 371, 400
 Fournier's Forgeries, 371
 Fraenkel's Library, Herr, 45, 292
 France, 14, 33, 47, 49, 65, 71, 81, 84,
 97, 113, 229, 157, 175, 238, 301,
 416
 France, Reduced Postage in, 238
 Frauds, Stamp, 154
 French Colonies, General Issues, 289,
 305
 French Congo, 321, 337, 353
 French Crete, 177
 French Guiana, 369, 385
 French Guinea, 303
 French Provincial Post Offices, 414
 French Somali Coast, 401
 French Soudan, 142

Gaboon, 321, 337
 Genus Homo in Philately, The, 343,
 361, 377, 394, 409
 Geographical War, Threatened, 365
 German Morocco, 208
 German P.O. Statistics, 191
 Germany, 72
 Germany to Samoa, 285
 Gibraltar, 69, 85, 87, 111, 255, 414,

Glasgow and West of Scotland Philatelic Society, 228
 Glendinning and Co., Ltd., 99, 260
 Gold Coast, 414
 Gray, D. C., 376, 390
 Great Britain, 5, 21, 87, 122, 224
 Great Britain, Control Letters of, 122, 224
 Greece, 88, 286
 Grenada, 8, 47, 351, 382, 414
 Grenada. Notes on Provisional Stamps of, 8
 Gressman, Paul W., 94
 Gum on Stamps, 44
 Gwalior, 31

Hayti, 231, 239, 252, 303, 335
 Herne Bay Philatelic Society, 16, 102, 283, 352
 Herts Philatelic Society, 80, 128, 176, 272, 330, 400
 Hertzen, Lieut.-Col. M. von, 302
 Hlop, J. W. H., 180, 266
 Historical Philately, 187, 213
 "Hobbies," 228, 233
 Hoi-Hao, 367
 Holkar, 208
 Holland, 67, 77, 88, 156, 158
 Honduras, 95
 Hong Kong, 47, 111, 277, 292, 309
 Horwood, Norman C., 275
 Hospitals. Stamps and, 220
 Howard, H. M., 74
 Howard, M. B., 396
 Howard, Paul, 154, 219
 Hungary, 150, 319

Iceland, 239
 Imeson, W. E., 7
 Imperial Philatelic Society, 4, 32, 128, 129
 Improved Stamp Album, 100
 Index to Vol. VI, 20
 India, 192, 325, 340, 356
 India, Philatelic Society of, 288
 Indian Poet, From an, 12
 Influence of Queen's Head Postage Stamps, The, 180
 Instructive Side of Stamp Collecting, The, 281
 International Philatelic Union, 66, 240, 504, 364
 Ireland, National Collection of, 52
 Italy, 63, 95, 111, 150, 156, 159, 287, 303

Jaipur, 142
 Jamaica, 14, 47, 185
 James, R. E., 91, 320
 Japan, 159, 302, 319
 Jhind, 31
 Jobson, H. G., 323, 414
 Johannesburg, Philatelic Society of, 32
 Johnson, Herbert F., 157
 Johor, 208
 Junior, Notes of a Provincial, 329
 Junior Philatelic Society, 16, 32, 51, 80, 66, 128, 192, 224, 272, 299, 304, 306
 Junior Philatelic Society, Brighton, 32, 64, 66, 144, 160, 208, 272
 Junior Philatelic Society, Manchester, 16, 64, 112, 160, 208, 240, 256, 308, 352, 355

Kay, A. B., 125
 King Edward VII Land, 190
 Kouang Theou, 367

Labrador Company, The, 117
 Leeds Philatelic Society, 43, 60, 128, 160, 208, 224, 260, 320, 384, 400
 Leeward Islands, 351
 Legal Proceedings, 37, 221, 228, 238, 243
 Leicester Philatelic Society, 272, 288, 368

Levant, French P.O.'s in, 145, 161, 318
 Levant, Italian P.O.'s in, 336, 416
 Liberia, 264
 Life Story, My, 279
 Limericks, 20, 101
 Literature Society, The Philatelic, 83, 132, 404
 Literature Society, Journal of, 132
 Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society, 66, 240, 320
 Live Stock, Are Postage Stamps? 100
 Luthy, Fred. C., 59
 Luxemburg, 111, 151, 159
 Luxemburg Succession, The, 365

Madagascar, 209
 Mahé, Pierre, 23, 355
 Malta, 101, 118, 133, 168, 224
 Manchester Philatelic Society, 256
 Marchands des Timbres-Poste d'aujourd'hui, Les, 355
 Martial Ardour in Paris, 221
 Mauritius, 111, 142, 222, 287, 383
 Me and My, 243
 Megson, C. Raymond, 279
 Mexico, 269, 287
 Middle Congo, 321
 Mirabaud, Death of Paul, 403
 Moens, J. B., The Death of, 308
 Moldavian Discovery, A, 221
 Monaco, 168
 Mongtseu, 367
 Montenegro, 168
 Monthly Journal, The, 36, 166, 195, 244, 307, 340
 Montreal Philatelic Society, 48, 272
 Montserrat, 383
 Morocco Agencies, 79, 93, 126, 133, 146, 207, 227
 Morocco, British P.O.'s in, 93, 288
 Morocco, French P.O.'s in, 193, 222, 255, 286, 374, 393, 408
 Morocco, The Postal System and Stamps of, 344, 359, 374, 393, 408
 Moscow Philatelic Society, 4, 45
 Mourning Stamp, British, 308

Nabha, 31
 Natal, 94, 303
 Natal Letter, 94
 Native Stamp Dealers, 54
 Never More, 7
 Newfoundland, 108, 121, 151, 169, 189, 224
 New Issues, 13, 29, 46, 62, 79, 94, 110, 126, 144, 158, 175, 190, 208, 222, 239, 255, 269, 286, 303, 318, 336, 350, 366, 382, 399, 414
 New Issues, Decadence in, 404
 New South Wales, 142, 287, 351
 New South Wales Handbook, 275
 New Zealand, 3, 14, 47, 63, 126, 143, 208, 222, 269, 336, 383, 415
 Nicaragua, 14, 63, 80, 95, 127, 143, 159, 222, 303
 Nissen, Chas., 11, 25, 37, 70, 86, 119, 172, 252, 284, 298, 334, 399, 411
 North American Collector, The, 387
 North London Philatelic Society, 144, 208, 272
 North of England Philatelic Society, 112, 160, 240, 304
 Norway, 168, 287
 No Smoking Allowed! 23
 Notice, 93
 Nyasaland Protectorate, 415

Obituary, 275, 308, 403
 Obock, 401
 Omnium Gatherum, 45
 Orange River Colony, 94
 Ottawa Philatelic Society, 165
 Our Philatelic Society's Meeting, 16

Packhoi, 368
 Panama, 239

Papua, 48, 80, 111, 144, 175, 295, 320, 399
 Paraguay, 14, 80, 127, 240, 303, 319, 383
 Parisian Mystery, A, 131
 Parliament, The Stamp, 299
 Paton, M.A., J. L., 349
 Penny Stamps, 404
 Persia, 14, 127, 208, 240, 255, 270, 336
 Peru, 37, 238, 384
 Philatelic Societies, Reports of, 16, 32, 46, 64, 80, 96, 112, 128, 144, 160, 176, 192, 208, 224, 240, 256, 272, 288, 304, 320, 336, 352, 368, 384, 400
 "Philatelisten-Tag," 1908, 156
 Philately in the Public Eye, 349
 Philippine Islands, 219, 412
 Phillips, C. J., 2, 19, 36, 51, 67, 83, 99, 115, 131, 147, 163, 259, 275, 291, 307, 323, 339, 355, 371, 387, 403
 Phillips, Frank, 13, 24, 29, 39, 46, 56, 62, 73, 79, 89, 94, 102, 110, 126, 140, 142, 156, 158, 175, 190, 191, 196, 208, 221, 222, 238, 239, 255, 269, 285, 286, 301, 303, 317, 318, 335, 336, 344, 349, 350, 359, 364, 366, 374, 379, 382, 393, 399, 400, 408, 414, 416
 Phillips, F. S., 20, 101
 Philologos, 4
 Photography as Applied to Stamps, 24, 39, 56, 73, 89, 102
 Pigeon Post, 220
 Poole, B. W. H., 343, 361, 377, 394, 409
 Poonch, 208
 Port Lagos, 162
 Port Said, 178, 336
 Portraits on Stamps, 60, 205, 254, 282, 412
 Portugal, 206, 238
 Portuguese Colonial Currency, 335
 Postage Stamp, The, 123
 Postal Rates, Reduced, 123
 Postal Union Statistics, 364
 Postmarks, Curious, 132
 Postmarks, On, 314, 327, 346, 363
 Power, Eustace B., 76, 103, 123, 185, 235, 381
 Prahran Philatelic Society, 32, 144
 Pretoria Philatelic Society, 80
 Proofs and Essays, 3
 Provisionals at Doncaster, 308
 Purchases, Recent, 115, 324
 Puttiala, 31

Quebec, Tercentenary Celebration of the Founding of, 349
 Queensland, 31, 159, 175, 319
 Raay, Leon de, 77
 Rarity, A Great, 91, 191, 320
 Red Tape in Germany, 157
 Regensburg, Junior Exhibition in, 156
 Remarks at Random, 219
 Rio de Oro, 112, 160, 270, 285
 Rommel, Dr. Otto, 344, 359, 374, 393, 408
 Rosauer, Roberto, 404
 Rumania, 140, 223, 237, 351
 Rumanian Exhibition Stamps, 140
 Russia, 160, 237, 400

St. Helena, 14, 415
 St. Kitts-Nevis, 208, 223
 St. Lucia, 48
 St. Vincent, 415
 Sales, Forthcoming, 99
 Salvador, 96, 112, 123, 160, 190, 270, 288, 364
 Santander, 112, 400
 Sarawak, 246
 Schleswig-Holstein, Occupation of, 213
 Scottish Philatelic Society, Junior Branch, 64, 112, 144, 244, 320
 Secretaries of Societies, 83, 285

- Sectional Imperial Album, 164, 211, 275, 323, 356
 Selangor, 179
 "Semicolon," 216, 229, 247
 Senegal, 48
 Servia, 176, 302, 316
 Servian "Wholesale List," 302
 Set List, New, 163
 Seychelles, 191
 Sheffield Philatelic Society, 48
 Ships on Stamps, 332
 Siam, 80, 96, 144, 415, 416
 Siege of Paris, Conveyance of Mails during, 249
 Sinn Fein Labels, 100, 195
 Sky-rockets, Letters delivered by, 101
 Société Française de Timbrologie, 158
 South American Agency, 404
 South American Letter, 267
 South Australia, 15, 271, 288, 304, 400, 415
 Southern Nigeria, 48
 "Sower" type French Stamps, The, 84, 301
 Spain, 316
 Spain, Holiday in, 259
 Spain, Postage in, 45
 Specialism, 53, 67, 71, 87, 150, 168, 206, 237, 316
 Spectacles on Stamps, 45
 Stamp Collecting, 106
 Stamp Collectors Register, The, 163
 Stamp Collectors' Bureau, 339
 Stamp Journal, The, 131, 387
 Stamp Lover, The, 387
 Stamp Trade Protection Association, 176
 Stock Books, New, 4, 20, 36, 53, 99, 118, 132, 147, 165, 180, 195, 211, 228, 244, 263, 276, 292, 323, 340, 356
 Stocktaking, 84
 Straits Settlements, 160, 179, 223
 "Sub, The," 179, 195, 211, 227, 243
 Sudan, 240
 Suicide, Collector's Remarkable, 100
 Suicide, of a Collector, Attempted, 317
 Surinam, 112, 271
 Sweden, 316
 Switzerland, 15, 48, 63, 112, 127, 144, 176, 191, 223, 285, 316, 317, 410
 Sydney Philatelic Club, 100
 Tasmania, 64, 271, 415
 Tehongking, 368
 Telegrams "Undertaken," 301
 Things Grave and Gay, 28, 124
 Thornton, Norman, 187, 213
 Topical Notes, 2, 19, 36, 51, 67, 83, 99, 115, 131, 147, 163, 179, 195, 211, 227, 243, 259, 275, 291, 307, 323, 339, 355, 371, 387, 403
 Transhipment of Mails, 410
 Transvaal, 64, 96, 339
 Treherne, Harold, 37
 Trial Acrostic, 75
 Trinidad, 223, 255
 Tristan d'Acunha, 364
 Truth on Stamp Scandal, 116
 Turkey, 31, 176, 191, 271, 317
 Turks Islands, 45
 Turks and Caicos Islands, 304
 Tuscany, The Stamps of, 376, 390
 Twentieth Century Colonials, 5, 20, 21, 40, 53, 68, 85, 101, 118, 133, 148, 166, 181, 203, 212, 230, 244, 276, 292, 309, 325, 340, 357, 372, 388, 405
 Two Thousand Pounds for a Stamp, 20
 Uncle Tom, 28, 92, 124
 United States, 60, 67, 96, 103, 123, 205, 235, 254, 282, 339, 384
 United States, Illustrations of Stamps in the, 387
 Uruguay, 15, 31, 256, 384, 416
 U.S. Problems made Easy, Hard, 103, 235
 Vathy, 163
 Venezuela, 112, 172
 Victoria, 416
 Vryburg, 100
 Wanted to Purchase, 4, 20, 36, 53, 99, 118, 132, 148, 180, 263, 276, 372
 Ward, W., 108, 121, 151, 169, 170, 189, 207, 231, 249, 264
 Warhurst, B. W., 10, 27, 42, 105, 153, 183, 218, 250, 280, 311, 348, 380, 398
 Warren, A. J., 157
 Wiehen, Karl, 126
 W. J. W., 281
 Women, Postal Franchise for, 227
 Working Man's Collection, A, 92
 Wrinkle, Cornelius, 67
 Wurttemberg, 191, 384, 416
 Yokel, 329
 Young Collector, A, 147
 Yunnan-Fou, 368
 Zanzibar, 304, 351, 416
 Zanzibar, French P.O.'s in, 225
 Zoological Philately, 356
 Zoscsák, Rudolf, 140

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 1
Whole No. 157

4 JANUARY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Finland—continued

IN November, 1865, a new currency was adopted in Finland, the unit being the *mark* (or *markka*) of 100 penni, equaling a *franc*. This necessitated a change in the stamps, which in general appearance remained much the same, excepting that the Arms have eight stars instead of seven, and the values are expressed in "pen." Four values were issued 1 January, 1866, and in 1867 two other values, 8 penni and 1 mark, "to facilitate the franking of correspondence addressed to places abroad," were put on sale. The 8 penni was of a similar type to the other stamps, but the 1 mark was of a new design, and was printed on *white* paper. The stamps were printed and rouletted in the same manner as the previous issues, first on *laid*, and later on *wove* paper. There are a large number of shades, and except to those with long purses, the errors of colour, arising from wrong clichés having been inserted in the plates, are things to be desired.

rates called for new stamps of 32 penni and 2 penni. The authorities took the opportunity of having a fresh set of stamps made for all necessary values, and these were issued from time to time, as required. The stamps were of a more convenient shape, and were perforated for the first time. The design shows the Arms of the Grand Duchy on an oval with an engine-turned ground; there is an exterior frame, with a circle at each corner containing coloured numerals on a white ground. At left the name of the country appears in Swedish and at right in Finnish. The design was engraved by W. Brandstake, and the plates were supplied by H. H. Thiele, of Copenhagen. The sheets contain two panes of fifty stamps in horizontal rows of ten, and the stamps were surface-printed at the printing-house of the Senate at Helsingfors, on plain white wove paper, sometimes very thin. At first the perforation was done by a machine gauging 11, but later, when the work was transferred to the new printing-office in 1881, another machine was bought gauging 12½. Stamps are known with perf. compound of these two machines, but they are rare. The two panes, separated from one another by a blank space of the height of a stamp, were sometimes set *lité-bêche*, so that vertical pairs of the variety are to be met with.

The 32 penni was the first value issued, and in order to show the excellence of his plates



1866-71. Change of currency. Serpentine roulette.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
5 pen., purple-brown on lilac	7	6	1	6
8 " black on <i>reen</i>	7	6	2	0
10 " " on buff	10	0	4	0
20 " blue on <i>bluish</i>	6	0	0	4
40 " rose on <i>pale rose</i>	8	0	0	6
40 " " on <i>lilac</i>	8	0	0	6
1 mark, brown on <i>white</i>	60	0	25	0

In the spring of 1875 postal notices were issued modifying, from 1 July of the same year, the rates for inland correspondence and also for letters and printed papers to Russia. The postage on a letter to Russia was reduced from 40 penni to 32 penni per *loth* (about ½ oz.), and a charge of 12 penni was fixed for a certificate of registration upon registered packets. These

Mr. Thiele had a supply printed from one of them. These can be distinguished from the Helsingfors printings by the colour, which is deeper, and by the perforation, which is much finer (14 × 13½). The 1 mark did not appear till 1877 and the 10 penni not before 1881, there having been a good stock of this value in the earlier design. There are a great many shades in all values.



1875-81. Perf.			
<i>Copenhagen print.</i>			
	Unused.	Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	
32 pen., red . . . . .	. 40 0	15	0
<i>Helsingfors print.</i>			
2 pen., grey . . . . .	. 0 4	0	2
5 " orange . . . . .	. 2 0	0	2
8 " green . . . . .	. 5 0	2	6
10 " brown . . . . .	. 7 6	0	3
20 " blue . . . . .	. 5 0	0	1
32 " red . . . . .	. 12 0	0	1
1 mark, lilac . . . . .	. 50 0	1	9

In 1879, a further modification being made in the rates, the values of 8 and 32 penni were withdrawn from use and a new value of 25 penni issued. This was similar in all respects to the above stamps, and was printed in the same colour as the 32 penni, the value it superseded.

15 May, 1879. As last.			
	Unused.	Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	
25 pen., red . . . . .	. 8 0	0	2

In 1884 it was decided to issue the 5, 10, and 25 penni in the colours required by the Postal Union, and at the same time, to avoid confusion, the 20 penni was to be changed from blue to yellow. Higher-value stamps being also required, it was arranged that the 1 mark should be changed and made uniform with two new values (5 and 10 marks). These were to be bicoloured, the frame being alike for each value, but the centres different. The design and printing were similar to the previous issue, and the perf. gauges 12½. The 5, 20, and 25 penni, and 1 mark were issued on 1 January, 1885, the 10 penni on 1 May, 1885, and the 5 and 10 marks on 1 December, 1885. Here again shades are numerous.

1885. *Types as before. Change of colour and new values. Perf.*

	Unused.	Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	
5 pen., green . . . . .	. 1 0	0	2
10 " red . . . . .	. 2 0	0	2
20 " yellow . . . . .	. 2 6	0	1
25 " blue . . . . .	. 2 0	0	1
1 mark, drab and rose . . . . .	. 4 0	0	6
5 marks, green " . . . . .	. 20 0	20	0
10 " brown " . . . . .	. 25 0	20	0

In October, 1889, a notification was made

that the name of the country and postal value must be expressed on the stamps in Russian, as in the older issues. This was the first important step in the Russification of the postal service. The design of the stamps of this issue is a redrawing of that of the preceding, and has the modification required by the ordinance. The engraving, manufacturing of plates, and printing were done by the same people as before. The perforation was effected by the 12½ machine, and the catalogue divides this into two sorts, clean-cut and rough. It is not clear whether the latter is by a new machine, but as a matter of fact the perforation is often very bad and incomplete, and it is certain that in 1895 the department purchased another machine gauging 14 x 13, and the stamps can be easily distinguished in this finer and more regular perforation. For a general collection one specimen of each value is sufficient, though very marked shades occur in this as in the previous issues and might well be included, even if differences of perforation be ignored. The 25 penni was the first value to appear, viz. about November, 1889. The other *penni* values were issued 15 January, 1890, and the *mark* values in August, 1890. The rough perforation seems to have started in 1892.



1889-95. Perf.			
	Unused.	Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	
2 pen., grey . . . . .	. 0 2	0	1
5 " green . . . . .	. 0 3	0	1
10 " red . . . . .	. 0 6	0	1
20 " yellow . . . . .	. 0 9	0	1
25 " blue . . . . .	. 1 0	0	1
1 mark, drab and rose . . . . .	. 3 0	0	3
5 marks, green " . . . . .	. 10 0	6	0
10 " brown " . . . . .	. 15 0	7	6

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

A Happy New Year

TO all stamp lovers. During 1908 I trust that I may hear from very many of my readers with suggestions as to improving our little paper, with items of news, with articles, and with any item of information that may be of general interest to philatelists.

Grand £100 Prize Competition

DON'T miss a chance of winning one of the prizes offered in our last number. Set to work at once, and get all your friends to help you. You have only six months to work in, and time goes quickly. Fancy! you may add fifty pounds' worth of fine stamps to your collection just for a little

trouble. If *you* don't get the first prize, you may easily receive one of the many others that we offer you.

New Zealand Stamps

FORM the subject of a very interesting article by Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg in the Monthly Report of the Herts Philatelic Society for December.

In the course of this short article, Mr. Hausburg gives some very important particulars as regards the earlier perforations of New Zealand, and states as follows:—

“The earliest dates for the various papers at present known:—

London print, Star paper	1 Aug., 1855.
Colonial print, blue unwater-marked paper	30 April, 1856.
Colonial print, white unwater-marked paper	2 Feb., 1858.
Colonial print, Star unwater-marked paper	9 May, 1862.
Colonial print, pelure unwater-marked paper	3 Oct., 1862.

Supplies of star-watermarked paper were sent out to the colony by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. in 1859, but at present the earliest date known for this is 9 May, 1862.

“We now come to a most important period, namely, the introduction of perforation. Various experiments were tried at first, and though they were not officially sanctioned, several different methods for facilitating the separation of stamps were employed at various post offices by the officials. This is the origin of the roulettes, pin and serrated perforations. The earliest dates for these are:—

Serrated perforations	11 Aug., 1862.
Roulettes	10 Dec., 1862.

These were soon followed by the appearance of stamps perforated 13, with round holes, but—and this is a most important point, and one that I believe has not been published before—this perforation was also not official, and though authorized by the postmaster at one of the head offices, namely, Dunedin, the perforating was not done at the post office nor by Government officials. The earliest date at present known on a stamp with this perforation is 16 January, 1863.

“The Dunedin perforating machine was a single-line one worked by hand, and Stewart and another workman used to take it in turn to move forward the sheets of stamps, as each line was perforated, and to work the lever. The amount paid for perforating the stamps was 2d. per sheet, of which the two workmen received 1d. between them. The sheets were brought by Stewart from the post office, as required, and at night time placed under his pillow for safety. He soon found out that it was just as easy to perforate four or five sheets at a time as one, but this was never done as long as any of the heads of the firm were present, as it was feared that the rate of pay would be reduced if this artifice were discovered, and Stewart told me that his employers could

never understand how it was possible to get the sheets perforated so quickly.

“The gauge of this machine was about 13, and the important point to bear in mind when gauging a stamp is that it is always 13 or over; that is to say, between 13 and 13½. If a stamp gauges between 12½ and 13 it belongs to the 12½ series. This 13 machine was used for about two years, and its use was discontinued no doubt as soon as the 12½ machine was introduced at Auckland, and also partly because for some considerable time a large quantity of sheets of stamps were lost at Dunedin, and were only found quite by chance behind a drawer in Messrs. Fergusson and Mitchell's office. I give you this information just as I got it, but of course cannot guarantee the accuracy of all the details. There is not, at any rate as far as I know, anything to be discovered from the study of the stamps themselves that disproves any of these statements.

“The earliest dates at present known for the stamps on the various papers, perforated 13, are:—

Star watermark	16 Jan., 1863.
Pelure paper, no watermark	27 Feb., 1863.
Thick paper	18 July, 1863.
NZ paper	1 Aug., 1864.

“The earliest known copy of the pelure paper imperforate is dated 3 Oct., 1862, while the earliest colonial print on Star watermark paper is dated 9 May, 1862, which goes to prove that the pelure paper was used during a temporary shortage in the supply of Star paper.”

If any of my readers should possess any New Zealand stamps with earlier dates than those given above, I shall be glad to see them, and will return them as soon as I have shown them to Mr. Hausburg.

The Collection of Proofs and Essays

IS certainly making great headway, and a *proof* of this is to be seen in the announcement just made in *Redfield's Stamp Weekly*, that a Society has been started in the United States whose aims are limited to the study of the proofs and essays of United States Postage and Revenue stamps.

The first President is Mr. L. G. Quackenbush, of Oneida, New York, a well-known American philatelist, and in Mr. Frank B. Eldredge, of Attleboro', Mass., the new Society has secured an energetic Secretary.

Lord Crawford has shown us the great importance of this branch of collecting, and only last November in the *London Philatelist* he once more drew our attention to the wonderful field for study there yet remains untilled in the multitudinous essays and designs of this country, and in United States essays there are perhaps ten times as many varieties.

His Honour Judge Philbrick, one of our oldest living collectors, has told me that thirty years ago there was great competition for articles of this nature, and a fair average price was then about a guinea apiece. Now one can buy hundreds of varieties at a few

shillings each, but when it comes to unique pieces, the prices that can now be obtained are also something almost unique. Not long ago I was offered from Italy a set of—I think nine—original proofs that I believe had been signed or initialled by the late King of Italy. If I remember right, the owner asked the nice little sum of 18,000 lire (£720) for his treasures. Needless to say, a sale was not effected.

Moscow Philatelic Society

I AM glad to learn that under this title a Philatelic Society has been restarted in this grand old city. For some years past stamp collecting seems to have dropped off in Moscow; we lost many of the leading men by death, such as Mr. John Siewert, Herr von Block, etc., and Mr. Albert Steudel, formerly one of the great Russian collectors, has left the city and settled in Germany.

Now collecting is reviving again, and I am informed that meetings will be held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at the Hotel Billo, Great Lonbanka.

The Secretary is C. Evertsbusch, Contor L. I. Tillmanns, Mjasnitzkaja, Moscow, Russia.

The Imperial Philatelic Society

THIS is a new Society for the benefit of collectors in North London. The Secretary is Mr. C. S. Muratori, 29 Fletching Road, Lower Clapton, London, N.E.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

No. 1. *St. Lucia and Tobago*. Value £409.

This book is rather weak in early stamps of *St. Lucia*, and we want to fill up with a few fine copies.

The later issues are very complete, and there is a good lot of the fiscal postals.

Tobago is a good lot, amongst the better stamps being three fine copies of the rare £1, wmk. Cr. and CC. In this country there is also a nice lot of fiscals that came in a collection we bought; amongst these is a pair of 4d., mauve and carmine, *imperf.* and unused.

Wanted to Purchase

St. Lucia.

Unused. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 11, 12, 14a, 15, 18, 24, 26, 28, 30, 40, 53, 57, 60.

Used. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 10, 40, 45, 47, 49, 52, 53, 57, 60.

Tobago.

Unused. Nos. 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 33, 36.

Used. Nos. 9, 19, 20, 24, 25.

No. 171. Value £379.

Orange Free State and Colony.

This is a strong book, and contains a considerable number of rarities, both in the

early issues and in the "V.R.I." stamps. Of these latter we have also included a number of panes and full sheets, as these are sought by advanced collectors who need panes to prove the various settings of the surcharge.

Wanted to Purchase

Unused. Nos. 10 to 17b, 27 to 35, 37 to 37b, 43 to 47, 81a and b, 102, 121.

Used. Nos. 14 to 17b, 27 to 35, 37 to 37b, 43 to 47, 53a and b, 81a and b.

Any very rare errors of "V.R.I.'s" if with written guarantee.

No. 163. Value £610.

Lagos and Sierra Leone.

Both these countries are popular, and the stamps are in constant demand. In both countries practically all varieties are well represented, and this book is exceptionally strong in blocks of four in mint condition. Amongst these I note in *Lagos* :—

1874. Perf. 12½. 1s., value 16½ mm. long.

1876. Perf. 14, C.C. 4d., rose.

1884. 5s., blue, and 10s., brown. Two very fine blocks.

Sierra Leone.

1883. Cr. and C.A. 4d., blue. A rare block.

Wanted to Purchase

Lagos.

Unused. Nos. 2, 3, 10, 11, 24, 35, 38, 44, 46, 49 to 53, 59, 60, 61.

Used. Nos. 12, 15, 19, 25, 30, 32 to 44, 47 to 53.

Sierra Leone.

Unused. 7, 11, 16, 17, 20, 54 to 71, 72, 74, 75, 77, 78, 81 to 84.

Used. 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 26, 27, 29, 41, 47 to 53, 54 to 71, 72, 74 to 85.

A Ball Dress made of 30,000 Stamps

AT a ball in Bermuda a wonderful dress was worn, and in the making of it over 30,000 stamps were used. Years were spent in collecting the stamps and three weeks in the making of the dress, which was of the finest muslin.

The woman called upon her friends to help her, and the dress was covered with the stamps of all nations. They were not put on anyhow, but in an elaborate design.

On the front of the bodice was an eagle made entirely of brown Columbian stamps. Suspended from the bird's talons was a globe made of very old blue revenue stamps. On each side of the globe was an American flag, having stripes of red and blue stamps.

On the back of the bodice was a collection of foreign stamps in the form of a shield, in the centre of which was a portrait cut from old revenue stamps.

A picture hat covered with red and blue stamps was worn with this remarkable dress.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

Great Britain—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

Official Issues—continued

Board of Education

THIS is one of the three new series of Official stamps issued at the commencement of the present reign

Prior to the establishment of a separate office, the Government Department of Education was administered by a Committee of the Privy Council, which had been appointed in 1839 to undertake the distribution of certain Educational grants made by the Parliament since 1834, and comprised the Lord President, the Secretaries of State, the First Lord of the Treasury, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and a Vice-President. By the Board of Education Act of 1899, however, this Committee was abolished, and a Board of Education established in its stead, with a President and Parliamentary Secretary of its own. The Department has charge of all matters pertaining to education.

On 19 February, 1902, a special series of surcharged stamps was issued for the use of the Local Inspectors of the Board, and consisted of two stamps of the face values of 5d. and 1s. respectively, these denominations being apparently most in request for use upon the correspondence of this Department. Pending, therefore, the issue of King's Head stamps of these values, the 5d. Queen's Head stamp of the 1887 issue, and the bicoloured 1s. denomination of 1900, were surcharged **BOARD OF EDUCATION** in three lines, and issued to the Department. By error, 60,000 copies of the 5d. and 30,000 of the 1s. were prepared, but only 4800 of the former and 2000 of the latter were retained by the Department, the remainders being destroyed.

1902.

Regular issues of 1887 and 1900. Overprinted BOARD OF EDUCATION in short, thin sans-serif capitals, in three lines, in black.

5d., lilac and ultramarine.

1s., green and scarlet.

When the supply of these values became exhausted, they were replaced by corresponding denominations of the new King's Head series, three low values being added to the set. Although the 1s. stamp bearing the King's Head was actually overprinted and delivered to the Department, it was for

some unexplained reason never issued to the District Inspectors, and although a few copies may possibly have been made use of at the head office in London, the greater part of the sheets was intact when the stamps were called in more than three years later. The numbers of the low values of this series are as follows: Of the 1d., green, 250 sheets or 60,000 stamps were overprinted; of the 1d., 1000 sheets, 240,000 stamps; and of the 2½d., 60,000. As to the numbers of the other values printed I have seen no record.

1902-4.

Regular King's Head series of 1902. Overprinted as before.

¾d., blue-green (issued February 19th, 1902).

1d., scarlet (issued February 19th, 1902).

2½d., ultramarine (issued February 6th, 1904).

5d., lilac and ultramarine (issued Feb. 6th, 1904).

1s., scarlet and green (issued Dec. 23rd, 1902).

Government Parcels

Stamps bearing the above surcharge were issued for use upon Official packages and parcels, which were too heavy or too bulky to be dispatched by ordinary letter post. They were supplied to all the Government Departments for use upon their postal packages, and were employed in the largest numbers by H. M. Stationery Office.

This Department was established in 1782, its functions being the supply of books and stationery to all other Government Offices, and the superintendence of all Government printing contracts.

The Controller of H. M. Stationery Office is, by Letters Patent, the King's printer of Acts of Parliament, and is vested with the copyright of all Government publications.

The circumstance of the issue of these stamps is directly traceable to the Parcels Post Act, in which a clause is contained providing that 55 per cent of the total face value of the stamps affixed to all parcels, Official or otherwise, goes to the railway company over whose lines the parcels post is conveyed, instead of the charge being calculated by weight as is the case with the ordinary letter post. It will thus be seen that if the parcels were merely stamped with a frank to show that it was upon Official service and free, it would have been im-

possible for the railway companies to determine what amount was actually due to them for the conveyance thereof. All Official parcels of the weight of three pounds and less, however, were when possible sent by letter post, by which means a considerable saving to the Post Office was effected, and in many cases the packages could be dispatched free. Stamps overprinted GOVT. PARCELS constituted the second Official series issued by the British Government, the first of these stamps being issued in July, 1883.

In all five values of the King's Head series of 1902 were overprinted GOVT. PARCELS for the use of this Department, the 1½d. and 4½d. denominations previously in use being discontinued.

1902.

Regular King's Head series of the same date. Surcharged GOVT. PARCELS in short, thick sans-serif capitals, in two lines, in black.

- 1d., scarlet (issued October 30th, 1902).
- 2d., green and scarlet (issued April 29th, 1902).
- 6d., purple (issued February 19th, 1902).
- 9d., lilac and blue (issued August 28th, 1902).
- 1s., scarlet and green (issued Dec. 17th, 1902).

Royal Household

These stamps, which were the last series but one of Official stamps to be issued, were, as their title denotes, surcharged specially for use in the Royal Households, and were supplied to the heads of the various departments of the Royal residences for use upon correspondence connected with the affairs of the Household. Two values only were issued, the 1d. on 11 February, 1902, and the ½d. on 29 April of the same year.

Even whilst they were in use these stamps were most difficult to obtain, owing to the very small quantities used, and a favourite device employed by wary philatelists in order to secure copies of these much-coveted Officials for their collections, was to write to the Master of the Royal Horse, requesting permission to view the Royal stables. In nine cases out of ten the envelope containing the reply would be franked with one of the specially surcharged stamps.

1902.

Regular King's Head series of the same date. Overprinted R. H. OFFICIAL in tall, thin sans-serif capitals, in black.

- ½d., blue-green.
- 1d., scarlet.

Admiralty

This was the last series of Official postage stamps to be issued by the British Government. They were first issued in March, 1903, and were in use at all the dockyards and naval stations in the United Kingdom.

Until the year 1708 the management of all maritime affairs of the nation, the appoint-

ment and commission of naval officers, and the power of jurisdiction in maritime cases, was vested in the "Lord High Admiral," who was the ninth great officer of State. Subsequent to that year, however, these powers have been exercised by the "Lords of the Admiralty," or, as their official title runs, "Commissioners for Executing the Offices of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom." These officers comprise a political "First Lord," who is a Cabinet Minister, first, second, third, and fourth "Sea Lords," who are all naval officers, a Civil Lord, a Parliamentary and Financial Secretary, and a Permanent Secretary. Despite the short time that stamps overprinted for this Department were in use, they are not nearly so scarce unused as most of the other Official issues, showing that large supplies of them must have found their way on to the market by some channel or other.

The first series of specially overprinted stamps, issued for the use of the Admiralty Department of the British Government, comprised six stamps in all, ranging in value from ½d. to 3d., and made its appearance on 12 March, 1903.

1903.

Regular King's Head series of 1902. Surcharged ADMIRALTY OFFICIAL in thin, short sans-serif capitals, in two lines, in black. Printed from first plate with wide "M" in ADMIRALTY.

- ½d., blue-green.
- 1d., scarlet.
- 1½d., purple and green.
- 2d., green and scarlet.
- 2½d., ultramarine.
- 3d., brown.

After a few months' use the electrotype plate from which these stamps were overprinted became defective, and a second one was prepared in the following May. In this plate the surcharge is of a slightly different type from that first used, the letters being thicker and farther apart, whilst the "M" in ADMIRALTY is narrower, with the point of the central strokes reaching only half-way down to the line. The crossbar to the "A" is also slightly lower than in the original overprint. The first value to be printed from the new plate was the ½d., a supply of which was issued in May, 1903. The remaining values of the second printing did not appear, however, until September of the same year.

May and September, 1903.

Regular series of 1902 Overprinted as before. Plate II. Narrow "M" in ADMIRALTY.

- ½d., blue-green.
- 1d., scarlet.
- 1½d., purple and green.
- 2d., green and scarlet.
- 2½d., ultramarine.
- 3d., purple on yellow.

(To be continued.)

Never More

(The Croak of a "Raven" Lunatic)

By W. E. IMESON

I

ONE weird Christmas Eve I gloated
O'er a recent "find" and noted
Gibbons' current 'gainst the prices
Of the palmy days of yore.
Late the hour, my time for napping
Neared, when lo! I heard a rapping
And I fiercely asked that some one
Tapping at my stamp-den door—
"By my gauge and nickel tweezers!
Who the——! What the——!" Nothing more.

II

No reply vouchsafed the tapper,
But forthwith stepped forth the rapper.
"More!" cried I (and more's the pity)
"Man of philatelic lore!"
Ah! my recent "find" I'd show him,
Tho' so well—too well—I know him,
For as buyer or as vendor
He had never failed to score:
"Name your price!"—then More would name
his,
Hence his nickname—"Never More."

III

"Say, O great collector-dealer!"
(Thus I put a flatt'ring feeler)
"When will British *mint* revert to
Prices of the days of yore?
Hunting 'bargains' once repaid one,
Now for years I haven't made one.
Shall I ne'er repeat the 'findings'
Of the days long gone before?
Give me hope—say *hardly* ever!"
Quoth the prophet, "Never more!"

IV

"I have 'worked,'" said More, "the town, sir.
'Worked' the country, up and down, sir.
What I find not—ain't worth finding!"
(Here I muttered, "Are you sure?")
For within my drawer reclining
Was a "pane," without "white lining,"
Of the Twop'ny Blue that's risen
As it never "riz" before,
And—if purses have a bottom—
As it *will* rise never more.)

V

"Prophet," said I, "I would profit
By your knowledge—none would scoff it:
I a 'pane' of Twop'ny Blue stamps
Without line am looking for;
Fifty pounds for such I'd offer!"
Cried the prophet, "Hold! thou scoffer!

Such were worth a prince's ransom—
Aye, of ransoms worth a score!
He that wanted it—and *got* it—
Needs be wanting nothing more!"

VI

"Good!" cried I, "your price is handsome,
Pay thou me that prince's ransom!"
Here the priceless "pane" I showed him,
And he nigh fell to the floor.
Then More's eye assumed the gleaming
Of a bargain-hunter dreaming
Of a "bargain" overrated,
And to this grim lie he swore—
"For such 'panes' I have, and often,
Paid a guinea—never more!"

VII

Yes, that Blue is overrated
(Mark what previously More stated!);
'Tis the Twop'ny *with* the white line
That's now coming to the fore!"
Then I rose and struck the sly cuss,
Floored him with a block of *Cyprus*,
And, as cowed and writhing lay he,
Stabbed him with a strip of *Bhor*,
For I'd thought (so I was thinking)
Never less of "Never More."

VIII

Dead he lay!—ere self reproving
His remains I'd be removing,
And beneath my boards the body
Stowed I of the man that bore
Name prophetic, queer, and fateful.
Would-be vendors should be grateful,
For, tho' 'tects, friends, and relations
Search as ne'er they search'd before,
'Twere in vain—so help me never!
They'll find never "Never More."

IX

Every Christmas Eve a shiver
Passes down my spine. "'Tis liver,"
Says my doctor, little guessing
'Tis the sign of conscience sore:
But, alas! a phrase he uses
That my very soul confuses,
(Does he know of my grim mishap
That occurred long years before?)
"No, *one* 'Scotch'—or *two*—won't hurt you,
But, remembr—*never more!*"

Notes on the Provisional Stamps of Grenada

By R. E. R. DALWIGK

THE provisional stamps of Grenada are most interesting from a specialist's point of view, affording as they do a wide scope in the way of minor varieties, both of surcharge and also in the spacing of the fiscal values. Provisional stamps which are manufactured in their own country, being usually produced in a somewhat hasty manner, must by necessity of their rapid production possess many small differences, which afford the specialist the greatest pleasure in hunting out and sorting for himself. The provisional stamps of Grenada are certainly no exception to this rule, as there is a quantity of errors and minor varieties extant.

The stamps used to furnish supplies were not taken from the ordinary issue postage stamps of the country—as is usually the case—but from various values of the green and yellow fiscal stamps, which were surcharged in black ink with the value required and the word "Postage," or in some cases, "Postage and revenue." These fiscals were all the same colour (or at least they were supposed to be), that is to say orange-yellow, whilst a Crown and the fiscal value were stamped on in green ink. It was these stamps that were surcharged as provisionals. The design of these green and yellow fiscals (these colours have to be mentioned as there were other fiscals) were identically the same for all values, that is to say the Head of our late Queen enclosed in a small circular tablet with the colony's name at the bottom of the stamp. The rest of the stamp consisted of small fancy network, intermingled with tiny dots and squares, a design which is very quaint and has quite a pleasing effect to the eye. They were all engraved in *taille-douce*.

As to which was the first provisional stamp issued there seems to be some doubt. Quite in the early days of Grenada's philatelic history, when the postage stamps of the country were only two in number, 1d. green and 6d. red, there was a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp created by the simple method of bisecting the 1d. green stamp diagonally and using each half as a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. postage stamp. This stamp can hardly be reckoned as anything but a provisional issue, called for by a new rate of transmission. It is, however, entertained by some philatelists that this stamp was quite unofficial, and was in reality never authorized for postal purposes. I am inclined to disagree with this idea, as I have seen some copies on original covers and also bearing

genuine postmarks. It is certain that very few stamps were thus created, as the ever-watchful officials, when they perceived that a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value was required, had one printed and put on sale almost immediately. However, the demand for this regular issued $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp—when it did arrive—was very great, with the result that all were soon sold out, and once again a provisional had to make up the deficiency. It was thought that a fiscal stamp must be surcharged with the word "Postage" before it could be used for postal purposes. This plan was accordingly carried out, and a 1d. fiscal stamp was surcharged "Postage" twice, in large capital letters. This stamp was then bisected diagonally, so that each half possessed the surcharge "Postage" and was then used as a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp. Such a large surcharge as this was soon found to be too ungainly, and so it was decided to use one of a much smaller size which could be used twice without half the letters going on to the next stamp in the sheet. The "large type," because of its short life, is an exceedingly rare stamp, and an unsevered pair is worth about £35 unused. The "small type" was printed also diagonally on the stamp, with the difference that instead of both surcharges being upright towards each other, as in the "large type," they were inverted as regards each other; the top one being upright, while the lower surcharge was upside-down. The "small type" surcharge was in use for a fairly long period of time, and consequently is comparatively common when it is compared with its rare predecessor. Belonging to the same series is a third stamp, this time in the value of a 1d. fiscal stamp surcharged "Postage" horizontally *once* in the "large type." The commonest variety of error in this stamp is perhaps the one with "inverted" surcharge, which has a market value of about £6. In the world-famed Tapling Collection there is a specimen of this stamp cut vertically down the centre and used as a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp; this great rarity still adheres to part of the original. Another curious variety is surcharged "Postage" diagonally; perhaps, however, this might be a rare variety of the old $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp, "large type," which by mistake had been surcharged only once; the second time the word "Postage" might possibly have got misplaced and fallen on the next stamp in the sheet.

Next we come to a very curious stamp—curious because the surcharge was not printed

but written, in various handwritings, across the stamp. It appears that certain officials had the right of issuing this kind of provisionals if there was no printing-machine within reasonable bounds. The process was an easy one, the clerk merely having to write "Postage" across the 1d. fiscal stamp and then sell it as a postage stamp! From this it will at once be seen that originals are almost impossible to recognize unless they are actually known to be genuine. It is a fairly rare occurrence to come across this stamp, few ever being met with either in dealers' stock-books or good private collections. Many good authorities discard this stamp altogether, and will have nothing whatever to do with a stamp which they declare was only used for revenue or some such purpose, and moreover was at once stopped by the Government when the issue of such a stamp became known.

In 1881 the 1d. postal value stamp again ran out, and consequently it had to be supplied by surcharging the ever-required fiscal. On this occasion the value was not—as formerly—surcharged on *one* value of the fiscal, but was, to supply a large demand, surcharged on *three* separate values as follows: (i) 1d. on 1½d., (ii) 1d. on 4d., (iii) 1d. on 1s.

Let us take all three surcharged stamps separately and discuss any notable points that are to be found.

No. (i). This stamp possesses a few prominent varieties which are well worth obtaining. The yellow fiscal had its own value overprinted in words thus: "Three half pence." There are some curious readings of this value, as "Thre half pence," and I have heard of a variety reading "Theee half pence"!

This stamp was then accordingly surcharged for postal purposes, 1d. with "Postage" in a line underneath. The only known error of this stamp is the "inverted" one; there is, however, also a specimen with the word "Postage" omitted. In reality this is not an error at all as some people seem to imagine. When this surcharge was printed across the various stamps, it was very badly centred, on some stamps being low down, whilst on others it appeared very high up. The cause of this was that when the surcharge was very low down (as it was on two or three stamps in every sheet) the word "Postage" did not fall on the correct stamp, but in such a case fell on the stamp below. This of course brings to light another variety which has "Postage" right at the top, besides having its own ordinary surcharge.

As regards Nos. (ii) and (iii) they also have this latter misplaced surcharge, caused by the same carelessness of not placing the overprint on the *centre* of each stamp.

No. (ii). The 1d. on 4d. is rather rarer in

ordinary state than either of its kindred values, as there were not nearly so many copies of this stamp printed.

A couple of years later there were more provisionals required. This time it was the ½d. and 4d. values which were found to be wanting; for this purpose the 2s. fiscal stamp was surcharged for both deficiencies.

The ½d. value was supplied by overprinting the fiscal stamp "Half penny postage" in three lines, each word occupying a separate line. It is almost certain that there were at least two distinct printings of this stamp, as it is found with a very fine and thin lettered surcharge, whilst the other printing is of a very thick and blotchy order. There are some fine specimens of "double surcharge" of this value, showing both surcharges in striking contrast. Next we come to the 4d. on 2s., which perhaps is one of the most important provisionals as, in the case of this stamp, there are no doubts whatever about there being two printings.

The value "4" was done in a large figure while the "d" was an italic, underneath which was the usual "Postage." In printing 1 of this stamp the space between the value and "Postage" was 4 mm., whilst in printing 2—the rarer variety—the space was roughly 5 mm. The most well-known variety of this stamp is the one with upright "d," which has quite a good market value. This is the only provisional stamp of Grenada which has been forged to any great extent. It may be well just to give the chief differences between original and forgery. In the original the "4" and "d" and "large stop" are not truly in line, whilst in the forgery a card put underneath the "4" and "d" will touch both, showing them—as nearly as possible—to be in line. There are other minor characteristics which will be found fully dealt with in Mr. Earée's admirable book *Album Woods*. Before we leave this issue there are two varieties in the fiscal overprint "Two shillings." In the common printing the two words of value are near together, while in the rarer printing they are some considerable distance apart.

After a lapse of another two years—in 1891—another 2s. fiscal stamp had to be surcharged to supply a deficiency of 1d. stamps; a surcharge which resembled (on several of the stamps) a Chinese puzzle more than anything else. The reason of this was that the value "1d." got hopelessly mixed up with the "and" of "Postage and revenue." People were not long in discerning this badly-arranged surcharge, and accordingly it was decided to replace this surcharge by one more clear and intelligible. To remedy this defect the value "1d." instead of being placed *between* the words "Postage . . . revenue," was now placed *below* "Revenue." This change was effected just

prior to the arrival of the ordinary issue 1d. stamp, which accounts for this variety being the rarer of the two. The last two provisionals of the country differ entirely from all others, because they were surcharged on postal issues, not fiscals as had formerly been the case. It was discovered that there had been a large quantity of the 8d. value, issued in 1883, left over; this supply was accordingly surcharged to provide 1d. and 2½d. values. The 1d. provisional is known with "inverted," "double," and "triple surcharges," while it also possesses various microscopical varieties, which latter, however, do not possess any separate market value.

The 2½d. value has two distinct varieties of surcharge. In Type I the "2" of "½" has its finishing line rather straight and elongated; whilst in Type II the figure has a distinct curve and bulb at its extremity. Both these varieties are priced the same, which clearly shows that the two types were fairly evenly divided. Regarding errors of this stamp, they are the same as the 1d. stamp, "inverted," etc. It is noticeable that all the

provisional stamps of Grenada possess many errors and strange varieties, showing that on each occasion the printing was done in a careless and hasty fashion.

Here it is that these interesting issues come to an end, as I do not intend to place surcharged Unpaid Letter stamps in this class. I am thoroughly aware that these notes are far from being an entire history of all varieties, but at the same time I hope they may prove useful, even if only to the junior section of our hobby. In sorting out specimens of these stamps it is always well to bear *two* distinct things in mind: (i) To look at the actual fiscal stamp and see whether it possesses any error in overprint or strange spacing of words. (ii) To then look at the postal surcharge and make sure you are not putting aside—as an exchange specimen—a stamp which perhaps is extremely rare. Stamp collecting—like all other hobbies—wants special time devoted to it, as without any philatelic knowledge it is quite impossible to make up a good collection.

City Stamp-sellers of Thirty Years Ago

By B. W. W.

THE *London Philatelist* for November has done unusual honour to the memory of Miss Fernley, whose name was better known to collectors of an earlier generation (of whom the writer is one) than to those of the present day. The *London Philatelist* says:—

We have to record with sincere regret the death of this lady, which occurred a short time ago at the age of sixty-eight. . . . She was a delightful, simple, straightforward little person, absolutely incapable of selling (knowingly) a forged stamp or of charging an exorbitant price, and we do not believe she attained more than a modest competence by her labours in the philatelic field. She will, however, always be gratefully remembered by collectors of the past as the cheerful purveyor of many of their most cherished possessions.

To all of which we cordially agree, but it recalls other memories of the days before grand stamp shops were to be found in the leading thoroughfares of this mighty London.

My first experience, in 1874, of buying at an open shop was in Gray's Inn Road, opposite King's Cross Station, where toys and sweets were sold and sheets of stamps exhibited in the window, sent in largely by boys and a few City clerks, with one who

had recently come from the Balkans district, who offered scores of early Roumanians—no, my dear reader, *not* the first issue of Moldavia, but the 1859-63 issues on pieces of original cover—Austrian Journal stamps, Hungarian lithographs, and sundry trifles from Servia, etc., at prices averaging one to two per cent of present catalogues.

Within a year, on my daily visit to Glyn's Bank, curiosity led me to a dirty little shop in Nicholas Lane, lighted with a paraffin lamp and a candle or two on foggy days, half the shutters being up: in the middle of the window a few sheets of stamps were visible. The premises were to be let, and the caretaker, Mrs. Smith, filled up her time profitably by buying foreign stamps from the lads or messengers of neighbouring offices and banks and selling again in selected lots to some of her regular callers, who supplied sheets or small books of stamps to sell at 25 per cent commission. Three or four persons, who had been found guilty of way-laying the boys a few yards away and buying their stamps, were sternly prohibited from entering the shop again. One day Mr. "Messenger" from a certain bank near by, brought in about eighty 5s. Cape stamps in two blocks on a brown paper cover, just as

passed through the post from the Kimberley district. Many eminent collectors met there, and on one occasion Mr. de Ysasi brought a large book with numerous blocks of four to ten Triangular Capes for the edification of a young man called Frost and the delightful pleasure of those who were allowed to look over those treasures which had been left to the tender mercies of honest Mrs. Smith, who had to leave soon after, as the premises were to be rebuilt. An album bought there for 14s., containing nearly 700 stamps, had 200 removed (to my collection), then catalogued at over £3; so bargains were to be bought in those days.

Another house of call was somewhere about Bell Alley, three or four steps having to be mounted into a sweetstuff shop, where scores of pounds for stamps changed hands every month on similar terms to the other; and in July of 1877 I discovered the little shop which Mrs. Fernley and her daughter carried on similarly in Seething Lane. Here were bought many of Mr. de Ysasi's curious proofs and imperforate blocks of Spain and her colonies; Lubeck "Zwei ein halb" *se tenant* with 2 sch., which Mr. "Churchill" Emerson may remember something of (Was it five or six shillings?); Griqualands galore for a few pence; and many rare stamps changed hands. Many collectors, though, were afraid to leave their treasures there, for the ground-floor was a working carpenter's shop, about nine feet by six of which had been lightly partitioned off for the newspaper and stamp portion, which was nearly demolished one day through a stout man trying to pass another in the thirty-inch space between the boards and counter on which stamps were examined. This soon was required for Mark Lane Station.

Miss Fernley was next found in a larger shop "on her own" near to Billingsgate, but this was too much out of the trading-track of stamp sellers and buyers, so she migrated to a first-floor back in Great Tower Street, entered by a precipitous staircase behind the street door. Good business was done here for some years (in 1890 PREAK and UNJOG errors for two or three shillings); while the good knowledge of stamps acquired by Miss Fernley was in excess of that of some stamp dealers in more pretentious premises in recent years. A letter of the kindly little lady, for such she undoubtedly was, in which she hoped to pay me a visit, as I was unable to go to the City with my duplicates, was the last I heard of her, beyond a rumour from another old customer of hers that she had had to go into the country. There may be nothing of Philately (with the big P) here, but many of the collectors of the last fifteen years, who are used to the numerous public shops of London, can hardly realize the time when no such easy facilities existed.

By the by, has anybody who reads this ever bought stamps under the bed of the river, as I did after a good feed in an adjoining restaurant (*Anglice*, coffee-house) in the days of forty years back, when half the Thames Tunnel consisted of shops, in one of which were sold picture-cards and note-paper, souvenirs, such as drinking-mugs, a wonderful glass of wine which visitors often tried to drink but could never taste, and toys of various kinds, among which were exposed a couple of sheets with foreign stampson—Norwegian King's Head, Spanish Queen's, and some German States issues, with a few French Emperors and American Presidents!

British Stamps used Abroad

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP IV—*continued*

B 32 Buenos Ayres (Argentine)

IN 1860, and even to-day, the largest and finest city in the whole of South America, was chosen as the capital of the Argentine Confederation at the end of the civil war. The trade with Great Britain was extensive, and British stamps were employed here from 1860 till about 1873. In that year an agreement for the interchange of postal matter was entered into with other countries, and the first high-value native stamps made their appearance. The Argentine Republic



entered the Postal Union in 1878. The type of obliterator generally used was in black, but for a period, 1865-7, blue ink was often used. One can find British stamps cancelled with the round date stamp usually employed by the French P.O.

- 1d., Large Crown, perf. 14.
- 1d., plates 87, 90, 92, 94, 97, 104, 110, 117, 120, 140, 145, 147, 149, 150, 151, 156, 159, 163.
- 2d., plates 9, 14.
- 3d. " 2, 4 spray, 5, 6, 7, 8.
- 4d. " 1, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.
- 6d. " 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 emblems, 8, 9, 11, 11.
- 9d. " 2, 4 emblem, 4 spray.
- 10d., plate 1.
- 1s., plates 1, 2, 4 emblem, 4 spray, 5, 6, 7.
- 2s., plate 1 blue, dark blue.
- 5s., plate 1 rose.

C 28 Uruguay

MONTEVIDEO, the capital of the Republic of Uruguay, issued British stamps from 1863 till 1872. The export trade was very small, but Great Britain took at least one-third of the whole. The post-mark employed is only found in black. A date stamp was impressed on the letters in red or black. Uruguay did not join the Postal Union till 1880, but made the usual convention for the interchange of mails with Great Britain in 1872.



- 1d., plates 72, 75.
 2d., plate 9.
 3d., plates 5, 7.
 4d. ,, 1, 8, 9, 11.
 6d. ,, 1, 5, 6 spray, 9, 11 dark.
 9d., plate 4 emblem.
 1s., plates 2, 4, 5.
 2s., plate 1 blue.

Chili

Probably the most flourishing of the South American Republics, gives us one of the largest groups of British stamps used in foreign countries. It is particularly rich in mineral treasure, and its trade, especially with the United Kingdom, is both important and flourishing. Stretching as it does quite half the length of the western side of the South American continent—over 3000 miles, and averaging only 100 miles in width—it may be said to consist entirely of seaboard. The ports are consequently numerous, and three were important enough to have a British Post Office, viz.:

- Valparaiso (C 30).
 Caldera (C 37).
 Coquimbo (C 40).

Three other ports now belong to Chili, having been annexed after the war with Bolivia and Peru, 1878-81, viz.:

- Arica (C 36), formerly Peruvian.
 Cobija (C 39), formerly Bolivian.
 Iquique (D 87), formerly Peruvian.

Chili entered the Postal Union in 1881, and British stamps were used in the Chilian ports right up to that time.

The war in 1878, which raged over that part of the country subsequently annexed,

put an end to the use of these stamps at the last three places.

Of all these places Valparaiso is far and away the largest, both by reason of its central position and its close proximity to the capital, Santiago, which is situated sixty miles inland. Quite ten per cent of the population are Europeans, and it is undoubtedly the financial and commercial headquarters for the whole of the west coast of South America.

The postal rates to all these places were, in 1865, 2s. per half-ounce, afterwards reduced to 1s. 6d. in 1870, and again reduced to 1s. per half-ounce in 1878.

C 30 Valparaiso

British stamps were first used in Valparaiso in 1865, and remained in use right up to 1881. Owing to the large and important trade a very large number of varieties are found. The obliterator employed varied in shape and size, and after being used at first alone

is found joined to a date stamp, but the obliterator C 30 annexed is the one most frequently found.



- 1d., red, plates 152, 157, 162, 167, 175, 178, 181, 185, 187, 189, 195, 197, 198, 200, 201, 209, 210, 212, 214, 215, 217.
 1½d., plate 3.
 2d., plates 9, 13, 14, 15.
 3d. ,, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18.
 4d., plates 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 15 sage, 16 sage, 17 spray.
 6d. ,, 4, 5, 6 b, 8, 9, 11, 11, 12, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 spray, 17.
 8d., plate 1.
 9d., plates 1, 4 emblem, 4 garter.
 10d., plate 1 pale and dark.
 1s., plates 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 13 spray.
 2s., plate 1 milky, pale blue, and brown.
 5s., plates 1, 2.
 10s. ,, grey-green; wmk. cross.
 £1 ,, brown-violet ,, ,,

(To be continued.)

From an Indian Poet

A FRIEND of mine once knew a bobby,
 Who was always on beat at the Lobby;
 With the greatest of ease he got stamps
 from M.P.'s,

For collecting they knew was his hobby.

He got from old Joey, when pressed,
 Of Colonials some of the best,
 And to make it seem better it came with a letter
 That spoke of Free Trade as a jest.

He got from a wealthy Hindoo
 A double-print two anna, blue,
 A set of Rajpeela, Nabha, and Las Bela,
 Faridkot, and Gwalior too.

But "Bob" was a regular riddle,
 If you spoke of exchange "so uncivil,"
 He was Scotch to the bone, and replied in a
 tone
 That said, "No! You can go to the devil."

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

British Bechuanaland.—We take the following paragraphs from the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* (30.11.07):—

"Mr. Rockliff sends us a very curious and interesting envelope, bearing a 'split provisional' of British Bechuanaland, of which we do not remember to have seen any previous mention. The envelope is a red-brown colour (the exact colour used for inland telegrams in this country), and inscribed along the top 'On Her Majesty's Service,' and at the foot, in small type, 'Cape Government Railways.' The stamp, or half-stamp, it bears is the left-hand half of the Queen's Head 4d. British overprinted 'British Bechuanaland.' The circular postmark reads 'Palapye Station, B.P.,' with the date '22 Nov., 99.' Within the circle are written the initials 'A.H.,' and underneath the word 'Postmaster,' an evidence, we think, that very few of these splits were used.

"Mr. Rockliff, we may add, purchased the envelope at auction. He is writing out to Bechuanaland for particulars, and promises to acquaint the *Fortnightly* with the result."

The following is from the *Monthly Journal* (30.11.07):—

"Mr. D. Field has shown us a copy of the ½d. of August, 1888, with double overprint of the word 'Protectorate,' Type 2, both impressions being inverted. The specimen has been passed as genuine by a very good authority, but it is well to remember that these overprints are by no means difficult to imitate."

British Honduras.—Mr. C. O. Taylor kindly sends us an envelope franked with a 1 c., green, multiple chalky stamp, bearing the following cancellation in violet ink: ORANGE WALK.—OCT 22 1907—"CITY OF BELIZE." The cancellation is obviously done with a rubber stamp, in which the type can be set up as required. Our correspondent writes us as follows:—

"The purser of the mail steamer running between Belize and the northern part of the colony has been made a district postmaster, with a post-box on board the boat.

"He is empowered to receive mail of a carrying value not over 5 c., and cancelling . . . with the name of the boat, date, and place received."

We give these particulars as some collectors might, in the future, take such cancellations to indicate a fiscal use, whereas they are certainly postal.

Cape of Good Hope.—*Mafeking.*—Mr. D. Field shows us a specimen of the 6d. on 3d., Bechuanaland Protectorate, with inverted surcharge. This variety was mentioned, we are told, in Mr. Poole's book on the War Provisionals, but it does not seem to have got into the catalogues.—*Monthly Journal* (30.11.07).

Cayman Islands.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us a second provisional ½d., this time in figures on the recently issued 5s. The overprint is in black, and looks as if it had been done with a metal handstamp, using the ordinary postmarking ink-pad. Our illustration is only approximately correct.

Another correspondent, Mr. Benedict Prieth, informs our New York house that the 5s. has also been overprinted "1d.," the surcharge being a heavy, black figure like the "½d."



1
2^D

Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Ordinary paper.
Overprinted in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. on 5s., vermilion and green	—	—
1d. on 5s. " "	—	—

Chili.—In our issue of 21 December, 1907, in chronicling a double surcharge of the 10 c. on 30 c., orange-red, we inadvertently illustrated a large figure "5" as the surcharge. This is, of course, absurd; Type 19 in the Catalogue is the correct illustration. We have to thank Mr. C. E. Ashby for calling our attention to this mistake.

Egypt.—We take the following paragraph from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (14.12.07):—

"After keeping back permission just long enough to enable favoured officials to sell the Official stamps at handsome profits to themselves, the authorities have now authorized the sale of such stamps to stamp collectors in unused condition at face value."

Federated Malay States.—In our issue of 23 November we chronicled the 1 c., green, on chalky paper, on the authority of *Makel's Weekly Stamp News* (26.10.07). We are assured that this stamp cannot possibly exist, so must ask our readers to delete it. The same remarks apply

to the rd., vermilion, of Fiji and Gibraltar, chronicled in the same paper. We endorse Mr. Ewen's opinion that our American friends had been experimenting with a dirty silver coin. It is a case of "filthy lucre" again!

France.—M. Jules Bernichon sends us a copy of the 20 c. Sêmeuse, of the latest redrawn type, with thicker figures similar to the 35 c. described in our issue of 14 December, 1907. Our copy is dated 17 December, and the colour is brown-lake.



Thick figures of value. Perf. 14 x 13½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
20 c., brown-lake	—	—

Jamaica.—Several of our contemporaries chronicle a 2½d., black and blue, on multiple paper, but as they do not state whether the paper is ordinary or chalky, we will not list this value at present.

New Zealand.—The Australian Philatelist (1.11.07) reports having seen a copy of the 4d. Pictorial perforated 14 horizontally and imperf. vertically.



Wmk. NZ and Star. Perf. 14 horizontally. Imperf. vertically.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
4d., indigo and brown	—	—

Nicaragua.—Our New York house forwards us a nearly complete set of the Waterlow stamps, overprinted "COSTA—ATLANTICA"—C, in black on all values, except on the 1 peso, on which the overprint is in violet. The stamps overprinted in this way are sold at a greatly increased price in Nicaragua, as they are intended for use in certain territories where the coinage varies considerably in value. The two values in brackets are already in the Catalogue.



"COSTA ATLANTICA"
B.

Waterlow print, overprinted "COSTA—ATLANTICA"—C in black (on 1 p. in violet).

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., green	0	1
2 c., red	0	2
3 c., purple	0	3
4 c., brownish orange	0	3
5 c., blue	0	4
10 c., bistre-brown	0	8
15 c., olive	1	0
[20 c., claret]	1	3
[50 c., orange]	3	0
1 p., black	6	0
2 p., green	12	0
5 p., violet	30	0

Paraguay.—In our issue of 23 November, 1907, we chronicled a provisional 5 c. on 2 c., olive, saying that, as far as we knew, the 2 c., olive, did not exist in an unsurcharged state.

Captain F. F. Freeman now informs us that he has received copies of this stamp, uncharged, direct from Paraguay.



Change of colour. Perf. 11½ or 11½ x 12.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 c., olive	—	—

Persia.—Le Journal des Philatélistes (30.11.07) says that a new set of sixteen values is to be issued on 1 January, 1908. They will be from 1 chahi to 30 krans, and the 13 chahi and higher values will bear a portrait of the new Shah. We suppose that these things are being made in Paris, and will, as usual, be on sale there long before they ever reach Teheran.

St. Helena.—In a collection we have recently purchased, we have made a most interesting discovery, consisting in a pair of the 1d., lake, of the 1864-83 issue, with the thick bar (14 to 14½ mm. long), in an imperforate condition. This must not be confounded with the 1d. of the 1863 issue, in which the bar measures from 17 to 18½ mm. We have never heard of any other copies of this stamp, and we are strongly inclined to believe that they are unique.



ONE PENNY

Wmk. Crown CC. Thick bar (14 to 14½ mm.). Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d., lake	—	—

South Australia.—In our issue of 30 November we chronicled the 10s., deep green, with thick POSTAGE, wmk. Crown and SA close, on the authority of the *Australian Philatelist* (1.10.07); our contemporary now (1.11.07) informs us that a mistake was made, and that the 10s. has not yet been issued with thick POSTAGE.

Switzerland.—We were wrong in stating in our issue of 7 December that the new 5 c. and 10 c. were without watermark. Baron A. de Reuterskiold writes that they have the old "cross" watermark, but it is extremely faint, and cannot be seen at all without the application of benzine. As before, several portions of various crosses appear on each stamp, so that one might almost call the watermark "multiple."

Baron de Reuterskiold also informs us that the current 20 c., 25 c., 30 c., 40 c., 50 c., and 1 fr. have been issued on "granite" paper, water-marked as above; but as various shades are said to exist, we will not list them until we have seen them.

Uruguay.—A correspondent sends us notes of the following:—

The 1 c. of the 1881-2 issue exists in *yellow-green*, as well as in *blue-green*.

In No. 148 the date "1883" is over the word "Provisorio," when the surcharge is normal; the illustration is incorrect. If this surcharge exists in *red* (No. 150) it is only a proof; a forged surcharge of this type is known in *red*.

The 10 c., *purple*, of 1887, exists imperf. horizontally.

The surcharge "Provisorio" (Type 34) is known in *red*, but only as a proof, or colour trial.

The 1c., *green*, of 1890 (No. 182), exists imperforate altogether and imperf. horizontally; and the 5 c. of the same issue (No. 184) exists imperf. horizontally and imperf. vertically.

The 5 c., *violet*, overprinted with Type 44 exists with overprint inverted, and the 1 c., *bright green*, overprinted with Type 45 exists with double overprint, both impressions the right way up.

The 1 c. on 20 c., *orange* (No. 203), exists imperf. horizontally (or, we believe, in vertical pairs imperf. between the two stamps).

The 1 c., *green*, and 2 c., *rose*, of 1892, exist imperf. vertically, and the 5 c., *blue*, of the same issue imperf. horizontally.

The 1 c., *blue*, of 1894, may be found imperf. horizontally and imperf. vertically, and the 5 c., *rose*, and 10 c., *orange*, imperf. vertically.

The 1 c., 7 c., and 10 c. of 1895 exist imperf. horizontally, and the 1 c. and 5 c. imperf. vertically.

The three stamps of the Commemorative issue of 1897, Nos. 232-4, exist imperforate, but these were probably from proof sheets, though they are in exactly the same colours as the issued stamps and arrived with them. There are also proofs of these stamps in various colours.

The 5 c. overprinted "PROVISORIO 1897" is known in an unperfected pair with an unsurcharged stamp (Nos. 233 and 236 *se tenant*).

The 1 c. and 25 c. of the regular issue of 1897 are known imperf. vertically, and the 5 c. imperf. horizontally.

The 5 c. surcharged with Type 71 is also found in a pair with an unsurcharged stamp.

The 2 c., *Venetian red*, of 1894 (No. 210), was surcharged with Type 72 PROVISIONAL $\frac{1}{2}$ CENTESIMO, but all the copies, 10,000 in number, are stated to have been destroyed.

The 5 mills., *grey-blue*, of 1899, exists imperf. vertically and imperf. horizontally.

The 5 c. on 10 c. of 1900 is known without the block covering the date "1897," and also with the last two letters of CENTESIMOS absent, in each case *se tenant* with a normal copy.

The 1 c. and 5 c. of 1900-1, and the 2 c. of 1904, exist imperf. horizontally; and the 1 c. and 2 c. of 1900-1, and the 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c. of 1904, imperf. vertically. The 1 c. of 1900-1 is found in *blue-green*, the 2 c. in *orange*, and the 10 c. in three shades, one of which may be termed *orange-yellow*.

Of the 5 c. of 1904 there is a variety occurring once in each sheet, in which the second letter of REPUBLICA is "F" instead of "R."

Our correspondent adds that of the stamps surcharged "Paz—1904" there are two varieties, differing in the slope of the overprint, as in the case of the German stamps surcharged "China."

Monthly Journal (30.11.07).

Champion's Bulletin (25.11.07) informs us that the recently issued 50 c., *rose*, has been overprinted with the word OFICIAL; we believe the overprint is similar to Type O 3 in the Catalogue, but we do not illustrate it as we are not sure.



Official. Overprinted OFICIAL. Perf 11½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
50c., rose		

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.,
39r Strand, London, W.C.

Correspondence

To the Editor G. S. W.

DEAR SIR,—Your contributor, Mr. D. B. Armstrong, having mentioned my handbook on *The Official Stamps of Great Britain* as his authority for various statements in his admirable article on the Twentieth Century Stamps of the British Empire, I trust you will afford me the space to point out a few slight misstatements for which I do not take the responsibility and which are not in my handbook.

In the first place, all stamps in the hands of officials were ordered to be returned to London on the 12th inst. by a circular from Head Office dated 9 May, 1904, and they were destroyed on 14 May, not 13th, as one might imagine from Mr. Armstrong's article.

Then I am not aware whether dealers had any special prohibition against dealing in unused "Officials," but seeing that they were sold for a time at face value at Somerset House, I very much doubt whether the Board of Inland Revenue could have enforced any such prohibition. In the case against Richards and Creeke it was sought to establish the fact that the overprint marked the stamp as Government property, and therefore nobody but the Crown could hold a legal title to them; but that contention was never thrashed out, and in view of the fact that such stamps had been sold to the public, I do not see how it could have been upheld.

I sincerely hope your contributor is right in his statement that an equivalent in uncharged stamps "was made to replace the Official stamps removed": personally I have my doubts about its being correct in every case.

Further on it is mentioned that the 6d. grey I.R. Official had ceased to be used in 1885; that certainly is not correct. They were used right up to 1901, and such a big stock of them was in hand that they would have lasted perhaps even till now had not a change been rendered necessary by a notice in the *London Gazette* of 19 April, 1901, which demonetized all issues prior to the last of the Queen Victoria.

With reference to the date of the issue of the 4d., blue-green, I distinctly mention the latter half of 1900 in my handbook.

For the statement that only three of the 6d. I.R. Official King's Head are known, I accept, however, full responsibility. At the time I read my paper to my fellow-members of the Manchester Philatelic Society (Feb. 1906), such was, so far as I knew, the case, but since then I have seen copies both used and unused in the collections of both H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and the Earl of Crawford. I have also been officially informed that I am mistaken in my supposition "that the 6d. I.R. Official King's Head was never issued, because a small quantity was issued early in 1904."

The other copies I have seen were all on packets from London (most unusual for these to have stamps on), and posted on the last possible day that Official stamps could be used, so that the supposition that these were "brands plucked from the burning" is possibly correct.

Yours truly,

I. J. BERNSTEIN.

Philatelic Societies

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.

Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.

Entrance fee: 2s. 6d. No Entrance fee for ladies or for Juniors.

THE fourth ordinary meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, 16 November, 1907, at 3 Bedford Street, Strand, W.C. The President took the chair at 8 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. G. E. Wells was unanimously elected a member of the Society. Donations to the forgery collection were acknowledged from Mr. Mullen and Mr. H. F. Johnson, and to the library from Mr. Douglas Ellis.

The President mentioned that the omission had been made at the last meeting of a vote of thanks to Mr. Douglas Ellis for his kindness in providing a table for the displays. Mr. F. J. Melville now proposed this vote of thanks, which Mr. Johnson seconded, and which was unanimously carried.

Mr. W. E. Lincoln then gave us a paper and display on "Minor Varieties of Engraving on Postage Stamps." He explained that he did not intend to describe errors of engraving, confining himself rather to differences in engraved stamps and re-engravings of the same design. Mr. Lincoln gave us a splendid display of these varieties, and fully explained the minor differences by which they could be detected; each country was taken in alphabetical order,

and where re-engravings exist, each variety was shown. A great deal of interest was taken in Mr. Lincoln's remarks, which cleared away a number of difficulties which present themselves to young collectors. A vote of thanks to Mr. Lincoln for his highly instructive and interesting paper was proposed by Mr. Gilbert Lodge, seconded by Mr. Patman, and carried with acclamation.

Mr. H. Clark next gave us a paper entitled "World-wide Philately," in which he spoke of the universal nature of Philately and the spirit of friendship and brotherly love which exists among its devotees. He spoke of the many pleasant and valuable friendships it leads one into, and the upright, honourable characters of philatelists generally. To illustrate the strength and the world-wide nature of stamp collecting, Mr. Clark sent for our inspection philatelic periodicals from Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Australia—a marvellous selection—including as it did some from places where one would least expect them: Tunis, Morocco, Turkey, Bulgaria, San Domingo, Cuba, Porto Rico, Honolulu, and quite a large selection from Central and South America. The display and paper proved of the greatest interest to the members, the majority of whom could hardly credit the enormous extent of our hobby. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Clark for his paper and display was proposed by Mr. Melville, seconded by Mr. Westcott, and after an interesting discussion on the periodicals shown, carried with enthusiasm.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 2
Whole No. 158

11 JANUARY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Finland—continued

THE Russian Government had for years been raising all sorts of difficulties with the Finnish administration, with a view to finding a pretext for suppressing all the privileges still possessed by that country and converting it into a Russian province. Amongst other deprivations, it was decided that the postage stamps of Finland should be done away with. In June, 1890, a proclamation was issued, stating "that it having been found desirable to establish complete homogeneity in the organization of the Postal Service throughout the whole of the Russian Empire," in future the postal administration of Finland should be subject to the control of the Imperial Ministry of the Interior, and that a knowledge of the Russian language was essential for all persons working in the Finnish postal service. In March, 1891, a further decree enacted that all correspondence should be franked with postage stamps of the empire, but bearing a special mark, consisting of a small circle, and prescribed the rates of postage and of currency. The decree did not entirely abolish the use of Finnish stamps, for these were permitted to frank inland correspondence as well as letters sent abroad, and it was only on letters to Russia itself that these special stamps were compulsory. Needless to say, the patriotic Finns left them alone as much as possible.

Mr. L. Hanciau, in his exhaustive article on "The Postal Issues of Finland" in the *Monthly Journal* (Vol. XIV), says "attempts are often made to discover in very humble causes an excuse for important effects," and apropos of the issue in question reproduced (but without guaranteeing its accuracy) an anecdote current in the newspapers of the period. It was as follows:—

Quite recently, in the course of an excursion on the frontier of the Grand Duchy, the Czar stopped in the middle of the day to write a letter. Having finished his letter, he requested one of his aides-de-camp to accompany him to the post office in the nearest village. This place happened to be in Finland itself.

The Czar and his aide-de-camp arrived at the post office in the strictest incognito. The

sovereign took from his pocket-book a Russian stamp, affixed it to the envelope and handed the letter to the official.

"I beg your pardon," said the latter, "but you have used a Russian stamp; a stamp of Finland is required."

"I have none," said the Czar, "but here is a rouble; give me a stamp of the country and return the change."

"I again beg pardon," said the official [who was evidently exceptionally polite], "but you have given me a paper rouble. That is Russian currency; I can only take Finnish money here."

The Czar turned impatiently to his companion, and remarked how ridiculous and troublesome these formalities were.

The designs were those of the stamps then current in Russia, modified by the insertion of small circles in the corners or elsewhere. They were engraved and printed at the Imperial works at St. Petersburg, the small stamps in sheets of 100, four panes of 25, and perf. $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$, and the large stamps in sheets of 40, perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$. They were all on horizontally laid paper, having a watermark of wavy lines as in Russia. The 1, 2, 3, and 7 kop. were of one type, the 4, 10, 20, and 50 of another, the 14 and 35 kop. of another, the 1 rouble had a design to itself, whilst the two high values were similar.





1 May, 1891. Centre in first colour. Figures of value also in first colour on the 20 k., 50 k., and 1 r. Perf.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 kop., yellow	0	2	0	2
2 " green	0	3	0	3
3 " rose	0	3	0	3
4 " "	0	3	0	3
7 " indigo	0	6	0	2
10 " "	0	9	0	6
14 " carmine and blue	1	0	0	6
20 " "	1	6	0	6
35 " green and purple	2	6	2	0
50 " "	2	6	2	0
1 r., orange and brown	5	0	2	0
3½ r., grey and black	20	0	10	0
7 r., yellow "	50	0	40	0

This proceeding was the beginning of the end, for in 1899 the Russian Minister of the Interior decided that the special stamps mentioned above should be abolished as soon as the stock was exhausted, and be replaced by corresponding Russian stamps without the circles. As a reason for this it was stated that the "monetary condition of Finland and Russia having become established, it was unnecessary to have special postage stamps for use in Finland."

Anyway, it was decreed that from August, 1900, foreign correspondence (including that to Russia) must be franked by Russian stamps, and after January, 1901, inland correspondence would have to be franked by Russian stamps or by stamps similar in appearance, but with currency expressed in marks and pennia. The latter alternative was adopted and was a concession in some measure to Finland, but the stamps, which appeared in January, 1901, bear so strong a likeness to Russian stamps, that it is to be feared the rebellious feelings of the population have not been materially appeased by the modification. When the stamps for foreign correspondence were suppressed in August, 1900, there was published by private enterprise and by way of protest a label with a black ground, bearing the Arms of Finland (Shield in red, with Lion and Crown in yellow), and inscribed in

white letters SUOMI at top and FINLAND below; the price, 1—PENNI, was printed on the back. These labels were fixed on the address side of the letters, and the Russian postage stamps on the reverse. They are known as the "mourning" stamps of Finland, but, of course, have no philatelic value. They were soon suppressed by the Governor-General.

This issue for inland correspondence, and which is still current, consists of six values, which were first lithographed (except the 10 marks, which is surface-printed) by Tilgman and Co., at Helsingfors, and afterwards surface-printed at the same place from new plates made by Berthold, in Berlin. The perforation is similar to the last issue, but the paper is different. The differences are clearly explained in the Catalogue. The 2 p., 5 p., and 20 p. are alike in design.



14 Jan., 1901-2. Centre in first colour. Perf.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
2 pen., yellow	0	1	0	1
5 " green	0	1	0	1
10 " carmine	0	2	0	1
20 " blue	0	4	0	1
1 mark, green and mauve	1	3	0	2
10 marks, grey and black	12	6	—	—

(To be continued.)

THE BEST STAMP HINGES

We have 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.

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Catalogue, Part I, Great Britain and Colonies

IS nearly finished printing, and will be in the hands of the binders in a few days. As near as I can tell, we shall be able to post off all prepaid and booked orders by 28 January, or thereabouts.

The following extract from the introduction may be of interest:—

In this new edition we have made a few alterations that will, we think, be much appreciated by those constantly using the Catalogue.

One little alteration is to do away with the former description of perforations in such countries as New South Wales. This used to read:—

- a. Perf. 12½-13
 b. " 10
 c. " 11
 d. " a × c
 f. " b × a

and so on. This necessitated constant reference to see what a, b, or c stood for, but now we always quote the actual perforation to each set of stamps.

The more important alterations have been in the following countries:—

Great Britain.

We have made a somewhat considerable alteration here, by removing the list of "plate numbers" from their position after the general issues and including them in the general list under their proper issues. It seems to us that this is a simpler arrangement, and that it will facilitate prompt reference. Our new stock books and albums will be arranged to agree with this new form of classification.

India.

This country has been practically rewritten and arranged by means of the mass of new information given in the Handbook on India, which we recently published for the Philatelic Society of India. The list of the 1854 issue has been considerably extended, and the varieties of dies, retouches, etc., are now correctly listed, and throughout the later issues many new varieties have been catalogued for the first time.

Queensland.

The list of this country has been extended by including the two forms of watermark in the issues of 1868-79 and 1879-81, and also in the large stamps of 1882-86.

Victoria.

The 1850 issues have been somewhat rearranged and corrected and brought up to latter-day knowledge.

Chalky and Non-Chalky Paper.

The general wish of the bulk of our clients seems to us to be against increasing too greatly

the number of minor varieties; we have therefore decided *not to list* the varieties on the new paper, separately, in the Catalogue, but we have indicated the existence of the papers by the letters "O" (*ordinary*) and "C" (*chalky*) after the description of all stamps where it is possible for the chalky paper to occur. The two letters together of course signify that the stamp exists on both papers. The price quoted is that of the cheaper variety, it in most cases being that on the *chalky* paper.

In some cases also stamps printed on paper watermarked Crown CC, Type w. 5, have "chalk-surface." In such cases we have added "O" and "C" as above, but where no value of the set has appeared on this paper no indication is made.

As regards the *prices* quoted, we have not felt it necessary to increase many of the older issues. Colonials have gone up for some time, and we consider that, *for the present*, the prices are, in general, quite high enough; there are, of course, many exceptions to this rule.

In regard to more modern stamps, we have run short of many of the *later issues* of the late Queen and of the *earlier issues* of His Majesty King Edward VII, and as we have had to pay higher for many of these stamps, the selling prices are also raised.

Beirut Provisional, 1 piastre on 2d.

MR. E. G. FREYER, of Syria, kindly draws our attention to dangerous forgeries of these surcharges, and tells us that a Syrian is being prosecuted at Beirut for issuing these forgeries.

The genuine stamps were issued on 2 July, 1905; only 480 were made, and they were printed at the "American Press," Beirut.

Specimens of these stamps should only be bought with the guarantee of a responsible dealer.

Australia's Income from Stamp Collectors

I HAVE seen it stated in various Australian papers that Mr. Walter Hull, of Sydney, stated, before a Departmental Board which is considering the advisability of issuing artistic stamps for the Australian Commonwealth, that if such stamps were issued, £40,000 would be sold to collectors the first year and £20,000 per annum afterwards.

I consider these figures must be a great exaggeration, and I am convinced that *one-tenth* of the above sums would be much nearer the truth. If Mr. W. Hull has been correctly reported, I should be much interested in knowing upon what figures he bases his estimates.

Twentieth Century Colonials

MR. J. LANGHAM kindly writes as follows:—

In reference to *G.S.W.*, No. 23, p. 361, earliest date of issue 3d. and 1d. King's Head stamps, December 31, 1901. I have in my possession a pair of 3d., green, postmarked GRIMSBY 4.30 p.m. DE. 30. 01.

£2000 for a Stamp

THERE is an idea prevalent nowadays that the police are somewhat inclined to exceed their duties. Further, that there is apparently no redress that the public can obtain on these occasions.

The other side of the question is furnished by the following case:—An inspector of the Monmouthshire County Police forwarded an official document to a gentleman of wealth and position, and asked the recipient kindly to return a penny stamp to cover the postage. A simple request.

As a consequence, the inspector was asked to resign, which meant a loss to him of something like £2000. He has a record of twelve years' service without a black mark, but this has counted for nothing against a penny stamp.—*Answers*, 28.12.07.

A PROVISIONAL Cayman we note,
But as yet are unable to quote.
The officials out there
Are guarding with care
The stock, so that dealers shan't bloat.
The beautiful plasters from Spain
Are causing a good deal of pain.
I think it's a pity
That as they're so pretty
The stamps have been issued in vain.
F. S. PHILLIPS.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

No. 91. *Egypt and Sudan*. Value £241. THE demand for these stamps seems on the increase. The book was remade six months ago, but was so stripped that it had to be remade again.

It is now rather stronger than it was last time, as we have added many stamps from an important collection.

In the 1866 issue there are several stamps, perf. and imperf., including pairs, also a fine error 5 pias., rose, with overprint of the 10 pias.

In the 1872-5 issue there are no less than eighteen pairs *tête-bêche*. (Does the 5 pias., green, of this issue really exist *tête-bêche*? I doubt it very much.)

Wanted to Purchase*Egypt.*

Unused. Nos. 4, 5, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 30, 32, 54, 55, 57, 64, 72, 74, 75, 80, 210, 211, 212, 215, 216.
Used. Nos. 4, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 28, 54, 56, 82, 83, 204, 205, 206, 210, 212.

Sudan.

Unused. Nos. 3, 4, 6, 11, 12, 22, 23, 24, 53, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 107a, 112, 113, 203 to 209, 211 to 217.

Used. Nos. 3, 4, 6, 11, 12, 13, 17a, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 53, 55 to 58, 102, 103, 104, 106, 107, 107a, 203 to 217.

Nos. 17 and 38.

Value £1017.

Queensland, two vols.

This country has been rearranged to agree with the new list that will be given in our 1908 Catalogue. The issue of 1879-81 has been divided into the two different water-marks, as have also the large stamps of 1882-6, and I believe the new list will be found very complete.

These books are exceedingly strong, and every issue is well represented in used and unused, and owing to some very advantageous purchases the prices have been considerably reduced in a number of cases.

Among the better things in these books I mention 1860 imperf. 1d., two unused and eight or nine fine used; 2d., a grand strip of three, very rare thus, and singles; 6d., a good lot in fine condition. The later issues are all well shown, and a number of blocks of four are included.

These books are well worth inspection.

Wanted to Purchase

Unused. Many old issues in mint state and well centred.

Used. Nos. 4, 5, 7, 12, 29, 30, 31, 38, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 57a, 64, 82b, 80, 96, 101, 102, 104, 107, 163, 182.

Index for Vol. VI

IN the number dated 28 December last we included a full and copious index of the contents of Vol. VI. Very few papers are able to give a complete index in the last number of any volume.

**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.,
39, Strand, London. W.C.

Prize Competitions

IN our early volumes there were a few competitions, and "prize quotations" have been suggested, but the difficulty is to restrict them to matters connected with stamps. In order to stimulate your wits or keep you awake if you feel drowsy after reading foregoing pages, we propose some acrostics or puzzles every two or three weeks which will test somewhat your knowledge of the stamps in your album, or those you have seen listed in catalogues, or read about. We shall be pleased to receive and consider any suggestions you may offer for future use, or diversity of the recreations proposed, and submit the very easy acrostic below as a trial, and, for this once only, will send packets or selected stamps of the value of five shillings each to the writers of the first ten or twelve *correct* answers opened on Thursday, 16 January.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC

This, we suppose, was the first husbandman,
And that was the garden in which he began.

1. All must do it, or they will rue it,
So don't sit still, 'twill make you ill;
The Commonwealth means to show her grit.
2. Be careful how you spell this word—
There are two ways—we want it long;
Be sure of this, when you are it,
You will not write one little bit.
3. This has been used as a colour name
For skies, stamps, and paper, just the same.
4. Between three continents
Lies this sheet of water;
And heaps of tramps,
Mail letters and stamps,
Do cross from every quarter.

BEN.

In the early seventies hundreds of high-born men and women were keen on the solution of double acrostics in *Vanity Fair*,

also in *Truth*, and more recently in the *Saturday Daily Telegraph*; but to a certain extent they have gone out of fashion, so the above is given as a simple specimen. A series of better-class ones is preparing, to follow at intervals, so as to get ten in each half-year, cumulative marks for which will ensure substantial prizes to at least a dozen of the best competitors.

As a few readers may forget the usual system on which these are constructed, we may explain that the first lines give you two words to find, which are to be written down in columns of capitals as initials and finals (or "uprights"); the numbered lines give you a clue, or act as "lights," for filling in the spaces between the capitals (or you may work backward from the lights if easier to get main words), as shown in this imaginary solution of the above:—

	Jubilat	E
O		A
H		S
N		T

Remember that the object of the composer is to make a couplet or verse that may be read in different ways, but usually containing one word or phrase which limits the answer to a particular word, unless exception is specially mentioned.

Answers must be sent in closed envelopes or letter cards—not on post cards—marked outside "Acrostic, G.S.W., 391 Strand, W.C.," with signature, initials, or pseudonym not exceeding seven letters.

Full particulars and rules for the new series will be given with the first one, which will probably appear on the 18th or 25th of this month, with extensions of time for North American and Continental subscribers.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

Great Britain—Official Issues—continued (COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

Board of Trade

THE Official stamps of this Department will not as a rule be found listed in postage stamp catalogues, owing to the fact that the device which denotes the official character of their use is perforated

through the stamps instead of being surcharged on them, as is the case with the other Official series, and most of the leading catalogue compilers abstain from listing stamps of this nature.

Of the official status of the stamps there

can, however, be no question, for when in May, 1904, all surcharged Official stamps were withdrawn from use, these perforated stamps ceased to be issued also. They can, in addition, lay claim to the distinction of having been the first series of Official stamps to be issued by the British Government, stamps perforated with a design of a Crown above the initials "B T," designed for the use of the Board of Trade, being first brought into use on 27 January, 1881, antedating the first surcharged issue of Official stamps, viz. those overprinted for use by the Inland Revenue Department, by more than a year and nine months. These stamps were used solely upon the foreign correspondence of the Department, and are consequently very scarce indeed.

The first Board of Trade was formed during the reign of Charles II, and went by the title of the "Board of Trades and Plantations." This was superseded during the reign of George III by a Committee of the Council on Trade, which was the forerunner of the present institution. The principal work of this Department lies in connection with the gathering, compiling, and distributing of various statistics relative to the trade of the nation, the control and issue of patents, the creation of standards with regard to weights and measures and the enforcement thereof, the registration of joint stock companies, and, in conjunction with Trinity House, the superintendence of light-houses, harbours, and merchant shipping. The head-quarters of this Department are at Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W.

All values from $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s. inclusive, of the King's Head series of Great Britain of 1902, were perforated with the design of a Royal Crown over the letters "B T" for use by the Board of Trade; but owing to the fact that the issue of perforated stamps is seldom, if ever, remarked upon in the new issue chronicles, it is difficult to determine the date of their appearance. In all probability, however, it was some time in 1902, and so for want of more complete information I will list them under this date.

1902.

Regular series of 1902. Perforated with a Crown above the initials "B T," causing the design to show up in white through the stamps when affixed to an envelope or wrapper.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ d., blue-green.
- 1d., scarlet.
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., purple and green.
- 2d., green and scarlet.
- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., ultramarine.
- 3d., purple on yellow.
- 4d., green and brown.
- 5d., lilac and ultramarine.
- 6d., purple.
- 9d., lilac and blue.
- 10d., purple and mauve.
- 1s., scarlet and green.

The Levant

What is familiarly known to philatelists as the British Levant, is more correctly defined by the title "British Post Offices in the Turkish Empire," for not only does Great Britain not own or hold protectorate over any part of what is geographically known as the Levant, but in point of fact only two of the offices to which this title is frequently applied are situate in the Levant at all, the designation Levant being geographically applied to the coasts of Asia Minor and Syria, which border on the Mediterranean Sea, whilst the British Postal Agencies in Turkey are scattered throughout the Ottoman Empire.

The British Post Offices in the Turkish Empire are six in number, and are distributed as follows: two at the Turkish capital, Constantinople (one at Stamboul, and the other at Galata, the commercial city on the right bank of the Golden Horn); and one at each of the following towns: Smyrna, the chief centre of the Levant trade; Baghdad, the great caravan centre of Mesopotamia; Salonica, the chief port of the Balkan Peninsula and second city of the Empire; and at Beyrout, the principal Syrian seaport.

These offices are in reality part and parcel of the British Post Office, being maintained under the direct control of the head Post Office in London, and it is for this reason that I have grouped them in with the British Official Issues, instead of devoting a separate chapter to them.

It is not, however, solely for the convenience of British subjects that the British Post Offices are maintained, nor do they form part of the Consulate, as is or was frequently the case with the foreign postal agencies of many of the other Powers, but between the hours of eight in the forenoon and six in the evening, any one, irrespective of nationality, may avail himself of the service, which is entirely in the hands of salaried British officials, by whom the mails are dispatched in through bags to London, whence they are distributed to all parts of the world, without being handled by the Turkish authorities in any way whatever.

A British Post Office was first established in Constantinople in 1854, during the Crimean war, for the purpose of dealing with the correspondence of the British troops, as the Turkish postal service was at that time entirely deficient.

At the close of the war it was decided to continue the upkeep of this agency for the convenience of British residents in the Levant, and others. Later offices were also opened at Smyrna, Salonica, Beyrout, and lastly at Baghdad.

Prior to the year 1885 these offices used the ordinary unsurcharged stamps of Great

Britain, which are distinguishable only by the serial numbers of their postmarks; from that year on, however, the various issues have been overprinted with new denominations expressed in Turkish currency, in order that they may not be available for use in Great Britain, as they are sold at the Levant Post Offices for slightly less than their nominal face value, an instance of this being the 5s. stamp of the current series of Great Britain, which after having been surcharged 24 piastres, is sold at the British Post Offices in the Turkish Empire for a little over 4s. It will thus be seen that were the stamps

not in some way distinguished from the ordinary current British series, a large profit might be derived by purchasing the stamps in Turkey and selling them again in the United Kingdom.

All the above-mentioned offices are in operation at the present time, although the Turkish Government has several times petitioned for their removal, as the loss of revenue to the Turkish Post Office resulting from their maintenance is considerable.

Currency: 40 paras = 1 piastre = 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

(To be continued.)

No Smoking Allowed

By PIERRE MAHÉ

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

HE was a personage, a great personage, a man well provided with this world's goods! And he was one of the most celebrated collectors in days gone by. His collection contained many duplicates, and had no right to the notoriety accorded to it, chiefly, it is to be feared, because its owner was one of the leading lights in that peculiar body called "Society."

But this personage was so immensely wealthy that it was only natural to suppose that his collection should be far superior to all others. Whenever anybody wished to draw a comparison, it was always "The X. Collection" that was the first. It was best, the very best, unsurpassable, marvellous! The most curious point in the affair was that, as it was by no means easy to get an introduction to Monsieur X., not one of these sycophants had seen the collection; and they had about as much chance of seeing it as they had of seeing that of the Czar of Russia, or the Prince Imperial, or any other of those collections that only exist in the imagination of the man in the street.

Stamps were not the sole occupation of this personage: he possessed a magnificent library; he was a connoisseur of curiosities and bric-à-brac—that ran in the family—; he had a collection of pictures, representative of all schools and all masters; he was a student of the exact sciences, and he endowed philatelic literature with one or two works which are not without merit.

During the second period, when I was called in to see about this collection of Monsieur X., it presented a most splendid exterior: it occupied more than one hundred albums, all beautifully bound in red morocco leather; the stamps were mounted on sheets of Bristol board, on which the titles were written by masters of the caligraphic art. Everything had a look of luxury about it; but when one came to look at the stamps,

what a disappointment! It was a lesson not to judge by outside appearances. I expected to see unused mint stamps, and certainly some of a certain rarity, but I saw many copies at which the veriest tyro would look askance.

Notwithstanding, it was valued at a great sum. Several people were employed to make purchases, and if they occasionally drove a hard bargain, one may be sure that they charged up the full price!

What has become of this collection? It is said that it was sold before the death of its owner, but I very much doubt it. People of that sort, having rank and position, do not trouble to sell the results of an occupation that no longer amuses them; if they leave off collecting, it would be more likely for them to turn the key on the library door, and there is no more to be said.

As to this gentleman's heirs, it is still more unlikely that they would think of selling. "Fortune oblige"! But it doesn't do to be too sure of anything!

At different times I used to supply this gentleman with stamps. From time to time I used to take rarities or new discoveries to him; and I was even given the run of the library, so that I might see what he needed of the things I had brought. I made notes of all he wanted; the figures were added up, I was paid, and went away until I had a new selection ready.

But before the collection was arranged in the way I have described above, the personage had noticed that it might with advantage be arranged in a better way, so he asked me if I would agree to come there in the evenings to completely rearrange the collection. I accepted the offer with alacrity, as I should then have the opportunity of making a list of everything that was missing, so that I might try to obtain the stamps.

I had made an appointment for the next

day, and I duly arrived at nine o'clock. I was shown into a great room, in the centre of which stood a big table surrounded by gentlemen in conversation with my employer.

He introduced me, and sheets were brought to me on which were stamps of Western Australia. I quickly removed them and arranged them on fresh sheets according to their dates of issue. As I saw that all the gentlemen were smoking, I took out my cigar-case, and was about to light a cigar when the master of the house said to me, "Excuse me, Monsieur Mahé, but I must request you not to smoke here." That was a hard knock. I was so surprised at being spoken to in this way that I jumped up and, with crimson cheeks, was about to give vent to my feelings, when I thought better of it and sat down again. I put my cigar back in the case and the case in my pocket, and went on with my work without remark, although I thought the more.

I suppose I was not thought good enough to mingle with the smoke with theirs, these fine gentlemen who, in the guise of ordinary mortals, were really demi-gods—the progeny of Jupiter!

But the company soon left, and we were alone. We talked together just as though nothing had happened, and I worked hard at my task until it was close upon midnight.

My employer then remarked to me, "I will see you on your way, or you will get lost." We were walking along a passage when we came upon a table in a recess, upon which were piled boxes of cigars. Monsieur X. took a box and presented it to me, saying, "Well, Monsieur Mahé, if you mustn't smoke here, I will at least ask you to accept something to smoke at home." No doubt that was very kind, but it did not enable me to forget the way I had been snubbed a few moments before.

Photography as Applied to Stamps

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I. Introduction

I AM venturing to embark on a subject which, I hope, may be of interest to many of my readers, as it is astonishing how few amateur photographers are able to make a really good photograph of a postage stamp.

I will assume that nobody wishes to photograph stamps *smaller* than their actual size, although many people may wish to enlarge them.

There are several new factors introduced into the ordinary photographic process when photographing stamps. Absolute sharpness is of course a *sine qua non*, and this can only be obtained by using good apparatus and a great amount of care.

To begin with, we must consider that, as a stamp is very often printed in two or more colours, it will be somewhat difficult to render the various colours in monochrome in their correct visual intensity. We may merely require to make a good photograph of the stamp, or we may wish to emphasize a certain portion; for example, it is quite possible to photograph a surcharged stamp in such a manner that the surcharge alone shows in black, on a white or grey background. To obtain these results we have to make use of special plates, specially sensitive to certain colours, and also of colour screens through which the image is projected.

First of all let us try to get an insight into the use of colour screens. Nowadays nearly everybody knows that white light is composed of violet, blue, green, yellow, orange,

and red. When a ray of white light strikes a piece of red glass, all the rays except red are absorbed or intercepted. That is to say, that through a piece of glass of any colour only light of that particular colour can pass. Now this is not strictly accurate, as the red glass, for example, is rarely of so deep a tint of red as to absorb all other colours, but for our purposes we will accept the simpler statement.

All colours do not act on the ordinary photographic plate to the same extent: red and orange have very little effect, yellow and green have more, blue and violet have the most effect. If we were unable to control and equalize the effect these various colours have on a plate, we should never be able to make successful photographs of stamps, as to the eye red appears as bright as or brighter than blue or violet.

If we wish to photograph a stamp printed in several colours, we must aim at subduing those colours which act quickly on the plate, so that the slower-acting colours may have time to do their work. This can easily be done in most cases by using a yellow or an orange screen. Supposing a stamp to be printed in blue, red, and yellow; if we were to use no screen we should get a result in which the blue would be scarcely visible, while the red and yellow would show as deep black! If we interpose an orange screen, a great proportion of the blue will be absorbed, while the red and yellow will pass through quite easily, so that the result will be altogether more uniform.

As I said before, ordinary plates are only affected by orange and yellow to a very slight extent, so when using an orange screen the exposure would be so prolonged, that it would be impracticable for ordinary work. Special plates may, however, be obtained, which are rendered sensitive to the orange rays by various processes. They are sold under the name of orthochromatic or isochromatic plates.

We have seen how we may obtain good photographs of stamps printed in various colours; we will now consider how to photograph a surcharge on a stamp, so that the surcharge stands out in black, while comparatively little of the stamp itself is visible.

If the surcharge is in black, the method of procedure is quite simple. We disregard the surcharge altogether, and think only of the colour of the stamp on which it is printed. The surcharge, being black, will not affect the negative in any way, that is to say, it will appear in white. To get a great contrast we must endeavour to make the stamp itself appear black on the negative. This can be done by taking the photograph through a screen of the same colour as the stamp. We will suppose that we have a yellow stamp on a white ground bearing a black surcharge; when the yellow light from the yellow portions of the stamp strikes the screen it passes through unobstructed; when the white light from the white portions of the stamp strikes the screen, all other rays except the yellow are absorbed, only the yellow passing through. Therefore when the image of the stamp reaches the plate, if that plate be sensitive to yellow (i.e. an orthochromatic plate), it will be darkened all over, while the surcharge will appear in white. When a print is made these conditions are reversed, the surcharge being black on a white ground.

When the surcharge is itself printed in colour on a coloured stamp the procedure is

somewhat more complicated. What we want to do is, first, to make the surcharge appear black, and secondly, to make the stamp itself appear white in the finished print. To make the surcharge appear black we must absorb all the colour in which it is printed; that is to say, we must interpose a screen of a colour which is complementary to that of the surcharge. The complementary of a colour is that colour which must be added to it to produce white. For example, green and pink are said to be complementary colours, because

Green + pink = white.

The converse of the above definition holds good; i.e.—

Green - pink = black.

In other words, complementary colours completely absorb one another, so that to make a coloured surcharge act as though it were black we must interpose a screen of the complementary colour.

The following is a short list of complementary colours:—

Red	.	.	and Greenish blue.
Yellow	.	..	Blue.
Greenish yellow.	..	..	Violet-blue.
Yellow-green	.	..	Violet.
Green	.	..	Pink.

We will take an example. Suppose that we have a red stamp bearing a green surcharge. Pink being complementary to green, the colour of the surcharge, we will use a pink screen. When the green rays of the surcharge strike the pink screen they are entirely absorbed, so that the plate will show white, being unaffected; the red of the stamp passes easily through the screen, and if a plate be used that is sensitive to red light it will be darkened. Reversing when printing, we get a black surcharge on a white ground as before.

(To be continued.)

British Stamps used Abroad

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP IV—continued

C 37. Caldera

A SEAPORT in the province of Atacama. It has a fine harbour, and a large quantity of ore products, borax, copper, and silver is shipped hence. The trade has now developed, but in 1865, when British stamps were first issued, it was of small dimension and the stamps are rare. The obliterator was a small oblong oval in black or blue, and a date stamp was impressed on the letter.



1d., plates 88, 95, 195.

1½d. ,, 3.

2d. ,, 9.

3d. ,, 4 emb., 5, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19.

4d. ,, 4, 14, 16.

6d. ,, 6 emb., 8, 9, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17 spray.

8d. ,, 1.

9d. ,, 4 spray.

10d. ,, 1.

1s. ,, 4 spray, 5, 8, 12, 13 green.

2s. ,, blue.

C 40. Coquimbo

Is on a fine bay and has good facilities for shipping. It has smelting works and does a big trade in copper and other ores. A

large trade is done in cattle with Peru and Valparaiso, but being so much south of Valparaiso, very little direct trade was done with the United Kingdom. The obliterator employed was—



A date stamp was impressed on the letters but not on the stamp.

3d.	plates 4 emb., 18, 19.
4d.	" 14, 16.
6d.	" 4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16.
9d.	" 4 spray.
1s.	" 4 emb., 4 spray, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13 green.
2s.	" 1 blue and brown.
5s.	" 1, 2.

C 36. Arica

At one time (up till 1881) a seaport of Peru. It was originally a large city of about thirty thousand inhabitants and had a large export trade in wool, copper, etc., but in consequence of civil war and earthquakes (1821, 1832, and 1868) it declined till now its population is only about four thousand. British stamps were used here first in about 1866, and the post office was closed in 1878 on the outbreak of the war with Chili.



was the obliterator employed and it can be found in black, blue, a blackish blue, and a black-red. A round date stamp was also used, both in conjunction with the obliterator and alone.



½d.	plates 10, 13.
1d.	" 139, 163.
1½d.	" 3.
3d.	" 11, 12.
4d.	" 10, 13, 14, 15 vermilion, 15, 16 sage.
6d.	" 6 spray, 8, 9, 11 pale, 15, 16.
9d.	" 2, 4 spray.
10d.	" 1.
1s.	" 4 emb., 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 13.
2s.	" 1 blue.
5s.	" 1, 2.

C 39. Cobija

Or, as it was officially called, Puerto de la Mar, in honour of La Mar, the first President of the Bolivian Republic, was, until annexed by Chili, the only port of that country. It was owing to this fact that it attracted a foreign trade, and a British post office became necessary. It is a poorly built and insignificant place doing but a small amount of business, and the stamps used were few and are consequently rare. The obliterator used was—



Stamps came into use here in 1868-9 and the office ceased its operations at the outbreak of the war in 1878.

2d.	plates ?
3d.	" 16.
6d.	" 14, 15.
1s.	" 70, 11, 12.
5s.	" 2.

D 87. Iquique

A seaport town up to 1881 belonging to Peru, but now ceded to Chili. Originally a mere fishing village, its nitrate beds brought such trade and prosperity, that in 1874 it numbered nearly twenty thousand inhabitants. British stamps came into use about 1869-70 and the post office was closed in 1878. Owing to earthquakes, conflagrations, war, and the decline of the nitrate trade, it now numbers only about seven to eight thousand inhabitants.

The correspondence was but small and in few hands, and the stamps are rare.



The large upright oval obliteration can be found both in black and in blue. A round date stamp was impressed on the letter.

2d.	plate 14.
3d.	plates 5, 6, 7, 9.
4d.	" 12, 13.
6d.	" 11, 12, 12, 13, 15.
10d.	" 1.
1s.	" 4 spray, 6, 8, 12.
2s.	" 1 blue.

(To be continued.)

Points for Beginners

By B. W. W.

IN the first volume of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, three years ago, there were two series of articles, headed "Public School Collecting" and "First Steps in Philately," by the Rev. T. C. Walton, which contained a quantity of capital advice as to the best methods of collecting stamps, either for the young beginner in his teens, or for one who had doubled those years before starting seriously to collect in a systematic way. In starting the second series these words appear: "Beginners are of two kinds. In Philately, as in any other hobby or business or work in life, there are those who begin well and advance steadily, ever increasing in knowledge with the years, ever thankful that their hobby has given them so many hours full of interest and unalloyed happiness. There are also those who catch the infection and live at high pressure for a few weeks until the fever has somewhat abated. There is the desire to amass treasures and to rival the collection of others without the willingness to undergo a course in 'first principles.' . . . The usual result is that of the house built on the sand. The 'underneath' is wanting, and the whole edifice topples at the first shock."

With all deference to these remarks, the present writer thinks that there is a preponderance of would-be collectors who do not answer, in the first case at any rate, to either of the two classes described above. They have picked up a few stamps at their offices, and bought some fancy picture ones from a shop window, just to say they do a little that way if questioned, but positively abhor taking up special studies or anything that partakes of teaching, or "preaching" as they will call it. Having some spare time when their daily work is over, they do not care to join in or be always reading about the national games of cricket or football, nor to spend time and money in merely watching performances at theatres or music halls two or three nights in a week, and so they drift into aimless reading of scrappy papers or sensational stories in the daily or weekly Press, occasionally going out for equally aimless walks with some chums or pals of the same way of thinking, or rather of *not* thinking, because it partakes too much of the nature of work.

The question is, Can the mass of youths or young men—we are all young now until we have celebrated our jubilee of entrance into this world—be induced to take up stamp collecting in a way that will ultimately

benefit them, as well as amuse and interest or at least occupy them harmlessly in the present, until they develop into the first of above definitions? We think so, and hope that by supplying short paragraphs summarizing elementary bits of advice or guidance, and interesting information on certain issues of stamps that our friends may call the attention of "beginners" to, as well as to the more solid articles, we may save the special answering of inquiries that are frequently made by those who have recently started.

There may not be anything written that is absolutely original—a wise man has said that there is nothing new under the sun—but it may be quite new to some thousands who have not seen the early papers, or be put in a fresh way, simple and easy of remembrance, and capable in turn of being readily imparted to others in ordinary conversation. By this means a goodly number of recruits may be secured for the hobby or pastime of collecting postage stamps, leaving to the chances of the future whether those readers or recruits advance to the further stage of studying their little treasures in such a scientific manner as may fit them for the higher title of philatelist, or to the kindred title, said to have been founded in the eighteenth century, of "Philalthes, or Seekers of Truth."

How many Stamp Collectors are there?

This, as a matter of positive certainty, is next to impossible to ascertain, but by calculating approximately from one or two standpoints, say, the number of stamp albums sold in three years by the makers and dealers in these articles, varying in price from the nimble sixpence to one pound sterling, we may take the total for Great Britain as about a quarter of a million. These may be divided roughly into three classes as being: (a) two thousand advanced or specialist collectors, who are able to spend from £100 to £300 any year for their special lines of study; (b) the medium general collectors as ten times that number, who can without difficulty spare £50 to £100 if needed in a year on their hobby; and (c) a further group of over two hundred thousand spasmodic or occasional collectors, who do not or cannot spend more than one shilling to one pound in any week, or a general average of, say, £15 yearly. This may seem to be guesswork, and in any case of no particular use as information to anybody. But if you

have read Dickens's *Dombey and Son*—and who has not?—you may remember a certain character therein whose name is given as Captain Bunsby, a great friend of Captain Cuttle (of "When found, make a note of" fame), who, when applied to for his opinion

or advice, gave it in a very oracular style, accompanied often by some such remark as "The bearings of this observation lays in the application on it"; so we will leave the "application" to another week.

(To be continued.)

Things Grave and Gay

By "UNCLE TOM"

Black Centres

A MONTH or two ago black centres in stamps seemed doomed, since the regulations of the Rome Convention seemed to discourage them. But since it has been recently explained that a black centre is allowable, provided that the rest of the design be in the Postal Union colour, we may perhaps expect a continuance of this type. Indo-Chine, at any rate, has issued her new set with a black centre, and there is no reason why the current unicolours of the Leewards, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, or Sierra Leone should not appear some day with black centre. The enhanced beauty of a central semi-photographic design should appeal to those postmasters who have the appearance of their stamps at heart.

A "Kano" Postmark

A STAMP of Northern Nigeria has come to hand bearing the postmark "Kano." To a casual eye this means nothing more than the inclusion of another native town within the area of British postal administration. But it means far more than this, really.

Kano is a town of thirty thousand inhabitants, the greatest native market in Central Africa. Forty camels a day arrive here with merchandise carried over the desert from Algiers and Egypt, and return with an equal weight of native produce—ivory, skins, oil, etc. If the post office has got a footing here, as the used stamp certainly indicates it has, the use of stamps among this huge population should have some influence on the value of used specimens. If the great host of traders begin to make use of the British post, used copies may some day become plentiful enough to be sold at half their present rates.

About Errors

ERRORS in stamps seem to reverse the law that a mistake is a punishable thing. A mistake made by a clerk or an official may result in his dismissal; a mistake in a newspaper is at once withdrawn or an apology made for its appearance. But in a stamp it is otherwise. Its value is increased thereby, collectors seek to secure it, it is usually given

a paragraph all to itself in the catalogue, glorified with an illustration of its misbehaviour immediately above it.

At times errors take curious and amusing forms. Salvador 1907 is surcharged with a "sun," and a French paper announces a variety with "soleil reversé." Sun upside down! Then there is a double surcharge—two suns where there should be but one. Later on there is "Soleil III." Does this mean there are three kinds of suns?

The French have hitherto been very careful people as to stamp making, but recently three mistakes are announced as occurring together. The 25 c. blue appeared "non dentelé," the 45 c. with "fond déplacé," and the 5 c. with "impression au verso." One feels thankful that the pretty lady on the 45 c. stamp escaped being "deplaced," or sent out into the world "non dentelé." Ladies are very particular about their teeth.

Longfellow Revised

MANY an evening by the lamplight
Have I verified a watermark,
And I found to place the stamp right,
Like listing guests in Noah's Ark.
From the *Chicago Monthly*.

A Reminiscence

IN an old copy of the *Post Office*, dated 1898, I find it stated that used stamps were first displayed for sale in New York about 1860. The specimens were affixed to a board outside a stationer's window, exposed to wind and rain, and a tin-tack driven through the middle of each stamp to prevent its being blown away. The day of the "condition crank" had not then arrived.

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.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Austria.—In our stock we have found a third shade of the current 5 h.; it is a very light yellow-green, and we learn that all the latest printings have been in this shade.

Herr Rudolf Friedl has shown us a number of compound perforations of the current set of Austria; we give the list below.



No shiny bars. New shade. Perf. 12½, 13.
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.

5 h., light yellow-green . . . 0 1 —

As above, but perf. 9, 9½.

60 h., yellow-brown . . . — —

As above, but perf. compound of 12½, 13, and 9, 9½.
 60 h., yellow-brown . . . — —

We have now received a set of the new Jubilee issue from Herr Rudolf Friedl. The values from 1 h. to 35 h. are printed by a typographical process, i.e. they are surface-printed; the six values from 50 h. to 10 kr. are in *taille-douce*, and are printed from engraved steel plates. All the values up to the 1 kr. are printed in a single colour; the 2 kr. and 5 kr. are in two colours, the centres being in the first colour in the list given below; the 10 kr. is printed in three colours—the head and square background in the centre are in dark brown, the frame and value are in deep indigo-blue, and the design interwoven round the frame is in ochre. All the stamps are perforated 12½.



(Joseph II)



(Franz Josef I)



(Leopold II)



(Franz Josef I)



(Franz I)



(Ferdinand)



(Karl Vj)



(Maria Theresa)



(Franz Josef I)



(Franz Josef I—1848)



(Franz Josef I—1878)



(Franz Josef I)



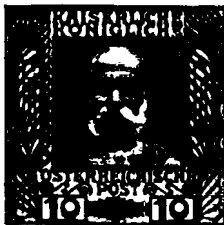
(Franz Josef I)



(Schönbrunn)



(Hofburg)



(Franz Josef I)

Jubilee issue. Perf. 12½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 h., black	0 1	—
2 h., lilac	0 1	—
3 h., purple	0 1	—
5 h., yellow-green	0 1	—
6 h., buff	0 2	—
10 h., rose-carmine	0 2	—
12 h., vermilion	0 2	—
20 h., reddish brown	0 3	—
25 h., blue	0 4	—
30 h., pale olive-green	0 5	—
35 h., slate-blue	0 6	—
50 h., olive-green	0 8	—
60 h., deep carmine	0 9	—
1 kr., dull violet	1 2	—
2 kr., olive-green and claret	2 4	—
5 kr., violet and olive-brown	5 9	—
10 kr., deep brown, blue, and ochre	11 3	—

Chamba.—Mr. Gordon Jones has furnished the *Monthly Journal* (31.12.07) with a complete list of all King's Head stamps that have been overprinted for use in this and other states. The following have not been chronicled up to the present.



Overprinted CHAMBA—STATE.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ a., pea-green	—	—
1 a., carmine	—	—

Official. Overprinted SERVICE—CHAMBA—STATE.

½ a., pea-green	—	—
1 a., carmine	—	—

Costa Rica.—We are informed that one sheet each of the 2 c., 4 c., and 5 c. of the last issue, chronicled in the Supplement to the Catalogue, has been discovered in an imperforate condition. We have luckily been able to secure a few of them.



Centre in first colour. Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 c., black and yellow-green	5 0	—
4 c., indigo and carm.-red on toned	5 0	—
5 c., indigo and orange-buff	5 0	—

Gwalior.—See remarks and illustrations under "Chamba." For this state three high values have been overprinted for ordinary use.



GWALIOR
गुवाळियर

Overprinted in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 r., carmine and yellow-brown	—	—
3 r., brown and green	—	—
5 r., ultramarine and violet	—	—

मवाळियर

३०

सरविम

Official. Overprinted, in black, on Indian stamp inscribed POSTAGE & REVENUE.

½ a., pea-green	—	—
1 a., carmine	—	—

Jhind.—See remarks and illustrations under "Chamba."

Overprinted JHIND—STATE in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ a., pea-green	—	—
1 a., carmine	—	—

Official. Overprinted SERVICE—JHIND—STATE.

½ a., pea-green	—	—
1 a., carmine	—	—

Nabha.—See remarks and illustrations under "Chamba."

Overprinted NABHA—STATE in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ a., pea-green	—	—
1 a., carmine	—	—

Official. Overprinted SERVICE—NABHA—STATE.

½ a., pea-green	—	—
1 a., carmine	—	—

Puttiala.—See remarks and illustrations under "Chamba."

Official. Overprinted SERVICE—PATIALA—STATE.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ a., pea-green	—	—
1 a., carmine	—	—

Queensland.—In looking through our stock we have found the 1s., wmk. Crown and Q, perforated 13, in a shade of very pale mauve; we do

not think that this is the current shade, but, on the contrary, that it is from an earlier printing.

We have also discovered the lithographed £1, watermarked Crown and single-lined A, twice sideways. We only received our first supply of this stamp on 28 October, 1907, and then it was watermarked Crown and Q, twice sideways; so that with the latter watermark the stamp should be a good thing.



Wmk. Crown and Q.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1s., pale mauve	—	—



Lithographed. Wmk. Crown and A, twice sideways.

Perf. 12½, 13.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
£1, bluish green	—	—

Turkey.—A correspondent, who has a good deal of business correspondence with Turkey, tells us that until recently the overprinted stamps sold at reduced prices appear to have been used at Constantinople only, but he now shows us an envelope posted at Salonica on "28.11.07" bearing two of the 20 paras stamps thus treated. Presumably these stamps will be issued in all places where there is a chance of underselling the foreign post offices.—*Monthly Journal* (31.12.07).

Uruguay.—Mr. A. H. Davis, writing under the date of 27 November, 1907, informs us that the 2 c., vermilion, and 5 c., blue, of the 1900-1 issue, numbers 273 and 274 in the Catalogue, have been reissued in exactly the same colours as before, and that they are being printed from the same plates. He also states that the 2 c., orange-red, and 5 c., blue, of both the 1904-5 and 1906-7 issues, Catalogue numbers 282, 283, 291, and 292 (?also 290), are to be withdrawn from circulation on 27 February next. Possibly the reason that this date is given is that the issue ordered from Messrs. Waterlow and Sons may be expected then. See further remarks about the latter-mentioned issue in our issue of 2 November, 1907.

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Answers to Correspondents

Account or Control Letters on British Stamps

SEVERAL collectors have written us lately asking for a list of these letters that are to be found on the King's Head stamps of ½d. and 1d.

We find that we have the following:—

½d., blue-green: A, B, C, C4, D4.
 ½d., yellow-green: D4, D5, E5, E6, F6, G7.

1d., scarlet: A, B, C, C4, D4, D5, E5, E6, F6, G7.

We can supply a mint set of eighteen of the above varieties, price 8s. 6d., post-free. The early letters are getting rather difficult to find.

If other varieties than those noted above should be known to any of our readers, we trust that they will be good enough to inform us.

Philatelic Societies

Birmingham Philatelic Society

Hon. President: Sir W. B. Avery, Bart.
 Hon. Secretary: G. Johnson, B.A., 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.
 Meetings: Thursdays, at 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.
 Annual Subscription: 5s. Entrance Fee: 5s.

NOVEMBER 28.—Inspection of Auction Lots.

Messrs. J. Cansino and C. J. Smith were elected members. Messrs. J. C. Morgenthau, Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Nassau Stamp Co., were thanked for auction catalogues. Messrs. J. Walker & Co. were thanked for presenting one of their new patent Loose-Leaf Albums (largest size, with protection sheets), with the object of accommodating part of the Society's Permanent Collection.

It was decided to insure the Society's Collection and Library.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to the inspection of auction lots of the December sale and to general business.

DECEMBER 5.—Auction. 302 lots belonging to members of the Society were disposed of at very fair prices.

DECEMBER 12.—Paper on "Printing," by Mr. T. B. Widdowson.

Dr. A. I. Esslemont was elected a member, and Mr. I. Cansino thanked for donation to the Permanent Collection. Mr. Widdowson then gave his paper on "Printing," with special reference to the printing of postage stamps. Besides the paper itself, he gave a very interesting and instructive demonstration of the various methods and processes employed by means of printing-blocks, lithographic stone, etc., and well merited the hearty vote of thanks he received at the close of the meeting.

The next auction will be on 5 March, lots for which must reach the Hon. Secretary on or before 10 February.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Mielillo.
 Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.
 Entrance fee: 2s. 6d. No Entrance fee for ladies or for Juniors.

The fifth ordinary meeting of the above Society was held on Saturday, 7 December, at 3 Bedford Street, Strand, W.C. In the absence of the President, Mr. Lodge occupied the chair. Mr. L. Brodstone and Dr. J. H. Crowley were unanimously elected members. Donations to the Permanent Collection were acknowledged from Mr. A. W. Day, to the Library from Mr. Willgoos, and to the Forgery Collection from Mr. E. M. Gilbert Lodge.

In anticipation of a great treat a very large number of members were present, nor were they disappointed, for the evening proved one of the most interesting in the annals of the Society. Major Evans, Editor of *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, gave us a paper entitled "The Mulready and other Envelopes." He traced the history of postal wrappers from the earliest known date of their issue down to the issue of Mulready's design. As early as 1653 a wrapper was issued in Paris for local use, not one of which

is known to exist. Monsieur Maury, from information he possessed, designed and printed a wrapper which he thought to be similar to that actually used; Major Evans in his display showed us one of these interesting designs. In January, 1819, wrappers were issued in Sardinia of the values of 15, 25, and 50 centesimos, reprints of which were made in 1875 or 1876, and specimens of which were shown. In 1838 stamped letter sheets were in regular use in Sydney, New South Wales. After explaining fully the details connected with these issues and Mulready's envelope, Major Evans described some of the envelopes he was showing us, among which were a number of Mulready caricatures. The most interesting were one of Leech's, used on 25 May, 1840, another designed by a Mr. De Nerle, a third issued by Mason of Brighton. A most curious one was that published in a newspaper dated June, 1843; Major Evans told us that he had never seen another copy of this caricature, nor had he been able to discover the name of the newspaper that published it. Several Mulready proofs were also shown, which, together with the specimens of Paris and Sardinia wrappers, proved most interesting to all the members. Mr. Lodge, in proposing a vote of thanks to Major Evans, said that probably the reason there were such a few collectors of envelopes was the large amount of room they took up; but after this paper and display, he was sure there were no doubts in the minds of any of us, they form a most interesting branch of Philately. The vote of thanks was seconded by Mr. A. Selinger and carried with acclamation.

The latter part of the evening was occupied by Mr. Schwabacher, who gave us a display of Russian Locals. In his opening remarks Mr. Schwabacher said that these stamps were issued by the local authorities to supplement the Imperial postal service. In certain parts of the country, where the population is sparse and the distances to be travelled very great, it is too expensive for the Russian Government to carry on a regular postal service, so these local stamps were issued to supply the deficiency. The display was a very fine one, the great variety of colouring and designs of the stamps greatly surprising most of the members, and at the close the Chairman proposed a well-deserved vote of thanks to Mr. Schwabacher for his magnificent display. He said that Mr. Schwabacher had been ill, and arranged his collection during his illness especially to show us. Mr. Patman seconded the vote of thanks, which was carried with enthusiasm.

Before the meeting closed the Chairman made the pleasing announcement that Major Evans had become a member of the Society.

Junior Philatelic Society

Brighton Branch

Chairman: W. Mead.
 Hon. Sec.: J. Corner-Spokes, 22 Denmark Terrace, Brighton.

THE fourth meeting of the season was held on 12 December, 1907, when the branch enjoyed a visit from Mr. A. H. L. Giles, F.R.S., of London.

The minutes having been read and confirmed, donations to the library were acknowledged from the Chairman and Mr. Franz Keichenheim, and Mr. Giles then, having read some notes on "The Stamps of Colombia and Brazil," gave a display of his fine collections of those countries and was accorded a most hearty vote of thanks.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 3
Whole No. 159

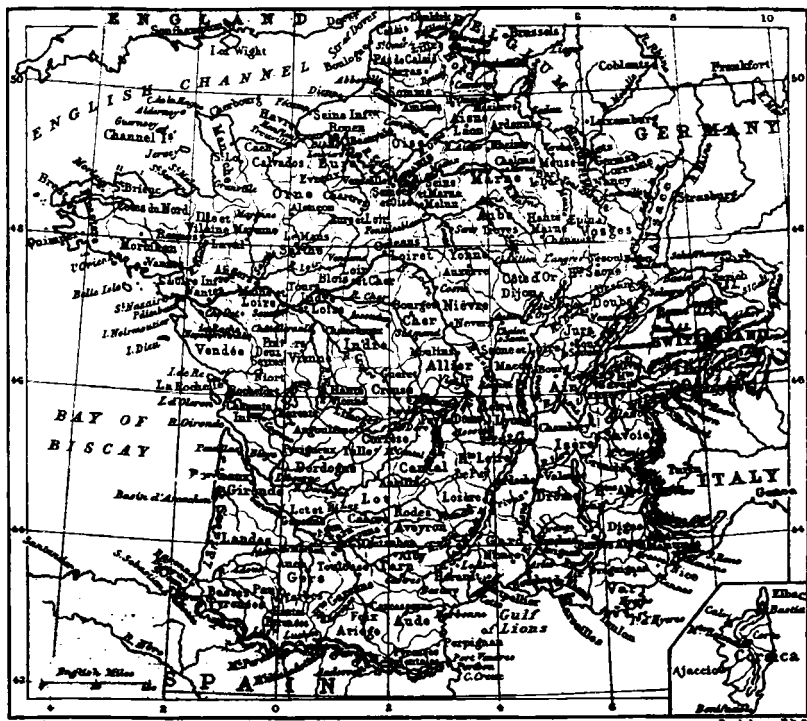
18 JANUARY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

France



FRANCE, the most westerly State of Central Europe and England's nearest neighbour, occupies a geographical position highly favourable to political and commercial interests. The general outline of the country resembles an irregular hexagon, three sides of which are land and three water. Its greatest extent due north and south is about 620 miles; and due east and west, 540 miles.

Before the Revolution, towards the close of the eighteenth century, the country was divided into thirty-three provinces, mostly coincident in extent with territorial posses-

sions held by the great feudal lords in the Middle Ages. At that epoch of change the present division into departments was adopted. Originally eighty-six departments were constituted. The number was raised to eighty-nine by the annexation of Savoy and Nice in 1861. It has now been reduced to eighty-seven owing to the cession of the old province of Alsace to Germany in 1871.

The total area, including the island of Corsica, is 207,054 square miles, and the population close on forty millions.

The history of France is so interwoven with that of this country, and its geography

is so familiar to English people, it were idle here to recapitulate anything but general political facts. Every schoolboy, be he ever so less brilliant than Macaulay's paragon, could give a fair sketch of the subject. Cæsar's familiar commentary "Omnis Gallia in tres partes divisa est," etc.; the Norman Conquest; the continual struggle between England and France; the Hundred Years' War; the terrible French Revolution; Napoleon Bonaparte; the Franco-German War, are but few of the incidents that stand out in education.

Traditional enemies and rivals for centuries, England and France should have been close allies, and it is pleasing to reflect that *Pentente cordiale* now stands for something more substantial than a pretty title only.

France, anciently called Gallia or Gaul by its Roman conquerors, acquired its present name from the Franks, a confederation of Germanic tribes, who invaded the country in the fifth century. The French proper are a mixed race, partly Teutonic but chiefly Celtic, and speak a language founded upon a Gallo-Romanic idiom of the Latin tongue.

The people are temperate yet impulsive, patterns of courtesy, fond of pleasure, show, and spectacle, and enamoured of military distinction. The annals of French literature and science are adorned with numerous names brilliant in every branch.

Since the overthrow of Napoleon III on 4 September, 1870, France has been under a Republican form of government. It vests the legislative power in the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, and the executive in the President of the Republic (M. Armand Fallières, elected 17 January, 1906, for seven years) and the Ministry. Senators and Deputies are paid £600 a year.

No religion is now recognized by the State. Up to 1 January, 1906, several religious bodies were so recognized. The bulk of the people are Roman Catholic.

Education, formerly mainly in the hands of the religious communities, is now under the direct control of the Minister of Instruction. Primary education is making great progress, and higher education is liberally provided for.

France being one of the Great Powers, and having a vast Colonial Empire, maintains a very large army and navy. Military service is compulsory, whilst the navy is manned partly by conscription and partly by voluntary enlistment.

The mercantile marine of France is declining and receives a large annual subsidy from the Government. This is largely because the seaports have not been improved in an adequate manner, but more on account of the difficulty vessels find in obtaining freight.

France, in fact, imports more than she

exports, just as she receives more foreigners than she sends out emigrants. The imports as a rule consist of raw materials for manufactures which are in general bulky. The exports include agricultural produce, but consist mainly of manufactured articles of small weight and high price.

In extent, variety, and value of manufactures, France takes high rank, but suffers in competition with England as to amount of production, owing to the comparative scarcity of coal which cripples the employment of steam power. The fabrics which involve artistic design, minuteness of detail, and elegance of finish are superior to those of any other nation.

Scientific instruments, tapestry, clocks, and other costly products are made in great perfection in Paris. Rich silks have their great centre at Lyons; ribbons at St. Etienne; fine woollens at Rheims and Amiens; cottons at Rouen; laces at Lille; leather goods at Grenoble, etc. France deserves credit for long having provided means to adjust disputes between capital and labour. A *Conseil de Prud'hommes*, 'Council of Experienced Men,' was established at Lyons in 1806, and was the forerunner of many such tribunals existing to-day. These councils are composed of equal proportions of masters and artisans, popularly elected, with a president and vice-president appointed by the Government, and have power to adjudicate and enforce decisions.

The iron industry is very important, and building materials (marble, building stone, mill-stones, cement, and plaster) are produced in large quantities.

Agriculture occupies almost half the working population of the country, and peasant proprietors are very numerous and cultivate their land with tireless assiduity. With the exception of wine, sugar, brandy, butter, and eggs, most of the produce is required for home consumption. The United Kingdom is far and away the best customer of France.

"*La belle France*" is hardly justified with reference to its scenery, though it may be appropriate if considered to intimate the favourable character of the soil and climate. Beautiful in many parts, such districts are collectively of small extent in comparison with the general face of the country, a very large proportion of which has no pleasant diversity, no picturesque or even cheerful features.

Interior communication—railways, roads, rivers, and canals—is in a high state of efficiency.

The postal department, like that in England, is run at a considerable profit, and there are close on 12,000 post offices.

The national debt is stupendous, it being the heaviest debt ever yet incurred by any nation in the world, but the credit of France

stands very high. The people are thrifty and prosperous. The revenue is derived mainly from indirect taxation and Government monopolies.

The monetary unit is the *franc* of 100 *centimes*=9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; and the metric system for money, weights, and measures had its inception in France.

Paris, the capital of the French, is the second city of Europe in point of extent and wealth, ranking next to London, but is the first in the world as respects material splendour combined with literary treasures and pleasurable facilities. The present population is nearly three millions.

Philatelic History

Like its political history the philatelic history of France is most interesting, and the stamps of France and French Colonies have always been popular favourites.

The early issues are artistic, the later were intended to be so; shades are very numerous, used copies are cheap, and the country's history is closely identified with its postal issues. More perhaps has been written upon French stamps than upon those of any other country except our own, and the "French school of Philately" was the pioneer of the present-day specialism.

It was nearly nine years after the introduction of English stamps that the first French stamp made its appearance. Postal reform had often been discussed, but it was not until the Republic was established, on the fall of the Monarchy in 1848, that any practical steps were taken to remedy the antiquated methods.

In the autumn of 1848 it was decided to introduce a uniform rate of postage, viz. 20 c. for single letters throughout France, Corsica, and Algeria, which was to come into operation 1 January, 1849, and stamps of 20 c., 40 c., and 1 fr. were to be provided.

Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., the manufacturers of the English stamps, were asked to supply the stamps, but the price was too high and the time required for execution too long. The chief engraver of the Mint, M. Barre, was then applied to. He designed and engraved a die, but left the actual production of the stamps to another Mint engraver, M. Hulot. The latter had successfully carried out the production, by the electrotype process, of the bank-notes of 100 fr. much in demand during the recent crisis. This electrotype process was applied to the postage stamps, and at first M. Hulot made his plate of the size of a sheet of stamps, viz. 300 in fifteen rows of twenty, but later on he divided the sheets into a certain number of panes, which enabled him to make the plates smaller.

The design was a head of Ceres, emblem-

atic of Liberty, and the engraving was in the highest style, the only objection to the latter being the smallness of the figures of value. The 20 c., in *black*, and the 1 fr., in *red*, appeared on 1 January, 1849, the 40 c. for the double rate not being in urgent demand. After a time it was found that *black* was an unsuitable colour for a stamp in common use owing to the difficulty of seeing the obliteration. It was decided to change its colour to *blue*, but before such stamps were issued the Government raised the rate to 25 c. for a single letter, owing to the loss sustained with a lower rate. The 20 c., blue, were therefore never issued, nor were any of those same stamps when surcharged 25 c. in red. New stamps of 25 c. were ordered, but fearing these would not be ready in time the authorities had some of the 20 c., blue, surcharged in readiness. The 25 c., blue, however, were duly issued 1 July, 1850. The rate on letters to Belgium having been fixed at 40 c., the stamps of the denomination were then required. They were issued in February, 1850, and were of an orange or orange-vermilion colour. There was strong probability that these 40 c. would be confused with the 1 fr., which had been originally issued in a similar colour, though later had been printed in a darker shade. All 1 fr. stamps in the lighter colour had therefore been called in, hence the great scarcity of these particular stamps. There are a great many shades of the 1 fr. stamp, and the 20 c. likewise varies very much. There were two other stamps issued in the same type, viz. a 10 c. (12 September, 1850) and a 15 c. (23 July, 1850). The 10 c. was for local letters in country districts, and the 15 c. for letters posted in and delivered at Paris. Specialists set great store by a *tête-bêche* variety found in all the stamps except the 40 c. In making up the moulds for the electroplates one of them was upside down, apparently for no other reason than a fad of M. Hulot. These *tête-bêche* varieties are the greatest rarities in French stamps.



1849-50.	Imperf.	Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
10 c., bistre	.	12 0	4 0
15 c., green	.	£8	10 0
20 c., black	.	2 6	0 4
25 c., blue	.	50 0	0 2
40 c., orange	.	30 0	5 0
1 fr., orange-vermilion	.	£15	£9
1 fr., carmine.	.	100 0	7 6

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

The "Monthly Journal"

FOR December contains a fine series of articles full of new information for the philatelist; among these the following are the more important:—

The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies, by L. Hanciau, dealing exhaustively with the early issues of Sardinia.

The Electrotyped Postage Stamps of Queensland, 1879-1906, by J. Bornefeld. This deals with the issue of 1882, and there are three full-sized plates of illustrations showing the chief varieties considerably enlarged.

The Types and Varieties of the Stamps of Wenden, by W. Svenson, translated from the German by Frank Phillips. This is an important article, and it is the first time that the full history of these stamps has been printed in England. There is a full-sized plate of illustrations.

History of the Worcester Postage Stamp, by E. F. Coffin. The writer clearly proves that the supposed "local" for this district never had any existence.

The Stamps of Salvador, by J. B. Leavy. Mr. Leavy deals with the issues 1896-8, and gives a very exhaustive list of the originals and reprints.

A full report of the *Brighton Stamp Case*, and a capital list of New Issues, complete a fine number.

English as she is wrote in Sark

A LITTLE time ago a boy wrote to us from Sark for an approval selection of stamps. Not knowing him, we asked for a reference, and as the boy's letter and that of his friend contain some curious local forms of spelling, I give them *verbatim et litteratim*.

In reply to your letter. I got a siener her he is a land agent in . . . if the dont do let me no soon.

Dear Sir.

This lad is anest I f noun him for nerly too years, he sold post carts for me, I will ron all risk of him not paing, I will pay for the stanp if he dont.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

Nos. 23 and 72. Value £1008.
India (two vols.).

THIS country has been entirely rearranged by the new list in our 1908 Catalogue, which has been based upon the latest discoveries contained in Mr. Hausburg's handbook on the *Postage Stamps of India*.

In this new stock book the dies and retouches of the 1854 issue are described and separated, and the many varieties in the later issues have been properly classed.

Among the better things in this book I note—

1854. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue.

Die I.—Several pages of blocks, pairs and singles, unused, with marginal strips showing the inscriptions. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red, two unused.

1854. 1 a., red.

Die I.—A nice lot, including retouches.

Die II.—A fine lot, unused.

Die III.—Six unused and eleven used of this rare variety, termed the "straight bust."

1854-5. 4 a., red and blue.

Die I.—Blue frame-lines. Superb unused, with lines and rosettes complete, and full gum, also five pairs and five singles, used. Head inverted, very fine used, with certificate of Expert Committee.

Die II.—*Wide-printed*. Pair and two singles unused and five used pairs.

Die II.—*Close-printed*. Two unused and three pages of used, in singles and pairs.

October, 1854. 2 a., green.

Two fine pages of unused, in blocks and singles.

The later issues are very complete in unused in all varieties.

The "Service" stamps are also strong, and include pair of used 4 a. and used and unused 8 annas.

Wanted to Purchase

1854-5. *Fine* used and unused in all rare varieties.

Harold Treherne sent to Prison for Five Months

I AM glad to hear that at the Brighton Quarter Sessions the Recorder sent Treherne to hard labour for four months. This will be a capital lesson to others who are being carefully watched, and I have no doubt that before long other guilty persons will follow Treherne.

The following report is from the *Daily Telegraph*, 4 January:—

The prosecution of the young man, Harold Treherne, who is now said to be aged twenty-four, and not nineteen, as previously stated, for obtaining money by false pretences from various dealers by means of forged foreign stamps, was concluded at the Brighton Quarter Sessions yesterday, when the Recorder passed sentence of four months' hard labour.

Accused had pleaded guilty at the previous sessions, and sentence had been deferred in the expectation that some information would be forthcoming with reference to the parties who were supposed to be associated with accused in the frauds.

In the meantime the Inland Revenue authorities had taken proceedings against him for penalties under the Post Office Acts, and it was then stated that the discovery of the prisoner's transactions had resulted in the seizure of a large forged stamp factory. For that offence he was fined £15 and costs; in default, one month's imprisonment.

A statement was now put in on behalf of the prisoner. After perusing it, the Recorder said he was driven to the conclusion that whoever might

have been behind the accused, he was the leading conspirator, and, in fact, a very ingenious and accomplished accomplice. As the fine already imposed had not been paid, the present sentence is additional to the month in default.

I think that The Stamp Trade Protection Association, Ltd., deserve the thanks of all collectors and dealers for the good work they have done in bringing this man to book, and I hope that as many dealers as possible will join the Association, and by their annual subscriptions help in the good work of exterminating forgeries and forgery mongers.

Stamp Exhibition, London, 1908

I AM asked to call the attention of all collectors who have got good exhibits of any British colony which they would be prepared to lend for showing at the Junior Philatelic Society's Exhibition in Caxton Hall, Westminster, on March 12th, 13th, and 14th, to communicate at once with the Hon. Secretary of the Stamp Exhibition at 44 Fleet Street, E.C. A number of promises have been received, but not sufficient to cover the entire scope of the British Empire. Extensive collections are not required, but good, straightforward, and practically complete collections of some of the smaller colonies are particularly wanted.

Particulars of the arrangements for insurance of exhibits may be had from the Hon. Secretary at the address as above.

British Stamps used Abroad

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP IV—continued

Peru

A REPUBLIC on the west coast of South America, has in its short but eventful history been of varying importance and size. At the time British stamps were used there (1863-79), it was of sufficient importance commercially to boast of six different British post offices. The war with Chili in 1879 not only brought ruin on the country, but deprived it of the two ports, Arica and Iquique, which, consequently, have been dealt with in the "Chili" section. The post offices now under consideration consist of:—

Callao (C 38).
Islay (C 42).
Payta (C 43).
Pisco (D 74).

The bulk of the trade was done with Great Britain, United States, and Germany,

Great Britain taking about half its exports.

Stamps were used from 1863 till 1879, when Peru joined the Postal Union. The postal rates were at first 2s. per half-ounce, reduced to 6d. per half-ounce in 1868, but raised to 1s. 6d. in 1870; finally reduced to 1s. in 1878.

C 38. Callao

The principal seaport, is a town of some importance, having in 1896 a population of over 48,000. It is the port to the capital Lima, from which it is only six miles by rail. It is also the head-quarters of the Pacific Steam Navigation Co.

Next to Valparaiso it is the most important port on the west coast, and is a very close rival to it in importance from a stamp-using point of view.

British stamps were first used here in 1863, and remained in use till 1879.

Various sizes of obliterators were naturally used over that long period.



A date stamp was used on the letter, but never in conjunction with the obliterator, although I have seen it on the stamp.

- ½d., plates 5, 6, 10, 13.
 1d. ,, 93, 137, 143, 144, 145, 160, 163,
 172, 175, 193.
 1½d., plate 3.
 2d., plates 9, 12, 13, 14, 15.
 3d. ,, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18,
 19.
 4d., plates 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 ver-
 milion, 15 sage, 16 sage.
 6d., plates 3, 4, 6 spray, 8, 9, 11, 12, 12,
 13, 14, 15, 16.
 8d., plate 1.
 9d. ,, 4 spray.
 10d. ,, 1 light and dark red-brown.
 1s., plates 4 spray, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12,
 13.
 2s., plate 1 light, dark blue.
 5s., plates 1, 2.

C 42. Islay

A maritime town in the Department of Arequipa, some five miles from Mallendo the railway terminus for the Department, has small importance commercially. The bulk of its trade lay in the hands of British merchants, but still the number of stamps required was small.

The use of stamps can be traced back to 1863, and the operation of the British Post Office ceased in 1879.

The obliterator in use was



and appears to have been used alone, without even the date stamp on the letter. A peculiarity here is the fact that the obliterator ink seems quite different from that employed elsewhere, and the result is a very blurred and heavy impression of the post-mark.

- 1d., plates 78, 84, 88, 96, 103.
 1½d., plate 3.
 2d. ,, 9.
 3d., plates 4 emb., 6, 10.

- 4d., plates 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15 sage,
 16.
 6d., plates 3, 4, 5, 6 spray, 9, 12 grey, 13,
 14, 15.
 9d., plate 4 spray.
 10d. ,, 1 dark.
 1s., plates 4 emb., 4 spray, 5, 7, 10, 12, 13.
 2s., plate 1 blue.

C 43. Payta

Is but a small town, and its only importance seems to be the fact that it is the northernmost harbour on the Peruvian coast. It is connected by rail with the city of San Miguel de Piura. A small export trade is done, and the stamps used here were few and distinctly rare. Stamps were used here from 1864 to 1879.

The obliterator alone was used, and is



found more often in blue than in black.

- 2d., plate 9.
 3d. ,, 5.
 4d., plates 12, 14.
 6d. ,, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15.
 1s. ,, 4 emb., 4 spray, 10, 13.
 2s., plate 1 dark, blue.
 5s. ,, 1.

D 74. Pisco

A maritime town of but little importance. It is connected by rail with the city of Ica, and is of small account commercially. These stamps are very rare, and were used from 1869 till 1879.

The obliterator used is the large upright



oval, and is found both in black and in blue. A date stamp was impressed on the letter.

- 4d., plates 10, 12.
 2s., plate 1 blue.

(To be continued.)

Photography as Applied to Stamps

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I. Introduction—*continued*

NOW that we have got some idea why screens are used, we will consider how to proceed when copying a stamp actual size, and also when making a direct enlargement of it.

It is well known that to copy any object actual size, the distance between (i) the object and the lens, and (ii) the lens and the plate, must be equal; and also that this distance must be twice the focal length of the lens. The focal length of any particular lens is generally known to its owner, so that, by a little calculation, the relative positions of plate, lens, and object can easily be ascertained, so that the desired result may be obtained.

For copying, a really good lens must be used; it is no good trying to make shift with a cheap lens, as the various colours do not come to focus in the same plane, except in a lens which has been specially corrected for this aberration.

With a half-plate camera very excellent direct enlargements of stamps may be made. In this case we shall need to bring the stamp very close to the lens, while the plate has to be a relatively great distance from it. We therefore need a camera with a long extension, and it is almost a necessity that the camera can be racked out backwards, so that the position of the lens with regard to the object is not altered. This is usually termed a back focussing device. In the contrary case we shall be subject to the necessity of continually moving plate, lens, and object, in the endeavour to get the enlarged image on the ground glass sharp, and at the same time of the desired size.

I have frequently enlarged an ordinary-sized stamp up to the size of a half-plate, that is roughly about seven times the height of the stamp, and of course seven times as wide; this is known as an enlargement seven times linear, or $7 \times 7 = 49$ times area, as the area of the enlargement is just forty-nine times as great as the area of the stamp. When enlarged to this degree every line of engraving is shown with the utmost minuteness, even the grain and fibre of the paper showing clearly.

One word of advice: always mount stamps on dull black needle-paper to photograph them, as then the perforations are shown distinctly.

II. Apparatus

Camera

Of course the simplest way of going to work is to use an ordinary stand camera, and to fasten the stamps to be photographed against a convenient wall. But if much time is to be devoted to this branch of photography it will be advisable to make use of special apparatus. I think the simplest way will be to describe the apparatus I use myself.

I have a board about thirty-six inches long and nine inches wide. At one end is a block of wood on to which I can fix my half-plate camera by means of the ordinary tripod screw. At the other end of the board is a sliding piece of wood, fitted with vertical grooves, into which I can slip a half-plate printing frame. This printing frame, with its block of wood, can be slid along the board from one end to the other, and can be clamped in any position by means of a thumb-screw.

I thus have my camera fixed in one position and my frame (to hold stamps) always parallel to it, but arranged so that it may be set at any desired distance from the camera.

On the inside of the lens board of the camera I have fastened thin strips of brass to form slots into which various pieces of coloured glass may be slipped to be used as colour screens. My screens are all two inches square, and I find them quite large enough for half-plate work.

I have a piece of well-polished glass in the printing frame, and have always photographed stamps through glass, in spite of all that I have heard to the contrary. I find that glass causes no trouble if I am careful to illuminate the stamps from the sides, so that no light is reflected from the surface of glass into the camera.

One tip may be useful to my readers. Thoroughly black the lens mount and all brasswork on the front of the camera, as otherwise you will find that points of light will be reflected from the glass, through the lens, on to the plate.

Lens

For copying stamps I have always used one lens that has given me perfect satisfaction. It is a Dallmeyer, Stigmatic, Series II. I use No. 1 size, which is only supposed to cover a lantern plate at $f/6$, its full aperture;

but when copying, the angle of view is greatly increased, so that it easily covers a half-plate at full aperture. It gives beautifully sharp results, and I never stop down smaller than $f/22$, even when using a colour screen.

For enlarging I have to use a very short focus lens, as my camera has not a very long extension. It is a lens intended for taking cinematograph pictures; the focus is only 2 inches, and the full aperture is $f/2$, while the smallest stop provided is $f/11$. I can give a valuable hint about using a lens of this class for enlarging. Such a lens is composed of two combinations—a back and a front; unscrew these combinations and transpose them—that is to say, screw the front combination into the back of the mount. If we consider a minute, we shall soon see the reason for this: when used for taking cinematograph pictures, it is required to reduce a large scene from nature to a very small picture, but when used for enlarging we want to turn a comparatively small object into a large picture; hence the need for the reversal of the combinations.

Light

Some people prefer to use daylight, but then it is necessary to use some form of actinometer to calculate the exposure; on

the whole I find it better to use artificial light, which is always fairly constant in its illuminating power. I have always used Nernst electric lamps. I use two $\frac{1}{2}$ -ampere lamps on a 100-volt circuit, and I believe they are supposed to be about 35 candle-power each. I screw off the opaline globes and use the naked lights, and for copying I place one lamp each side of the printing-frame, and pointed directly at it, horizontal with the ground. If only about four stamps are being copied at a time, I place each of the lamps 6 inches from the printing-frame. but if the frame is filled with stamps, I place the lamps 9 inches away, which, of course, doubles the exposure.

For enlarging I get the lamps as close to the object as possible, as otherwise the exposure would be so prolonged. I wedge them in between the front of the camera and the printing-frame, so that they are each only about 3 inches from the stamp.

I find Nernst lamps particularly suitable for photographing stamps, as the light they give is very white, being very similar in composition to daylight. If any of the essential rays were missing, we should find that certain colour screens would seem not to act properly.

(To be continued.)

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

Great Britain—continued

The Levant—continued

THE first series of postage stamps to be issued for the use of these offices during the period embraced by this article began to appear early in 1902, but was not completed until the summer of 1903. This issue comprised four values of the current King's Head series of Great Britain, overprinted with fresh values in Turkish currency. The last of these to be brought into use was the 12 piastres in August, 1903. This was at the time the highest-value stamp in use in the British Postal Agencies in Turkey. Two years later, however, in response to a special request forwarded to the British Postmaster-General by a number of the principal firms engaged in the Levant trade, a new 24 piastre value was added to the series.

In connection with the issue of this stamp it was stated that the principal European banks and offices in the Levant were frequently dispatching by post, packets contain-

ing deeds, bonds, shares, etc., upon which the postage and insurance amounted to from £4 to £5, and as the 12 piastres was the highest denomination obtainable, the result was that the packet would be plastered all over with these stamps, causing great inconvenience both to post office authorities and to the sender of the letter.

80 PARAS 4 PIASTRES

1902-5.

Regular King's Head series of Great Britain, 1902. Overprinted with new values in paras and piastres, in thick sans-serif capitals, in one line, in black.

40 paras on 2½d., ultramarine (issued February 6, 1902).

80 paras on 5d., lilac and ultramarine (issued June 5, 1902).

4 piastres on 10d., purple and scarlet (issued September 6, 1902).

12 piastres on 2s. 6d., lilac (issued Aug. 29, 1903).

24 piastres on 5s., carmine (issued Aug. 15, 1905).

Variety.

The above series contains one notable variety, occurring on the 80 paras value, viz. a small nought in "80." This stamp is very scarce, as the variety occurred in the first printing only, and very few are in existence to-day. It has been quoted as high as £8 during the past year.

Small nought in "80."

80 paras on 5d., lilac and ultramarine.

This variety is found on the second and eighth stamps only of the fourth row of the lower pane of the sheet, and was corrected in all subsequent printings.

In November, 1905, the 5d. denomination of the above series made its appearance with its equivalent value correctly expressed, viz. 2 piastres, instead of 80 paras, whilst early in 1906 the overprint on the 2½d. value was changed from 40 paras to 1 piastre.

1905-6.

Regular series of Great Britain, 1902. Overprinted in Turkish currency, in thick sans-serif capitals, in one line, in black.

1 piastre on 2½d., ultramarine (issued April 19th, 1906).

2 piastres on 5d., lilac and ultramarine (issued November 11th, 1905).

On 2 August, 1906, the British Post Office at Beyrout ran short of the supply of the 1 piastre value, and in order to remedy this defect 480 copies of the 2d., green and scarlet, Parcels Post stamp, surcharged LEVANT, were additionally overprinted "1 Piastre" in black. As these stamps were supplied for, and used solely upon, letters dispatched by the outgoing mail of that date, no unused copies of this provisional are known, and used it bids fair to become a great rarity.

Regarding the issue of this provisional, I reproduce herewith a copy of an interesting letter which was first printed in the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung* in the early part of the present year (1907):—

British Post Office, Beyrout,
Syria, 2 July, 1906.

DEAR SIR,

Due to the exhaustion of the ONE PIASTRE (overprinted) POSTAGE stamps in the British Post Office, due to the non-arrival of a requisition dispatched to the General Post Office on the 4th ultimo, I must request you to kindly have the enclosed two sheets (480 stamps) of the 2d. LEVANT overprinted in black under the word LEVANT with the following: 1 piastre.

You are also requested to have the order at the earliest instant possible, in order that the Post Office may be able to supply the public with their demand.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) G. P. DEVEY,
Post Office Agent.

The Manager, American Press,
Beyrout.

The overprint was subsequently applied in the presence of an official of the British Consulate, and as soon as the two sheets had been surcharged the type was broken up.

1 Piastre

1906.

Provisional.—Parcels Post series of 1905, overprinted LEVANT, additionally surcharged with new value in Turkish currency, in one line, in black.

1 Piastre on 2d., green and scarlet.

Parcels Post Stamps

On 15 August, 1905, there was issued for the use of the British Post Offices in Turkey, a full series of ten values of the current King's Head issue of Great Britain, ranging in value from ½d. to 1s., surcharged with the word LEVANT, in large, thick sans-serif capitals, in varying positions on the stamps. These stamps were for use in prepaying postage upon parcels and printed matter, the charges upon which are reckoned in English currency, the stamps being sold at their normal face value instead of at a discount, as is the case with the stamps surcharged in paras and piastres. The probable reason for the issue of this special series of stamps for use on parcels and printed matter only is that the Post Office authorities have a similar arrangement with the railway or steamship company which conveys the parcels post to and from Turkey to that which they have with the railway companies at home. That is to say, the company, instead of carrying the parcels by weight only, receives a certain percentage of the total face value of the stamps affixed to all parcels carried by them in the interests of the Post Office, and as the currency of the Turkish Empire is subject to considerable fluctuation from time to time, they prefer to have the amounts due to them calculated in English money, hence the reason for the charges being made in that currency and for the issue of a special series of stamps to be used in connection therewith.

1905.

Stamps for use on parcels and printed matter only. Surcharged LEVANT in one line in black, in thick sans-serif capitals, on the regular King's Head series of Great Britain, 1902.

- ¾d., pale yellow-green.
- 1d., scarlet.
- 1½d., purple and green.
- 2d., green and scarlet.
- 2½d., ultramarine.
- 3d., purple on yellow.
- 4d., green and brown.
- 5d., lilac and ultramarine.
- 6d., purple.
- 1s., scarlet and green.

(To be continued.)

Prize Competition

AS announced last week, we now give particulars of the "Acrostic" competition, together with No. 1 of the series. The coupon to be used for answers will be found in the advertising pages.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC

NO. 1 (OF SERIES)

This name is known the wide world round,
Good stamps to sell and bargains sound.

1. Title name of a French stamp tale,
And sometimes given to the firm
That, when in English, made its sale,
As many of you will affirm.
(N.B.—This is a compound word.)
2. If you will look in some old book,
You'll find that in the time of Cook
This island's name began with an O.
Its stamps are merged in a larger O,
In a Sea that for short we spell just So.
3. The self-confidence of a master of his art
Shows in this self-possession on his part.
4. Make room for His Highness of Bhopal,
You don't need more the name to recall.
5. If you have read your Gullivers,
You may remember where
Sunbeams were got from cucumbers,
Gunpowder too from ice out there.
6. A penny letter rate this foreign State alone
Enjoys with us, also with colonies our own.
(Note: two vowels before last letter.)
7. Our reply, if asked, when you are right;
If not, you know, it will be No.

BEN.

Answers to the above must be filled up only on the accompanying form (on cover), signed with initials, pseudonym not exceeding eight letters, or your name with address, and be sent in a closed envelope or letter card marked outside "ACROSTIC, G.S.W., 391 Strand, London"—to reach that address on Thursday morning following date of *Weekly*.

Do not send on post cards.

Letters from European continent and Egypt should be posted within a week.

In order to give our Canadian brethren and American cousins a chance to join in, answers may be posted from out there within a fortnight of date of publication in the same way. In the United States, to save the five cents postage here, closed answers may be sent to Mr. E. B. Power, at Stanley Gibbons, Inc., 198 Broadway, New York, or may be enclosed (under separate cover) to him with other business communications, who will forward them *en masse* to London.

Three marks will be booked if all the lights are answered correctly; two, if only one is incorrect; and one mark allowed if more than half are right, that is four correct out of above seven. At the end of the half-year—depending partly on the number of competitors and totals of marks—prizes will be given of stamps or books sold by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., to the value of £2, £1, and 10s. each; probably three, five, and eight respectively for 30, 29, and 28 or 27 marks in totals.

It will often happen that two or three different words will appear to fit the lights correctly, but there will be a special wording that fixes the correctness on one word only, though occasionally an unthought-of word will be accepted by the editor, whose decision will be final. Only one word to be written for each line or space.

Single words are intended, unless an intimation is given that a double or compound word is wanted, as in No. 1.

Second Thoughts

ONE or two extra lists may be sent in by the same dates, with alternative words if desired to make sure, but must be sent *only* on the forms supplied.

Points for Beginners

By B. W. W.

IN the last preliminary remarks reference was made to the possibility of many persons becoming active collectors, if the pleasure or good of such recreative employment in spare time were pointed out, leading to increasing interest in the stamps as such, which would develop a general

knowledge that is useful to the possessor of it in any class of life. Personal experience usually tells more effectively than the most logical theoretical reasoning—at least that is my conclusion after fifty-two years of business life amongst various classes of society. Early in 1862 circumstances had planted

me in London after some years spent in the mills and warehouses of my native Manchester, where a weekly average of over sixty-five hours' work had been my lot. With twenty hours more now to waste or use for myself, it was necessary to find something to do, and every main thoroughfare and suburb for six miles round Charing Cross was walked down. Later in the year an American over here on business gave me some coins and stamps on envelopes which were a novelty indeed, and would be even now to many collectors, as there were "Carriers'" stamps among them, two of which are now catalogued at £7 and £20. Remembering certain dingy shops in back streets during my geographical explorations, I looked them up to see if any foreign stamps were obtainable, but found only a few coins for sale.

Old Recollections

The following year a Peruvian admiral gave me some from his letters, which, with a few Indian and French stamps from others, totted up to nearly one hundred by my twenty-first birthday, when some old letters of 1841-56 came into my possession. The sight of the old dull red penny stamps on bluish paper reminded me of the days in 1851-2 when father sent me to the nearest post office half a mile away to get stamps for letters, a process which had interested me immensely, as it was at a leather or shoe shop, and the stamps had to be cut from a sheet with scissors which were more often missing than not, so the master would chop them off with his sharp leather-knife. After a time he hit upon an idea for separating them as required by making short stabs with his pointed knife between the stamps so that he could tear them apart, having cut them into strips of one or two rows. Possibly those irregular cuts and jagged edges have mystified some British specialist if he has come across one or two, supposing them to be rouletted 4 to 6!

Returning to our muttons, the difference of perforated and imperforate stamps was forced upon me, and when sticking these old stamps lightly in an exercise book a peculiar roughness struck me, and the sun shining low down on some loose stamps at the moment caused me to examine more closely, to find that the inked lines stood up quite distinctly in some and even cast shadows. Inquiring about this from an engraver friend led to the explanation of steel-plate printing as distinct from usual letterpress and as to the perfect smoothness of lithographs; also as to what "wiremarks" meant, as he called the "watermarks," as there were no such patterns in the paper of Indian and foreign stamps. A few months after a Jamaican with an unmistakable pineapple on the back led me into raptures of

possible discoveries, along with some new Indian stamps just given me by a friend in the India Office, one of which had an unintelligible watermark (since located as an elephant's head), while others were mysteriously overprinted with the word "Service." Curiosity was now thoroughly aroused, when a *Stamp Collector's Magazine* picked up in Paternoster Row with its advertisements opened up the treasures of the then known world of stamps, and for forty years I have stuck to the dirty bits of paper (for they were all used) through thick and thin, and thereby explored many strange lands without leaving John Bull's little island.

Stamp Magazines and Catalogues

The "application" of the last estimate of the total of stamp collectors in the United Kingdom comes in here. In those dark days of forty years ago collectors were few and far apart; information as to varieties of the issues current was limited and vague at the best; two magazines had been started, and three or four dealers' lists or catalogues were obtainable. Yet if in the Census papers of 1871 everybody had been asked to state whether they collected stamps, it is doubtful if 3000 would have been found to admit the soft impeachment even then; but now with a certainty of 100,000 fairly active collectors in England, they are so uninterested in their hobby that ninety per cent of them do not buy or read a stamp magazine. Excluding this *Stamp Weekly*, the total number of copies printed or sold of all the seven or eight periodicals barely reaches 10,000; and as many of the more devoted collectors take two, three, or four of these journals, the actual number of subscribers is probably only 5000, and less than one-third of these are members of the various philatelic societies. This shows a lamentable falling off, for in those far-off days there were nearer thirty per cent of collectors who took a magazine, and now the proportion is scarcely five per cent, even if we exclude the humbler and intermittent dabblers in stamps that make up the estimated 200,000. Now if the 10,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* will only exert themselves a wee little bit, they can surely induce one of their friends who is collecting stamps to bring himself up to date by buying this every week, as he or she will probably soon find it quite as interesting and as healthily exciting as their weekly *Snippets*.

A VERY HANDSOME PRESENT

Packet No. 69, 3000 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.

All about the Gum on Our Postage Stamps

BRITISH gum, which is so extensively used by makers-up of stationery, and by our Government in the finishing of postage stamps, and in various industrial arts, was first made at Chapelizod, near Palmerstown, on the banks of the Liffey, whose water power attracted manufacturers at different times, but unfortunately with general ill success.

The origin and history of the gum used on our postage stamps are somewhat curious.

The use of potatoes in the starch factories excited the vehement opposition of the people, whose chief article of food was thus consumed and enhanced in price, and so these factories were several times assailed by angry crowds and set on fire.

On 5 September, 1821, George IV, on his return to England from visiting Ireland, as is well known, embarked at Dunleary Harbour, near Dublin, when the ancient name of Dunleary was blotted out, and in honour of the royal visit that of Kingstown was substituted.

On that evening the people of Dublin sat late in taverns and at home, and in the midst of their pleasures a cry of "Fire!" was heard, which was soon found to be at a starch manufactory near Chapelizod. The stores were saved, but the starch was washed away ankle deep into the Liffey.

Next morning one of the journeymen block printers who worked at the Palmerstown Print Works, but who lodged at Chapelizod, woke with a parched throat and a headache. He would rise, dress, go out, and see about the fire.

He tried to dress, but his clothes were gummed together; his coat had no entrance for his arms, and what money he had left was glued into his pockets, and he fancied that he must have fallen into a vat of gum arabic, that costly article used in the print works.

This man and four of his shopmates whose clothes were saturated with gum held a meeting, and went to see the wreck of the starch factory. In the roadway the starch, which in a hot, calcined state had been watered by the fire engines, was now found by them to be lying in soft gummy lumps. They took some of it home and tested it in their trade; they bought starch at a chandler's shop, experimented with it, and at last discovered an article which seemed as suitable for their trade as gum arabic, and at a fraction of its cost. It was their secret, and if they had been discreet they might have realized fortunes.

Its subsequent history is not less curious than that just related.

Six of the block printers subscribed money to send one of their members to Manchester with samples of the new gum for sale. He was unsuccessful, advised to go home, and return when he was sober. His fellow workmen hearing of this, sent another of their number to his aid with more money. The two had no better success than the one. Then the remaining four left their work in Dublin and joined the two in Manchester.

They now tried to sell their secret. One died, two were imprisoned for a share in a drunken riot, and all were in extreme poverty. What the price paid for the secret was is not known and never will be, but a portion of it was spent in a passage to New Orleans, where the discoverers of British gum did not long survive their arrival.

The secret was not at first worked with success. It was passed to a Lancashire gentleman, who succeeded in making the article of a good quality, and at so low a price that it found ready introduction to the print works; but he could not produce it in large quantities without assistance, and he feared to trust men with a knowledge of a manufacture so simple and so profitable.

At last, in a week of sickness, he was pressed for a supply. He got out of bed, had a fire kindled in his laboratory, put on his vessels, calcined his starch, added water, observed the temperature, and all the while allowed his customer to be present. The secret was out; his customer never more required any of his British gum.

When penny postage came into operation, it was at first doubted whether adhesive labels could be made sufficiently good and low priced, which would not have been the case with gum arabic.

British gum solved the difficulty, but it was reported that the adhesive matter on stamps was made of the refuse of fish and other disgusting materials. Then the secret was spread far and wide that *postage label poison* was only made of potatoes.

STANLEY GIBBONS PRICED CATALOGUE OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE WORLD

Vol. I. Great Britain and Colonies.
Post-free, 2s. 6d.

Vol. II. The Rest of the World.
Post-free, 2s. 10d.

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

Omnium Gatherum

By "PHILOLOGOS"

Stamps for Posterity

SIGNOR ENRICO SANTORO has just left to the museum at Palermo, in Sicily, his collection of postage stamps formed between 1852 and 1890, and consisting of 11,044 stamps. It is said that Tuscany, Moldavia, United States, New Zealand, Canada, and Ceylon are all complete.

Herr Amtsrichter Fraenkel's Library

THE *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* refers to the marvellous library of philatelic works which the late Amtsrichter Heinrich Fraenkel got together at a great outlay of time and of money during many years, and it claims that the library in question is certainly the most important of its kind on the Continent. The library contains rarities of the very first rank and many uncut works of great value. It is not surprising that the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* should express an earnest hope that Herr Fraenkel's splendid philatelic library may be secured for Germany, both as a memorial of its maker and as a source of reference for German stamp collectors. In the interests of Philately, it is to be hoped that such a splendid library will not be broken up, for it would be impossible to collect such a wealth of philatelic literature again.

Postage in Spain . . . and Abroad

AN ordinary letter sent to any inland town in Spain costs 15 centimos postage. But, strange to say, the same letter, if sent across the frontier to a town in Portugal, costs only 10 centimos. "Pray tell me the reason, I pray."

Abyssinia

THE Harrar correspondent of *Le Timbre-Poste* informs that journal that the stamps now in circulation in Abyssinia are paid for in piastres. At first the unit of currency was the "thalari," divided into 16 guerches and worth 3f. 40c., or about 2s. 9d. Then in 1905 the French currency was introduced, and that necessitated the surcharges of that date. The Abyssinian stamps now used are bought in the post offices at the rate of the Egyptian piastre.

Costa Rica's "Portrait Gallery"

THE new types of Costa Rica are different from the previous types only in regard to colour and the framing; the portraits are those used hitherto. The previous issue was demonetized on 15 October, 1907. The following list of the portraits may be of interest:—

1 c., blue and brown,	Statue of Santa Maria.
2 c., black and green,	Portrait of Juan Mora.
4 c., blue and pink	" " José Canas.
5 c., blue and orange	" " Mauro Fernandez.
10 c., black and blue	" " B. Carillo.
20 c., grey and olive	" " Julian Volio.
25 c., green and mauve	" " E. Figueroa.
50 c., blue and violet	" " J. Castro.
1 colon, black and brown	" " J. Jimenez.
2 colones, green and claret	" " J. Rafael Mora.

Turk's Islands

La Revue Postale enlightens the unknowing with regard to the origin of the name "Turk's Islands." It says that when the islands were discovered the cadus melon was found there in great quantity. Sometimes the head of the melon is as big as a man's fist. In England the name "Turk's head" was given to the fruit, whence it passed to the islands on which it grew.

Spectacles on Stamps

ONCE more it appears that "there is nothing new under the sun." The *Listin Diario*, of Santo Domingo, referred recently to the new stamps of Luxemburg, and said that, as a philatelic curiosity, the issue in question was the first on which a portrait is adorned with spectacles. *El Eco Postal*, of Valencia, points out that the *Listin Diario* is in error, for spectacles have already appeared on the portrait on the 10 pesos of Colombia, Department of Boyaca, of 1903, and also on the 5 pesos and 10 pesos of 1904 of the same Republic, and more recently on the small values of the French Colonies in West Africa, and on the "Officials" of Brazil.

Philately in Moscow

I AM very glad to learn that a "Moscow Philatelic Society" has been formed lately in the old Russian capital. The Secretary tells me that "The nucleus of our Society consists of old and faithful philatelists, among whom may be found many promoters and members of the former 'Society of Stamp Collectors of Moscow.'" If there is a city in which stamp collecting ought to find a splendid welcome during "the long and cruel winter," then Moscow is that city. May Philately flourish and wax exceedingly there in proportion as the cold increases.

Stamp Exhibition in Japan

IT is said that a philatelic exhibition is to be held in Tokio. There will be three sections, devoted—A, to everything connected with the postal system and with its history; B, to stamps; and C, to post cards.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Austria.—Mr. A. D. Jenny sends us the following information about the new Jubilee issue, illustrated last week. On 23 December a circular was issued by the Ministry of Commerce informing the public that the new stamps would be placed on sale on 1 January, 1908. It was also mentioned that the present issue would continue to be available for postage until 31 May, 1908, but that they would be entirely withdrawn and rendered non-available for postage on 1 June of this year. Up to that time they may be exchanged for the new stamps at any post office.

It is also stated that various stationery will be issued during the current year, bearing impressions of the new stamps.

Messrs. Coates and Marsh have shown us a used copy of a 24 kreuzer of the issue of 1 September, 1890, perforated 10½ × 11½. This will belong to list (g) in the Catalogue, and will be No. 231a.



1 Sept., 1890. Perf. compound of 10, 10½, and 11, 12.
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.
 24 kr., grey-blue — —

Bermuda.—We find that we chronicled the 2d. and 4d., of the Dock type, so long ago as 29 June, 1907, but we are afraid that these were chronicled from specimen copies, quite unintentionally of course. We now learn from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (4.1.08) that the 2d. was actually issued about 12 December, 1907, on multiple, unsurfaced paper.



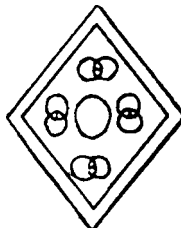
Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Ordinary paper. Perf. 14.
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.
 2d., greenish grey and orange — —

British Levant.—We take the following interesting paragraphs from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (4.1.08):—

“All the stamps surcharged with value in piastres have been withdrawn from issue, except the 1 piastre on 2½d., blue. No one seems to have foreseen this, although, now we come to think of it, it was obviously necessitated by the reduction in the postal rates to 1½d. per ounce for all ounces after the first.

“A letter from England to Constantinople costs 2½d. for the first ounce and 1½d. each succeeding ounce, but the reply has hitherto cost one piastre or 40 paras (equal to 2d.) or a multiple of one piastre. Instead of stamps of 1, 2, 4, 12, and 24 piastres, there are now required, therefore, others of 1, 1½, 3½, 9½, 18½, or say, in even figures, 1, 1½, 3, 9, 18. It is not unlikely changes may be made also in the stamps of the French, German, Italian and Russian Levant Post Offices. The Austrian Post Office has already issued a 30 paras (or ¾ piastre) stamp.”

Ecuador.—Our New York house has shown us copies of three values of the current set, which appear to be overprinted with a diamond-shaped control mark. This control appears to be hand-stamped, in black, once to every block of four on a sheet, so that only a quarter of the whole control is seen on any one stamp, that being of course on one of the corners of the stamp. At present we know nothing whatever about the necessity (or otherwise) of this control. As will be seen by our Catalogue, the last lot of controls was the result of the burning of Guayaquil, in July, 1902, when many stamps were treated in this way to frustrate speculation during the fire. It is probable that all the values of the current set have been handstamped, but up to the present we have seen only three values.





Only a quarter of the above control mark on one corner of each stamp. Control in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., black and lilac-rose
10 c. " indigo
20 c. " pale green

Federated Malay States.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (4.1.08) reports the issue of a \$2, green and carmine, on multiple, chalk-surfaced paper. Our contemporary states that this stamp was issued about 4 December, 1907.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
\$2, green and carmine

France.—It appears that the redrawn 10 c., described in our issue of 14 December, 1907, has been issued in the old shade (*vermilion*), as well as in a new shade (*scarlet*), which we then listed. The redrawn stamp can be distinguished by the thickness of the figures of value, by thicker letters to the word *POSTES*; and, in the 10 c., by the fact that the oblique stroke of the figure "1" is much longer in the redrawn specimen than in the old one.



Redrawn, but old shade. Perf. 14 x 13 1/2.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 c., vermilion	0 2	. . .

Grenada.—Messrs. Coates and Marsh inform us that the 6d., purple and green, has just been issued on surfaced paper.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
6d., purple and green

Hong Kong.—We have now received a supply of the expected 6 c. direct from the colony, where it was issued about 4 December, 1907. The centre is orange-red, and the frame in purple. The plate number "1" is on orange-red ground. The paper is chalk-surfaced, multiple water-marked.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper. Perf. 14.

6 c., orange-red and purple	0 3	. . .
---------------------------------------	-----	-------

Jamaica.—We have seen a copy of the 2 1/2d. referred to in our issue of 4 January. It was on multiple, chalk-surfaced paper.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper.

2 1/2d., black and ultramarine
--	-------	-------

New Zealand.—Mr. Norman Percival informs us that he has in his possession a block of four of the 1d., carmine, watermark *NZ* and *Star*, perforated 11, instead of 14; it is on the thin, hard, Cowan paper, and will follow No. 255a in the Catalogue. This has been previously reported in the *M. J.*

Mr. Percival also says that the 1d. Life Insurance, V.R. omitted, exists perforated 14 (not 11, as given in the Catalogue, No. 673), and he has also seen it perforated 14 by 11.



Cowan, thin, hard paper. Wmk. N Z and Star. Perf. 11.

1d., carmine



Life Insurance Dept. Design redrawn, "V.R." omitted. Wmk. as above. Perf. 14.

1d., blue

Perf. 14 and 11, compound.

1d., blue

Papua.—As was to be expected, the first stamp of the "permanent" set has now been issued. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (4.1.08) chronicles the ½d., which was probably issued about 1 November, 1907. The design is similar to that of the old British New Guinea, but the title has been removed, and the word PAPUA substituted. Our contemporary states that the centre design, in black, is probably printed from the old plate, whilst "the frame, with new title and value, is lithographed." Certainly a curious combination! The stamp is watermarked Crown over double-lined A, and is perforated 11.



Reading PAPUA instead of BRITISH NEW GUINEA. Centre line-engraved; frame, etc., lithographed. Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.

½d., black and light green

St. Lucia.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (4.1.08) reports the issue of the ½d. and 1d., printed in single colours; we chronicled the ½d. in our issue of 3 August, 1907, saying that it was reported by a foreign contemporary, possibly from a specimen copy. Both stamps were actually issued about 1 December, 1907.

Messrs. Coates and Marsh tell us that they have received the expected 2½d., printed in one colour. It is on multiple, un surfaced paper, the figures of value being in white on a lined background of colour, as before.



N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 301 Strand, London, W.C.

Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Ordinary paper. Perf. 14.

1d., carmine (on white)

2½d., ultramarine (on white)

Unused.	Used.
s. d.	s. d.
—	—
—	—

Senegal.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (28.12.07) chronicles a 2c., brown, with the value in blue instead of in red. Our contemporary states that the copy it has seen is surcharged SPECIMEN in very large letters, partly on the margin.



Error. Value in blue.

2c., chocolate

Southern Nigeria.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (4.1.08) chronicles a number of stamps, some of which appear to be reissues in shades differing from those in use formerly. On multiple, un surfaced paper, there is the 2d. with a pale grey instead of a black centre.

On chalk-surfaced paper we have the 4d. in a much paler shade of green; the 6d., in bright mauve instead of mauve; and £1, in pale violet instead of violet.

Lastly, there is the 5s., on chalk-surfaced, instead of ordinary paper.



Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Perf. 14.
(i) Ordinary paper.	
2d., pale grey and red-brown	—
(ii) Chalky paper.	
4d., black and pale olive-green	—
6d., " " bright mauve	—
5s., " " yellow	—
£1, green and pale violet	—

Switzerland.—Miss A. M. Phillips sends us a cutting from the *Gazette des Etrangers de Lausanne-Ouchy-Vevey* (28.12.07), from which we learn that the recently issued stamps are really to be modified. The two artists responsible for the original designs are engaged in re-designing them. Unfortunately we shall still see Tell, junior, and the lady (?) resembling Germania, but we believe that the latter will be redrawn into a dainty Swiss girl—how, remains to be seen. We are told that there will probably be a second printing of the two labels at present in use, as the new designs will not be ready for some months. What about the other values that were to be issued? Shall we see two issues of those or not? *Nous verrons.*

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 4
Whole No. 160

25 JANUARY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

France—continued

By a *coup d'état*, 2 December, 1851, Louis Napoleon dissolved the National Assembly, and by a *plébiscite* of the 21st and 22nd of the same month was elected President for ten years. This event was reflected in the postage stamps, for a law of 3 January, 1852, enacted that, in new printings, the emblem of the Republic, depicted on the stamps, should be replaced by a profile of the President. When, therefore, a fresh printing of 10 c. and 25 c. became necessary later on in the same year, plates made from a new die were employed. No alteration was made in the frame of the stamp, but the head of Ceres was replaced by a head of Napoleon, engraved by M. Barre, whose initial "B" can generally be seen just below the bust. These were the only values made in this design, for before fresh supplies were required of the remaining values other political events had taken place, which in their turn were reflected in the design of the postage stamps.



	Tinted wove paper.		Imperf.	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
10 c., bistre	100	0	8	6
25 c., blue	40	0	0	4

By virtue of a popular election, 21–22 November, 1852, the Empire was restored, and the Prince-President was proclaimed Emperor under the style of Napoleon III. At the same time a decree was made ordering EMPIRE FRANÇAIS to be substituted in all cases for RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE. This necessitated a change in the stamps, and as the stocks of existing issues became exhausted they were replaced by those of the altered design, which, however, only consisted in substituting EMPIRE FRANC. for REPCB. FRANC. in the upper tablet.

The head was slightly retouched and the

engraver's initial was suppressed. The 10 c. and 1 fr., issued 17 August, 1853, were the first values to be supplied; the 40 c. appearing on 3 September and the 25 c. on 3 November of the same year, all in the same colours as before.

Until now, with the exception of prepaid letters posted at and delivered in Paris, the same rate was charged for a letter whether it was prepaid or not. The experiment had been tried in Paris from 1 July, 1853, of allowing a rebate of 5 c. on prepaid letters, thus reducing the postage to 10 c., and it had proved very successful. In July, 1854, the rates throughout France were modified on the same principle, the prepaid rate on single letters of 7½ grammes being reduced to 20 c., whilst on those which were not prepaid the rate was to be 30 c. To meet this requirement a 20 c. stamp was issued 1 July, 1854, in the same colour as the 25 c. it was intended to supersede, and which was withdrawn 30 June, 1854. The rate on letters above 15 grammes had been 1 fr., but now on prepaid letters the rate was reduced to 80 c. The 1 fr. stamp thus being no longer required was withdrawn at the same time and replaced by an 80 c. of the same colour, issued about October of the same year. A new value of 5 c. was also issued early in November for prepaying the rate on visiting cards and printed matter, which had previously been paid in cash.

The public were not slow to take advantage of the reduced rate for prepaid letters. The latter, upon the introduction of postage stamps, had formed only about ten per cent of the whole, but in 1855 they formed fully 85 per cent.

At the same time as the rates on letters were modified, the postage on newspapers was reassessed. This had previously depended on the size of the sheet, now it was to be by weight; the scale being 1 c. for circulars, etc., under 5 gr.; 2 c. for those under 10 gr., with an additional 1 c. for every extra 5 gr. Nothing was done in the matter till October, 1859, when new stamps of 1 c., 2 c., and 4 c. were ordered. The 1 c. was the only one issued in the same type as the

higher values, and it appeared 1 March, 1860.

The shades of this Empire issue are numerous, the 5 c. varying from a deep green to yellow-green, whilst the 10 c. is to be found in ochre or bistre of various shades. The 5 c. in *yellow-green* appeared about May, 1860; it was introduced to enable this value to be more clearly distinguished from the 20 c., the old colour of the 5 c. appearing *blue* by artificial light. The 20 c. exists in three or four distinct shades, and two varieties (considered to be accidental) printed on paper tinted *green* and *azure* respectively are very scarce unused. The 80 c., originally printed in a deep carmine, was replaced in April, 1860, by one printed in rose. All the stamps are on toned or tinted paper, though in a few cases nearly white. The 80 c. and 1 fr. exist *tête-bêche*.



1853-60. *Imperf.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., bronze-green	2 6	0 3
5 c., green	12 0	1 0
5 c., yellow-green	10 0	0 6
10 c., bistre	8 0	0 1
20 c., blue	5 0	0 1
25 c., blue	30 0	4 0
40 c., orange-vermilion	20 0	0 1
80 c., carmine	50 0	0 6
80 c., rose	40 0	0 6
1 fr., carmine	35 0	18 0

On 28 June, 1860, the weight of single letters was increased to 10 gr., double letters to 20 gr., etc., and there was a more general use of stamps. The inconvenience of imperforation was then manifest. Efforts were made by private firms to overcome this by the use of perforating or rouletting machines. Of these the best known is that of Messrs. Susse Bros., stationers in Paris, who set up a machine with which they perforated stamps for their customers without charge, contenting themselves with the discount of two per cent allowed by the Government to the vendors of stamps. The system was not regarded with favour by the Government, which, in December of 1861, reduced the discount to one per cent, and thus prevented Messrs. Susse continuing the practice on the same terms. However, the public clamoured for the general adoption of perforation, and the authorities therefore called upon M. Hulot to adopt it. A machine was ordered from England at a cost of £400.

It was of the ordinary comb pattern gauging $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, and the same gauge has been continued on all French stamps to the present day. The Susse perforation can easily be identified, there being eight holes up the vertical side, and seven on the horizontal ones, giving a gauge of about 7. The official machine was not adapted for perforating more than a horizontal row of ten, so the form of the sheet was changed into two panes of 150, in fifteen rows of 10, and was divided into two previous to perforation.

All values were issued in a perforated condition in October, 1862, and may be found in various shades as before. An interesting variety is that of the 5 c., printed on paper intended for the 1 c., viz. tinted *bluish* instead of *greenish*. This was issued some time in 1871, when there was a shortage of the proper paper, owing to a great demand for 5 c. stamps.

Oct., 1862-71. *Same type. Perf.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., bronze-green	0 2	0 2
5 c., green	1 0	0 1
5 c., green on <i>bluish</i>	2 6	0 6
10 c., bistre	5 0	0 1
20 c., blue	1 0	0 1
40 c., orange	6 6	0 1
80 c., rose	7 6	0 2

The next three issues are known as the "Laureated issues." France had been victorious in the Italian campaigns of 1860 and 1861, and the Empire was in its highest state of glory. In 1861 the coinage appeared with the head of the Emperor crowned with a wreath of laurel, and when the new stamps of 2 c. and 4 c. for newspapers, etc., were required, it was ordered that they should be from a new die, of a similar design to the coins. The engraving was effected by M. Albert Barre, who had succeeded his father as chief engraver to the Mint. The work is a fine specimen of engraving, but the frame is poor and probably not the work of M. Barre. Distinct numerals of value were required, and this may be why the frame suffered. The two values were issued 1 January, 1863, and a 1 c. of the same type in May, 1870. The 4 c. is known *tête-bêche*.



1862-70. *Tinted paper. Perf.*

1 c., bronze-green	0 2	0 2
2 c., red-brown	0 2	0 2
4 c., grey	1 6	0 4

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

The Junior Exhibition

I CERTAINLY must congratulate the Committee of the Junior Philatelic Society upon the able manner in which it is being advertised in the general Press. I am constantly receiving extracts about it from papers in all parts of the kingdom. If the last great London Exhibition had been under the management of this Junior Press Committee, I venture to say that the hall would have been crowded on each day it was open.

The latest move has been to publish a paper entitled *Notes and News*. No. 1 is dated 25 December, 1907, and it will be issued as occasion arises.

Now in this first number the editors call attention to the great expenses of the Exhibition, which will certainly give a great impetus to collecting, and I think that we seniors and old fogies ought to help the juniors as far as lies in our power. They are doing a great work in making our hobby popular with young collectors; and they are, no doubt, the means of initiating many into the pleasures of our hobby.

My firm has subscribed five pounds, and I hope as many of my readers as possible will send some small sum, even if only a few shillings. Donations should be addressed to—

MR. H. F. JOHNSON,
Offices of the Stamp Exhibition,
44 Fleet Street,
London, E.C.

Only about £12 had been subscribed up to 25 December, so the need of funds is very urgent.

Dealers should take notice that there are still nine stalls to be let. Seven of these are £6 each, and two very large stalls are £16 each. These prices are very moderate compared with the £80 we had to pay at the last Exhibition.

The expenses of the Exhibition will be nearly £300, and towards this the Committee have about £170 from stall-holders and donations.

The Stamp Exhibition

WILL be held at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on 12, 13, and 14 March next. Admission free, by ticket. Arrangements have already been made to issue about half a million tickets.

The following particulars should be of interest:—

The Exhibition, which will cover a total

area of over 9000 square feet, will be divided into sections.

Large Hall.—Display of the stamps of the British Colonies in centre, dealers' stalls 1 to 12. Promenade and tea gallery on balcony, 180 feet.

Second Large Hall (Council Hall).—Display of the stamps of the British Colonies continued and dealers' stalls 13 to 22.

First Small Hall.—Exhibits continued.

Second Small Hall.—Will be used for instructional and popular lectures.

Ante-rooms off Main Hall.—(1) Committee. (2) Exhibition Secretary.

Rooms 6, 8, and 9.—Buffet.

Room 7.—Press.

Room 13.—Exhibits.

Room 14.—Competitive section (juniors).

Rooms 15, 16, and 17.—Exhibits.

Orchestra daily in both the large halls. Afternoon and evening, Mr. Leonard Wright's orchestral band, which was so much admired at the 1905 Exhibition, will again perform.

Dealers' Stalls.—A delightful and popular feature of the last Exhibition—the space devoted to the use of the stamp trade—has been extended, and visitors will find all the leading dealers represented.

Lantern lecturettes will be delivered by well-qualified lecturers on subjects relating to stamps and stamp collecting.

Refreshments at popular prices will be served in Rooms 6, 8, and 9, and also on the promenade overlooking the main hall of the Exhibition.

Competitive Section

Open to members and non-members

Gold Medal.—It has been decided to present a gold medal to the boy or girl (whose age must not exceed nineteen) who submits to the Committee the best arranged collection of postage stamps in accordance with the conditions printed below.

A number of other prizes offered by stall-holders will be awarded to the competitors next in order of merit. A full list of prizes will be published later.

There is no charge for entry, and the contest will be open to every boy or girl collector whose age does not exceed nineteen, whether a member of the Junior Philatelic Society or not.

Albums intended for this contest should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, H. F. Johnson, as above, on or before Saturday, 29 February, 1908. An addressed cover with stamps for return postage and registration must be enclosed for the safe return of the album when examined.

The medal and prizes will be awarded for the collections which display the best skill and knowledge in the arrangement of the stamps. The rarity and value of the stamps, or whether used or unused, or the costliness of album and mountings will not be taken into consideration. A small collection, neatly and carefully arranged, may as readily head the list as a big collection of enormous value.

Only boys and girls under nineteen will be allowed to compete, and competitors must enclose a letter signed by a parent, or a schoolmaster, clergyman, guardian, or other responsible person, stating that the collection is the entire property of the competitor, and that the competitor's age does not exceed nineteen years.

Neither the Exhibition Committee nor the Junior Philatelic Society can accept any responsibility for albums or collections, but every care will be taken of same while in the hands of the Committee.

There are no other conditions, and it need not cost you anything to compete, except the small cost of postage both ways. The successful albums will be displayed in a special room at the Exhibition, where will be made the first announcements of the result of the contest.

The collections may be general or specialized. They may comprise used stamps only or unused only, or both together. Any postage stamps; postal cards, envelopes, or wrappers may be included, but fiscal stamps will not be considered.

All communications respecting this contest must be made to the Hon. Secretary, H. F. Johnson, as above.

The National Collection of Ireland

THE late Duke of Leinster left his collection of stamps to the Irish National Museum in Dublin, and the last number of *The Philatelic Record* contains an excellent account of the collection of the British Isles stamps that is now on view, which includes a number of things that have been lent to the museum.

The collection is under the charge of Mr. W. R. Lane Joynt, who is not allowed any funds for the purchase of additions to the collection, but who has to depend upon donations from private individuals or friendly Governments.

Among the present interesting exhibits I note—

A. One illustrating the systems of payment of postal rates prior to the introduction of stamps.

B. One illustrating the systems in use from 1840 to 1852 on the abolition of the franking power of the Houses of Parliament.

The following envelopes are shown:—

(a) To be posted at the Houses of Parliament only.

(b) To be posted at the House of Commons only.

Mulready envelopes, etc.

Proof impression from the brass block.

Proof in vermilion.

Proof in blue.

Many essays, circulars to postmasters, and finally a large number of stamps.

Among the Officials I note that the museum possesses the very rare I.R. Officials, King's Heads, 5s., 10s., and £1, mint, in *blocks of four!*

G. S. W., Vol. VI

BOUND volume No. VI, July to December, is now ready. All advertisements are bound in and the volume is complete, and should be in the library of all collectors. Price 4s. 9d., post free, handsomely bound in red cloth.

Covers for Vol. VI

BINDING covers for Vol. VI, July to December, 1907, are also ready, price 1s. 6d. each, post free. Please note that our publishers do not undertake binding, which can easily be done in any town if the papers (twenty-six numbers) and cover are taken to the nearest binder. I strongly advise every one to bind in the whole paper, including advertisements. Sets of old papers with the advertisements all bound in are always more valuable than those without.

A LONDONER inquired at a post office the other day for a letter for "Henry Hogden." He was told there was none. "Look 'ere," he replied a little angrily, "you 'ave hexamined a hodd letter for my name. It don't commence with a haitch. It begins with a ho! Look in the 'ole that's got the ho's."—*The American Stamp Mercury.*

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

No. 125. *Western Australia.* Value £744

A MODERATELY good book, but rather weak in early issues, especially unused. In the 1857 brown-black on red, there are two fine unused and eleven used; and of the 6d. black-bronze, two unused and fifteen used. The later issues are well represented in both used and unused, and in the modern issues

there are a number of stamps which I think should materially advance in value during the next few years. There have been so many changes that some of the values are bound to turn out to be rare. This book also contains a considerable number of proofs and colour trials.

Wanted to Purchase

Unused. Nos. 4, 7, 8, 35, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 60, 67, 79, 90, 126, 127, 128, 137, 154, 156.
Used. Nos. 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 38, 67, 90, 126, 127, 128, 137, 154, 202, 204, 205, 206 to 209, 212, 213, 215 to 218.

Twentieth Century Colonials

**A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
 Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
 (January, 1901-June, 1907)**

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

Great Britain—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

Cyprus

THE island of Cyprus is situate in the eastern extremity of the Mediterranean Sea, at almost equal distances from the coasts of Asia Minor and Syria, and is the third largest island in those waters.

The island is mountainous in character, and in shape roughly resembles a bill-hook. When approached from the sea, it is said to convey the impression of two islands lying parallel to one another. Its area is 3584 square miles, the greater part being occupied by two large mountain ranges, of which the highest peak is Mount Troodos (6590).

The history of Cyprus dates back to the earliest times, it being in all probability first colonized by the Phœnicians in prehistoric days. The first positive date known in connection with the island's history is that of its conquest by Amasis, King of Egypt, early in the sixth century B.C. From that time on, the island was a constant source of contention amongst the various Powers of Eastern Europe, and was successively occupied by the Persians, the Greeks, Ancient Egyptians, the Romans, the English, the Venetians, and lastly by the Turks.

Though still nominally a part of the Ottoman Empire, Cyprus was in 1878 ceded to Great Britain by the Sultan of Turkey. Under a Convention signed at Constantinople on the 4th June of that year, the British Government agreed to aid the Sultan in defending his possessions against Russia; and the Sublime Porte, "in order to enable England to make necessary provision for executing her engagements," consented to assign the island of Cyprus to be occupied and administered by Great Britain for so long as Russia should retain her hold upon Kars and Batoum.

The administration of the island is in the hands of a High Commissioner representing the Colonial Office, who is assisted in his duties by a local Legislative Council of eighteen members, six of whom are Govern-

ment officials, and the remaining twelve being elected by popular ballot. Cyprus is divided for the purpose of administration into six districts, each being under the control of a resident Commissioner, and having its own law court.

The principal town of the island is Nicosia, which is also the capital of the district of that name. It is situate near the centre of the island and has a population of 14,752. The other important towns are Larnaca, the chief port and most flourishing town of the island, Limasol, Famagusta, where there are extensive harbour works, and which is connected by railway with Nicosia, Kyrenia, and Papho.

The inhabitants of Cyprus, who though under British protection are still subjects of the Sultan of Turkey, number 237,022, of whom nearly two-thirds are Greeks and one-third Mohammedans, pay a yearly tribute to the Sublime Porte amounting to £87,800, in acknowledgment of Turkey's suzerainty over the island, which sum is not, however, actually paid into the Ottoman Treasury, being retained as part payment of the loss sustained by the British Government in paying the deficit of the Guaranteed Turkish Loan of 1855.

Apart from agriculture the island possesses few resources, the chief products being grain, wine, silk, olives, wool, and hides. There are extensive sponge fisheries off the coast.

A small garrison is maintained at Poly-media, a town lying in the hills four miles to the north of Limasol, and consists of one company of infantry of the line, with a few other "details" drawn from the Malta command. In addition there is a force of local armed constabulary. The climate is extremely healthy, and there is some talk of making Cyprus a winter resort for invalids, after the manner of Egypt, Madeira, and the Riviera.

The British flag was first hoisted over the

island on 12 June, 1878. Entered Postal Union 20 December, 1878. Stamps first issued, 1880.

Currency : 40 paras = 1 piastre = 1½d.

In January, 1903, the island commenced the issue of a new series of postage stamps, bearing the portrait of His Majesty King Edward VII, and otherwise of similar design to the first permanent series issued in July, 1881, the framework being an exact replica of that of the Queen's Head issues of St. Lucia, Grenada, and Cyprus from 1881-6, commonly known as the "De La Rue Colonial" design, the only changes being that of the profile and the addition of a Royal Crown in the frame immediately above the King's portrait. Owing to the introduction of the Multiple Crown CA watermark early in the following year, many of the values of this series issued with the Single CA watermark were only in use for a very limited period, the second printing of them having the Multiple watermark. In consequence of this several values of the Single watermark issue have risen rapidly in price, and many of them are now extremely difficult to obtain, even at the present high prices; for although the issue of these stamps was commenced in 1903, all values were not brought into use at the same time, but were supplied as corresponding denominations of the old Queen's Head series of 1896 became exhausted, thus further shortening the time during which many of the stamps were current.

Of the 9 piastres value, which is by far the rarest stamp of the series, only 2400 copies were printed with the Single water-

mark, and immediately upon the introduction of the Multiple paper, the entire balance of the stock on hand at the island post offices was purchased by a single dealer. It has been contended that this stamp was never issued to the public, but the following paragraph, quoted from an article by Major Evans in *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, should dispel any doubts on the matter. Referring to an announcement on this subject which appeared in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* of 19 August, 1905, Major Evans says: "This is quite a mistake. Our publishers received a few of these stamps and had them on sale at 1s. 6d. each, used, before it was realized that they were scarce. A copy in their possession, on a portion of the original envelope, is clearly dated 'May 30th '04.' From inquiries we have made we gather that between sixty and ninety of these stamps were used before the balance of the stock was bought up by a dealer. The stamp in a *used* condition is undoubtedly much scarcer than *unused*, which probably accounts for Mr. Ewen never having met with a copy."

The three stamps of this series which show the greatest increase in value are the 9, 18, and 45 piastres; a comparison in the prices of these stamps, together with the numbers printed, may perhaps be of interest.

	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
9 piastres, King, Single (2400)	1s. 6d.	12s. 6d.	15s.	25s.
18 piastres, King, Single (3600)	2s. 6d.	1cs.	12s. 6d.	20s.
45 piastres, King, Single (2400)	6s. 6d.	15s.	15s.	25s.

(To be continued.)

Native Stamp Dealers

By GEORGE CECIL

At Gibraltar—The Port Said variety—The Aden dealer—At Colombo—Calcutta enterprise—The itinerant Indian dealer

THOUGH the rarest specimens which gladden the philatelist's heart are not often to be met with in Eastern ports, one frequently picks up stamps of a certain value between Gibraltar and the Further East. No sooner has the new-comer landed at "the Rock" than the Spaniard, who has stamps to sell, quickly makes known to the travelling Englishman that the choicest examples are to be found in his shop. If the Señor wants the rarest Spanish stamp, the obliging Jack Spaniard has them for sale. The distinguished Señor only has to step into Don Quixote's shop, and the plausible dealer will spread out his wares. Should

the unwary stranger accept the tempting invitation, he is likely to be disappointed, for the Spanish dealer who happens on a find has little difficulty in disposing of it to some world-renowned collector with whose agent he is in touch. He keeps his second-best goods for the delectation of the chance visitor; and if he succeeds in palming off a forgery which has been some time on his hands, he promises candles galore to his patron saint, and treats himself to a large bottle of the cheap country wine for which the south of Spain is famous. Amongst his regular customers are those officers and men who represent the philatelic element in the garrison. Occasionally he hangs about the officers' quarters and the men's barrack-room, hoping to effect a sale. In this con-

nection he seldom makes more than the barest profit.

The Maltese dealers pursue much the same methods as do the Gibraltar variety. Their stock, however, is a more varied one, for being in closer touch with Italy, Sicily, and the coast of Egypt, they frequently are in a position to offer one something which is worth purchasing. Like the Spaniard, they are always ready to accept less than half the price they have originally asked. . . . "You give-a me Engleese shilling and I give-a you this very rare Italian stamp. Him got real King's head and good colour. I asking other gentleman more. Only I asking you little—'cause you such nice gentleman." Sometimes the new-comer swallows this blarney, and pays what is asked. The experienced traveller, on the other hand, at first takes no notice of the dealer's importunities, allowing him to pay several visits without holding out any hope of purchasing. When, finally, the persevering dealer has knocked about 70 per cent off the original price, the astute collector begins to bargain, with the result that he eventually buys for the equivalent of sixpence a fairly valuable stamp which originally was priced at two or three shillings. It may be added that the Maltese huckster is a picturesque-looking individual. He wears a soft felt hat, which sets off his long, curling tresses; rings decorate his ears; and the gaily coloured handkerchief which is knotted round his neck harmonizes well with his swarthy complexion and dog-like brown eyes.

The cheap Port Said shop is a sort of local Whiteley's establishment, stamps being amongst the lines stocked. Even the firms which undertake other business profess to sell, or to be in a position to obtain any mortal stamp that the heart of the philatelist can desire. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that the enterprising collector often comes across valuable stamps, either in the shops which are set apart for the stamp business, or in the larger establishments in which one can buy almost anything from a toque of fifteen years ago to a back number of the *Daily Mail*. Port Said being conveniently situated, stamps from Egypt, Africa, Persia, Turkey, Italy, Greece, and Russia find their way to the Port Said counters. Many of these, of course, are of little value, including only those specimens which are too modern to be worth attention. But the lynx-eyed philatelist should be able to sift from the mass the few which are likely to enrich his collection. In former years, when the captains of passenger steamers were more easy-going than they now are, the ragamuffin Arab dealers were allowed to bring their wares on board for the delectation of those passengers who did not care to face the dirt, dust, and dis-

comfort of Port Said as it was known to an earlier generation of travellers. To-day, however, short shrift often awaits the son of the desert who clambers up the ladder, intent on selling an Egyptian inland post card as a priceless treasure. The quartermaster seizes the intruder by the slack of his pantaloons, and sends him flying through the blue ether into the equally blue water. On coming to the surface the native splutters out frightful oaths and imprecations, consigning the jovial Jack Tar to the nethermost regions, and informing him that he will be met there by all his relations. On some steamers, however, no such restrictions are known, and the brown-faced dealer is at liberty to sell his goods at 100 per cent gain, or at a greatly reduced profit, according to circumstances. Sometimes a dispute arises between the dealer and his customer—a dispute which invariably is ended by the passenger desiring the quartermaster to assist the Arab down the ship's side. Should the steamer be on the point of making its way down the canal, the vituperative fellow takes the greatest delight in running along the bank and shouting the choicest Eastern abuse at the passengers. When he has exhausted his strength and his vocabulary, he lies on the sand, and, covering himself with his rug, sleeps the peaceful slumber which a merciful Providence permits both honest men and rogues to indulge in.

The Aden stamp dealers, though few in number, provide quite as much entertainment as do those who carry on business at places further west. Both Arabs and Parsees are to be found in Aden, and either are ready to—well, to make the most of the opportunity! If the wily native perceives that the new-comer is inexperienced in the art of collecting, he will not scruple to sell him whatever rubbish he may have at his disposal. In this way the greenhorn often returns to the ship a poorer if not a wiser man. Indeed, there are instances of astute Arabs having invested in a parcel of "fakes," the contents of which have been sold at a considerable profit to philatelists whose keenness was not equalled by their knowledge.

Colombo, too, has its contingent of rascals, though it must be confessed that a number of Cingalee dealers conduct their business in a manner which is free from all objectionable practices. Some of them board the steamers with their wares, and others content themselves by entrusting jewellers and fruit-sellers with whatever rarities they have for sale. It is a common thing to find the dealer in moonstones and tortoiseshell combs also offering stamps which were issued many years ago. In this connection the adventurous brown man entrusts his life and his valuables to a catamaran, a raft-like vessel, which at first sight closely resembles

the branch of a tree. Indeed, it is a mystery how such a flimsy craft can even weather the swell caused by a passing ship. Fortunately for the philatelist the native dealer invariably voyages in safety.

From Colombo to Calcutta the collector is afforded many opportunities of adding to his collection. Madras (the next stopping place) swarms with native dealers, some of whom can be depended upon to produce genuinely rare examples of Native States issues; and these enterprising people usually visit all steamers which touch at the intermediate ports. But Calcutta is the Mecca of the ardent collector. The European, half-caste, and native philatelists have their agents all over the country, and many a valuable example finds its way to their establishments. Stamps from the countries bordering upon India are to be found there; Burmah and the Straits Settlements provide a certain number; and many are sent from China, Japan, and other parts of the Further East. Under these circumstances, it will not surprise the reader to learn that the Anglo-Indian philatelist frequently makes his way to Calcutta, intent on augmenting his collection. In addition to the leading dealers, a number of the smaller fry are located in the bazaars. From time to time they call at the different houses and bungalows, hoping to effect a sale. As a rule, they are not encouraged: the "sahib" sets his dog at them, or the "chowkadar" (native watchman) trounces them with a formidable bludgeon known as a "lathi." They are, however, more fortunate when they visit hotels during the tourist season. The visitor is amused by their broken English and by their antics, and, having plenty of money to spend, he is ready to part more or less freely. Indeed, the globe-trotter is an excellent customer to the patient black.

Mention also may be made of the itinerant dealer, who spends the greater part of the year tramping all over India. January sees him in the verandah of Potson's Hotel, Bombay, and a month later he turns up at Nagpore in the Central Provinces. At the beginning of the hot weather his tour in-

cludes Alihabad, Cawnpore, Lucknow, Meerut, and Benares; and during the rainy season his itinerary includes Northern India. Wending his way southward, he passes through Hyderabad, Bellary, Salem, and other places where philatelists are to be found. His luggage consists of a small bundle, containing his stock-in-trade, an umbrella, a couple of blankets, and the white cotton clothes in which he stands. He breakfasts off a handful of rice; his dinner consists of a bowl of vegetable curry, and a few bananas and another handful of rice serve him for his supper. His only relaxation is his "hubble-bubble" (native pipe) and conversation with the natives he meets on the road. On arriving at the bungalow his first act is to bribe the head servant, after which he considers that he is entitled to ask a few questions. He ascertains whether the "sahib" is a collector, and if he is of a parsimonious disposition. Provided with the necessary information, he is in a position to determine upon his plan of action. Sometimes he drives a good bargain, but as a rule he makes but a small profit on his original outlay. Occasionally the master of the house buys from him out of compassion, passing on his purchases to a philatelist friend should he himself not be a collector. But the unhappy trader is far more likely to be sworn at by the exile whose rest he has disturbed, especially if he is an official. For the Anglo-Indian "civil surgeon," "joint magistrate," or "district superintendent of police" frequently is a mere Jack in office; and if, like so many of his brethren, he is a person of common origin, he will try to increase his importance by behaving like a hooligan. Fortunately for the coloured dealer's peace of mind he does not much care whether the white man is polite or rude to him. He looks upon the most distinguished English collectors as "pagalwallahs" (madmen), and he does not consider them worth his anger. If the philatelist buys from him, he is pleased. Should he fail to effect a sale, he merely murmurs "Kismet!" and tramps off to the next bungalow.

Photography as Applied to Stamps

By FRANK PHILLIPS

II. Apparatus—continued

Colour Screens

I HAVE not found that a great number of screens are necessary for photographing stamps. First of all we must remember that, as an ordinary dry plate is far more sensitive to blue and violet than to any other colour, no blue screen is ever needed; in fact, to use an ordinary plate without any

screen is, for all practical purposes, equivalent to using a blue screen. As yellow and blue are complementary colours, if it were desired to photograph a yellow stamp printed on white paper no screen would be necessary.

I find that the following are all the screens that are necessary for everyday use, although, of course, a great many more would be needed if we wanted to bring out surcharges in black, and to fade the stamp

entirely: Red, deep pink, light pink, orange, yellow, deep green, light green.

The following table shows — (i) Those colours that each screen fades, i.e. tends to turn white in the photograph; and (ii) those colours that each screen tends to strengthen or darken.

Screen.	Fades.	Strengthens.
Red	Red, orange	Blue, greenish blue
Deep pink	Orange, orange-yellow	Green
Light pink	Orange	Yellowish green
Orange	Orange-yellow	Violet-blue
Yellow	Yellow	Violet
Deep green	Green	Orange-pink
Light green	Yellowish green	Pink

With regard to the use of screens in orthochromatic photography a great deal has been written. The authorities are agreed that only perfectly plain plate-glass should be used, coated preferably with stained collodion. This is all very well for work of the highest class, such as photomicrography, but I have always obtained excellent results with screens made of coloured glass. I do not mean the bits of coloured glass one would buy from an oil and colour man, but glass sold for this purpose by many of the better dealers in photographic materials. I obtained all my screens from J. Fallowfield, 146 Charing Cross Road. I believe screens two inches square cost about 9d. each. Of course, all colours cannot be obtained, but it is quite easy to make them at home. Ordinary fine-grain lantern plates are taken, and are fixed in an acid fixing bath to remove all traces of silver haloid, only the transparent gelatine film being left. This film can be stained any colour desired by means of very weak solutions of aniline dyes. I found I could buy all except the pink screens, and these I stained with a very weak solution of erythrosine in alcohol and water.

Lately, I believe, large sheets of very transparent gelatine have been placed on the market; they may be had stained almost any colour, and are made by (or according to the formulæ of) Dr. Miethe.

As I said before, I always use my screens just behind the lens, and (a word of warning) always focus through the screen you are going to use, as different colours come to focus at different distances from the lens.

Plates

"What plates shall I use?" is a question that the amateur would certainly ask. Well, strictly speaking, what is called a Process plate should be used: these plates are extremely slow, but give beautiful results, as the grain is so extremely fine; it is almost impossible to use them by artificial light, as the exposure would be a matter of several hours.

I have found no plate to beat the Imperial

Sovereign for ordinary work. It is rated about 150 Watkins, and possesses a tremendous latitude as regards exposure. Such a plate would be used for photographing a red, orange, yellow, black, or brown stamp printed on white or blue paper. No screen would, of course, be used with it.

As an orthochromatic plate for use with an orange, pink, yellow, or green screen, I have found the Ilford Rapid Isochromatic very good. It is rated about 90 Watkins, and may be developed by an ordinary deep ruby light; but it is better not to let direct rays from the dark-room lamp fall upon it. Instead of the Ilford plate, the Lumière Ortho. A may be used; this latter is the same speed as the Ilford, and is highly sensitive to yellow and green.

I have said that the above two plates are suitable for use with an orange screen, but if the orange is very deep, it is better to use a Lumière Ortho. B, which is highly sensitive to red, but practically insensitive to deep green. The exposure would have to be about half as long again as for the A plate, and development must be carried out in a shaded green light.

If a stamp is met with showing such a combination of colours that no screen or plate seems to give a good result, you will be surprised, and well repaid for the extra trouble involved, if you try a Lumière Ortho. C plate, with an orange screen. This plate is almost panchromatic, as it is sensitive to practically the whole of the spectrum. A very feeble light must be used in the dark room. Dr. Miethe has invented a special light filter for this purpose, composed of a deep green and a deep red screen. Even then care should be taken that no direct light falls on the plate during the earlier stages of development.

Before concluding this chapter I would like to ask my readers not to imagine that all these plates are necessary for everyday use. Almost anything can be photographed by means of the Imperial, Ilford, and Lumière B; and the latter is wanted but rarely.

(To be continued.)

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.,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

Specialism

By R. E. R. DALWIGK

IN these days of ever-increasing new issues it is practically impossible for collectors—except the most wealthy—to collect—as was the case a few years ago—every stamp issued by the numerous stamp-issuing countries of the world. In course of time this has necessitated a change, and philatelists are now beginning to realize that stamp collecting—like all collecting—as it gets older is always increasing in magnitude. The collector's first step, therefore, was to reduce his collection by collecting only British Colonials and utterly discarding all the stamps of the rest of the world. This was all very well for some time, but the time soon appeared when the modest philatelist saw that even only all British Colonials were assuming proportions far beyond his reach. The question naturally arose—"What shall I collect?" The third stage of Philately then commenced, that of collecting groups, continents, or separate countries, the stage in which we are now standing. Briefly this is how we have come to specialism, or in other words the choosing of our pet country or countries. The actual word "specialism" to many collectors and novices seems, unfortunately, to convey quite an erroneous meaning. There are not a few specialists extant who have got some idea into their heads that to specialize means to collect every single specimen of their country or group, utterly regardless as to whether they already possess copies of that particular stamp or not!

Specialism does *not* mean collecting several copies of every stamp, unless the so-called specialist be a dealer; but means collecting every variety, no matter how minute the differences are so long as to the specialist they are distinct varieties. What a collection of stamps some "gloaters" would have to discard if they kept strictly by this rule! In stamp collecting, as in almost everything in life, "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing," as beginners who read articles on stamps—without understanding them—must find.

It is certain that unless a person has some idea of the subject about which he is reading he is probably if anything doing himself considerable harm by its perusal. In short, a specialist collects specimens of his groups which differ in watermark, perforation, colour, paper, printing, and any other microscopic varieties which his purse will allow. This branch of Philately can, of course, be extended and broadened out to almost any degree, according to the money one can put aside for one's hobby. Our more wealthy

friends, the Great Moguls, collect blocks of two, four, and in some cases complete sheets, just as the stamps were originally issued to the public. Another section is to reconstruct sheets with used stamps, taking care to put all rare varieties in the positions they held in the original sheets (that is to say, if their positions are known). All this greatly adds to the appearance of a highly specialized country, and shows us clearly to what an art and science Philately has now attained.

The first essential for a beginner at specialism is to gain as much knowledge as he possibly can about the stamps he is going in for in particular. Without any philatelic knowledge, it is quite impossible for any collector to make up a good collection; knowledge is the foundation-stone for all collectors. The reason of this is apparent at once. The general collector is not capable of thoroughly understanding the issues of every country (that would, indeed, be a well-nigh impossible accomplishment); whilst on the other hand the collector who has only his own particular group naturally soon becomes thoroughly acquainted with all the varieties and everything worth looking for amongst his favourites. There are some who would pass this over without thinking what a very great thing it is to be well acquainted with one's hobby; yet no true lover of the art of Philately should collect stamps if he does not understand all their little peculiarities and fully appreciate them.

To specialize thoroughly is a hobby that requires both time and money, and, most important of all, absolutely untiring energy.

When a collector first starts specializing he has many small obstacles and hindrances which stare him in the face and may even at the commencement somewhat damp his ardour. The chief difficulty that first presents itself is undoubtedly concerning the catalogue. What I mean is this: a specialist gets a good standard catalogue (Gibbons preferably) which provides a basis for arrangement of his stamps; all goes well for a time until the collector discovers that there are many of *his* varieties left out of the catalogue altogether. This unwelcome discovery has come to all of us at some time or other, and there is only one remedy—knowledge and experience. This is certainly the great charm of this branch of Philately, as after our once tiresome start has been made we find, to our delight, that we soon know as much, and in many cases much more, about our "specials" than our older and more experienced fellow collectors. When once you have begun to specialize and got to know the elements of

this delightful hobby, then experience and further information seem to come to one almost without one's own knowledge. There are always the various surcharges called for by stamps running short. These provisionals in nearly every case offer a "happy hunting-ground" for stamp collectors; they require more accurate study than anything else to be met with by a diligent philatelist. It is comparatively *very* rare to find errors or anything out of the common in the ordinary printing of a stamp; but when surcharges are applied to the same, the story takes quite a different turn.

There is another set of stamps which wise philatelists buy up whenever they come on the market—these are proofs, colour-trials, and essays. Many specialists—especially the younger branch—pay very little attention to these very rare specimens. No specialized collection, however rich it may be in ordinary issued stamps, can be called complete unless it possess at least a few proofs or colour-trials. There is no doubt whatever that in a few years proofs will be the highest branch of collecting, and by that time people will realize how extremely rare several proofs are. Many people would probably be much surprised at hearing that several proofs are so very rare as to make a "Post Office" Mauritius quite a common stamp!

Those who specialize seriously must also collect forgeries and reprints, as they are interesting to show the various attempts made by unscrupulous persons to put counterfeits of rarer stamps on the market. These stamp forgeries, if taken up, will be found to form quite an interesting branch of Philately, even if they do no more than teach the collector the differences between original and forgery. Perhaps collecting Fiscals and Revenue stamps adds to the appearance of a good collection; but, all the same, there is much to be said against the collecting of this type of label, which was issued by several countries with the sole intention of catching unwary philatelists into purchasing large quantities for speculation purposes.

My plan in the following pages is to run through some of the most popular and best countries in which to specialize, and I will endeavour to the best of my ability to point out whether the countries are high-priced or complicated as to papers, etc., so as to give a fair idea of the merits of various countries to would-be specialists. It is only natural that one recommends one's own favourites, so I shall lay special stress on all the British West Indies, which are a very interesting little group as regards their stamp issues.

(To be continued.)

Abyssinia

By FREDERIC C. LUTHY

REFERRING to the article about Abyssinia in Vol. VI of this journal (p.348), I think the following would be of interest to stamp collectors.

Since the founding of Djibouti the French influence has much increased in Abyssinia. The numerous caravans from the interior of this country take their way to the new French port, instead of to Zeila as before. Emperor Menelik II had rich presents from the European Legations; once the French Governor Lagarde brought 100,000 fire-arms of latest designs to the capital.

In 1896 the construction of the railway from Djibouti to Diré-Daouah was begun by a French society. Much British capital was engaged therein. Though France pays a subvention of 500,000 francs annually for this railway, it has always to face financial difficulties. The line could not be continued up to Addis-Abeba, and the French society several times sold obligations to the Ethiopian Railway Trust (London), and was on the point of becoming Anglicized. To prevent this the Ethiopian Convention was signed the 3rd December, 1906, by France, England, and Italy. France will now build

the railway up to the capital (500 km.); from thence it will be continued to the valley of the Nile by England. In the last few years the French influence has much diminished in favour of Great Britain. A proof of this is the opening of the Bank of Abyssinia, more or less ruled by the National Bank of Egypt. Just now there are grave difficulties between Menelik and the French Government.

At all events, Abyssinia has a great postal future. First there were French and Italian offices maintained by the respective Legations. French offices exist still in Addis-Abeba, Harar, and Diré-Daouah. A regular postal and telegraph service was introduced by Minister Ilg at his private cost and risk. He engaged the officials—Swiss, French, and Greek. Till a year ago the postal administration was his private property, then it was taken over by the State. Twice a week there is communication between the French Somali coast and Diré-Daouah by rail, the train leaving Djibouti at six o'clock in the morning, and arriving at six in the evening. The next important office is that of Harar, where the famous Ras Maconen lived.

Specialism

By R. E. R. DALWIGK

IN these days of ever-increasing new issues it is practically impossible for collectors—except the most wealthy—to collect—as was the case a few years ago—every stamp issued by the numerous stamp-issuing countries of the world. In course of time this has necessitated a change, and philatelists are now beginning to realize that stamp collecting—like all collecting—as it gets older is always increasing in magnitude. The collector's first step, therefore, was to reduce his collection by collecting only British Colonials and utterly discarding all the stamps of the rest of the world. This was all very well for some time, but the time soon appeared when the modest philatelist saw that even only all British Colonials were assuming proportions far beyond his reach. The question naturally arose—"What shall I collect?" The third stage of Philately then commenced, that of collecting groups, continents, or separate countries, the stage in which we are now standing. Briefly this is how we have come to specialism, or in other words the choosing of our pet country or countries. The actual word "specialism" to many collectors and novices seems, unfortunately, to convey quite an erroneous meaning. There are not a few specialists extant who have got some idea into their heads that to specialize means to collect every single specimen of their country or group, utterly regardless as to whether they already possess copies of that particular stamp or not!

Specialism does *not* mean collecting several copies of every stamp, unless the so-called specialist be a dealer; but means collecting every variety, no matter how minute the differences are so long as to the specialist they are distinct varieties. What a collection of stamps some "gloaters" would have to discard if they kept strictly by this rule! In stamp collecting, as in almost everything in life, "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing," as beginners who read articles on stamps—without understanding them—must find.

It is certain that unless a person has some idea of the subject about which he is reading he is probably if anything doing himself considerable harm by its perusal. In short, a specialist collects specimens of his groups which differ in watermark, perforation, colour, paper, printing, and any other microscopic varieties which his purse will allow. This branch of Philately can, of course, be extended and broadened out to almost any degree, according to the money one can put aside for one's hobby. Our more wealthy

friends, the Great Moguls, collect blocks of two, four, and in some cases complete sheets, just as the stamps were originally issued to the public. Another section is to reconstruct sheets with used stamps, taking care to put all rare varieties in the positions they held in the original sheets (that is to say, if their positions are known). All this greatly adds to the appearance of a highly specialized country, and shows us clearly to what an art and science Philately has now attained.

The first essential for a beginner at specialism is to gain as much knowledge as he possibly can about the stamps he is going in for in particular. Without any philatelic knowledge, it is quite impossible for any collector to make up a good collection; knowledge is the foundation-stone for all collectors. The reason of this is apparent at once. The general collector is not capable of thoroughly understanding the issues of every country (that would, indeed, be a well-nigh impossible accomplishment), whilst on the other hand the collector who has only his own particular group naturally soon becomes thoroughly acquainted with all the varieties and everything worth looking for amongst his favourites. There are some who would pass this over without thinking what a very great thing it is to be well acquainted with one's hobby; yet no true lover of the art of Philately should collect stamps if he does not understand all their little peculiarities and fully appreciate them.

To specialize thoroughly is a hobby that requires both time and money, and, most important of all, absolutely untiring energy.

When a collector first starts specializing he has many small obstacles and hindrances which stare him in the face and may even at the commencement somewhat damp his ardour. The chief difficulty that first presents itself is undoubtedly concerning the catalogue. What I mean is this: a specialist gets a good standard catalogue (Gibbons preferably) which provides a basis for arrangement of his stamps; all goes well for a time until the collector discovers that there are many of *his* varieties left out of the catalogue altogether. This unwelcome discovery has come to all of us at some time or other, and there is only one remedy—knowledge and experience. This is certainly the great charm of this branch of Philately, as after our once tiresome start has been made we find, to our delight, that we soon know as much, and in many cases much more, about our "specials" than our older and more experienced fellow collectors. When once you have begun to specialize and got to know the elements of

this delightful hobby, then experience and further information seem to come to one almost without one's own knowledge. There are always the various surcharges called for by stamps running short. These provisionals in nearly every case offer a "happy hunting-ground" for stamp collectors; they require more accurate study than anything else to be met with by a diligent philatelist. It is comparatively *very* rare to find errors or anything out of the common in the ordinary printing of a stamp; but when surcharges are applied to the same, the story takes quite a different turn.

There is another set of stamps which wise philatelists buy up whenever they come on the market—these are proofs, colour-trials, and essays. Many specialists—especially the younger branch—pay very little attention to these very rare specimens. No specialized collection, however rich it may be in ordinary issued stamps, can be called complete unless it possess at least a few proofs or colour-trials. There is no doubt whatever that in a few years proofs will be the highest branch of collecting, and by that time people will realize how extremely rare several proofs are. Many people would probably be much surprised at hearing that several proofs are so very rare as to make a "Post Office" Mauritius quite a common stamp!

Those who specialize seriously must also collect forgeries and reprints, as they are interesting to show the various attempts made by unscrupulous persons to put counterfeits of rarer stamps on the market. These stamp forgeries, if taken up, will be found to form quite an interesting branch of Philately, even if they do no more than teach the collector the differences between original and forgery. Perhaps collecting Fiscals and Revenue stamps adds to the appearance of a good collection; but, all the same, there is much to be said against the collecting of this type of label, which was issued by several countries with the sole intention of catching unwary philatelists into purchasing large quantities for speculation purposes.

My plan in the following pages is to run through some of the most popular and best countries in which to specialize, and I will endeavour to the best of my ability to point out whether the countries are high-priced or complicated as to papers, etc., so as to give a fair idea of the merits of various countries to would-be specialists. It is only natural that one recommends one's own favourites, so I shall lay special stress on all the British West Indies, which are a very interesting little group as regards their stamp issues.

(To be continued.)

Abyssinia

By FREDERIC C. LUTHY

REFERRING to the article about Abyssinia in Vol. VI of this journal (p. 348), I think the following would be of interest to stamp collectors.

Since the founding of Djibouti the French influence has much increased in Abyssinia. The numerous caravans from the interior of this country take their way to the new French port, instead of to Zeila as before. Emperor Menelik II had rich presents from the European Legations; once the French Governor Lagarde brought 100,000 fire-arms of latest designs to the capital.

In 1896 the construction of the railway from Djibouti to Diré-Daouah was begun by a French society. Much British capital was engaged therein. Though France pays a subvention of 500,000 francs annually for this railway, it has always to face financial difficulties. The line could not be continued up to Addis-Abeba, and the French society several times sold obligations to the Ethiopian Railway Trust (London), and was on the point of becoming Anglicized. To prevent this the Ethiopian Convention was signed the 3rd December, 1906, by France, England, and Italy. France will now build

the railway up to the capital (500 km.); from thence it will be continued to the valley of the Nile by England. In the last few years the French influence has much diminished in favour of Great Britain. A proof of this is the opening of the Bank of Abyssinia, more or less ruled by the National Bank of Egypt. Just now there are grave difficulties between Menelik and the French Government.

At all events, Abyssinia has a great postal future. First there were French and Italian offices maintained by the respective Legations. French offices exist still in Addis-Abeba, Harar, and Diré-Daouah. A regular postal and telegraph service was introduced by Minister Ilg at his private cost and risk. He engaged the officials—Swiss, French, and Greek. Till a year ago the postal administration was his private property, then it was taken over by the State. Twice a week there is communication between the French Somali coast and Diré-Daouah by rail, the train leaving Djibouti at six o'clock in the morning, and arriving at six in the evening. The next important office is that of Harar, where the famous Ras Maconen lived.

Following a very bad route of 500 km. over mountains, through deep valleys, and over rivers, couriers bring the postal bags and parcels to the capital. At the stations men and mules are changed in order to proceed during the night, the whole journey occupying a week. Natives make little use of the postal arrangements; these are specially for the Legations, the European and Indian merchants, and for tourists, who in ever-increasing number pay a visit to the "African Switzerland." To-day the Postmaster-

General is a Swiss; the letter and parcel post is organized. Postage for letters can only be paid to Djibouti, the addressee having to pay an additional tax. A postal order service has not yet been established. Abyssinia is not in the Universal Postal Union; however, it will enter as soon as it can give full guarantee for objects confided to it for transmission. For this purpose the final protocol of the Rome Convention of 1906 has been left open.

Portraits on Stamps

By BOSWELL JUNIOR

United States of America—continued

Benjamin Harrison, twenty-third President of the United States, was born in North Bend, Ohio, on 20 August, 1833. His father, a son of President Harrison, was a farmer. Benjamin therefore passed his boyhood in the usual occupation of a farmer's son. The log schoolhouse fronting on the Ohio River provided him with his early education. Later, he went to Farmer's College, near Cincinnati, and then to Miami University, where he graduated in 1852. He entered the law office of Storer and Gwynne in Cincinnati, and married Miss Caroline Scott in October, 1853. Six months later he settled in Indianapolis and sought practice as an attorney-at-law. Through the influence of friends he was soon appointed crier of the Federal Court.

Harrison's first entry into active politics took place in 1860 in connection with his nomination by the Republicans for the office of reporter of the Supreme Court. His rapidly increasing reputation as an orator led to his election.

At the outbreak of the Civil War he assisted in raising the 70th Indiana Regiment, in which he was made second lieutenant. On the completion of the regiment Harrison was appointed colonel and given the right of Ward's brigade, which

position was occupied by the 70th Indiana throughout the war. After a long spell of guarding railroads and fighting guerillas he was placed in command of his brigade, and took part in the campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta.

Harrison's gallantry at Peach Tree Creek led to his being recommended for promotion to the rank of brigadier-general of volunteers, which rank was conferred upon him, to date from January, 1865. "Little Ben," as his men delighted to speak of him, was greatly beloved by his subordinates, and many of his acts of kindness to them have been related. On the conclusion of the war he resumed his duties as reporter of the Supreme Court until his term of office expired. He then settled down to legal practice, and took little part in politics until 1876, when he reluctantly allowed himself to be nominated Governor of Indiana. His nomination was defeated.

In 1880 President Garfield offered General Harrison a place in his Cabinet, which he declined. In the elections the Republicans regained control of the Indiana legislature and chose Harrison as senator. His career in the Senate was marked by the delivery of numerous speeches on subjects of general interest. In July, 1888, he was nominated for the presidency and was elected. His term of office expired in 1892. He died in 1901.



Forgeries and Reprints

How to Detect Them

By REV. ROBERT B. EARÉE

BRITISH GUIANA—continued

Issues of 1863-75. 6, 24, 48 Cents

1863. White wove paper, rather thin; perf. 12; 24 cents.

1863. Perf. 12½, 13; 6, 24, 48 cents.

1867. Same paper; perf. 10; 6, 24, 48 cents.

1875. Same paper; perf. 15; 6, 24 cents.

Genuine.—Engraved in *épargne*; paper and perforation as above. In the central circle, the fine, horizontal lines of the sky give place to two small, white clouds, to left of the ship, near the P of *PRETINUSQUE*, one large white cloud above the ship, and one small one to right of it, near the v of *VICISSIM*. The boom of the lowest sail of the left-hand mast (*mizen*) extends

horizontally, considerably to the left of the ship, and, if prolonged, would cut off about one-third of the M of DAMUS. The left-hand mast,



if prolonged upwards, would graze the left top corner of the first U of PETIMUSQUE; the central mast, prolonged, would pass centrally between the U and s of that word; and the right-hand mast, prolonged, would cut through the Q, rather to the right of its centre. The hull of the vessel has a

light, horizontal streak near the gunwale. The sea is (roughly) divided into three horizontal portions: white near the vessel, then dark in the centre, then white again, near the bottom of the circle. The dots, comprising the eight-pointed star-ornament at the base of the inscribed circle, are all more or less wedge-shaped, except the three central ones; and there is a distinct dot outside each of the long, horizontal arms. There is a stop after GUIANA, and one after CENTS, in all the values. There is an ornament just like a white v, in the left upper spandrel below the 1; and a similar, but inverted v, in the right lower spandrel, just above the 3. There is a small round white dot in the solid part, above the first U, and a similar one above the Q of PETIMUSQUE.

First Forgery.—Lithographed, on very thin, very white wove paper, badly pin-perf. 13½. The horizontal lines of the sky are coarse, and not all at equal distances apart. There is no cloud near the v of VICISSIM. The mizen-boom seems to slope downwards to the left. The left-hand mast has no visible top; the middle mast, if prolonged, would pass through the first stroke of the U, and the right-hand mast, if prolonged, would cut almost through the centre of the s of PETIMUSQUE. The sea is white near the ship, but the rest is almost all dark. The strokes forming the star-ornament, above the C of CENTS, are chiefly clumsy oblongs; and the two side ones are very strongly v-shaped. The stop after CENTS is very faint. The v in the spandrel in the left top corner is part of the floral scroll-work, and is not under the U, but midway in the space between the 1 and the 3. I have not been able to make out the inverted v above the 3 in the right lower corner; but my copy is postmarked there, so possibly there may be one. There is a very large white dot above the M of PETIMUS, and the other dot (which is above the s) is joined to the scroll-work to right of it. The last I of VICISSIM is a j. This latter fact points to a German origin for this first forgery; as the Germans have a way of putting j for i in Latin characters. In the sign-boards over the shops, for instance, one may commonly see such words as JSRAEL, DESTILLATION, etc.

Second Forgery.—Nicely lithographed, on medium, very white wove paper, fairly pin-perf. 13½. There are two very tiny clouds above the ship, instead of one large one. The boom of the lowest left-hand sail does not extend beyond the stern of the vessel. The tops of the masts are like the genuine. There is no light streak along the gunwale of the ship. The sea is uniformly composed of white, curly marks on a solid, dark background. The ornament above the C of CENTS is very different from the genuine. It is composed

of three oval dots, placed in a perpendicular row, all touching, with a v on its side, each side of the centre dot, and a coloured flaw to the left of the left-hand v. There is a v-shaped curl (but not an independent v) in the scroll, under the 1 in the left top corner, and no v above the 3 in the right bottom corner. There is a white dot above the Q of PETIMUSQUE, but none above the first U of that word.

Third Forgery.—Lithographed, on thin, greyish-white wove paper, perf. 13. Though very blotchy, the details of this forgery are extremely correct. The whole of the sky is mottled all over with white clouds. The point of the left-hand mast is not visible; and that of the central mast, prolonged, would not pass centrally between the U and s of PETIMUSQUE, but near to the s. I cannot make out any stop after GUIANA, and the stop after CENTS is very faint.

Fourth Forgery.—Very nicely lithographed, on medium, greyish-white wove paper, perf. 12. This is dangerous. The boom of the left lowest sail points above (instead of below) the middle of the M of DAMUS; and there is a white streak below the boom, and parallel with it, running to the edge of the circle, and caused by one of the lines of the background being omitted. The top of the left-hand mast, if prolonged, would cut deeply into the first U of PETIMUSQUE; and the central mast, if prolonged, would pass nearer to the U than to the s. There is a very strong white streak along the gunwale of the vessel, and the heads of the three sailors, visible in the genuine, near the bows, cannot be made out. There is a very tiny stop after GUIANA, and a large, shapeless one, after CENTS. The v under the 1 in the left top corner forms a part of the scroll-work; and there is no inverted v above the 3 in the right bottom corner. There is a large white dot above the beginning of the first U of PETIMUSQUE, and another above the beginning of the second U. There is no stop after VICISSIM.

Fifth Forgery.—Coarsely lithographed, on thick, very rough, yellowish-white wove paper, badly perf. 12. The horizontal lines of the sky are coarse, and far apart, and there are no clouds at all. There is no boom to the left lowest sail, and the point of the sail curls rather downwards. The left-hand mast, prolonged, would pass almost centrally through the first U of PETIMUSQUE; the central mast would cut into the s; and the right-hand mast would pass centrally between the letters QU of that word. Nearly the whole of the sea is solid, dark colour, and there are no large waves. There are no dots to right and left of the horizontal bars of the ornament over the C of CENTS. There is no stop after GUIANA or CENTS. The curly ornaments in the spandrels are very thin, and there is no v below the 1 or above the 3. There is no white dot above the first U of PETIMUSQUE, and above the Q, though there is a sort of comma, laid on its side, above the second U. The bowsprit, in this forgery, has no dolphin-striker. The date figures are very thin.

POSTMARKS

Genuine.—1, 2, 54, 57, 64.

First Forgery.—51.

Second Forgery.—1.

Third Forgery.—57.

Fourth Forgery.—Uncancelled.

Fifth Forgery.—6 (without numerals).

(To be continued.)

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Austria.—We have received a copy of the current 1 krone in quite a different shade of rose. This stamp was formerly rose on slightly toned paper, but the copy we have just seen is carmine-rose on white.



Granite paper. Perf. 12½, 13. New shade.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
1 krone, carmine-rose

Bulgaria.—Mr. R. W. Wilkinson has brought to our notice the existence of two types of certain values of this country that have not been noticed up to the present.

In the 1896 issue, commemorative of the baptism of Prince Boris, there are two types of the 15 stot., violet (Catalogue No. 68): the chief point of difference lies in the "5" of the figures of value. In Type I the inner line of curve is almost straight, whereas in Type II the body of the 5 is more round. This will be seen clearly by the enlarged illustrations given below.

In the Unpaid issue of 1896 there are two types of the 5 stot., orange (Catalogue No. 227). In Type I the circle of solid colour containing the figure 5 is larger than in Type II. In Type I the word above this figure is equidistant from the line of the tablet in which it is placed; in Type II this word is nearer the line. Enlarged illustrations of these two types will also be found below.



1896 issue. Wmk. "Bulgarian Arms." Perf. 13.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
68 [15 st., violet (I) 0 5
68a [15 st., violet (II) 0 5



I. II.
Unpaid. 1896 issue. Wmk. "Bulgarian Arms."
Perf. 13. s. d. s. d.
227 [5 st., orange (I) 0 2
227a [5 st., orange (II) 0 2

Cuba.—Our New York house sends us another value, the 5 c., on the no watermark paper; like the other three values, it is from a retouched die. The illustrations below show the top portions of the original (G), and the retouched stamp (H), considerably enlarged. The more noticeable points of difference are as follows:—

Original.

In the top, left-hand corner, the inner line of the frame is curved on the left-hand side.

In the top, right-hand corner, the prongs of the trident have horizontal lines of shading between them.

Both upper corners of the whitetablet containing the word CUBA are free from shading.

Retouch.

The inner line is quite straight.

There is no shading between the prongs of the trident.

In both corners is a small, coloured right angle (like this).

We have also received a supply of the retouched 10 c., brown (Catalogue No. 118), which is exactly as described in the Catalogue.—We include it in brackets in the list below.





G



H

	<i>Retouched die. No wmk.</i>		<i>Perf. 12.</i>	
			Unused.	Used.
			s. d.	s. d.
5 c., deep blue (H)			1 0 4	—
[10 c., brown]			0 8	—

Federated Malay States.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (11.1.08) informs us that the \$1, green and pale green, was issued on multiple-watermarked, chalk-surfaced paper, about the beginning of November, 1907.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper. Perf. 14.
\$1, green and pale green

Italy.—We have just received a new 25 c., issued on 1 January; it somewhat resembles the 15 c., slate, of the 1906 issue, but the design consists of a profile head of King Victor Emmanuel II, turned to the left instead of to the right. This stamp appears to be surface-printed, on paper similar to that used for the latest 5 c. and 10 c.: as usual the watermark is a Crown and the perforation is 14.

We have just referred to the Crown watermark: this is illustrated as Type 7 in the Catalogue, but we find that that illustration does not resemble the watermark very closely. It is very difficult to make accurate illustrations of watermarks, and we think that this particular one is a failure. We now give an illustration below which is far more accurate than the old one, and which applies not only to the new 25 c., but to all the watermark stamps of the kingdom of Italy.



(a) Incorrect illustration.



(b) Correct illustration.

Wmk. Crown, as illustrated (b). Perf. 14.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

25 c., blue 0 4 —

New Zealand.—Mr. A. A. Dignan draws our attention to an incorrect illustration in our issue of 4 January. We inadvertently illustrated.



the 4d., rose, instead of the 4d., indigo and brown. The correct illustration is given herewith.

Nicaragua.—Inventive minds are still hard at work on the provisional issues of this country. Our New York house forwards us four new Officials, all overprinted on the 1 c., green, Waterlow print. The disfiguration consists of the word OFICIAL in one line, and the value in another, both reading up. So far we have received a 15 c., 20 c., and 50 c., in black, the value being in figures; and a 1 peso, in red, expressed in words—UN PESO. No doubt other values will soon be issued. All the copies we have received are postmarked 30 November, 1907.



OFICIAL OFICIAL

50 cvs.

UN PESO

a

b

Officials. Waterlow print, overprinted as above in black (except the 1 peso, which is in red). Perf. 14, 15.

			Unused.	Used.
			s. d.	s. d.
15 c. on 1 c., green (a)			—	—
20 c. " 1 c. " (a)			—	—
50 c. " 1 c. " (a)			—	—
1 p. " 1 c. " (b)			—	—

Switzerland.—Baron A. de Reuterskiold sends us the 20 c., 30 c., and 40 c., on "granite" paper, which we referred to in our issue of 4 January. The 20 c. and 30 c. are the old type of Helvetia, as in the 1905 issue, but the 40 c. is the retouched type, with the square "o" in the figures of value. All three stamps have the watermark "Multiple Cross," and curiously enough are perforated 1 1/2 x 12, similarly to the 1882-99 issue.

Mr. Fred. C. Luthy sends us three more values in the new designs. The 2 c. and 3 c. show the

caricature of William Tell's son, and the 15 c. resembles the new 10 c. These stamps are all on granite paper, and are perforated 11½. Like the 5 c. and 10 c. they have the "Multiple Cross" watermark, but it is well-nigh impossible to see it without the application of benzine or alcohol, and even then it cannot always be distinguished on used stamps.

Of the 2 c. we have been able to secure a supply, but the 3 c. and 15 c. are still very difficult to obtain, whilst the 5 c. and 10 c. can only be purchased in booklets, and that only at some post offices.



a



b



Granite paper. Wmk. "Multiple Cross." Perf. 11½ x 12.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
20 c., orange (a)	0 3	—
30 c., light brown (a)	0 5	—
40 c., pearl-grey (b) [redrawn]	0 6	—



c



d

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Answers to Correspondents

W. v. B. (Pretoria).—Many thanks for new shade of 2½d., which we will pass on to our "New Issue Department." The minor variety in the Transvaal ½d. on 2d. is probably due to defective inking, and is not of sufficient importance to be listed. Stamps returned by post on 7 January last.

C. F. H. (Coventry).—Thanks for note about Cayman Isles provisionals, but both of these have been described in this paper. We have been selling the ½d. on 1d. at 2s. 6d. each, but did not secure enough to distribute through our New Issue service.

L. D. L. (Muswell Hill).—We have no inten-

Granite paper. Wmk. as above. Perf. 11½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 c., olive-yellow (c)	0 1	—
3 c., red-brown (c)	0 1	—
15 c., mauve (d)	—	—

Tasmania.—In our stock we have found a few copies of the 2d., purple, watermark Crown and double-lined A, perforated 12½ and 11 compound. This combination was only to be expected, as it is well known that perforating machines gauging both 12½ and 11 are in use simultaneously.

We have also found a copy of the 2d., violet, perforated 12½, with the watermark V over Crown, upright instead of sideways. This is an interesting variety, but we make a practice of not listing this class of variety of watermark.



Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12½ compound with 11. 2d., purple 2 6 —

Transvaal.—We have seen a copy of the 1cs., black and purple on red, on multiple, unsurfaced paper.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Ordinary paper. 1cs., black and purple on red — — —

tion of publishing a book dealing with the subjects you mention.

H. L. H. (Hampstead).—Am very glad to hear that you think the *Weekly* so much improved, and that you appreciate the new cover. Unfortunately, it weighs heavier than the old one, and with the wrapper just exceeded the limit of ½d. postage. As we cannot afford to pay several pounds a week extra for postage, we had to instruct our printers to cut down the edges, and they were rather drastic in No. 2 of the current volume.

H. N. F. (Norfolk) writes as follows about Packet No. 68: "How such good-value stamps can be sold at so low a price I am unable to understand."

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 5
Whole No. 161

1 FEBRUARY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

France—continued

NO other values were issued with the laureated head until April, 1867, when the 20 c. made its appearance along with a new value—that of 30 c. This value was created specially for samples, but was used amongst other purposes for the postage on letters to Belgium, which from 1 January, 1866, had been reduced from 40 c. to 30 c. The original 40 c. was primarily intended for registered letters, which then had to be prepaid, but for some time two 20 c. stamps answered this purpose, and the 40 c. was more often used for postage to Belgium. The design, as before, was engraved by M. Barre, and resembles the previous issues of the higher values, except that the pearls of the circle round the head are larger, and fewer in number; the Greek pattern in the frame is closer, and the inscription in the upper tablet is in full. The numerals still continue too small. The other values to complete the issue appeared as follows: 10 c., 13 November, 1867; 80 c., February, 1868; and 40 c., 15 August, 1868. Here again shades are numerous.



1867-68. Tinted paper. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 c., bistre	1 6	0 1
20 c., blue	2 0	0 1
30 c., brown	4 6	0 2
40 c., orange	12 0	0 1
80 c., rose	6 0	0 2

On 1 November, 1869, a stamp of 5 francs was issued, intended only to frank packets for foreign countries. It had long been demanded by the commercial community, and though having been reported as to "be issued shortly" several times during the previous two or three years, it was not until the above date that it made its appearance, M. Hulot, who was very autocratic, having put many obstacles in the way of the production of all these laureated issues. It was equal in size to two ordinary stamps, and

resembled a miniature bank-note, and the frame was engraved by M. Hulot. The value was overprinted separately in a darker shade on either side of the head, it being intended to use the same plate for stamps of higher values. The events of 1870 prevented this intention being carried out.



1 Nov., 1869. Tinted paper. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 fr., lilac	30 0	5 0

Before dealing with the next issues, perhaps the most fascinating of all the stamps of the country, it would be interesting to note the progress of the Post Office. According to an account of a visit to the Printing House, published in 1867, there were about sixty workmen employed, and they produced about a million and a quarter stamps daily. The production, which amounted to nineteen millions in 1849, had increased to 450 millions in 1866, which, however, was only about half the quantity produced by Great Britain in the same year.

According to official statistics, the number of letters dealt with in 1869 was 365 millions. The price paid by the Government for the stamps had been gradually reduced from 1s. 3d. to 6d. per thousand.

The Empire, at its apogee in 1861, was in 1870 tottering to its fall. Corrupt administration, luxury, the illness of the Emperor, the political intrigues of the Empress, all combined to compromise the Government. As is well known, Bismarck laid a trap into which France fell, war being declared against Germany 19 July, 1870. The history of the war and its disastrous consequences to France are matters of common knowledge. Napoleon surrendered at Sedan 2 September, 1870, and with his fall came the end of the Second Empire. The Third Republic was proclaimed two days after, and the "Government of National Defence" took

over the conduct of affairs. Negotiations with the enemy proved useless, as Germany insisted on the cession of Alsace and Lorraine, and the war had to continue, Paris itself ultimately being invested 18 September, 1870.

A good account of the effects of the war on the postal administration was recently given in this journal (see *G.S.W.*, No. 153, 7 December, 1907), so that little need be said here.

When it was seen that the siege of Paris was imminent, the Administration had dispatched to provincial offices in the south and west nearly all the stock of postage stamps in Paris, and a subsidiary headquarters for postal service was established at Tours.

There was little time to attend to the suppression of the Empire issues, but to satisfy the Republicans fresh stocks of stamps bearing the emblem of the Republic were ordered. M. Hulot was soon able to furnish supplies printed from plates of the 1848 type, which differ somewhat in colour from the earlier issue, but are easily distinguishable by being perforated instead of imperforate. The only values issued during the siege were the 10 c. and 20 c. in October, and the 40 c. in December of 1870. Though first issued thus during the siege, these values continued to be printed for several years, and they show, the 40 c. particularly, considerable variety as to shade. The *tête-beche* varieties of the 10 c. and 20 c. naturally exist, seeing that the printings were from the same plates as before.



Oct.-Dec., 1870. Head of Ceres. Perf. 14x13½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
10 c., bistre	2	0	0	6
20 c., blue	1	3	0	1
40 c., orange	1	6	0	1

Paris was so closely invested that communication with outside places was cut off, and the attempts to continue the postal service by means of balloons and pigeon-posts make fascinating reading. The history of these and other devices hardly comes within the scope of this article, but would form a most interesting subject for readers of the *Weekly*.

One of the earliest results of this close investment was a shortage of postage stamps in the provinces, owing to the impossibility of obtaining fresh supplies from the Mint at Paris, then the only place of manufacture. The Director of Posts at Tours was compelled to seek another source of production.

The "Bordeaux Issue" was the result. The Director of the Mint at Bordeaux, M. Delebecque, undertook the work, which was begun on 5 November, and a full series of stamps was printed and issued. A 20 c. value of the Paris issue served as a pattern, and the stamps were produced by lithography. The 20 c. was the first value supplied, it being the most in demand, and there were several attempts before a satisfactory result was arrived at. Except for one trial stone for the 20 c., all the matrix stones were prepared by M. Yon, whose name appears in minute letters on the right-hand leaf, above the bunch of grapes. The frame of the values from 5 c. to 80 c. closely follows that of the 1848 issue, but collectors will have no difficulty in separating the 10 c. and 40 c. values, the only two that can be confused. Specialists divide the 20 c. into four types. There were nine values, the 1 c., 2 c., and 4 c. having a frame similar to that of the laureated issue with large figures. The sheets were composed of 300 stamps, in two panes of 150 each (ten rows of fifteen), and were printed on paper obtained from the same manufacturers who supplied the paper for the Paris stamps, Messrs. Lacroix at Angoulême. The colours of the stamps vary considerably, and this is attributable to the difficulty there was of finding proper colours in Bordeaux. The paper was tinted before printing similarly to that of other issues.

The printing (the total being about 123 millions) continued without interruption till 18 March, 1871, when instructions were given for the destruction of the remainders. This, however, was not carried out until some months later, the Commune insurrection in Paris giving rise to fears that further irregularities in the postal service might occur.



Nov. 1870-Mar. 1871. Lithographed. Imperf.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., bronze-green	0	6	1	0
2 c., red-brown	3	6	3	0
4 c., grey	3	6	4	0
5 c., green	2	6	0	8
10 c., bistre	10	0	0	6
20 c., blue	10	0	0	2
30 c., brown	3	0	1	9
40 c., orange	3	0	1	0
80 c., rose	2	6	2	3

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Cornelius Wrinkle on Specialism

IN the *Postage Stamp* of 11 January my old friend "C. W." has some notes upon the burden on the catalogues caused by the multitude of new issues, and with most of his remarks I am in accord.

There is, however, one paragraph in his article which I believe to be entirely wrong. He says "specialism is being rapidly narrowed, year after year, to a few choice countries."

"C. W." may find this so in his home remote from London, where he is out of touch with the bulk of collectors throughout the world, but if he could be only one month in our office he would find that specialism is growing far greater day by day, and its scope is being extended to almost every country in the world:

We who write about collecting cannot do so with authority unless we know what is going on, not only in our own country, but also throughout this great world in which we live.

I can assure "C. W." that specialism is flourishing everywhere where stamps are collected, and instead of its scope "being rapidly narrowed year by year to a few choice countries," it has extended to even the most *unpopular countries*, because what we British term "unpopular countries" are the really popular countries in other parts of the world; for instance, here in England not many people specialize in German stamps, but in Germany there are hundreds, nay thousands, of collectors who won't have anything but German. In Italy the bulk of collectors want Italian stamps, and we have recently made big sales of unused stamps, rare postmarks, etc., to Italian collectors. In France the stamps of France and of all her numerous colonies are always specialized. In Russia there are great demands for stamps of Russia, Finland, Wenden, and Levant. In South and Central America there are hundreds of specialists in such countries as Chili, Brazil, Buenos Ayres, Peru, Colombia, etc., and books of such countries that we send out there come back stripped. In the United States there are hundreds of collectors who only want stamps of their own country and of the Philippines, Hawaii, Cuba, Porto Rico, etc., and over there now I find that much specialism is going on in such countries as Nicaragua, Guatemala, Salvador, Ecuador, etc.

In fact, to sum up, I confidently assert that specialism has never before been upon such a broad basis, or applied to so many countries as is the case at the present time.

The Recent Holland Provisionals

IN this number I print an interesting letter from Mr. Leon de Raay, of Amsterdam, giving the history of these stamps and his opinion of their reissue.

I must confess that I do not agree with his conclusions. What are the facts? The postal authorities had a small remainder of special stamps on hand: to get rid of them they surcharged them with *higher* values, a thing foolish in itself, as a stamp should never be *raised* in value by means of a surcharge but always lowered, or there is a tendency to encourage fraud. These higher values were issued as Postage Due stamps, for which there certainly was no postal demand. The issue was small, and both postal officials and dealers bought up all they could get, and I believe that some parcels offered to my firm were at the rate of about twenty times face value. The authorities heard of this speculation and took prompt and, I think, correct steps to smash it by issuing an enormous number of all values but one. Just the same thing has occurred several times with British Colonials—the latest occasion being the Kingston Relief stamps issued at Barbados. This is certainly the best means of killing speculation by Government or postal officials, and I, for my part, am always glad to see it adopted.

Of course, those growl who are hit, but let them refuse to pay twenty or thirty times face for stuff just obsolete, and nine times out of ten they will obtain it later on at a much lower price. We can all of us pick out cases where temporary issues keep on rising in value, but these exceptions do not prove that my statements are not true in most cases.

Dealers as Government Detectives

The *Colonial Office Journal* for January says: "It is only fair to acknowledge the valuable services which have been rendered to the Colonies by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., Mr. H. L. Ewen, and other stamp dealers, who have brought many cases of manipulation to the notice of the authorities. It is a considerable safeguard to the colonial revenues that so close a scrutiny is being constantly applied by philatelists to stamps, and it may be confidently asserted that without their aid it would be possible for fraud to escape detection for a considerable time."

£825 for a Stamp

AMERICA'S leading collector has just secured a great treasure. He has paid £825 for the Postmaster's Stamp issued at Alexandria,

Virginia, in 1846. This is a 5 c., black on blue, illustrated on page 573 of our 1908 Catalogue, "Foreign Countries." This stamp is much rarer than the "Post Office" Mauritius. About fifteen each of the 1d. and 2d. are known of these, but of the Alexandria I know of only three on buff paper and this unique stamp on blue.

The Junior Exhibition

I HEAR that the Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, M.P., Postmaster-General, has consented to

open the Exhibition of Postage Stamps to be held by the Junior Philatelic Society at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on 12 March next

The Exhibition will remain open three days, and it is anticipated that 20,000 stamp collectors will visit it. Admission will be by ticket, which may be obtained free from the Hon. Secretary of the Exhibition Committee, 44 Fleet Street, E.C.

Twentieth Century Colonials

**A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901-June, 1907)**

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

Great Britain—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

Cyprus—continued

Shade.

ANOTHER scarce stamp of the Single watermark series is the 6 piastres, which is valued at the present moment at 6s., of which stamp, although a comparatively large number were printed, the majority were employed in franking the way-bills of the various post offices on the island, and were subsequently destroyed, together with the forms to which they were affixed.

The series contained ten values, as follows:—

1903-4.

Design. Profile of King Edward VII. Wmk. Crown CA (single). Perf. 14.

Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., in London.

The name and value, in the second colour given, are inserted at a second operation from a separate plate.

- ½ piastre, green and carmine (issued January, 1903).
- 30 paras, mauve and green (issued February, 1903).
- 1 piastre, carmine and ultramarine (issued September, 1903).
- 2 piastres, blue and marone (issued February 3rd, 1903).
- 4 piastres, olive-green and mauve (issued September, 1903).
- 6 piastres, sepia and green (issued September, 1903).
- 9 piastres, brown and carmine (issued May 30th, 1904).
- 12 piastres, red-brown and black (issued April, 1903).
- 18 piastres, black and brown (issued May 30th, 1904).
- 45 piastres, brown-purple and ultramarine (issued October, 1903).

The following variety of shade may be noted:—

4 piastres, olive-green and violet instead of mauve.

The above stamps were printed in sheets of 240; four panes of 60; ten rows of 6. The margins of the sheets were water-marked with the inscription CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES reading up on the left and down on the right-hand side of the sheets on the outside, and across the centre of the sheets the words CROWN AGENTS. Watermarked crosses were placed at each corner of the sheets and also opposite the centre margin of the sheet between the words FOR and THE of the inscription. At each corner of the sheets, printed on the margin, was the plate-number "Q" in white upon a solid ground of colour enclosed within a small coloured circle, the colour being that in which the value of the stamps was printed. Each complete pane was surrounded by a narrow Jubilee line, also in the colour of the name and value of the stamp. The above description applies to practically all British Colonial stamps with the Single Crown CA watermark, printed in sheets of 240, and I shall therefore make no further mention of it in connection therewith.

During 1904-5 the whole of the above series appeared with the Multiple Crown CA watermark, the last value to be issued being the 12 piastres in May, 1905. A new stamp of the denomination of 10 paras was added to the set in January, 1907. It will be observed that the date given for the issue of the 9 piastre value is identical for

both the Single and Multiple watermark. This is accounted for by the fact that the first supply of this stamp sent out to the island was composed partly of Single and partly of Multiple watermark stamps, no attempt being made to separate the two papers.

1904-7.

Designs, perforation, and paper as before. Wmk. Multiple Crown C A, unsurfaced paper. Name and value in second colour given.

- ½ piastre, green and carmine (issued July 1st, 1904).
- 30 paras, purple and green (issued July 1st, 1904).
- 1 piastre, carmine and ultramarine (issued Nov., 1904).
- 2 piastres, ultramarine and marone (issued Nov., 1904).
- 4 „ olive-green and mauve (issued Feb., 1905).
- 6 „ sepia and green (issued July 17th, 1904).
- 9 „ brown and carmine (issued May 30th, 1904).
- 10 „ orange-yellow and dark green (issued Feb. 15th, 1907).
- 12 „ red-brown and black (issued Ap., 1905).
- 18 „ black and brown (issued June 15th, 1904).
- 45 „ brown-purple and ultramarine (issued Aug. 21st, 1904).

The above are printed in sheets of 120. Two panes of 60, side by side, containing ten rows of 6 stamps. The sheets have no marginal inscriptions, but plate numbers and Jubilee lines are as before. Supplies of the 18 and 45 piastres values dispatched to the colony since October, 1905, are, however, in sheets of 60 stamps only.

Shade.

The following variation in the shade of the 30 paras denomination of the above series has lately been discovered:

- 30 paras, mauve, instead of purple and green.

Gibraltar

Gibraltar is an isolated rock on the southwest coast of Spain, lying at the entrance to the Mediterranean Sea, and commanding the famous Straits of the same name. It is three miles in length and three-quarters of a mile broad, and rises to a height of 1408 feet above the sea level; a low, sandy isthmus connects it with the Spanish province of Andalusia.

"The Rock," as Gibraltar is familiarly called, is without doubt the most famous fortress in the whole world, and is so strongly fortified that it is said to be impregnable. It is a British naval coaling-station, and was until quite recently the headquarters of the Atlantic fleet. Gibraltar is known as the key to the Mediterranean. A large military force, numbering over 6000 men, is maintained on the Rock. There is a magnificent

harbour, which has recently been greatly improved, one of the chief features of which is the famous lighthouse at Europa Point, over 150 feet high, the light from which is visible for a distance of over twenty miles. The naval dockyard is capable of containing the largest ships afloat.

Apart from its strategical value, Gibraltar is of great commercial importance, and carries on an immense shipping trade with all parts of the globe. The town has been a free port since 1705, owing, it is said, to the then Sultan of Morocco, who refused to permit the exportation from his kingdom of materials needed for the construction of the fortifications unless his subjects were granted free-trade rights at the port.

It is a Crown Colony, and local government is vested in a military Governor, who until now has been also the Commander-in-Chief of the troops, but with the formation of the new military command of the Mediterranean station, the troops will be controlled from Malta, and a civil Governor will be appointed for the colony. Gibraltar is administered entirely under martial law, and no stranger is permitted to remain on shore even for one day without first obtaining a pass from the Chief of Police.

The civil inhabitants of the Rock, who number about 22,400, are mainly the descendants of Genoese settlers, the original Spanish inhabitants having migrated from the fortress on its occupation by the British.

The town of Gibraltar is situate at the foot of the Rock on the western side, and is divided into two portions, the South Town, which is built round the harbour and dockyard, and the North Town, or commercial centre.

The colony produces nothing of any commercial value, and apart from its enormous shipping trade has no other resources.

The Straits of Gibraltar have been known to navigators from time immemorial, Point Europa and Cape Ceuta, on the African coast, being named the Pillars of Hercules by the early Greeks, and were supposed by them to constitute the western boundaries of the world.

During the Moorish invasion of Spain in 711 A.D., Gibraltar was seized and fortified by a Saracen chieftain named Tarik ibn Zyad, who used it as a base of operations against the Spaniards. One of the towers of the fort erected by him still remains in preservation.

It is from this leader that Gibraltar derives its name, which is a contraction of Gebel-el-Tarik (The Hill of Tarik).

The Rock was wrested from the Moors by Ferdinand II of Castile in the year 1302, but was recaptured by the King of Fez thirty-one years later. In 1410 it fell into the hands of Yussuf, King of Granada, being

finally recovered by the Spanish in 1462, by whom it was refortified.

During the War of the Spanish Succession, the fortress was attacked and captured in 1704, after a lengthy bombardment, by a combined English and Dutch force, of which the naval contingent was commanded by the British Admiral Sir George Rooke, and the military forces by the Dutch Prince of Hesse-Darmstadt.

Gibraltar was twice besieged during the first year of the British occupation, both times unsuccessfully, and in 1779 began one of the most famous sieges in the annals of warfare, when, for the space of three years and seven months, Gibraltar was closely invested by the combined French and Spanish fleets and land forces. The defence was valiantly sustained by the garrison under the command of General Sir George Augustus

Elliott, who was afterwards created Lord Heathfield in recognition of his services. The siege was finally raised on 14 September, 1782, by a British squadron commanded by Admiral Byng. Since that time Gibraltar has remained in the hands of Great Britain, and has enjoyed complete immunity from attack.

Entered Postal Union 22 February, 1888. Stamps first issued on 1 January, 1886.

Currency.—In 1898 the currency of the colony, which had been established on the basis of the Spanish dollar, was changed to pence and shillings as a result of the depreciation of the Spanish coinage, consequent on the Spanish-American War. The Spanish dollar is still, however, the coin most in use in the colony.

(To be continued.)

British Stamps used Abroad

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP IV—continued

Colombia

A CONFEDERATION of nine States in the northern part of South America has an area of something like 500,000 square miles, but is of small importance commercially. The chief factors leading to its consideration here lie in the fact that it possesses a seaboard, both on the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, embraces the Isthmus of Panama, and consequently all mails from the west coast of South America pass through it.

On the Pacific side we have the Port of Panama; on the Atlantic, Cartagena, Colon (or Aspinwall), Santa Marta, Savanilla.

The trade is very small, and consists chiefly of exports of minerals, in which the country is very rich.

Colombia joined the Postal Union in 1881, and the operations of the British Post Office as far as the public were concerned ceased at that date. Up till about 1885 the men and officers of the fleet on duty in the Pacific continued, however, to land their mails at Panama franked with British stamps, and these received the postmark "C 35".

With the exception of Panama—which by reason of its position did a large shipping and forwarding trade—all the stamps in this group are rare.

C 35. Panama

The oldest European city of America, was founded in 1518. It is rendered important by the inter-oceanic railway which runs hence to Colon, and it is here that all mails and a large amount of merchandise are transhipped for carriage to Europe.

British stamps were first issued about

1863, and the office was closed to the public in 1881. The obliterator employed was at first the small oblong oval, and later the large upright. The large one was used in conjunction with a round date.



A dated postmark inscribed "Panama transit" was also used, but the use of this rather denotes that the stamp was affixed elsewhere and cancelled at Panama. The rate of postage was 1s. per half-ounce.

- ½d., plates 14, 15.
- 1d. ,, 72, 114, 124, 139, 177, 179, 189, 192, 193, 213.
- 1½d., plate 3.
- 2d., plates 13, 14, 15.
- 2½d., plate 1.
- 3d., plates 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 spray, 21.
- 4d., plates 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 red, 15 green, 16, 17 crown, 18.
- 6d., plates 3, 4, 5, 6 emblem, 6, 8, 9, 11, 11, 12, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 spray, 17 crown.
- 9d., plate 4 spray.
- 10d., plate 1 dark and pale. [spray]
- 1s., plates 4, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 13
- 2s., plate 1 blue, brown.
- 5s., plate 2.
- 1d. Venetian.
- 2d., rose.
- 1d. 14 dots.
- 1d. 16 dots.
- 4d., green.
- 5d., slate.

(To be continued.)

Specialism

By R. E. R. DALWIGK

EUROPE

THE postage stamps of European Powers are certainly stamps of the future, and, in fact, are already well advancing in price after their long and peaceful slumber. The continent of Europe has long been almost discarded by philatelists for reasons which are nowhere to be found. Why such magnificent old stamps — as undoubtedly many old Europeans are — have been passed over for such a long period is a puzzle which is not very easy to solve. There are many real old historic stamps of various States which are still to be had for a few pence!

Any specialist who wants to get really good-class stamps and has not an overflowing purse would do well to take up his favourite country in the form of some such old favourite as Russia or Denmark, both of which are not complicated, and still cheap, excepting a very few stamps; but even these are no exorbitant price. Perhaps as far as actual knowledge and energy are concerned, Greece is the country, although of course every individual has his own idea on such a subject. All these countries that I have mentioned are cheap, and yet profitable to those who invest. The lucky man who is endowed with spare money on a large scale cannot do better than turn his attention to the stamps of Great Britain, which possesses several very rare stamps, but has the disadvantage of being an extremely complicated country as regards its early issues. For the collector who requires several small States to study, he cannot do better than choose the many German provinces, Free towns, etc. Such stamps as Bremen, Hamburg, Bergedorf, Hanover cannot fail to interest a specialist who prefers small States, although many of these stamps are somewhat costly.

Austria.—This is quite a fair country for the specialist, as two or three of the issues have several "types." These "types" or printings are a great boon to the collector, who in his researches may come across a rare "type" at ordinary rates. The full significance of this must at once be seen in extreme cases, where Type I—let us suppose—is worth 3d., while Type II has a value of 10s.! The early issues of the country unused are nearly all fairly rare, whilst some of the other issues—notably the Newspaper stamps of 1850—are very great rarities. The yellow "Mercury" is rare, the vermilion ditto, used, according to Mr. Breitfuss, being one of the rarest stamps of Europe.

Belgium.—Another nice country. There are three stamps of the first issue which are fairly complicated in paper and perforation. This is a cheap country except for certain varieties of Issue I unused. The other stamps, though cheap, have no particular qualities to recommend them, and, taken all together, do not seem very bright or interesting.

Denmark is the favourite country of those who wish to specialize in a cheap and yet thoroughly good country in which the stamps, if not beautiful, are at least very quaint in design. The first-issued stamps were square in shape, and consisted of two values, the 2 rbs. and 4 rbs. A curious thing to notice in Danish stamps is that during its philatelic history there have been no less than three changes of currency, which changes have on each occasion necessitated a change of stamps. This continental Power, moreover, must possess a hold on the British philatelic public, seeing that our great English race has sprung from the Danes, and moreover our well-beloved Queen hails from the shores of Denmark. This, indeed, is an ideal country for the "small Moguls," and should hold a far higher position in the philatelic world than it does at the present day.

France.—This is a really fine country for the advanced philatelist, possessing a great number of varieties, also types, varieties, and microscopic lettering in great profusion. France is one of the few European Powers that at present enjoy great popularity among collectors, probably on account of the stamps being of artistic design, and also portraying fine taste and judgment with regard to colouring. This fine country has further very great attraction for the up-to-date specialist, as it possesses essays and colour-trials in great quantities. These latter, however, in the case of France are fairly common and numerous, so that even quite the modest specialist may, with a little time and trouble, procure some of these most interesting stamps. Some of the stamps run into a lot of money, especially some rare *tête-bêche* varieties occasionally encountered, also the 1 fr. "vervelle" shade. Besides the actual postage stamps there are some Tax stamps, a few of which are also quite rare and help to demonstrate that France is in many ways a rare country for collecting.

With regard to French Colonies, there are some good stamps of a few of the old issues. Many of these colonies bear surcharges on the French stamps, and consequently they

must afford wide scope for microscopic variety hunters. In the stamps of Guadeloupe there is a regular string of errors in the spelling of the name. This is, I think, the pick of French colonials, and is a good country to collect.

New Caledonia is interesting because of its military stamp, otherwise it is an uninteresting colony.

Réunion has several interesting errors in the spelling of its name, and somewhat resembles Guadeloupe.

Obock has one very great rarity, the Unpaid 5 c., black.

All the other issues of this country have curious shapes and designs; they are a good lot; but genuine originals are almost rarities of several of the issues.

Germany.—This country, if all the old towns and States be incorporated, makes a very fine country and also an extremely rare one. For the specialist who requires a large country with hundreds of intricate and scarce varieties he cannot do better than take up Germany and States. The issues of Germany itself are very cheap and form perhaps the least interesting section from a philatelic point of view. Germany without its many subdivisions is like toast minus butter—it somehow does not go down, so to speak. However, apart from actual postal issues, there are some very rare essays extant, a few, I believe, being very great rarities. There is no doubt that the early stamps do not enjoy their full market value at present, and consequently they would probably prove better than French stamps as a speculation or investment, although all issues are fairly plentiful, and it will be many years before any decided change takes place in their catalogue quotations.

In turning to the various States and Free towns we are confronted by many stamps of great rarity. Some of the most curious and not the least interesting stamps were those issued in 1870 for Alsace and Lorraine during the Franco-Prussian War. There are seven values of rather rustic design. The great thing to look out for in these stamps is the postmark on used copies, as a specialist can pick up some very rare obliterations on these stamps.

Baden.—These are an interesting little lot and include a few fairly scarce stamps. The designs and colours are well executed and will doubtless appeal to intending specialists.

Bergedorf.—This has very few stamps, but nevertheless those that do exist are universally popular. The first two stamps issued, $\frac{1}{2}$ sch., black on lilac, and the 3 sch., black on rose, are both very rare and valuable stamps. The different coloured papers play an important part in these stamps. Altogether it is a very good little principality, and good used

specimens are, in most cases, very difficult to obtain.

Bavaria is almost the best of all German States, as it possesses a nice number of issues, some of which are very rare.

This country possesses a new attraction for the specialist, namely, the silk threads which run through the back of the stamps. Not all the issues have this thread: it is confined almost exclusively to the older issues. This country can be well recommended to a philatelist, as research will reveal endless shades of nearly all issues, which when collected together will form a fine collection.

Bremen, like Bergedorf, has very few issues, but most of them are fairly expensive. To specialize in this Free town requires a good bit of money, as there exist various "types" of several of the stamps. There is an enormous quantity of forgeries of this town, and collectors must be careful to examine all copies they come across.

Brunswick and Oldenburg.—The first State I do not think has any exceptionally interesting issues, but boasts some fine essays. Oldenburg, on the other hand, has a very fine lot of rare stamps and a remarkable number of errors, many of which run into tall figures.

Hamburg and Hanover.—Both these Free cities issued about the same number of stamps. They are both interesting issues. Hanover is certainly the better of the two, and a considerably rarer town—as far as specializing is concerned—than Hamburg. The designs on the Hanover "head issues" are very well executed, affording a pleasing contrast to the stamps of most German States and towns.

Lübeck and Prussia.—I have these together, as it will be seen that the Lübeck stamps of 1863 resemble fairly closely in design those of Prussia 1861 and 1867. Both dependencies are very interesting; in fact, Prussia may be said to be the pick of all the stamps when all things are taken into consideration. Prussia, indeed, is worth more than passing thought, being compact and having about four designs; also there are "types," watermarks, and, in fact, everything that is necessary for the young specialist to study. Most of the stamps are cheap, except some unused copies.

Saxony.—Yet another little compact and well-arranged State, of which the issue of 1851 is undoubtedly very pretty and effective. The first stamp issued in 1850 is rare, but not pleasing in appearance. The last issue is very common, the stamps also showing none of the beauty in design characteristic of its preceding issue. This country also shows up favourably to those seeking a suitable country.

Schleswig-Holstein.—I do not think these

stamps are much in favour among the public, portraying little of interest.

Württemberg.—This State possesses many more issues than most of its rivals, and will doubtless find some supporters in those who prefer to take up a medium-sized country. The specialist who favours this State will find it has many good qualities, but at the same time it must be regarded as a somewhat complicated country, as the first issue varies in perforation, roulette, paper, silk thread, and, last but not least, design. The coat-of-arms design is very nicely done, showing

(To be continued.)

the engraver's art to good advantage. There are finally some nice proofs, etc., of the country to be obtained, though I fancy they are somewhat rare.

In collecting German States it must always be remembered that there are *numerous* forgeries of all extant. All these States, etc., have been forged on a most extensive scale. Hamburg for many years was the forged postage stamp manufactory for the world. So it will be readily understood that the States all around Hamburg came in for their full share of forgeries.

Photography as Applied to Stamps

By FRANK PHILLIPS

III. Exposure

HOW long to expose is certainly the burning question in the photography of stamps. It is important that the exposure should not exceed the correct time by a great amount, or the result will not show sufficient contrast. Contrast is very necessary in a stamp photograph, so it is better to slightly under-expose and over-develop.

As I have said before, many more factors have to be taken into account than in ordinary photography, but luckily they are not at all a matter of guesswork when once we have discovered by how much each of our screens multiplies the exposure.

Those who have devoted any attention to copying of any description will know that the camera has to be racked out further than usual, thus making the focus of the lens longer. It follows that the marked value of the stops will then be incorrect, the stops being smaller in proportion to the focus of the lens. However, it is fairly complicated to calculate afresh the real value of the stops for different extensions of the camera, so we can reduce the factor to a simpler form, if we merely consider the degree of enlargement of the object photographed.

The following table shows by how much the normal exposure must be multiplied when copying equal size and when enlarging.

TABLE A.

Times focus (from lens.)	Enlarging Linear.	Enlarging Area.	Multiply by
2 ...	equal size	equal size ...	
3 ...	2 ...	4 ...	4
4 ...	3 ...	9 ...	9
5 ...	4 ...	16 ...	16
6 ...	5 ...	25 ...	25
7 ...	6 ...	36 ...	36
8 ...	7 ...	49 ...	49

It will be seen that the first three columns give the degree of enlargement in three ways.

To find the "times focus from lens," divide the distance from the lens to the plate by the focus of lens used. Thus, if we have a 4-inch lens, and the distance from it to the plate is 16 inches, we divide 16 by 4 = 4 times focus from lens. This informs us that we are enlarging the stamp 3 times if we measure by length, or better 9 times if we take the area. Column 4 shows us that the normal exposure would have to be multiplied by 9.

We will now proceed to discuss the increase in exposure necessitated by various colour screens. This, of course, varies according to the plate with which the screen in question is used; but we will assume that only those plates mentioned in the preceding chapter on "Plates," as being suitable for use with certain screens, are used.

It is impossible to give any very clear idea of the increase in exposure necessary, as screens vary so much in depth of tint, i.e. in the amount of light they absorb. For the guidance of those readers who decide to make use of the screens I have mentioned in the chapter on "Colour Screens," I give a table showing the approximate amount by which the normal exposure has to be multiplied for any particular screen.

TABLE B.

Screen.	Multiply by
Red	15 to 20
Deep Pink	10 ,, 12
Light Pink	7 ,, 8
Orange	10 ,, 12
Yellow	3 ,, 4
Deep Green	12 ,, 16
Light Green	8 ,, 10

Personally I am a strong believer in the Watkins system of estimating exposure by means of one of the Watkins Exposure Meters.

We will suppose that we are copying a stamp equal size on an Imperial Sovereign

Plate, without screen. The speed of the light (daylight, i.e. actinometer time) we will assume to be 45 seconds. At $f/22$ the Watkins meter gives the exposure as 3 seconds, but according to Table A we have to multiply this by 2, so that the correct exposure would be 6 seconds. If we were enlarging, say, 3 times linear, Table A would show that we should have to multiply by 9: $3 \times 9 = 27$ seconds.

If we were trying to copy a green stamp with a pink surcharge, with the idea of showing the surcharge as boldly as possible, while allowing the stamp itself to fade, we should proceed as follows:—Deep green screen with an Ilford Rapid Iso. Plate: assuming the light and stop to be the same as before, the exposure, as given by Watkins, would be 4 seconds. By Table A we must multiply by 2, and by Table B by 12 to 16 (say 12). That would give us $4 \times 2 \times 12 = 96$ seconds, the correct exposure.

It will be seen that the exposure is quite easy to calculate when a Watkins meter is used; but it will be found more difficult when artificial light is used. By prolonged experiments I have been able to work out the actinometer times for the Nernst electric lamp. My figures are based on the assumption that $\frac{1}{2}$ -amp. lamps are being used on a

100-volt circuit, giving, *I believe*, 35 candle-power: the lamps must be used naked with the opaline globes screwed off. The following table gives the actinometer time, when two such lamps are used, pointed direct at the object to be photographed. "Distance" means the distance separating the filament of each lamp from the centre of the printing frame containing the stamps.

TABLE C.

Distance.	Act. time.
3 inches	4 minutes
6 "	8 "
9 "	18 "
12 "	32 "

I am quite aware that the figures in the above table do not conform to accepted theories, and am inclined to think that the lack of diffusion, or dispersion, of the light has something to do with it. At any rate, those are the figures that I have found correct by actual experiment.

There is one more point to bear in mind with regard to exposure. If the stamp is very lightly coloured, give a shorter exposure; if the stamp is very dark, and is printed on a dark paper, increase the exposure.

(To be continued.)

The Evolution of the Postage Due

By H. M. HOWARD

THE suggestion was heard the other day that perhaps Postage Dues were usually "dull black things" because of the solemnity of the occasion. The post-man knocks at the door and requires 2d. overcharge; the maid frowns; so does her master as he dives for the 2d.; there are more frowns as the letter is examined, and the sender freely criticized for his negligence. Therefore the Due stamp is rightly printed in black, and is dull, and sombre, and dismal.

Take Trinidad. The Due stamps are almost funereal—a black border and a big figure—as if the occasion called for a dark-looking stamp, and the figure were made big so that there should be no mistake as to the amount due. "Pay up!" it seems to say. There is nothing of the joyousness of the 2d. pictorial about it, no Neptuneus nor any floral embellishment, but just the big businesslike figure, standing out in its background of white vacancy.

Look at the first issue of France. At the top it says "Chiffre," and I shiver. Underneath there is the legend "Taxe," another unpleasant word. In a gloomy mood I set myself to discover what I could find on other Dues, and to my mind the Dues of Holland suggest a wreath of thorns in the border; the

Dues of Servia have eagles crouching in the (dark) background; on Swedish Dues the word "Lösen" suggests losing something; and the Brazilian label is gaunt and forbidding.

Of course the figure in the centre is the prominent feature, calculated to catch and strike the eye at a glance, and convey its subtle meaning without any fear of being misunderstood. The amount due—that is the heart of the matter. Therefore it is printed big, as in Roumania, Italy, America, and a score of other countries.

Occasionally the figure receives assistance, as in the Dues of Hayti, where it is thrown into greater relief by four rays of light; or as in the 1896 Dues of Nicaragua, which have eight illuminating rays that flash on the background. No doubt these rays assist the eye of the beholder at the crucial moment. At times the figure is supplemented by a word, as, for example, "Deficit," which means something to pay, or "Multa," which means more. But in most instances the task of conveying its meaning is left to the figure itself.

But the times are changing, even for Postage Dues. Canada Dues appear in purple, a right penitential colour, suggesting gloomy

moods and seasons; still, purple is better than downright black. One wonders what guiding mind is responsible for the choice of these colours; one marvels at the wisdom that so fittingly selects penitential hues, but one realizes that, after all, plain black is rapidly losing ground—in a Postage Due. Possibly the payees are paying more cheerfully, and less sombre reminders of the debt are now necessary.

Bosnia has a yellow background, which is a step in the right direction; Bulgaria is in colours, and Belgium in bright colours; and the Sudan Dues are things of beauty. Perhaps the original idea of the Due stamp was to imitate, as nearly as possible, the handstamped device that formerly appeared on the envelope, therefore it was black and the figure prominent; but with

Sudan for a model the Dues of the future might succeed in eventually breaking away from the dull and the dismal.

It is occasionally asserted that Postage Dues are of the nature of a luxury, and that since England, India, Germany, and other big countries get along very well without them, smaller States might do the same. Anyhow, they look well in a collection. An album of Continental Dues only is really a fascinating possession. They are easily got together, and the very predominance of black and grey in their design ultimately proves an attraction. They are "a bit scarce" for one thing; yet they are cheap, and there is the prospect that some day the album may be glorified by future issues in red, and blue, and green!

Trial Acrostic

THE results of the specimen competition in our issue of 11 January are satisfactory on the whole, there being sixty-four correct solutions received, and about as many that were incorrect in some slight particular, though many of these were decidedly ingenious, especially as to the first word, which the reference to "Advance, Australia" on a certain issue of stamps and its general use as a motto should have clearly settled.

A	dvanc	E
D	eecease	D
A	zur	E
M	editerranea	N

The first twelve correct answers selected at random were signed: Phone; B. Wyllie; Tea; E. H. Shears; P. A. D.; M. M.;

M. S. C. S.; Old Girl; S. C. Graham; W. T. Hawkins; and Roy. Will each of these winners send in a list of stamps wanted to the value of 5s.? An extra list should be sent in case some are sold out. One of the winners is stated to be under ten years of age, so there are chances for all. No doubt many did not send in, thinking the acrostic too simple, but reserve themselves for the more difficult ones, their satisfaction being greatest when there are fewest names in the first rank.

Owing to the paper being printed a week before the date of publication, and with the days allowed for sending in answers, no list of correct names can appear within a fortnight; so competitors will kindly exercise the virtue of patience, and not blame

BEN.

Forgeries and Reprints

How to Detect Them

By REV. ROBERT B. EARÉE

BRITISH GUIANA—continued

OFFICIAL STAMPS

THESE are the ordinary stamps of 1867 and of 1876, surcharged OFFICIAL. In the measurements given below, I have taken the distance between the left-hand edge of the first F of OFFICIAL, and the right-hand end of the projecting, horizontal limb of the

L. In this way, the measures can be taken very exactly, which would not be the case if I had tried to measure from the outside of the O.

Issue of 1875; 2, 8, 12, 24 Cents

These are the 1866-75 stamps, surcharged in black. There is a 1 cent, surcharged in

a larger type in red, but I have seen no forgery of this.

Genuine.—I only have the 2 c. from which to describe, and my specimens are all perf. 10. There appear to be two types of surcharge; Type I. measures *very nearly* 12 mm. from F to L, and the bottom of the L is $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm. long. In Type II. it is fully 12 mm. from F to L, and the bottom of the L is $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. long. The O in Type II. is slightly sloping to the left. The blank centre of the O is 1 mm. across, in its widest part. The C opens almost 1 mm. wide. From the top of the A to the bottom of its cross-bar is $1\frac{3}{4}$ mm. If the said cross-bar were prolonged to the left, the upper edge of it would go into the opening of the C. The height of the surcharge is $2\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

First Forgery.—Of this I have only the 4 cents, perf. 10. This, of course, is bogus, as there is no 4 c. official of this type; but I describe the surcharge, as it will probably be found on other values. It is nicely printed, and looks better than the genuine. The F—L measurement is the same as the first type of the genuine; *i.e.*, *very nearly* 12 mm., and the bottom of the L is $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. long, also like Type I. Almost the only difference is that the height of the surcharge is fully $2\frac{1}{4}$ mm., instead of $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Second Forgery.—Of this I have only the 12 cents, perf. 15. The distance F—L is nearly 13 mm., and the bottom of the L is $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm. long. The blank centre of the O is less than 1 mm. across, in the widest part; the ends of the C are cut off horizontally, instead of obliquely, and the opening is hardly 1 mm. wide. The A is crossed

far too low down, so that the distance from the top of the A to the bottom edge of the cross-bar is slightly more than 2 mm., instead of $1\frac{3}{4}$ mm. If the said cross-bar were prolonged to the left, no part of it would go into the opening of the C. The height of the surcharge is fully $2\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

Third Forgery.—Of this I have only the 8 cents, perf. 15. The distance F—L is nearly $13\frac{3}{4}$ mm., and the bottom of the L is $1\frac{3}{4}$ mm. long. The O is very narrow, compared with the genuine, and the width of the blank centre is about $\frac{3}{4}$ mm. only. The two ends of the C are very close together, being scarcely $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. apart; the top end is cut off obliquely, but the bottom end is cut off square. The distance from the top of the A to the bottom edge of its cross-bar is $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm., and the whole of the cross-bar, if prolonged to the left, would go below the opening in the C. The height of the surcharge is $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

(To be continued.)

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.

American Notes

By EUSTACE B. POWER

AS I am writing these few lines on New Year's Day, which, by the by, is a bank holiday with us, I feel it incumbent upon me to wish all readers of our little weekly the time-worn but ever-welcome wish of a happy and prosperous New Year. Philately starts her way in 1908 with a good outlook. The A. P. A. is now over one thousand three hundred strong, the dealers are not complaining, the collectors seem satisfied with our new prices, and, generally speaking, the "goose honks high."

Gibbons Part II

Is out, and if I may be allowed to puff ourselves, I shall certainly get on record as saying it is a fine book, and the paper that it is printed on seems to me to be just the finest, smoothest, and whitest paper that I have ever seen, and I have a few catalogues on the library shelves. Part I we hope to get in February. American collectors had better send along the humble dollar with sixteen cents more for postage. I am particularly anxious to give our agents every

possible means to sell the work, and therefore would call collectors' attention to the following places where our Catalogue can be obtained:—

Boston	Frank P. Brown, 339 Washington Street.
Philadelphia	Bogert & Durbin, 722 Chestnut; and also J. W. Haseltine.
Chicago	United Stamp Co., Marquette Building.
San Francisco	H. W. Doscher & Co., 1126 Geary Street.
Milwaukee	W. O. Staab, 505 E. Water Street.
Baltimore	Chesapeake Stamp Co.
Pittsburgh	Ignaz Stauffer, 426 Fourth Avenue.
Columbus	G. W. Linn, Clinton Building.
Montreal	Century Stamp Co.
St. Louis	S. B. Hopkins, 5728 Julian Avenue.

Thus it can be seen we cover the country fairly well, and the dealers are all A1 representative men, and of more than ordinary discrimination in carrying so fine a work as our Catalogue.

Scott's Catalogue for 1908

HAS appeared in an apple-green cover. The work appears to have been carefully edited, and the prices have been made nearer to the actual market than heretofore. I must confess the whole book is good, and that is an awful lot for me to admit. There are, of course, some slips. Canada 3d., on laid paper, unused, at 50s., is a bit cheap (I usually get £20 for one), and the pricing of stamps, both *used* and *unused*, which have not yet appeared, is to my mind a mistake. We buy the biggest Chilean merchants' mails right along, and I know the peso, Waterlow, is not out yet. Here I find it priced both ways! The publishers sound the warning as to "Seebecks" in the form of an announcement in the front of the book. I think the wording of the announcement is a covert dig at me, but then I have been dug before so often that I rather like it. It is the Irish nature, you know.

Stocktaking

HAS been going on in our office for the past week. I never realized the awful effect of translation of English money into American till I had to estimate nineteen stamps at 62 cents each. It's something awful to be at it all day. We are supposed to have about \$200,000.00 list value here, and I'm trying to find out where it is—and inasmuch as I am responsible to the Czar for it, it behoves me to hustle along and count. John Luff has been jolly quiet in that back room of his this past week, and I suspect he has said a few things, *sotto voce*, about multiplication of 209 times 36 cents!

New York Chit-chat.

MY congratulations to Mr. Morgenthau on his recovery from a severe attack of pneu-

monia, also to "little Eddie Stern" of the Economist Co., who has been laid up in the hospital and is around again. My most severe condemnation to Daddy Scott for losing the title and index to the *Postman's Knock*. This is a little joke of mine. I collect literature of two kinds, firstly that relating to Philately, and, secondly, those communications which Uncle Sam addresses to the Treasurer of the United States—occasionally I give the latter for the former. Well, away back in 1870, the *Postman's Knock* went out of existence. As it was a good old paper, J. W. Scott printed a title and index to the two volumes, stating on the frontispiece "*that nothing may be lost to Philately*," whereas here am I with a complete file and no index; it's the only thing that *has* got lost. Oh, Papa Scott, why didn't you save a dozen or two?

I am still looking for an unused horizontal pair U.S. 5 c., 1851. Please submit one and give me a chance to win a dollar bet. I've only got two months more to do it in.

Resolutions for 1908—

- To blow our own horn.
- To make you buy our Catalogue.
- To take by force any old philatelic papers found in any one else's possession.
- To keep away from Central American countries *if possible*.
- To be more respectful to the Czar. (You had better:—Nicholas II.)
- To stop smoking (when in bed).
- To reach that hundred thousand dollars again.
- To be more polite to my competitors (on the understanding that they will reciprocate).
- To try to keep my desk tidier.
- To try to write better Notes.
- To buy Barnsdall's *Historical and Geographical Gazetteer*.
- To keep Gibbons high and dry at the top of the ladder.

Correspondence

The De Ruyter Stamp Scandal

The Editor of "*Gibbons Stamp Weekly*"

DEAR SIR,—No doubt your readers are desirous of knowing something of the latest scandal perpetrated in Holland, and I will therefore try to give them some information concerning the stamps—now perpetrated by the postal authorities in Holland.

On 20 February, 1907, a notice appeared in the *Staatscourant*, No. 52, stating that for a short time the Government would issue a set of Commemorative stamps of three values, viz. $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2½ c., to celebrate the three-hundredth anniversary of Holland's greatest naval hero,

Admiral Michiel Adriaanz de Ruyter, the stamps to contain a design representing a portrait of the Admiral and a war-fleet in action. These stamps were to be printed in sheets of ten rows of fifteen stamps, perf. 12 × 12½, and in the colours of $\frac{1}{2}$ c., blue, 1 c., reddish violet, and 2½ c., red.

The stamps were to be issued on 23 March, and considered obsolete after 31 May, and to be only available for internal correspondence. I will not speak about the poor design or execution, but will keep myself strictly to the statement of facts. The sale of the De Ruyter stamps seems not to have been very satisfactory, as in June I received some semi-official communication

that a total was sold of 1,393,000 stamps to the value of 16,940 gulden or £1411 15s. od., divided as follows: 462,000 of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 575,000 of the 1 c., and 356,000 of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. value.

Undoubtedly these totals would have been much higher if the restriction had not been upheld of not using the stamps for foreign correspondence. The remainders were now as follows: 30,000 of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 40,000 of the 1 c., and 20,000 of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. value, but these figures were and are still kept in secrecy by the authorities for purposes later cleared up. The Government had these remainders to the nominal value of £9 on hand, and instead of destroying them, as many countries would have done, decided to have these stamps surcharged with new values and to use them as *Postage Due* stamps. The 30,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. value were surcharged with the new values of $7\frac{1}{2}$, 10, $12\frac{1}{2}$, 25 c., and 1 gulden; the 40,000 1 c. value received the surcharges of $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, $1\frac{1}{2}$, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ c.; and the 20,000 $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. were surcharged with the values of 5, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$, and 15 c., so that the original face value of these thirteen stamps of 3d. was raised to nearly 4s. per set. A nice little profit for the Government. The authorities, however, did not stop at this, but had notices inserted in the newspapers stating that these *Postage Due* stamps were obtainable by the public at all post offices throughout the kingdom at the new face values on 9 November. Of course every one wished to obtain a few of these curiosities, and it is therefore not surprising that on the very first day of issue all the 1 gulden values were sold right out, speedily followed by the 50 c., 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., and $\frac{1}{2}$ c. values. Most of the newspapers wrote small articles on this subject on account of some stamp dealers monopolizing the 50 c. and 1 gulden values and selling them at exorbitant prices, these prices being realized through said newspapers stating that the surcharged stamps were only a small remainder and *no more would be issued after this was exhausted*; in fact, in a few days most of the other values were sold out and no more were to be obtained.

What struck me as very singular at the time was that the postal authorities kept the totals of the surcharged stamps a secret, thus leaving them a way open to reprint later on as many as they wanted. A boom came in these stamps, collectors and dealers paying high prices for those values that were first exhausted; and these prices would no doubt have been raised if nothing new had happened. But six weeks later, 24 December, collectors and dealers were thunderstruck by a notice appearing in the newspapers stating that the authorities had decided to issue a further supply of these stamps in *all* values, and, in fact, on 26 December all values were again obtainable at the post offices, with the exception of the $\frac{1}{2}$, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$, 50 c., and 1 gulden values. Not understanding the reason of this new supply, I collected the following information of a semi-official nature.

The Postmaster-General, being aware that most of the post employees had speculated and cornered several of the high values, thus preventing the public obtaining stamps of all values, decided to counteract the said speculation, and had *all* values newly printed, which were to be issued to the public as long as there was any demand for them. This I read in an official circular issued

to all postmasters. Why the missing values were not issued at the same time as the other values is still a mystery, but, anyhow, on 3 January three of the missing values, viz. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 50 c., and 1 gulden, were again procurable at every post office. The $\frac{1}{2}$ c. value was not again issued, doubtless on account of the face value not being worth while ($\frac{1}{2}$ c. being one-tenth of a penny), and not worth the cost of printing, the 1 gulden being more remunerative, raising this stamp two hundred per cent higher than the previous value. The stamps are now issued in such great quantities that I do not believe that any speculation will be entertained in future.

At first, of course, every philatelist was surprised that the remainders were not exhausted, and, if so, the question arose why the authorities did not sell these at the same time instead of leaving a period of nearly six weeks open between the first and second sales; but quickly the reason of this method was apparent by the fact that this second supply is a totally new printing, and I will here give a few points to recognize one from the other.

The ink used for the first printing is *jet-black*, and does not leave any colour of the stamps to be seen through the letters. That of the second printing is of a rather thinner kind of ink and lets the colour of the stamps through the letters. The letters of the second printing seem to be somewhat thicker (in my opinion they are the same letters used for the first printing, but are more or less clogged, or not neatly cleaned, thereby giving a somewhat greasy impression), and the "1" of PORTZEGEL has a smaller opening at the top than is the case in the first printing on the values surcharged with decimals such as 1 $\frac{1}{2}$, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$, and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. The difference between both printings is easily to be noted by the "1" of the " $\frac{1}{2}$ " being about a millimetre closer to the larger figure.

I have tried to give you the plain facts of these issues, and do not doubt that your readers are of the same opinion as myself in condemning the conduct of the postal authorities in Holland, who are now competing with the stamp trade. Although there still remain some philatelists in Holland who try to clear the authorities of all blame, almost all earnest philatelists are of my opinion that this is a most shameful proceeding, and I believe some of the philatelic societies in Holland are now earnestly at work to get up a protest against a recurrence. I hope it may be successful, but if no protest comes from all sides we can expect some more of this kind in the near future. It seems the authorities are now following the good (?) example set by the late South African Republic in 1892-6, and if this is the case we may soon expect some very interesting (?) errors. I am sorry to say that although many letters were published in the most influential newspapers by philatelists expostulating against this scandal, the authorities seem thick-skinned, and are still doing their utmost to get money out of the pockets of the public. The only way, in my opinion, to stem this new danger is to openly protest against these proceedings,

Yours truly,

LEON DE RAAY.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Brazil.—Mr. W. Lacey has shown us a copy of the 2000 r. on 1000 r., olive-yellow, perforated



1899

50 RÉIS

11, 114, Catalogue No. 293, with the "0" following the "2" in "2000" omitted. This is certainly an interesting variety, but we do not think it of sufficient importance to catalogue.

Colonial Office Journal.*—The January number of this paper contains many notes regarding new and projected issues of stamps, but in view of the editor's letter, published in our issue of 9 November, 1907, we refrain from quoting from our contemporary. We suppose, however, that many of our foreign, and perhaps home, contemporaries will make use of the information contained in the *C. O. J.*, as is the custom in the world of philatelic literature, due acknowledgment being of course given.

Cyprus.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (18.1.08) reports that the 5 paras referred to in our issue of 14 December, 1907, has now been issued.



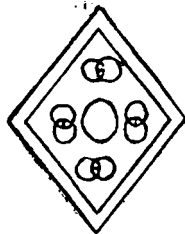
Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Ordinary paper.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

5 par., yellow and black

Ecuador.—Our New York house sends us another value, the 50 c. of the 1907 issue, with a control mark similar to that described in our issue of 18 January. We have also received the

* *The Colonial Office Journal.* Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Ltd. 1s. 6d. Quarterly.

5 c. with a different control mark, handstamped in violet, and, as before, impressed once on each block of four. The impression is so blurred that we are unable to make it out clearly, but it appears to be composed of a double circle, 35 mm. in diameter, with either an eagle or a shield in the centre. We believe the inscription between the two circles reads as follows: DIRECCION DE ESTADA—REPUBLICA DEL ECUADOR. We do not list this stamp until we have further information.



A quarter of the above control mark, in black, on one corner of each stamp.

Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
50 c., black and purple

Morocco Agencies.—In the *Bulletin Champion* (25.12.07) we find that the 30 c. on 3d. is listed. This stamp was chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (7.12.07), but contradicted in a later number (28.12.07) of the same journal. However, as Messrs. Champion say they can supply the stamp, there is no doubt now that it is issued. We believe that it is on chalk-surfaced paper, but have not seen a copy yet.



MOROCCO
AGENCIES

5 CENTIMOS

Surcharged in black. Chalky (?) paper.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
30 c. on 3d., purple on yellow

Nicaragua.—*The Metropolitan Philatelist* (4.1.08) reports having received the remaining value, the 6 c., of the set overprinted "B.—Dto. Zelaya", in black. The overprint is of course on the American print.



B
Dto. Zelaya

American print, overprinted as above, in black.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
6 c., slate — —

Papua—According to *Even's Weekly Stamp News* (18.1.08), another value of the permanent set, the 4d., has been received. The description given for the 3d., in our issue of 18 January, also applies to this value.



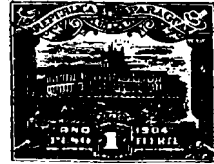
Reading PAPUA instead of BRITISH NEW GUINEA. Centre line-engraved; frame, etc., lithographed.
Wmk. Crown and Δ. Perf. 11.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
4d., black and sepia — —

Paraguay.—We have now received the 1 peso in a quite unexpected colour, olive-black, with central design in black; the perforation gauges 11½, as before.

In our issue of 21 December, 1907, we chronicled a 5 c. on 2 c., vermilion, with the figure "5" omitted. At the time we stated that we did not know the position of this error on the sheet, nor if it was constant. We have now received complete sheets of this provisional, but they are without the error; the setting has probably been corrected since the first printing. We are very inclined to believe that that is the case, as we have also received sheets of the 5 c. on 2 c., olive-green. The overprint is identical with that on the other colour, and of it we received one sheet, on which stamp No. 70 had the figure "5" omitted. Other sheets we received were without error (these sheets are composed of 100 stamps, made up by ten rows of ten stamps each).

We have also seen a new value in the current Official set, a 20 c., purple, perforated 11½, 12.

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 381 Strand, London, W.C.



Colour changed. Perf. 11½.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
1 peso, black and olive-black 1 3 —



Habilitado
en
5
CENTAVOS

1907. Provisional. Overprinted in black.
Error. Figure "5" omitted.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
(5) c. on 2 c., olive-green — —



Official. Perf. 11½, 12.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
20 c., purple — —

Siam.—A correspondent has sent us a copy of an entirely new provisional. It is a 1 att, overprinted in black on a 24 c., purple and blue, of the old 1887 issue. The overprint is in small italic characters, and the old value is deleted by a thin black line, running right across the lower portion of the stamp. We know nothing whatever about this provisional, not even if it is new or old. In fact we chronicle it under all reservation.



Wmk. Chakr. Perf. 14. Overprinted in black.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
1 att on 24 atts, purple and blue — —

1 att

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 6
Whole No. 112

8 FEBRUARY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

France—continued

THE stamps known as those of "the German army of occupation," or "Alsace and Lorraine," properly belong to a list of French stamps, but philatelically they are more conveniently considered, as in the catalogue, as part of the German group. The earlier of these were issued by the Germans when they took possession of the post and telegraph offices during their victorious march through France. Doing nothing by halves, the Germans not only used these establishments for military purposes, but maintained an efficient postal service for the residents remaining in the conquered territory.

Though the war was practically finished early in 1871, France's troubles did not end with it. In March the Communists or Red Republicans revolted against the National Assembly. They held possession of Paris for upwards of two months, or till 22 May, when the troops of the Assembly entered Porte St. Cloud. The insurgents, hopeless of success, amongst other excesses, fired the public buildings, reducing the Tuileries, the Hôtel de Ville, and the Palais de Justice to heaps of ruins. The Hôtel des Monnaies, where the stamps were manufactured, escaped, and the postal history of Paris during the Commune is interesting. When the revolution reached its climax (18 March, 1871), the National Government, with its troops and its departmental administrations, removed to Versailles. M. Rampont, the Director of Posts, took with him practically all the stock of stamps, only about half a million each of 1 c. and 10 c., and a few 4 c. and 80 c., all of the "Laureated" type being left behind.

The Director appointed by the Commune (M. Theisz) prevailed upon M. Hulot, who with his staff had remained in Paris, to print supplies of all values from the plates on hand. About 14½ mill. ons in all were manufactured, the 10 c., 20 c., and 40 c. being of the "Ceres," and the other values of the "Laureated" type. These stamps cannot be distinguished from those manufactured under National authority, as the same class of paper

(conveyed by stealth into Paris) was employed.

Very little use was made of the supplies, for at the end of the insurrection about twelve million stamps of the above printings were found in stock. Indeed, the postal service was performed with the greatest difficulty, the Paris couriers being nearly always captured by the National troops and the letters confiscated. As a final expedient, private posts were authorized, and these fared better, as the Government allowed the free passage of letters under this system.

It was fortunate that the revolution collapsed when it did, for towards the end of April the stocks of low values at Versailles were almost exhausted, and a resumption of the Bordeaux printings was in contemplation. The first directions given by M. Rampont on his return to Paris were for the manufacture of the lower values to match the 10 c., etc., "Ceres" type. Nothing was done, however, for some time, as prudence dictated delay, pending the definite decisions of the Government concerning the new taxes, necessitated by the obligations of the war. A law of 24 August, 1871, increased the postage on inland letters from 1 September as follows: for local letters, including those of Paris, from 10 c. to 15 c.; for others, from 20 c. to 25 c.; whilst the registration fee was raised from 20 c. to 50 c. This necessitated stamps of 15 c. and 25 c., which were issued 1 September, 1871. They were manufactured from the same plates as the 1849 issue, from which the 25 c. is easily distinguishable by reason of the perforation. The stamps were printed in the same colours as those of the values they superseded, and the latter were only gradually withdrawn from circulation. The shades are not so pronounced as in some of the earlier issues, and both values are known *lête-bêche*. A law authorizing the use of post cards was passed 20 December, 1872, and fixed the rate of postage at 10 c. for local collection and delivery, and 15 c. for delivery to other parts of France. In January, 1873, a new issue of 10 c. was required for use on these post

cards, and to distinguish this effectually from the 15 c., bistre, it was printed in bistre on *rose* paper coloured throughout. The *tête-bêche* variety also occurs in this value.



1871-73. *Tinted paper.* Perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
10 c., bistre on <i>rose</i>	1	6	0	1
15 c., bistre	2	0	0	1
25 c., blue	2	0	0	1

The 10c. "Laureated" is often seen in collections, surcharged "10" in black. It was never issued thus, but for some reason the 600,000 stamps of the said value remaining in stock were so surcharged. Some say it was "to prevent confusion between them and the 15 c. of the same colour"; others, "to be ready for a possible shortage of 25 c. stamps in December, when there was always an extra demand, and these surcharged stamps could be used together with 15 c. stamps to make up the amount." Or they may have been intended for use on post cards. There was certainly anxiety at the time of surcharging as to the possibility of meeting all demands for supplies, but the difficulties were got over in time. Until the plates of the lower values in the "Ceres" type were ready, the "Laureated" stamps continued to be used.

The most urgent need was for 5 c. stamps; and though M. Hulot promised the plates for all the remaining values in the "Ceres" type for September, 1871, it was not until 1875 that they were finally completed. The 2 c. appeared in May, the 5 c. in June, the 4 c. in July, and the 1 c. in December of 1872. The plates were adapted from those of the lower values of the "Laureated" issue.



1872. *Tinted paper.* Perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., bronze-green	0	2	0	1
2 c., red-brown	0	3	0	1
4 c., grey	0	8	0	3
5 c., green	0	9	0	1

During the same year the series was completed by the issue of the 30c. (October) and

80c. (September). These were printed from new plates, in which the numerals of value were made considerably larger, a reform long needed. In June, 1874, the 15 c. was issued with a like modification, and in March, 1875, the 10 c., bistre on *rose*, appeared similarly altered. This was the last stamp to be issued of the "Ceres" type. An error of value is known in one printing, for a cliché of the 15 c. with large figures was inserted by inadvertence in the plate of the 10 c. Only a few sheets with the error were printed, and the stamps are scarce.



1872-75. Larger figures of value. *Tinted paper.*

Perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
10 c., bistre on <i>rose</i>	2	0	0	1
15 c., bistre	5	0	0	1
30 c., brown	4	0	0	1
80 c., <i>rose</i>	4	0	0	2

Slowly but surely, France was recovering from the effects of the war, though often in the throes of political controversy. M. Thiers, President since 1871, was succeeded 24 May, 1875, by Marshal MacMahon, and under his regime the Republic was consolidated. Strange Republic though! Things that savoured too much of Republicanism were not regarded favourably.

Perhaps a memory of the Commune was too painful. Anyway, fault began to be found with the type of the postage stamps amongst other things, and a competition was opened for designs for a new series. These were to bear the inscription REPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE and POSTES, show the numerals of value in plain figures, and to be non-political in character. There was to be only one design for all values, allowing of the necessary modifications for the insertion of the different numerals. The design of M. Jules-Auguste Sage, chief designer in a painted-glass factory, was chosen. It was the well-known "Peace and Commerce" type and illustrated, according to the artist, "*le Commerce et la Paix se donnant la main et régissant sur le monde par le moyen de la poste*," or in literal English, "Commerce and Peace joined hand in hand and reigning over the world by means of the post." This design has been much criticized, but having regard to all the limitations is not so bad.

The adoption of this type coincides with the end of Monsieur Hulot's reign as manufacturer of postage stamps. For

twenty-seven years he had been a petty tyrant, opposed to all reforms, and a most difficult man to deal with. A quarrel between him and the Minister of Finances led to the transfer of the contract for the supply of stamps to the Bank of France in 1876,

which continued to print for the Government till 1880. M. Hulot had grown very rich from his lucrative monopoly, and previous to his final retirement he printed an enormous number of the current stamps.

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Notice to Secretaries of Philatelic Societies

FOR the past year I have received scores of reports of your meetings, and in at least one out of every three there is a more or less full notice of the contents of one or more of the books of Mr. E. Heginbottom's collection. Every volume in this collection must have been described several times over, and I do not think any reader of the *Weekly* would wish me to continue to occupy our limited space with details of the books this gentleman so kindly places at the disposal of the various Societies throughout the kingdom. In future will you therefore only say in your reports, "A portion of Mr. Heginbottom's collection was then shown"?

The Philatelic Literature Society

I HAVE much pleasure in publishing the Statutes of this new Society and a list of the Council.

Every serious student of stamps must have a representative library of stamp literature, and those who are really interested in the subject should become members of the new Society.

The subscription will include the new journal which the Society will publish, and this will be invaluable to lovers of stamp literature.

President : E. D. BACON.

Vice-President : BERTRAM T. K. SMITH.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer : F. J. PEFLOW,
185 Barry Road, Dulwich, London, S. E.

Council :

E. D. BACON,	F. J. PEFLOW,
HERBERT CLARK,	B. T. K. SMITH,
HERBERT F. JOHNSON,	H. EDGAR WESTON.
FRED. J. MELVILLE,	

STATUTES.

Objects

1.—The Society shall be known as the Philatelic Literature Society, the objects being :—

(a) To promote and encourage the collection and study of philatelic literature, and to circulate amongst its members information thereon.

(b) To compile and publish bibliographies and other works relating to Philately.

(c) To provide a medium for the sale and exchange of duplicates.

(d) To undertake all such matters as may further these objects.

Administration

2.—A Council of the Officers, together with four members of the Society, all of whom shall be elected by ballot at the Annual General Meeting, shall carry on the management of the Society. Four shall form a quorum.

Interim vacancies on the Council (whose powers shall not be affected by such vacancies) shall be filled up by the Council, subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

The Officers of the Society are the President, the Vice-President, and the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

The Council may delegate to a sub-Committee any of its duties, and may appoint any member or members as special representatives in any capacity.

Membership

3.—Membership of the Society shall be granted by the Council, who may, at their discretion, require applicants to furnish satisfactory references. Philatelic Societies shall be admitted to membership, and shall be represented by a duly appointed person. Applications for membership must be made to the Hon. Secretary.

The Council shall have power, at a meeting called specifically for the purpose, to investigate any charge made against a member, or to expel a member whose conduct shall be considered prejudicial to the interests of the Society, such member, on giving due notice, to have the right of appeal to a meeting of the Society.

Subscription

4.—The annual subscription is One Guinea (£5.11; Fcs. 26.90; Mk. 21.60), payable in advance on 1 January in each year. Payment of the subscription for the current year constitutes membership, and entitles a member to all the rights of membership; arrears of subscription will be held as a deprivation of such rights, and shall in every case be dealt with by the Council.

Notice of resignation of membership must be received by the Hon. Secretary on or before 1 December, failing which members will be liable for the ensuing year's subscription.

Meetings

5.—Meetings of the Society shall be held in London as may be arranged by the Council. Members unable to attend the meetings may vote on any question which shall form part of the business of a meeting by proxy, addressed to the Hon. Secretary, which must reach him at least twenty-four hours before the time fixed for the meeting. Fourteen days' notice of the date of meeting shall be given, and one month's notice of the date of the Annual Meeting, such notices to be accompanied by the agenda of the meeting.

Publications

6.—A journal, entitled *The Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society*, shall be published, and shall be sent gratis to all members of the Society. Members shall also receive all other publications of the Society on such terms as may be decided by the Council, and shall be entitled to advertise in the *Journal*, or other publications of the Society, at such preferential rates as may be decided by the Council.

The Council shall have power to determine from time to time the terms on which the publications of the Society may be sold to non-members, and the rates at which non-members may advertise in the *Journal*, or other publications of the Society.

Statutes

7.—Observation of these Statutes shall be a condition of membership of the Society.

No alteration in these Statutes shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting, or at a special meeting called for that purpose upon the requisition of not less than one-third of the Society.

The "Sower" type French Stamps

In the *London Philatelist* for December there is a capital article on these stamps by Mr. F. Reichenheim, who is recognized as being the leading collector and student of French stamps in Great Britain.

The article is illustrated with two full plates of illustrations.

The 10 c. stamp is the most interesting, and I note the following varieties:—

- "Sower" with lined background, line marking horizon, and with rising sun.
- 6 May, 1903. 10 c., rose-carmine, "10" thick.
- "Sower" walking on an incline. Solid background.
- (a) Fine lines of shading on face, arms, etc.
- 13 April, 1906. 10 c., vermilion; "10" thick.
- (b) No shading lines on arms, face, etc.
- 17 May, 1906. 10 c., vermilion; "10" thin.
- No ground showing under "Sower."
- (a) Thin figure of "Sower."
- 28 July, 1906. 10 c., vermilion; "10" thin.
- (b) White line added to back of dress of "Sower" from waist downwards.
- 15 Oct., 1906. 10 c., vermilion; "10" thick.
- 10 c., brick-red " " "

Mr. Reichenheim gives many other interesting details of minor varieties, and also lists the other values in this type; those who are interested should read the article in full in the *London Philatelist*.

Stock-taking

A BRIEF account of the work of calculating our stock may be of interest to some of my readers.

We commenced on 1 December with the wholesale stock unused; we were better able in this department to keep track of what was sold between 1 and 31 December than we could have done in the retail. About 15 December we commenced on the retail stock by counting the used and unused stamps in the retail order boxes; these are all in envelopes, and the numbers of each vary from 1 to 500 stamps.

After Christmas we had to close the office for only two whole days, and by working from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. we got out the figures, but the calculations took us until the end of January.

During the time the office was closed we had to add up the contents of 212 stock-books, the "Breitfuss" Collection, the "Mann" Collection, and several special and general collections: in all the contents of nearly 400 volumes were carefully totalled, but the work was well organized, and as about seventy people were engaged upon the job it did not take so long as anticipated. We also had to count all packets, sets, albums, catalogues, and all kinds of publications.

The figures are now being reduced to as near cost price as possible, and I estimate that the net figure will be fully £125,000.

In New York the stock has been taken on a similar basis to that in London, and the result was in my hands by 13 January last, a smart bit of work upon which I congratulate our staff over there.

Mr. E. B. Power in his report says:—

Every single stamp has been counted; five people have spent eighty hours each doing the work. There is *not one* damaged stamp in the entire stock. There are no stamps unsorted. This we believe to be a record.

**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.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

Great Britain—continued

Gibraltar—continued

EARLY in May, 1903, Gibraltar commenced the issue of a full series of King's Head postage stamps of a new and original design, which contained in all ten stamps ranging in value from $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to £1. Despite the original design this series is worthy of little note, and is, in fact, one of the least handsome series of all the British Colonial stamps at present in use.

The stamps are in two sizes, the regulation size for all values up to and including 1s., whilst those from 2s. to £1 are of a large rectangular design. The general scheme of the designs is as follows: For the low values, a profile portrait of King Edward VII enclosed within a double-lined circle, whilst within the circle below the head is the word GIBRALTAR, and above the head on either side of the circle the inscription POSTAGE & REVENUE, the whole on a groundwork representing a star. Value in words in one straight line at the foot of the stamps. On the high values the King's Head is contained in an oval instead of a circle, whilst the positions of the words GIBRALTAR and POSTAGE & REVENUE are reversed; in place of the star design the groundwork is composed of fancy ornamentations, and there are, in addition, ornamentations in the corners of the stamps and in ovals on either side of His Majesty's profile.

This is the only current issue of British Colonial stamps which contains stamps of the unfamiliar denominations of 4s. and 8s. The reason for the inclusion of these values is that for the first time, with the appearance of this series, the postage and revenue

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

stamps of the colony were unified, and the separate revenue series previously employed contained stamps of these denominations. A curious feature of the issue is the expression of the value on the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps, which is written 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ penny, instead of Twopence-halfpenny, or 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ pence, which are the more correct forms.

1903.

Designs as shown. Wmk. Crown CA (single). The high denominations being almost double the size of the low values, the watermark appears twice on each stamp of the Single Watermark issue, one immediately above the other. Perforation 14. Small type for low values, large for high. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in London. Values in second colour given.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ d., grey-green and blue-green.
- 1d., lilac on red.
- 2d., grey-green and carmine.
- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., lilac and black on blue.
- 6d., lilac and violet.
- 1s., black and carmine.
- 2s., green and blue.
- 4s., lilac and green.
- 8s., lilac and black on blue.
- £1, lilac and black on red.

The low values, from $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s., are printed in sheets of 240, four panes of 60, ten rows of 6, and have the plate number "1" in white on a solid ground of colour at each corner. In place of the usual Jubilee lines round the panes, there are a series of short-coloured dashes opposite the end of each vertical and horizontal row of stamps on the sheet, in the colour in which the value is inserted.

The high denominations come in sheets of sixty only, in six rows of 10 stamps without any dividing margins; the plate numbers and marginal lines are the same. The watermarked marginal inscription, however, has CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES only once, instead of twice as on the larger sheets; CROWN AGENTS for reading up on the left, and THE COLONIES down on the right.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value of the above series was one of the first stamps to be issued with the Multiple Crown CA watermark, but, despite this fact, the remaining values of the series have been very slow in making their appear-



ance with the new watermark, the Multiple set not having been completed up to the time of writing. This is accounted for by the very small population by whom the stamps are used.

1904-6.

Designs and perforation as before. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Unsurfaced paper. Value in second colour.

- ½d., grey-green and green (issued June 10th, 1904).
 1d., lilac on red (issued October 10th, 1904).
 2d., grey-green and carmine (issued January 9th, 1905).
 6d., lilac and violet (issued April 19th, 1906).
 1s., black and carmine (issued October 13th, 1905).
 2s., green and blue (issued February 2nd, 1905).

With this issue the size of the sheets of the low-value stamps was reduced, there being only two panes or 120 stamps to the sheets, instead of 240 as in the Single watermark series. Except for the absence of marginal inscription the sheets remain otherwise unchanged. There is no alteration in the size of the high-value sheets. The following denominations have already been issued printed on the new chalk-surfaced paper. Of the 2½d. value, which was in use only a little over a month, but 200 sheets of 120 stamps each were printed, of which seventy-five are said to have been acquired by local speculators. The stamp is consequently already scarce.

1906-7.

Designs, watermark, and perforation as above. Chalk-surfaced paper. Value in second colour.

- ½d., grey-green and green (issued October 20th, 1905).
 1d., lilac on red (issued September 16th, 1905).
 2d., grey-green and carmine (issued February 6th, 1907).
 2½d., lilac and black on blue (issued May 4th, 1907).
 1s., black and carmine (issued April 19th, 1906).

The sheet arrangement is identical with that of the Multiple issue on unsurfaced paper.

On January 1 of the present year (1907) the 1d. denomination of Gibraltar was issued printed all in carmine, instead of in lilac on red paper, in accordance with the provisions of the Rome Convention of the Universal Postal Union, and six months later the 2½d. stamp made its appearance printed entirely in ultramarine.

In all other respects the stamps are identical with those previously in use.

1907.

Designs, watermark, and perforation as above. Unsurfaced paper. Printed entirely in one colour.

- 1d., carmine (issued January 1st, 1907).
 2½d., ultramarine (issued June 21st, 1907).

Sheet arrangement as for issue on chalk-surfaced paper.

(To be continued.)

British Stamps used Abroad

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP IV—continued

Colombia—continued

C 56. Carthagena

THE capital of the department of Bolivar had by far the biggest share of the trade of the whole State, which, however, does not amount to much, and the stamps are among the rarest in the South American group.

Its chief claim to notoriety is the fact that it was the first city in this part of South America to declare (1811) its independence of Spain. A fact which is of interest to philatelists, however, is a curious error that occurs in the postmark (C 56) used by the British Post Office here.

In 1870 a new obliterator was applied for, and in error one inscribed C 65 (which is the office number of Heywood, Lancs.) was sent out. It was used, and the stamps used there can be readily recognized, as the shape of the die and figures differs from that employed in England. British stamps were issued first in 1867, and the office was

closed in 1881. In addition to the obliterator, which was the narrow oblong for C 56 and the upright oval for C 65, a round date stamp was impressed on the letter.



- 4d., plates 8, 11, 12, 14, 15 red.
 6d., " 12 grey, 13, 15.
 8d., " 1.
 1s., " 4 emb., 4 spray, 10, 11, 12, 13, 13 spray.
 2s., " blue.

Error C 65

- 4d., plates 11, 12, 15 red.
 1s., " 4 spray.

C 62. Santa Martha

A port on the Atlantic coast of Colombia, of small significance commercially, and the postal requirements consequently few.

The British stamps came into use in 1867, and the office was closed in 1881. The obliterator only was used.



4d., plates 8, 12, 13.
6d. " 14.
1s. " 4 emb., 5.

E 88. Aspinwall or Colon

Is a free port on the northern coast of the State of Panama, and the terminus of the Panama Railway Co. It was founded in 1850 by Mr. W. Aspinwall, one of the leading men of the company, and hence derives its commonly used name. Its population and trade are very small, and the British stamps that were used there are few. They came into use in 1870, and the office was closed in 1881.

The obliterator only was used.



Specialism

By R. E. R. DALWIGK

EUROPE—continued

Gibraltar.—This little stronghold is naturally very popular in England, as it is one of the overworked "British Colonials." This fortress—although actually it has not the strong claims on the philatelic public that many European Powers have—nevertheless has a very great attraction for Britons, even if only for the above reason. It is a fairly good colony for a limited specialist, as its philatelic existence only dates back to 1886, and the issues are nearly all quite straightforward. As to design, it is not a country that can boast, the Bermuda surcharged stamps being the best in taste. The prices of all except the first are moder-

1d., plates 171, 178.

1½d. " 3.

2d. " 14, 15.

3d. " 18.

4d. " 13, 14, 15, 15, 16, 17 garter, 17 crown.

6d. " 12, 14, 15, 16, 17 spray.

9d. " 4 spray.

1s. " 4 sp., 5, 11, 12, 13 green, 13 orange crown.

2s. " 1 blue.

F 69. Savanilla

A seaport in the department of Bolivar, near the mouth of the Magdalena River. It is connected with Barranquilla by rail, and is a leading port of exportation. The trade, however, of the whole State was insignificant, and the stamps are very rare.

British stamps were used from 1872 till 1881. The obliterator here illustrated, which differs in type from all the others, was used alone.



1d., plate 171.

1½d. " 3.

3d., plates 7, 20 spray.

4d. " 13, 14, 16, 17 garter, 17 crown.

1s. " 5, 12, 13 orange spray.

2s. " 1 blue.

(To be continued.)

ate, and there are certainly many worse colonies than Gibraltar from the specialist's point of view.

Great Britain has—taking all kinds of issues—produced more stamps than any other country, but is no country for those specialists who have not had wide experience, and have not a very large purse. I do not think I am wrong in saying that more people specialize in Great Britain than in any other stamp-issuing country or district in the world. For the very advanced specialist who likes to study plate numbers, watermarks, papers, printings, etc., and who likes to gloat over many knotty questions, Great Britain is the country. Our island

also has a philatelic history, being the home of the inventor and originator of stamps. The first stamp that ever saw the light was produced in this country, and was a production that we can well be proud of. Great Britain has many attractions for the Great Moguls, the chief among which are its many great rarities, and also the vast number of proofs and essays which are to be encountered. All the issues of our country up till 1887 are very complicated indeed, the abundant plate numbers, dies, and various large and small watermarks making Great Britain one of the most hard—if not the hardest country to launch into. Nevertheless, with all its peculiarities, there are thousands of collectors—and some by no means rich—who manage to get together really good collections, although, of course, they have to rest content without all the great rarities. One thing is quite certain, namely, that no novice can start off with Great Britain until he has read some good guide to British postage stamps, so as at least to get an idea as to the classification of the various printings, etc., of our stamps. Besides this vast number of postal issues there are some hundreds of other stamps, excluding Railway Labels, such as fiscals used for postage, various Official stamps, also University issues. These Oxford and Cambridge stamps form an interesting side path in British stamps, all being highly prized and very valuable. Another subdivision are the Railway stamps, but these are not nearly of such interest as the 'Varsity issues. The designs of British stamps are artistic (except those bearing King Edward's portrait), and the colouring in nearly every instance is well chosen and pleasing. Those collectors who have a partiality towards the issues of Great Britain, yet consider it too great a country to enter upon, could not go far wrong in starting off in a small way by collecting only one certain issue. This would enable them to get experience in that particular, after which another issue could be taken up, and so gradually work on by slow though sure steps to a fine collection of all issues.

Greece.—This country has a great number of stamps, many being really fine, both as historical stamps and also to illustrate to us very clearly the fineness attained by certain engravers when compared side by side with their less skilful rivals. In the first issue there are two such sets of engravings, the finest and clearest hailing from Paris, while Athens supplied the more crudely designed stamps. To compare the two types would be, to say the least, unjust to the Athenian engravers, as they in no instance approached the high quality and fineness which characterize the Paris prints. These two printings

are the greatest feature to be found in a Greek specialist's collection, although it must also be borne in mind that the later issues are also very full of philatelic interest, although perhaps in a somewhat lesser degree than their more noteworthy predecessors. To those seeking a cheap country there can scarcely be any more suitable than Greece, when it is taken into consideration that most really cheap countries are either worthless South American States or Labuan rubbish, stamps which can compare in no way whatever with a good "Paris print." The older designs are considered picturesque by most collectors, as also are the most recent Olympic Games issues in another way. Greece is, in fact, a country that can be recommended to all beginners and novices with the utmost confidence. It is advisable to know the Greek characters used to surcharge provisionals, as this enables the collector to detect errors which in all probability he would not notice without this useful little bit of information.

Heligoland is not a country for an unskilled philatelist to dabble in. The reason is simple. After the postage stamps of Heligoland ceased to exist an enterprising German dealer bought the original blocks and so printed off Heligoland stamps in great quantities, in such quantities, in fact, that there are very few collections in which some of these reprints are not to be seen. In nearly every case it requires an extremely clever expert to distinguish original from reprint. In addition to this drawback the collector of small means will soon find his purse empty if once he commences collecting used specimens, as many of them are valuable and very scarce.

Holland, like Greece, is a cheap and yet fine country, which, although not possessing anything of such interest as pronounced prints, yet has a great profusion of types, and also some marvellous things in the way of shades. These shades in some instances vary in a most bewildering manner (but it must not be forgotten that *very* out-of-the-way shades are due to climatic conditions, or else are caused by having been subjected to water). With regard to the various types of figures, we find a fine range of varieties which will take the specialist some considerable time, not to mention energy, to collect. Many of the stamps require a lot of finding, as there are several specimens of rare shades which are found lacking in almost all dealers' stock-books. The Queen Wilhelmina stamps are pretty, and must appeal to collectors who consider art in stamps. Holland, moreover, boasts some Unpaid Letter stamps of no mean importance, as several of these stamps are rare specimens.

(To be continued.)

Photography as Applied to Stamps

By FRANK PHILLIPS

IV. Development, etc.

I AM a confirmed believer in the Watkins Factorial system of development. For those who are not familiar with this system, I will describe it very shortly.

Mr. Watkins discovered that the duration of development was proportionate to the time that the black portions of a negative took to appear. The number of seconds elapsing between the pouring on of the developer, and the first sign of any discoloration of the plate is noted, and multiplied by the *factor* of the particular developer used. Mr. Watkins has worked out the factors for practically all known developers, and the factor does not vary with the degree of dilution of the developer, *except* in the case of pyro and amidol.

For instance, if the plate shows the first signs of discoloration fifteen seconds after pouring on the developer (say Pyro-Metol, Imperial Standard Formula, Factor 9), development would be completed in

$$15 \times 9 \text{ secs.} = 135 \text{ secs.} = 2\frac{1}{4} \text{ minutes.}$$

I have found the following formula thoroughly reliable, and particularly suitable for stamps, as it is rapid in action and absolutely non-staining. It is the Imperial formula, and is suitable for any brand of plate, orthochromatic or otherwise. The Watkins factor is 20.

Solution A.

Metol	40 grs.
Hydrokinone	50 "
Soda Sulphite (cryst.)	120 "
Pot. Brom.	15 "
Water (boiled) to	20 ozs.

Solution B.

Caustic Potash	180 grs.
Water (boiled) to	20 ozs.

Use equal parts of A and B.

As it is essential to avoid stains, an acid fixing bath should be used, and all plates should be *thoroughly* washed in running water.

Printing

The negative made, printing may be proceeded with on P.O.P. by daylight in the ordinary way; but there is another method of printing, which is much more suited to this class of work. I allude to gaslight printing.

Personally I have never found any gas-

light paper to beat Velox; for stamp work I use ordinary glossy Velox, as that particular brand yields prints full of detail, which at the same time show the greatest possible amount of contrast.

I need not enter into the manipulation of Velox, as nearly every amateur knows how to use it, and those who do not will find the makers' instructions all that is necessary.

The makers recommend a Metol-Hydrokinone developer, and they give a one-solution formula. This developer keeps well in one solution, provided bottles are filled to the neck and tightly corked; but a half-used bottle will oxidize (i.e. turn brown) rapidly, when it may as well be thrown away. I have divided the makers' formula into two solutions, in which state the developer will keep indefinitely; as I have never seen the two-solution formula given in any photographic or other paper, it may be worth while to give it.

Solution A.

Metol	28 grs.
Hydrokinone	120 "
Potassium Bromide	20 "
Soda Sulphite (cryst.)	2 ozs.
Water (boiled) to	20 "

Solution B.

Soda Carbonate (cryst.)	2½ ozs.
Water (boiled) to	20 "

For use: equal parts of A and B.

I have also evolved a special formula out of the makers' Acid Fixing Bath formula. An acid fixing bath should always be used, as not only does it prevent staining of the prints, but such a bath may be used again and again until exhausted.

First of all I make up two stock solutions as follows:—

Stock Solution A.

Soda Hyposulphite	10 ozs.
Water to	20 "

Stock Solution B.

Soda Sulphite	1 oz.
Alum (powder)	1 "
Water	11 "

When dissolved add—

Acetic Acid, glacial 50%	1½ ozs.
------------------------------------	---------

Formula for Acid Fixing Bath.

Stock Solution A	2 ozs.
Stock Solution B	½ oz.
Water	2½ ozs.

(To be continued.)

Acrostic Competition

FOR the present there will be three weeks' interval between these, so as to give lists of correct answers to the previous one of this series of ten for the half-year, as we cannot do so within two weeks after publication. American list will come later.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 2 (OF SERIES)

The month and the year
In this do appear :
Pray make no mistake,
You may lose the cake.

1. Don't say it looks funky, it's not that at all,
But part of these words together will fall,
If you link them close with consonants small :
Its harbour is used as a port of call,
And for stamps it sends off to Portugal.
2. The first half—of odd is the opposite, [day ;
The next seems odd, though it comes twice a
You will find out the whole every night,
Whether or no you may wish it to stay.
3. From nine stars on its stamps it rose
Unto eleven for nearly twenty years,—
Then down again to nine, and as we close,
A portrait gallery there appears.
4. The forename of a very sleepy man,
Or short for saying "get rest if you can."
5. Put three letters in order between these two,
And if both are correct then all will come true ;
Or if to the last one you add one more,
You'll have a wise head if not so before.
6. This was a noted place, much fought upon
Some seven and thirty years ago ;
Its stampic network up or down,
Makes prices differ ten to one.
7. Royal Academy,—Royal Artillery,
In goodly array, you cannot want more.
(But don't forget the point.)
8. Two vowels only you will need,
The space between wherewith to feed ;
Which two they be you need not fear,
For thirteen moons will make all clear.

BEN.

Answers to the above must be filled up only on the form that will be found on last page but one of this paper.

Answers from the United Kingdom must be received at latest by early delivery on 13 February, marked outside "Acrostic, G.S.W., 391 Strand, London." Solvers can, however, assist the "Acrostic Editor" to get out results quickly by posting as soon as possible.

The solution of the first Acrostic, on 18 January, is:—

Stamp-KinG	
T ahit I	
A plom B	
N awa B	
L agad O	
E gyptia N	
Y e S	

Correct answers have been received from Algy, D. B. Armstrong, W. Barnard, E. H. Belgrove, Beyond, H. B. C., Cadi, Chicken, Captn. Clarke, H. Chapman, W. G. Cochrane, Crofter, Cromlix, F. D., T. F. Goodwin, J. R. H., W. T. B. H., Hit(?), A. Harvey, A. R. Hebblethwaite, Iota, T. J., Jaguar, W. G. Jones, Kappa, Kasaj, M. M., W. G. Mackie, H. Metcalf, Old Girl, Oudeis, C. V. O'Neil, PEN, A. B. Paterson, O. R. R., S. B. R., W. H. S., A. St. John, Tasman, Thistle, P. Talagrand, W. H. Taberner, M. C. Tancock, Ubique, Vox, Upton, and Zimpa.

Three marks are credited to above, and two to the next series.

Only one wrong : Aei, Argonaut, C. E. Ashby, A. M. Buttar, W. S. J. Eyles, Facile, T. G., C. W. H., E. B. H., S. H. Jr., Jap, F. A. J., J. C. Luker, M. J. Falkner, ROY, Seabee, M.S.C.S., E. H. F. Salt, E. H. Schilizzi, H. A. Spowart, Tertius, Wisha, and A. West.

One mark : Anona, Attila, T. F. Barratt, Carl, Champion, H. L. C., W. Gardner, E. B. H., J. E. S. King, J. Loughrey, Lotus, Mac., MOT, A. M. Marsh, G. Murray, A. H. P., A. R. J. P., G. B. P., A. Read, W. F. Smith, Taffy, J. Walker, and Selim.

If a few of the long names can be shortened, so as to retain their identity, it will be better, but same name or initials must be continued, as we cannot recognize changes of names during the series. Two or three words were spelled wrongly, but as it is clear what is meant, these slips have been passed, but cannot be in future, as some solutions will depend on one form of spelling. One little grumble has been received as to coupon or form having to be cut from the *Weekly*, but it is only on an advertisement page, and uniformity is necessary. Uncle Ben desires to thank Miss F. for appreciative and complimentary note.

Notes.—No. 3 was mostly an extract from dictionary; No. 4, Bhopal stamps have "H. H. NAWAB" on them; and for No. 6, the inscription reads "Egyptian Posts."

A Great Rarity

By R. E. JAMES

I AM the proud possessor of what is looked upon by Straits specialists as the *pièce de résistance* of all Malayan stamps—the “cent cent” error of the 1 c. on 50 c. Selangor of 1900.

Possibly, nay probably, the majority of philatelists are unaware even of its very existence. Yet it is as genuine an error as ever existed, and in all probability would have cost the native compositor his job had it been discovered by the Government printer then and there, instead of only several weeks later.

Being in Kuala Lumpur, the capital of the Federated Malay States, at the time, I am in a position to give the authentic history of this great rarity.

In the first place, in defence of the practice of surcharging, which had previously been somewhat abused in the northern State of Perak, I should state that for several weeks Selangor had been using one cent Queen's Heads borrowed from Singapore, until finally the Crown Colony, fearing the exhaustion of its own supply, refused to send any more, so it became an absolute necessity to create a provisional issue.

In the first printing the error occurred on one sheet only, when the type for the lower five stamps on the right-hand pane shifted to the left, causing the “One” to appear on the thin dividing margin, and the “cent” where the “One” should have been. The native Tamil compositor, fearing that he would get the sack for carelessness, tore the sheet in half, destroying the centre margin, and reprinting the “One cent” over the “cent” already on the stamps.

The issue was then sent to the post office, and no one was the wiser until a lucky Government official spotted it, and cornered the whole five! Happily he was a friend of mine, and I got my copy. That was a busy day for the post office—dense masses thronged round its doors, all struggling to buy and corner one cent stamps. Malays, Chinese, Indians, Chetties, and even Europeans, as motley a crowd as you could ever wish to see, and about twenty-five per cent buying for me on commission! An order had gone out that only ten were to be sold at a time; but even this hindrance was quite inadequate, and it was clear that a further supply would be necessary.

At the second printing the same thing happened on one more sheet, but in this case the centre margin was not destroyed. A native postal official, knowing I was a keen collector, showed me the sheet as he

was bringing the supply from the printing works to the post office, and placing it on the top, remarked, “You will be able to get the first sheet from the superintendent, as you have been promised one whole sheet, sir; so be sure you take the top one.” Madly I followed him into the superintendent's office, and watched the parcel undone. The first sheet was then removed, and I was given the second. “Might I have the sheet you have just put away?” I ventured. And, with a “What a nuisance you stamp maniacs are!” I got it, slapped it inside my topee, and was off home. Imagine my disgust when I discovered that the parcel had been opened upside-down, and the sheet with the errors had consequently become the last and not the first! Again they fell into the hands of a postal official—at least, four of them, for one was issued before the error was discovered by the postmaster. The remaining four changed hands at \$50 each, and the same collector tried hard to get the lot, but failed, although he was offering as much as \$100 for the remaining two copies.

Out of the ten copies of this great rarity, one only has been lost sight of, namely, that issued to some native purchaser at the counter. I know the destination of the remaining nine, unless they have changed hands again in the last year.

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.

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.

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

A Working-man's Collection

By "UNCLE TOM"

A WORTHY doctor in Yorkshire, who is one of the old-fashioned collectors, taking "everything that he hasn't already got"—in the way of stamps only, of course—was recently dispensing medicine in his surgery when a working-man entered.

"Hallo, Tom! How's your collection?" the doctor asked pleasantly.

"It's growing, doctor," answered the man. "Same as most other things. I've got here something in *Gibbons Weekly* to show you, doctor. It's about collecting and mounting stamps, and it isn't half bad!"

Philately had come to be a sort of bond of union between the two men, albeit their callings and station in life were dissimilar, and the doctor was glad of a "stamp talk." So together they consulted, digested, and criticized the *Weekly* article. Out of the incident the following facts were evolved:—

The man began collecting in 1892. A chum gave him a few duplicates as a start, and the man's philatelic interest was aroused. Others in the same neighbourhood began about the same time, but dropped out of the ranks one by one, until our friend found himself "treading the winepress alone"—it is his own expression. Then he got married.

Marriage, as far as the writer's experience goes, is usually fatal to stamp collecting. Only this year a lady friend gave up the secretaryship of her Stamp Club "to be married"; and another member wrote: "Knock me off the list for six months, as I'm getting married, and shall have other things to attend to." The new secretary sighed, and hoped no more members would contract matrimonial alliances for a while; he does not object to courtship—that rather stimulates the matter: *tête-à-tête* pairs then become symbolical; and we have heard of a couple of lovers who set themselves diligently to collect only "unsevered pairs."

When our friend got married, however, he did not give up collecting, although he confesses it was a bit of a task to find the wherewithal. All his cash was now monopolized except his "baccy brass." (To readers outside Yorkshire it must be explained that this term signifies money wherewith tobacco is purchased.) It was a "toss up" whether stamps or tobacco should now appropriate this fund, but it is an illustration of the fascination of collecting that stamps prevailed.

Seven years went by, and he had got close upon 4000 specimens when he first met the doctor, and the fact that the doctor had collected about the same number proved a

matter of mutual interest. It was refreshing to have a fellow-collector in the same village with whom to compare notes and talk over new issues.

Loneliness is a great bar to the ardour of collecting. Boys in schools keep each other up to the mark, and philatelic societies help to fan the waning fires, but the solitary country collector is to be pitied. For miles around no other being collects. The members of his own family are not usually interested—save (sometimes) to the extent of criticism which may not be always kind. His zeal suffers for lack of comradeship, and is only kept alive by the periodical arrival of the stamp journal, or the occasional review of his treasures by the evening fire. When the writer took up his residence in a certain parish some time ago, the first person to call upon him was a neighbour, who said, "I hear you're a collector. So am I!" The "So am I!" came out with all the gush of an agreeable surprise. Philately might have been Freemasonry for the effect it had, and from that hour I had gained a new and delightful friend.

Our friend's experience with albums is interesting. An illustrated album he found discouraging, there were so many attractive pictures of stamps that could never be covered. So he set to work to make his own albums, of blank paper. I have one before me now, and it is a model of excellent workmanship. The maker of it evidently understands bookbinding, for it is cut, bound, and wired in a workmanlike way, and opens flat. The cleanness of the book is charming; the pages are white as milk, the marginal lines are as true as if printed, and each space is measured in order to receive the stamp uniformly.

A blank album is necessary on account of the man's methods: he has set himself to collect six specimens of every stamp issue. This is not a bad plan, for it ensures a representative collection, and it just stops where high prices begin, which to a collector of limited means is a consideration. Six denominations of every issue make by no means a bad display—especially in countries with a reputation for issuing a new set every year. Of course in easy countries longer sets can be indulged in.

Sixteen albums were made in all, 8 x 11 inches in size, each volume half an inch thick. These are kept in a little cabinet of Canadian pine, each on its separate shelf, and for economy of space the shelves are of sheet steel. The man has made every item

himself, and gives the cost as follows: wood, 2s.; steel, 1s.; paper for albums, 3s. He speaks of the work as being a labour of love, and says that any man handy with tools could easily construct similar accessories for himself. His collection now numbers 8300.

It might be added that where a man is rich enough to buy albums ready made, big and expensive, it would be waste of time to attempt to make them for himself. Perhaps it may be the duty of a well-to-do collector to buy these things, if only for the sake of the employment it gives to the men who make them. In the same way the expenditure of £60,000 on a wedding outfit, chronicled recently in the papers, would seem to be justified by the benefit it brought to a whole

army of workers. If the rich man were to give up buying, where should we be? (Our publishers, I am told, have a customer who spends £2000* a year with them; this paragraph should therefore survive when the editor sets to work to revise this article.)

But with a poorer man the case is different. What he cannot buy he may make with his own hands, which is infinitely to be preferred to giving up collecting altogether. Let all such collectors take heart from the example of this working-man, and go on steadily till they build up a grand collection.

* This is not a really large sum; we have several who spend much more than this per annum, and have had many cheques of £500 to £1000 for a single transaction. Only in November last we had a cheque for nearly £3000 for a purchase from the Breitfus-Collection.—*Ed. G.S.W.*

British Post Offices in Morocco

By NOVICE

AS is well known, there is, up to the present, no national postal service in Morocco.

Great Britain, France, Germany, and Spain have, however, each established their own post offices in that country for the receipt, dispatch, and protection of their own mails, and each issues special stamps for the use of its resident subjects.

The first foreign post office established was in 1893, when France obtained a concession for the purpose; Great Britain and Spain followed, and finally Germany followed suit in 1900.

Great Britain established in Tangier in 1898 its first office, and followed with others in certain seaports. These post offices were under the control of the Gibraltar postal authorities, who provided a supply of the current Gibraltar stamps overprinted with the words "Morocco Agencies," and the values in Spanish currency.

When the King's Head stamps came into use in 1903 the same course was adopted.

On 1 January, 1907, a change was made—the post offices were transferred from the Colonial Government to the Imperial Government, and the current stamps of Great Britain, overprinted as before, were put into use and the Gibraltar stamps withdrawn. The postal service was reorganized, and extended to towns in the interior, and British post offices are now established at Tangier, Larache, Rabat, Casablanca, Mazagan, Saffi, Mogador, Tetuan, Alcazar, Fez, and Mequinez.

A few months later a change was made in the overprinting, the Spanish values being omitted; the stamps so overprinted being intended for use on parcels, while those with the additional overprint of value remain in use for other mail matter.

Answers to Correspondents

DORYMAN; S. C. B.; F. G.; F. P. C.; MRS. L.—Many thanks to you all for drawing our attention to the omissions from our list of King's Heads control letters and numbers. Both the ½d. and 1d. have appeared with F7. We regret we are unable to answer the question of "Doryman."

MRS. L. (Blackheath).—Thanks for your note on albums. The remarks of B. W. W. were only intended to be very general, and given as forming a very rough basis upon which to estimate the number of collectors. Probably, taking the world over, ninety-nine collectors out of each hundred use printed albums.

C. S. B. (Nottingham).—We should advise you to include "chalkies" in those countries you

specialize and to ignore them in your general collection.

W. H. S. (Leicester).—In separating French from French Colonies stamps the following hints may be of use:—

The French 1870 1, 2, and 4 c. have the inscription REPUB. FRANC. much shorter than that of the French Colonies of 1871, and the last letter of this inscription is some distance from the edge of the stamp; in the Colonial stamp it nearly touches the margin. In the 10, 20, and 40 c. French 1870 the fillet of corn, etc., above the forehead of Ceres is flat and some distance from the circle of pearls; in the Colonial stamps the heads of corn stand up more and almost touch

the pearls. In the French 1900 issue, the stamps with figures of value printed by a second printing can generally be separated from those stamps printed at one operation, as they have the figures out of centre and of a different shade from the rest of the stamp.

C. C. (Leyton).—The watermark on your stamp is probably due to the sheet of paper having been badly placed in the printing machine and one row of stamps printed on one of the margins. The margins of many stamps contain watermarked inscriptions in letters and figures, and as a rule stamps printed on such margins are not considered as important varieties and certainly are not up to catalogue rank. Specialists may keep them as curiosities.

J. G. R. (Sunderland).—The stamps you mention most likely come from one of the small pocket-books of stamps which are now sold by so many countries. We should like to see the pair to take a note of it, if you will kindly send along to our publishers.

M. G. W. (Rome).—The letters T. F. on the old stamps of the Orange Free State were used to denote those used for telegraph purposes; there are an enormous number of varieties and many of them are very common.

Natal Letter

DEAR SIR,—By last week's mail I received again the good old paper, and also the three missing numbers; this will now make the volume complete.

I see by the *Stamp Weekly* of 30 November that our Agent-General has warned the dealers and others about the unused Official Natsals, as they are considered stolen property. I cannot quite agree with the Agent-General about the stamps being stolen property. These stamps certainly were not issued to the general public,

but they were issued by the Government to a very large number of minor officials, who did not possess "franking power." The stamps were issued carelessly, and no proper check was ever kept upon them. It naturally followed that a large quantity got into private hands, but hardly as stolen goods. Officials who had the stamps used ordinary postal stamps for their official correspondence, and for every stamp used they retained equivalent value of Official stamps. This is how the bulk of Official Natal stamps got into the market. The Government has not lost anything by it, as they received value for value.

I have another matter I wish to bring to your notice, and this is the absence of a number of varieties of Orange Free State stamps from your Catalogue. I have very many not mentioned in your Catalogues, the chief varieties being:—

(a) Type I. Issue 1882-84. Two pence, surcharged 1½d., in black, surcharge inverted and Arms of Republic on stamp, also inverted.

(b) Type I. Issue 1882-84. Drie pence, surcharged "Halve Penny" (1896), bar inverted; the latter one I had a pair of.

(c) Another interesting variety I have of Orange River Colony ^{V.R.I.}_{T.F.} is a pair of 6d., used, with mixed stops.

I know all these varieties to be genuine, as I received them through the post on letters and parcels.

If it should interest you, I shall be glad to let you see the stamps.

Yours faithfully,

PAUL W. GRESSMAN.

(a) This is a stamp used for post cards only, and we do not list them.

(b) This is only a misplaced surcharge, which are common in this country and not worth listing.

(c) This is a well-known variety of a Telegraph stamp, which we do not list.—ED. G.S.W.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.O.

Cayman Islands.—We are now able to illustrate the provisional ½d. and 1d., overprinted on 5s., and described in our issue of 4 January.

½D 1D

It seems that these provisionals were not issued without due cause, as a supply of new ½d. and 1d. stamps, inscribed POSTAGE AND REVENUE, is said to be on the way out.

China.—Several of our foreign contemporaries state that an entirely new set of postage stamps will be issued in the course of a few months.

We also learn that the new 16 c., chronicled in our issue of 9 November, is specially intended to frank foreign letters weighing over 20 and under 40 grammes. The latest tariff of the International Postal Union states that the rates of postage from China abroad will be—10 cents for the first 20 grammes, and 6 cents each additional 20 grammes or fraction thereof.

Crete.—Sergeant Ashby sends us two Official stamps—the first two Officials, by the way, that Crete has had. The two stamps seem to be lithographed, and not particularly well at that, as some of the Greek characters are defective in the 10 lepta. The paper is wove, without watermark, and the perforation gauges 14. These

stamps were issued on 14 January, which is the 1st January according to Cretan ideas, as they reckon by the old Julian calendar.



Officials. Lithographed. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 l., dull claret	—	—
30 l., slate-blue	—	—

Ecuador.—Our New York house continues to send us various values of the current issue, provided with weird and more or less undecipherable hieroglyphics, said to be control marks. We shall note all those we come across, but shall not catalogue them until we have further information as to how they came to be made.



We have now the 5 c., black and lilac-rose, provided with a "control," handstamped in red. It consists of a circle 19 mm. in diameter, containing another measuring 7 mm. Between the two circles is some lettering that we cannot make out.

Another is the 5 c., handstamped in red, with a very indistinct word that looks like FROM.



We have also a 10 c., black and indigo, handstamped in violet, with a double circle 25 mm. in diameter, containing the following inscription in three lines: C.-E.—DE LA—PROVINCIA.

Honduras.—Monsieur Dorsan Astruc has shown us five values of the 1898 issue, overprinted, in black, with the word OFICIAL in large double-lined capitals.

Monsieur Astruc writes us as follows:—

"According to official declarations from Honduras the decree concerning these Official stamps, issued on 30 April, 1898, was published in the number 1673 of the official newspaper of Honduras, the *Gaceta Oficial*.

"The issue is only of the values 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., 50 c., and 1 peso, and was in use only a very short time. I have got the official declarations from Honduras concerning the matter."



OFICIAL

Officials. Overprinted, in black, as illustration. Perf. 13½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., pale blue	—	—
10 c., indigo-blue	—	—
20 c., orange-brown	—	—
50 c., vermilion	—	—
1 p., light blue-green	—	—

Italy.—Dr. Becchini has shown us a pair of the current 5 c., used on a letter dated 13 July, 1907, showing a splendid double impression. Similar details in the two impressions are 7 mm. apart, and both impressions are quite clear and distinct. In this case it is not a question of a "jump," but the press has come down twice on the same sheet of paper, which had been moved in the meantime. We certainly think that this variety is worth cataloguing.



Variety. Double print.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., green	—	—

Nicaragua.—Our New York house sends us a specimen of the provisional 50 c. on 1 c., green, chronicled in our issue of 25 January, but with the surcharge in deep blue instead of in black. The blue is so dark and so difficult to distinguish from the black, that we shall probably not make any distinction between them in the next Catalogue.



OFICIAL

50 cvs.

Official. Surcharged in blue on Waterlow print. Perf. 14, 15.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
50 c. on 1 c., green	—	—

Salvador.—Our New York house has shown us copies of the 1 c. and 5 c., 1907 issue, with the shield omitted. A similar variety of the 2 c. has already been chronicled, and will be found in the Catalogue.



Shield omitted. Perf. 11½.
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.

1 c., black and green . . . — —
 5 c. " " indigo-blue . . . — —

Siam.—Mr. Norman Prentice writes us under date of 30 December, 1907, as follows:—

“Doubtless you have correspondents in Bangkok who have informed you ere this of the recent ‘famine’ in 1 att stamps.

“For four or five days none were obtainable, and the Post Office, to meet the demand, appointed two officials to stamp any covers brought in for postage and to sign the same. The officials appointed were Nai Fack, the superintendent of Post Office No. 2, and the superintendent of No. 1 Office, whose name I will inform you of later.

“Nai Fack signed ‘Fack,’ and the other official merely the letter ‘R.’

“I have not yet been able to discover how many covers were so stamped and signed, but I am of the opinion that there were not more than, say, 2000, and most of these, I fancy, were thrown aside into the waste-paper basket. . . .

“I may tell you that it is quite impossible to have envelopes stamped to order in such a case as this recently. Every one of mine went through the post in the usual way, and contained a circular.

“The surcharged stamp to meet the demand for the shortage in 1 att stamps is now out (1 att on 24 atts), but it cannot be bought in any quantity even at the Post Office.

“Yesterday I heard that only thirty ticals’ worth were left, and I sent up to buy the lot. My money was returned. The Post Office will stamp the cover for you if it is a *bona-fide* case, but they refuse to allow the vagaries of collectors to further inconvenience them. . . .

“The Postal authorities have never been responsible for the surcharges of Siam. The ordering of stamps is in the hands of the Treasury, and they have time and again proved themselves careless and inefficient.”

The covers referred to by our correspondent are certain envelopes showing three varieties of the indication that postage has been paid. In the top right-hand corner of the envelope the following words are to be found: “ONE ATT STAMPS RUN SHORT. POSTAGE PAID.” This inscription is found (i) printed in black ink, done with a handstamp; (ii) written by hand in black

or red ink. It is accompanied by the signature “Fack” or “R” in black or red ink. We have not yet seen “R” in conjunction with a *printed* inscription.

These things are extremely interesting, but we cannot catalogue them as they are certainly no postage stamps.

Transvaal.—We have seen a copy of the 2d., brown, 1896-7 issue, overprinted V.R.I., with no stop after the “I.” This stamp would be No. 5262 in the Catalogue.



Issue of 1896-7, overprint as above. No stop after the “I.”
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.

2d., brown . . . — —

United States.—Alexandria.—A stamp that is probably absolutely unique has recently been discovered in America amongst a mass of old correspondence. It is the Alexandria (Virginia) Postmaster’s provisional 5c., type-set, and printed on bluish-grey paper, instead of on buff. This stamp is extremely rare on buff paper. We quote as follows from *The Postage Stamps of the United States*, by John N. Luff:—

“This stamp (the buff) was issued about 1846, the earliest known cancellation being Sept. 9, 1846.

“Daniel Bryan was Postmaster at Alexandria from 1845 to 1847. Tiffany’s *History of the Postage Stamps of the United States* gives the name ‘Brien,’ but I am informed by Mr. W. F. Lambert, of Alexandria, that the correct spelling is ‘Bryan.’

“The first known copy of this stamp was found by the late John K. Tiffany in his family correspondence. . . . The letter is dated to July, 1847.

“ . . . A second copy is on a cover bearing; the date of 9 Sept., 1846. . . .

“ . . . A third copy is in the collection of Mr. Shryock.”

Altogether only three copies of the provisional are known on buff paper, and this is the only known copy on bluish grey. The stamp is in a fine state of preservation, and is on original cover.



1846. Type-set. Thin wove paper.

Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.
 5 (c.), black on bluish grey . . . — —

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 7
Whole No. 163

15 FEBRUARY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

France—continued

THE Bank undertook to supply the new stamps to the Government at 4d. per 1000, a saving straight away of 2d. per 1000 on the price charged by M. Hulot.

With some modifications the new design was engraved in relief, on steel, by M. Mouchon, the engraver chosen by the Bank, and from this matrix die sets of plates were made for all values. A square hole was cut away in the die to receive the varying numerals, which, in the first instance, were of ordinary movable type. In making casts for some more plates later on, this matrix die met with an accident. The lower part had to be ground down and re-engraved, the figures this time being separately engraved for each value. Thus it is that the Catalogue gives two varieties for these stamps, but for general collectors one will suffice. The plates were formed of two groups of 150 stamps, each group being subdivided into six panes of 25 stamps each (5 rows of 5) divided by blank margins. The paper was tinted as previously, and the perforation, though by new machines obtained in France, gauged the same as before. To find a distinct colour for each value was a hard problem at the time, so the values from 1 c. to 10 c. were all printed in green. The 15 c. was the first to appear (May, 1876), the others following at intervals till November, 1876. The 1 c., completing the first eleven values, was issued February, 1877. The shades vary considerably.



	Perf. 14 × 13½.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., green	2 0	0 6
2 c. „	0 3	0 2
4 c. „	0 5	0 6
5 c. „	0 2	0 1
10 c. „	2 6	0 2
15 c., lilac	3 0	0 1
20 c., brown on yellow	2 0	0 1
25 c., blue	1 6	0 1
30 c., cinnamon	1 0	0 1
75 c., carmine	7 6	0 1
1 fr., olive-green	1 3	0 1

In 1874 a far-reaching measure had its inception, viz. that now known as the "Postal Union." Until then the exchange of correspondence was not governed by any fixed rules. In France, for example, the rates for postage on letters to other countries varied from 25 c. for Luxemburg to 80 c. for Egypt, and 1 fr. for most of the over-sea territories. The Congress at Berne, 9 October, 1874, fixed an international tariff between the contracting parties, and constituted their countries "a single postal territory for reciprocal exchange of correspondence." The rates were to be, for a single letter, from 20 c. to 32 c.; for post cards about half the rate, and for printed matter from 5 c. to 11 c. per 50 grammes.

The French authorities were a long time making up their mind to join, for the taxes caused by the war still pressed heavily upon the finances, but eventually the treaty was approved and France and her Colonies became definitely a part of the "Postal Union," 1 January, 1876. A more important Congress was held in Paris in May, 1878, when the present name, "Union Postale Universelle," was adopted, and a fixed rate of 25 c. for letters and 10 c. for post cards was agreed upon.

The increase of postal rates throughout

France had tended to diminish the number of letters, and many propositions had been advanced with a view to reducing the tariff as well as to making it uniform. In November, 1876, the Minister of Finance (M. Léon Say) presented a scheme for a uniform rate of 20 c. for letters of 15 grammes and 10 c. for post cards, but the reduction was not considered sufficient. In 1878 the reformers had their way, and a law of 6 April, 1878, fixed the rate at 15 c. for letters and 10 c. for post cards, and also reduced the postage on printed matter.

Previous to the above reduction, the postal employés having complained of the difficulty in checking the postage on printed matter, owing to the lower values all being of the same tint, it had been decided to change the colour of the current stamps with the exception of the 5, 30, 75 c., and 1 fr. At the same time new values, viz. 3 c., 35 c., and 40 c., were to be issued, and the old 5 fr. replaced by a stamp in the "Peace and Commerce" type.

The stamps made their appearance at varying times between January, 1877, and October, 1878, and, as most continued in use for a long period, it is not surprising that numerous shades are to be found.

Certain that the proposals of M. Say would be carried, the Administration had prepared a supply of 20 c. in *blue*, the colour which had always been associated with the single-letter rate, but of course these were useless and the stamps were never issued. The new colour of the 15 c. was to have been *yellow*, and copies are known in the colour, but these can be passed by as proofs only.

1877-78. <i>Peace and Commerce type.</i>		Changes	
of colours and new values.		Perf. 14 × 13½	
	Unused.	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	0 1	0 1	0 1
2 c., red-brown on <i>buff</i>	0 1	0 1	0 1
3 c., ochre on <i>yellow</i>	0 9	0 3	0 3
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	0 4	0 1	0 1
10 c., black on <i>lilac</i>	0 2	0 1	0 1
15 c., blue on <i>bluish</i>	0 6	0 1	0 1
25 c., black on <i>red</i>	5 0	0 2	0 2
35 c., brown on <i>orange</i>	4 0	0 2	0 2
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	1 0	0 1	0 1
5 fr., lilac on <i>pale lilac</i>	6 6	1 6	1 6

There was considerable difficulty in seeing the obliteration on the 25 c., so in February, 1879, its colour was changed to bistre on *yellow*. This, however, was similar to the 3 c. and 20 c., so both these values were altered in subsequent printings, the 3 c. appearing in its new colour the following year and the 20 c. in 1884. Still later (April, 1886), the 25 c. was again changed, this time to black on *rose*, in which colour it continued until it was changed in design in 1900. On 7 March, 1890, the 75 c. was withdrawn and replaced by a 50 c. in the same colour; but in consequence of an outcry against its

suppression (the jewellery trade making great use of the value), it was reissued in October in the colours of the 35 c. which had been withdrawn in February, 1887.

1879-90. *Same type and perf.*
Colours changed, etc.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
3 c., drab	0 2	0 1
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	1 0	0 1
25 c., bistre on <i>yellow</i>	1 3	0 1
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	0 4	0 1
50 c., rose	1 0	0 1
75 c., brown on <i>orange</i>	1 6	0 3

At this time the postal service in France contrasted very unfavourably with that of other countries of like or even less importance. It was understaffed and had as little as possible spent upon it. Until 1879 the department had been controlled by the Ministry of Finance, and the service had been regarded more as a revenue-producing asset than as an institution for the public convenience. Similarly, for political reasons, the telegraph service had been in the hands of the Ministry for the Interior. Demands for improvement were so insistent that early in 1879 the two services were combined under a separate ministry. M. Cocheret was the first minister, and during his term of office far-reaching reforms were introduced and the whole service brought thoroughly up to date. He displayed the greatest zeal in all branches, even to keeping his eye on stamp dealers and collectors. Though converted to the gentle science of Philately in later life, for many years he was a determined opponent of all that pertained to the collection of stamps, looking upon dealers as little short of criminals and as accumulators of used stamps for the purpose of having them cleaned to use again. Postal officials were warned as to their relations with such folk, and the police were instructed to keep dealers and known collectors under observation. On one occasion the office of a well-known firm of dealers, now settled in Belgium, was raided by the police and their stock and books seized. Nothing incriminating of course was found, but the stock was not returned for at least a month.

Many experiments were made to prevent the use of washed stamps—such practices did prevail now and then—but nothing was especially introduced till 1892.

In that year the 15 c., the value most in use, was issued in a different form. Instead of tinting the paper as previously, a groundwork of crossed lines in varnish was applied, and the stamps were then printed on the top of this. The paper is known as *quadrille*, and the device was first suggested to the authorities by a well-known dealer and authority on French stamps, the late

M. Arthur Maury, of Paris. The stamps so printed continued in use for many years, and may be found in at least three distinct shades.

The only other stamps of the "Peace and Commerce" type that need be mentioned here are the 5 c., *yellow-green*, issued in 1899, and the 2 fr., brown on pale blue, issued in April, 1900. The first was issued for a similar reason to that given for the change of the 50 c. Empire type in 1860, viz. "that by artificial light the old colour appeared

blue, and was often confused with a stamp of a higher value." The 2 fr. was introduced to cover postage on packages that cost between 75 c. and 5 fr., and which, as occasion showed, was very often 2 fr.

1892-1900. *Peace and Commerce type.*

Perf. 14 x 13½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
5 c., yellow-green	0	1	0	1
15 c., blue on <i>quadrilli</i>	0	3	0	1
2 fr., brown on <i>pale blue</i>	2	6	0	4

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

No. 35. Value £702.
Straits Settlements: Bangkok and Johor.

A VERY strong book, well representative of all issues and with very few varieties missing. The first issues, overprinted on Indian stamps, are a nice lot, and include blocks and pairs and some fine shades. The 1868 issue, wmk. C C, seem to be getting scarce unused; stocks are very small, not only with us, but with all our friends in the trade, as we have been trying to fill up with but poor success. The early provisionals of 1879-82 seem to be almost exhausted, and are likely to increase in value before long. The later issues are very complete; a noteworthy feature is the striking shades that exist in the King's Head single C A issue.

Wanted to Purchase

Straits Settlements.

Unused. 12, 12a, 13, 16a, 17, 18, 20, 27, 31 to 39c, 43, 51, 67, 71, 73, 132, 133.

Used. 1 to 9 fine, 12, 13, 17, 20, 51, 71, 73, 132, 133.

Bangkok.

Unused. 1, 2, 5, 6, 12, 17, 18, 22, 23.

Used. 1, 2, 4, 6, 23.

Johor.

Unused. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 33a, 58 to 62, 67, 71.

Used. 1, 3, 11, 58 to 62, 67, 68 to 74.

No. 36. Value £442.
Johor, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, and Perak.

Another good book, very complete; in Perak especially there are many of the real rarities in the surcharges, which can now so seldom be found.

Wanted to Purchase

Perak.

Unused. 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 23, 26, 28, 29a, 31, 35, 36, 39, 48, 52, 71.

Used. 1, 11, 24, 26, 38.

Nos. 60, 61, and 177. Value £3828.

Transvaal (3 vols.).

Three grand books of this now very popular country have just been arranged, and we have combined together the balance of the Nankivell Collection, our own stock, and the Breitfuss Collection, the result being one of the most valuable and interesting sets of Transvaal stock books that we have ever possessed. All the old issues are well represented, and amongst the rarities I note the 6d., blue on blue, no surcharge; the 3d., lilac, surcharge all capitals, surcharge inverted (only two other copies known to us); the 1d., red on blue, error "Transvral," a number of the red surcharges, errors with inverted surcharges, etc. In the issue of 1879 a very interesting thing is a full sheet of the 1d., black surcharge, on 6d., black, showing all the types. The later issues are very complete, and there are a large number of full panes and sheets showing all varieties of the overprints.

Wanted to Purchase

We are now glad to see selections on approval of the early Transvaal stamps with each stamp priced separately. We are willing to pay high prices for real rarities, such as pairs—*tête-bêche*, surcharge V.R. and TRANSVAAL wide apart, etc.

Some fine Auctions in Sight

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co., Ltd., inform me that they have secured a magnificent

collection for sale without reserve, owing to the death of the owner. The collection has been formed on the Continent, and the stamps have been bought mostly from half a dozen of the leading firms, including Moens, Bernichon, and largely from our own publishers. I have not yet been able to see the collection, but I am aware that the late owner was very particular about condition, that he was fond of blocks and sheets of stamps, and that his European collection was very complete. I am told that the collection is expected to realize at auction between four and five thousand pounds, and that three or four sales will be necessary. I understand the first of these sales will be about the end of March next, and catalogues will be sent to every important collector in Europe and America, special arrangements having been made to circulate an edition of about nine thousand catalogues of the first sale.

Vryburg (Cape of Good Hope)

IN our Catalogue, under the heading "Vryburg—British Reoccupation," we list a set of four stamps overprinted "V. R. Special Post." I do not remember any official document having been published about this issue, so I give the following, which has been sent me from a correspondent in South Africa:—

I beg to state that while I was Acting-Postmaster in Vryburg, in May, 1900, I made up a post of Z. A. R. stamps, printed across "V. R. Special Post" and cancelled with a stamp which did not give the year, but only 19. The proper stamp had been removed by the Boers.

W. VERNON JOHNSTONE,
Acting-Postmaster, Vryburg.

Improved Postage Stamp Album

I HAVE pleasure in announcing the publication of a new edition of this well-known album for beginners. This edition is the sixteenth, the first edition having been issued in 1869. The albums are issued in three qualities at 3s. 6d., 5s., and 7s. 6d. each, postage extra. This new edition is fully up to date, and contains spaces for all the newer stamp-issuing districts.

Sydney Philatelic Club

IT has been decided by the Committee of the Sydney Philatelic Club to offer a gold medal, to be known as the Sydney Philatelic Club Medal, for competition by philatelists who are, or become, subscribing members to the Club, for the best article upon or in relation to some philatelic subject, including Australian, British, Colonial, and Foreign Postage, Official, Telegraph, or Fiscal stamps.

Articles submitted for competition must be original and typewritten, and bear a *nom de plume*, the writer's name and address to be placed in a sealed envelope, and such

envelope with the article to be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary, the Sydney Philatelic Club, Box 704, G.P.O., Sydney, any time before 30 April, 1908. Competitors may send in one or more articles, the length of same is left to their own discretion.

The articles will be adjudicated upon by a Board of three, consisting of Mr. Basset Hull, Mr. J. H. Smyth, and Mr. David Hill, of Melbourne, has been asked to make the third; these gentlemen will not compete.

In addition to the gold medal, Mr. Basset Hull donates an extra trophy for the best article on Australian Stamps, and Mr. Smyth, editor of the *Australian Philatelist*, will publish any articles deemed satisfactory, paying for same at the rate of 10s. per page, and in addition award a guinea's worth of stamps to the writer of the winning article.

The so-called Sinn Fein Postage Stamps

THE general Press has printed a lot of nonsense about what it terms "postage stamps" issued by the "Sinn Fein" Irish Association. These are not postage stamps at all, they are only advertisement labels which members of the Sinn Fein Association stick on their letters, which have to be franked with the usual British postage stamps. These labels are not, of course, of the slightest interest to stamp collectors.

Collector's Remarkable Suicide

A STAMP collector, aged fifty-six, at St. Josse, Belgium, was so overcome with grief because his album had accidentally been burnt that he committed suicide by suffocating himself with the half-charred pages of the book.—*Daily Express*, 18.1.08.

I should like to hear from any reader in Belgium if there is any truth in this remarkable story.

Are Postage Stamps Live Stock?

A CORRESPONDENT in Glasgow has kindly sent me several cuttings from local papers. In one case I note that a London collector is advertising that he wishes to purchase "Penny Black English, and old Chili and Sarawak." This is put in the Glasgow paper under the heading, "Live Stock Wanted or for Sale."

Curious Letters

AMONG the articles which passed through the Bath Post Office at Christmas was a lady's small satin shoe with the stamp affixed to the upper where the toes go, and the address and a message of greeting written on the sole. Another missive consisted of the round top of a pill box with the address on one side and a little drawing on the other.—*Glasgow Evening News*, 28.12.07.

Letters delivered by Sky-rockets

THE most remarkable method of delivering letters doubtless is that employed by the steamers passing islands of the Tonga group in the Pacific. On account of many reefs landing is extremely dangerous, and the few letters to be delivered are attached to large sky-rockets, which are fired and reach the

shore in safety.—*Glasgow Evening News*, 2.1.08.

Latest S. G. Limerick

MANY watermarks hard to be seen
May be found with the aid of benzene.
Our shilling "Detectors"
Are a boon to collectors,
Especially those who are keen.

STANLEY PHILLIPS.

Twentieth Century Colonials

**A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901-June, 1907)**

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

Great Britain—continued**Malta**

MALTA is an island in the Mediterranean Sea, situate about 180 miles from the coast of Egypt, and fifty-eight to the south of the island of Sicily. It has, with the adjoining islands of Gozo and Comino and the islets of Cominotto and Filfla, which form part of the colony, an area of 117 square miles, and supports a total population of 205,059 exclusive of the British garrison, which numbers 10,000—the largest garrison of any British Crown Colony.

The island is of great commercial and strategical importance, being situated on the direct ocean highway to the Far East. It is an important port of call for all eastward-bound vessels, and is for six months out of the year the head-quarters of the Mediterranean Fleet, whilst its close proximity to Egypt, over which Great Britain has established a *quasi* protectorate, enables troops to be thrown into that country at the shortest possible notice, should occasion arise. It is a Crown Colony, and is administered by a resident Governor, who was until recently also the Commander-in-Chief of the garrison. Henceforth, however, there will be a civil Governor, although the General Officer Commanding the Mediterranean Station will have his head-quarters on the island. Local government is in the hands of an Executive Council of eleven, and a Council of Government of eighteen members, both of which are presided over by the Governor.

The islands are in a high state of cultivation, and produce corn, fruit, onions, cummin seed, and fresh vegetables in large quantities, most of which find their way into the English market. Malta has been renowned from the earliest times for its lace, whilst the gold filigree work is an art for which Maltese jewellers are famous. The majority of the male inhabitants are, however, connected in some way or other with the shipping, which provides the staple industry of the islands.

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

The history of Malta, which is said to be the original Melita upon which the apostle St. Paul was shipwrecked in 58 A.D., when on his voyage to Rome, has been from the first an extremely chequered one. It was successively under the sway of the Phœnicians, the Carthaginians, Greeks, Byzantines, and at length of the Romans, under whose rule the island grew exceedingly prosperous, being noted throughout the Mediterranean for the excellence of its cloths and fabrics. After the fall of the Roman Empire, however, the island fell into the hands of the Moors, who used it as a base for piratical expeditions. These were driven out in 1090 by Roger of Sicily, and Malta continued under the control of that kingdom until 1530, when it was transferred to the Knights of St. John, who spent vast sums in fortifying the island in order to use it as a seat of operations against the Sallee Rovers.

Thirty-five years later, in 1565, Malta sustained a prolonged siege at the hands of the Turks, which was successfully withstood by the Knights under the command of Grand Master La Valette. In 1798 the Knights of St. John were expelled from the island by the French, under Napoleon Bonaparte, who were in turn driven out by a combined British and Neapolitan force two years later, since which time Malta has remained a British possession, being formally ceded to Great Britain by a treaty signed in Paris in 1814.

The capital of the colony is Valetta, a city founded in 1566 by the Knights, and so named in honour of Grand Master La Valette. Its harbour is world-renowned, and is heavily fortified. The town engages in an extensive shipping industry, and has a population of over 30,000. Citta Vecchia, the ancient capital of the island, contains the cathedral, seminary, and law courts of the Knights of St. John.

Malta joined the Postal Union in 1889. Stamps were first issued in 1861.

(To be continued.)

Photography as Applied to Stamps

By FRANK PHILLIPS

V. Colour Photography

MANY of my readers will have heard of the new process of natural-colour photography, lately introduced by the world-renowned Brothers Lumière. The process has been made possible to any amateur by the marketing of a specially prepared photographic plate, called "the Autochrome." At the outset it would be as well to state that this process only admits of transparencies, and not of paper prints.

I will try to give a brief outline of this process in non-technical language, as to the majority of amateurs the "reason why" is not yet fully understood.

A piece of glass is first coated with a sticky solution, on which is spread a layer of starch grains, so that the grains all touch one another but are not placed one on the top of the other. These grains are of three kinds: one is dyed violet, another green, and another orange. The grains are mixed intimately together in predetermined proportions, and the mixture is dusted on the plate, as previously described. The interstices between the grains are filled up with an opaque substance, and the whole preparation is given a coat of waterproof varnish. It must be remembered that the starch grains are only $\frac{1}{3000}$ of an inch in diameter, so it can be realized how difficult the above-described processes must be.

We now have a piece of glass coated with innumerable coloured particles, blended in such proportions that to the eye the result appears perfectly white.

The prepared plate is coated with an extremely sensitive panchromatic emulsion, similar to the emulsion of the Lumière Ortho. C plate.

The plate is then ready for use, and may be exposed in an ordinary camera, through a special yellow screen provided by Messrs. Lumière, but with the *glass side* of the plate towards the lens.

We will now try to understand how we get the effect of colour on looking through a finished plate. We will suppose that from a green object the green ray of light passes through the lens and strikes the plate. Being green, it cannot pass through any of the violet or orange grains of starch, but it can pass through the green grains; consequently the photographic emulsion covered by the green grains is affected, and, on development, turned black. But a subsequent process, called "reversal," changes the white portions of the plate to black, and vice versa, so that the portion of the plate

under our green starch grains will be turned white, i.e. rendered transparent. So now if we hold the plate up to the light we shall be able to see through it where the green grains of starch are, and as these grains are green, we shall see green. This may sound a little involved, but on reflection it will be evident that the beauty of the process lies in its simplicity. All colours are obtained by the blending of the different-coloured starch grains, and are practically independent of the manipulator. The makers advertise that "the skill is in the plates," and they are certainly right.

I will not go into the process at length, but I recommend those who desire further information to buy a book on the subject by Mr. Child Bayley,* the editor of *Photography*.

I have found this process very suitable for photographing stamps, and I have obtained beautiful results, in which every detail is shown clearly and, what is more, the colours are reproduced faithfully. I have always used a $3\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ plate, so that I could show the coloured stamps on a screen with a projection lantern. Unfortunately the slides are very dense, and need a very strong light indeed to show them properly, but with ordinary oxyhydrogen limelight, using a mixed jet, pictures up to 6 feet in diameter can be shown.

Now as regards exposure. I have taken stamps on these plates, copying them actual size, and using the yellow screen supplied by the makers, and have proceeded as follows: The exposure has been calculated with a Watkins Meter, the speed of the plate being taken as Watkins "1" indoors, or Watkins "2" out of doors.

A speed of "1" Watkins means that at $f/8$ the plate would have to be exposed for the same time as the actinometer paper took to darken to the standard tint.

If the actinometer time was 45 secs., and we were using $f/16$, the exposure would be 4×45 secs. = 3 mins. But we must allow for the extra extension of the camera, so by referring to Table A, in the chapter on "Exposure," we find we have to multiply by 2, so the correct exposure would be 6 mins.

In conclusion I would like to mention that Messrs. Lumière & Co., of 89 Great Russell Street, London, W.C., will willingly send any reader a copy of their catalogue, descriptive of this process and of their orthochromatic plates, on receipt of a penny stamp.

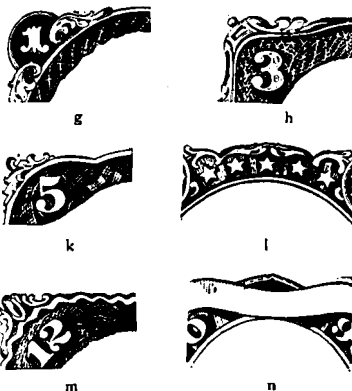
* *Real Colour Photography*, by R. Child Bayley. Published by Iliffe & Sons, Limited. 1s.

Hard U.S. Problems Made Easy

By EUSTACE B. POWER

IN my last article I treated of the stamps of the United States issued from the year 1851 down to the end of 1860. I think that I forgot to state in that article that to oblige collectors who wished to secure a set, at the Centennial Exhibition the Government reprinted the stamps without gum and perforated them 12, which at once distinguishes them from the regular issue, whose perforations run from 15 to 15½. In this article I propose to take up the 1861 issue and amalgamate with it the issues between 1862 and 1866, as some of the values are so closely allied to each other that it would be well to treat of them at the same time. The first stumbling-block that we come against is that extraordinary set generally called the "premier gravures." Some of the values can be told from secret marks or additions to the designs, whereas in other values no such marks are believed to exist, and we have to rely on the colours to separate them. Roughly speaking, all stamps that are found on the very thin brittle paper and heavily gummed with a brown gum are the premiers. Those on thicker paper and with much smoother and whiter gum are the modified types. The premiers appeared in August, 1861, and the modified types in September, so that their life was but one month, which accounts for their rarity. Of these premiers we find the 10 c. and 24 c. values used, and I have seen the 1 c. and 3 c. values with what appears to be a genuine cancellation consisting of three circles one inside the other, and I have heard of a 5 c. being used, but have never seen it. The illustrations of the distinguishing marks of the premiers are as follows:—

Those of the modified types are as follows:—

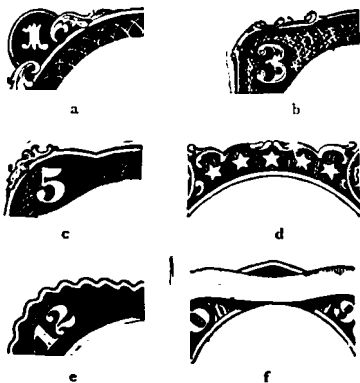


The 1 c. August does not have the little dash underneath the extreme right of the foliated ornament to the right of the figure "1," in the top left-hand corner of the stamp (a). The 1 c. of the September issue has a little straight line underneath this projection which can be clearly seen in the white oval, surrounding the lathework (g).

The 3 c. August (b) is only found in a very deep shade of rose, and does not have the little ball in the extreme corners as in the September issue (h).

The 5 c. August (c) is only found in a rich light brown, and like the 3 c. it misses the final touch to the ornaments in the corner which are very plainly seen in the September issue (k). In the August variety of the 10 c. value, the line of shading behind the five stars between the two numerals "10" at the top of the stamp has no heavy line drawn round the oval (d), whereas in the September issue these lines of shading are terminated by their running into a heavy line of colour which almost touches the point of the middle star (l). In the 12 c. value the August variety is very easily told because the corners have no ornament at all, but merely a wavy line containing the design (e); in the September issue there is a large ornament consisting of an oval supported on each side by a foliated ornament (m).

Up to the present time no difference has been found in the design of the 24 c. value, but the August variety can be told, first by its thin paper, secondly by the heavy brown gum, and thirdly, the most important test, by the colour, which is a very deep soft



violet, whereas the September issue runs from a hard reddish purple right through to the later shades of 1866 which end up in a pale grey.

The 30 c. value in the August varieties is orange-red—a very deep orange-red I should call it—and the colour almost matches the cardboard proofs that are often met with. There is no secret mark on this value, but its deep brilliant colour is a great contrast to the September issue, which has what I might call a rather dull appearance.

The 50 c. value, which in the premier gravure is sometimes found imperforate, is just the reverse of the 30 c. Here the premier comes in a nasty shade of slate-blue, and we have a further and better test by looking at the little arch which surmounts the centre of the stamp, at the top. In the August variety the white space has no shading in it at all (f), but in the September variety there are small lines running along the centre of the white band (n).

We may almost dismiss the premiers from our minds, as their great rarity prevents their being often met with by the general collector. Having sorted out our various denominations, we turn them over on their backs to make sure that none of them have the little grilles which were first applied to the stamps in 1867. If we have any of these we must lay them aside until we come to that issue, but taking it for granted that we have none, and having sorted our stamps into denominations, we start with the 1 c. value. This stamp is found in a very large range of shades—very often it is cancelled with penstrokes (which unscrupulous people attempt to wash off)—and at least six good shades can be picked out. I shall not pretend for one moment to say which shade is the scarcest or attempt to describe the blues, further than to give as a range a very pale light blue down to a very strong ultramarine. Of the 2 c., black, with the large head of Andrew Jackson, there is very little to say. It can be found on a grey paper printed with an intense black ink, and on a white paper, in a somewhat paler shade of black. The stamp is an interesting one from the fact that the head is out of all proportion to the design, and is often saved as a great oddity by amateurs on this account.

The 3 c. value being the common rate of postage in those days, is perhaps found in a larger range of shades than any U.S. stamp, and the cancellations are sometimes extraordinary. The post offices in those days, except in the larger cities, very often used their own cancellations, resulting in some very weird designs. The Catalogue starts off with a 3 c., pink, which seems to be highly prized as a very scarce shade, but as a matter of fact, so many 3 c. are almost pink, yet not quite the real pink, that I think considerably

too much attention has been paid to this particular shade. Next to this stamp we have the 3 c. in very deep rose, and in brilliant scarlet. There have been many articles and controversies about the 3 c., scarlet, as to whether it was really issued or is only a finished proof, but Mr. Scott assures me that he received some from the New Orleans Post Office at face value during the time they were in issue, so that I think the stamp is quite right, although I have never seen a used copy. I should like to qualify this by saying, *used with the cancellation of the time*, as I have seen several 3 c., scarlet, with cancellations that came into use twenty years afterwards. Laying aside these three scarce colours, we can start off with a very pale pink, and work it down to rich brownish red. We can get sharp impressions and blurred impressions, doubly perforated stamps, stamps without any perforations at all, and many other minor and interesting oddities which the purchase of one hundred from a wholesale dealer will produce.

As regards the 5 c. value we first make the divisions into the ochre or mustard shades, and the brown shades. The mustard colours are the issue of 1861 and the brown that of 1862. The mustard stamp is found in deep shades of ochre, and also in a greenish yellow, the latter being an extraordinary colour, and very scarce unused. The appearance of the design of the stamp is always very sharp. Of the brown shades we have a number of colours beginning with what might almost be called a *fire-red-brown*, almost exactly a match in colour with the 5 c. stamp of 1855, with the full projections. From this colour we can go through various shades of Vandylke brown and warm browns down to a very deep black-brown.

Of the 10 c., green, we have but little to choose in the way of colour. A yellowish green on paper which has the appearance of being faced with green, caused by the plates being insufficiently wiped, through a dark yellow-green to a blue-green, resulting in about three or possibly four good shades, and we have finished with the value.

The 12 c., black, is found on a greyish and on a white paper, also caused by dirty plates, and possibly two shades are all that our examination will produce for us. The stamp is often found penmarked, and is therefore susceptible to those gentlemen who endeavour to remove obliterations, and if we are collecting unused stamps the gum is rather essential in this value.

The 15 c. stamp, introducing for the first time the head of Lincoln, appeared in 1866, and being black does not give much in the way of colours. We can, however, find impressions upon a greyish paper, and also on white paper.

We now come to the 24 c., which is, perhaps, one of the most extraordinary stamps in the way of numerous shades.

The original issue of September runs to what may be called a red tint, the later printings of 1862 to what we may roughly term the grey tints. The earlier issue gives us a range from reddish purple down to what I call dull brownish purple, although the Catalogue calls it purple, and the later issues of 1862 we can shade down to almost anything. I cannot find any words to describe the shades of this stamp. Our Catalogue bravely struggles with four numbers, viz. 81-84, but I propose to let the collector do his own shading here and merely say that you can start with a pale grey and finish up with a deep greyish blue. There is, however, one stamp occasionally met with which has quite a greenish tint, but it is caused by some chemical action which I have been unable to determine, but no unused copy has ever been met with, and I think it is probably caused by an attempt to take off the penstrokes.

The 30 c. value confines itself to two colours, one orange, and the other a little deeper shade of the same colour.

The 90 c., blue, we find in about three shades ranging from pale to deep. This is a very handsome stamp, and one of the best portraits of Washington found on any of the United States issues. The blue is always clear and nothing near the slatish blue of the "premier" stamp.

Before closing the treatise on this very interesting issue, we may perhaps wander a little down the bypaths and pick out the minor varieties sometimes found. For instance, the 3 c. stamp is known without perforations, and the 1, 2, 3, and 5 c. values are found on what some people are kind enough to call laid paper. Some stamps do certainly show signs of laying in the texture,

but it is not the laid paper so often met with in the stamp world, and is rather hard to see. This issue was reprinted in 1875 for the Centennial Exhibition. The reason that this set is called a reissue in the Catalogue and not a reprint, as in the case of the 1855 issue, is as follows:—

The United States Government had demonetized all stamps at the outbreak of the Civil War, and they were no longer good for postal use. When the reprints were made for the Centennial Exhibition, the 1855 issue, being under this ban, were not available for postage, but the reprints or reissues of the 1861 issue did not come under this ruling, and are therefore correctly described as reissues, because they were, and still are, good for postage if any one wants to use them. They can be told, first, because they are nearly always found unused, and secondly, from the fact that the paper is very white, the colours very bright, and the gum quite white. They have the same perforations as the originals, but the paper is stouter, and, as I said before, quite white. I hope later on to be able to take up the subject of the grilles, which is quite an interesting one, and will not touch on it except to say that there seems to be considerable uncertainty in the minds of collectors as to what this grille is, and why it is there. The intention of the Government was to impress this grille into the back of the stamps and so break up the fibres of the paper. In this condition; when the stamp received the cancellation mark on its face the ink sank into the broken portion of the paper and minimized the practice of washing and cleaning stamps, which was prevalent in those days, to defraud the Government of its revenue. Such practices still obtain in these days to defraud the collector of his money, as in nearly every case an unused stamp is worth considerably more than a used one.

Points for Beginners

By B. W. W.

Stamp Collecting is the best Pastime

ON looking over the first number of this journal for January, 1905, there is a "Foreword by Major Evans" which is so much better put than I can do it, that one paragraph in particular must be repeated verbatim for the thousands of new readers who will not have seen it.

One little bit of advice I would venture to offer to the young collector. Do not treat your collecting too seriously. It is a fault that young people of the present day are apt to fall into, not only in stamp collecting but in other hobbies and amusements also. Let your stamp collecting be

an amusement, a pastime, not a business. There is no better pastime in the true sense of the word. I have been at it some forty-four years, and I know of nothing that makes the time pass more quickly or more pleasantly than stamps. Make a business of it afterwards if you think fit, but do not start with the idea that it is a money-making hobby, because if you do you will probably be disappointed. At the same time, make up your mind to do it well; treat your stamps with care, and they will repay you for it, if not in hard cash, at least in pleasure and interest.

Above all, do not imagine that those of us who know more Philately than you do are at all inclined to despise your collections, or to look

down upon your efforts to improve them. Most of us are not too old to remember our own first attempts; none of us are too old to learn on our own account, and we are all of us ready to help others to do likewise.

How to Start a Collection

This seems easy enough, but don't expect to have one made in three months, even if you are a young Croesus. You have read something of my beginnings when opportunities were slight indeed; while nowadays if you have not plenty of business friends to give you odds and ends from their letters, and no relatives or correspondents abroad, you can easily go to a large choice of shops or write to traders' addresses and buy for ten shillings half as many stamps as I had acquired in six years. If you try this method, be sure it is from a reliable firm that will give you as many really different stamps as they specify to be contained in the packets offered—and not, as so many have found to their cost in the past, at small shops, "1000 varieties" for a shilling or two, which on examination resolve themselves into about one hundred all different, the rest being dirty or damaged duplicates of the commonest class.

When you have got your first lot by purchase or gift, don't rush for a grand album to

stick them in first thing, but get used to the stamps by noticing designs and values and, of course, the country of origin. Many have found it best to roughly mount them first in a small exercise book, in alphabetical order of countries, until they have acquired a general knowledge of them, so as to recognize similar stamps and place beside the others as received. We preferred making a little book from sheets of good tissue paper folded to a convenient size—and a little spot of gum near the top will then hold them on, or a slight moisture of a corner of an unused stamp, so that the stamps can readily be removed when required by wetting a finger-end and applying it at the back of tissue where gummed.

Our British stamps have never had the name of country on them, and some foreign stamps are also without names on, or with strange names, such as Helvetia for Switzerland, so a little study is required to place them correctly. The most common blunder used to be the mixing up of Austrian Newspaper stamps with the early issues of Greece, and there are many others similar in general appearance, especially among the annual picture issues of some American Republics.

(To be continued.)

Stamp Collecting

By H. R. BRANCKER

A CERTAIN eminent brain specialist has recently gladdened the heart of poor suffering humanity by the pleasing statement that 11.75 per cent of the world's population are insane and know it, 64.32 per cent are insane and don't know it, and the remaining 25 per cent or so would be insane if they didn't happen to be merely imbecile. With all due diffidence I would advance the theory that quite 75 per cent of this fine crop of "Bedlamitis," including all the most dangerous cases, may safely be traced to one cause, Collecting.

That collecting is in itself a widespread and distressing form of insanity no sane person—if any such exist—will attempt to deny. Anyhow, I don't care if they *do* deny it, so there! But, unfortunately, collecting does not stop at mere collecting, pure and simple, the painful heaping together of incongruous, expensive, useless, and generally unbeautiful articles; far from it. It's like woman's suffrage, or hair nurtured on "Jones' Scalpo," you don't know where or when it will stop. I have known a man—quite a nice man too—marry five wives in one season, because they happened to possess certain articles of old china which he coveted. I don't know what he did with his

second-hand wives; but perhaps he collected wives too! The habit of wife-collecting, by the way, seems to have originated with old man Solomon. Somehow I don't think Solomon can have been quite as wise as he has generally been cracked up to be.

Another man with whom I had some acquaintance a few years ago, dynamited a certain highly-respected old baronial castle in Yorkshire, because he had heard that a few old Roman cooking-pots were probably buried under it. His method was a little drastic; perhaps even somewhat thoughtless. But then, he wanted those cooking-pots. You see, he *collected* them. He forgot, by the way, that the owner of the castle happened to be at home at the time—in bed in fact. That owner has not been home since.

We have already seen that a man may even go so far as to collect wives, but a man may, and *will*, collect anything. It may take the form of match-boxes, of false teeth, patent medicines, penny toys, or even pawn-tickets. Wives have one great disadvantage; should a man tire of his collection and wish to dispose of it, they are almost, if not quite, unsaleable. Women generally incline towards cats, faded ribbons, or part-worn love-letters

as suitable objects for collection. In the case of schoolgirls, half-chewed sweets may be added to the list. In another form of collection brace-buttons often figure largely.

Insanity of insanities, all is insanity! And the greatest of these is Stamp Collecting.

Stamp Collecting, when spoken of by its own particular devotees, assumes an air of mystery, suggestive of some hidden guilt, under the cognomen of Philately.

Well-meaning but misguided individuals have endeavoured to trace this to a Greek, or even Babylonian origin. But I have a theory; a real good double-breasted, elastic-sided, rubber-tyred, triple-cylindrical theory. The word Philately is nothing more nor less than mere common, almost vulgar, English. What is its origin? I will tell you *right here*. Stamp Collecting is called Philately because it has caused the lunatic asylums to *fill latterly*.

By this time, dear reader, you will have recognized, no doubt, your appalling ignorance on this subject of Stamp Collecting, and my peculiar qualifications to set you right on any vexed points which may distress you. Let me, without more ado, set at rest for ever any doubts you may entertain as to the true *origin* of Stamp Collecting.

A well-known member of some dozen philatelic societies has told us—young, callow, and unsuspecting—that stamp collections were first formed by the pupils of an obscure Belgian schoolmaster, who, to goad the youthful mind in the direction of geographical research, caused the aforesaid pupils to stick the stamps of the various countries in their atlases! Really, I—I am pained, nay, shocked! Such wilful perversion of the facts, such gross—but there! Let me at once correct the painful impression produced by this atrocious theory. Philately, my dear friends, originated with the early Britons; yes, the early Britons. I don't know quite *how* early—7 a.m. is good enough for me—but still, the *early* Britons.

The primeval Briton, the prehistoric peep so to speak, casting about for some suitable material with which to check the too free ventilation of his wattle hut (I don't pretend to say *how* you "wattle" anything, but they did it in those bad old days), took to sticking, artistically or otherwise, lumps or hunks or more graceful slabs of earth or clay on the framework of the aforesaid house of "wattle-dom." Rivalry sprang up—the rivals knocked each other down—a taste for different shapes, sizes, colours, and designs arose. If Dinosaur Smith, hitherto content with a neat row of blue clay patches—some possibly perforated—chanced to covet a neat design in pink marl or white coral flauntingly displayed upon the domicile of Pterodactyl Brown, well, he argued the matter with him with the assistance of a well-directed club. Here

we have the origin of the expression "Stamp Clubs."

Not that *stamps* were always used for *postal* purposes. In the old days, if you wanted to tell a man what you thought of him, you scratched it on a brick and threw it at him. It got there just the same. Besides, if your aim was good, the point of your remarks was much more obvious to him that way!

Stamps must have appealed to the refined instincts of the Borgias. What form of revenge more artistically satisfying than to lure your victim on to collect stamps, present him with a choice specimen, with the gum neatly poisoned, and then watch him lick it? What's that you say? The Borgias didn't know of such things as postage stamps? It matters not, the great mind has a soul above such petty details!

Talking about gum, the motto, the golden maxim for a stamp collector to follow, would appear to be the same as that laid down for whisky: "Stick to the gum you're used to." A great friend of mine, though a stamp collector, for years collected only British Colonials. It suited him; he liked the quality of the gum, the flavour pleased him, it stimulated the digestion. As I said before, it suited him. Suddenly, in an evil moment, he started to collect Portuguese Colonials. They were cheap; they were also nasty. The gum was brown, even pink; he wasn't used to it, it ruined him. He is now broken down, a hopeless neurotic. On second thoughts I may mean nuministic, or plethoric, or even pericardiac. Anyhow, it's a shocking story.

"Stick to the gum you're used to!" This should not be taken too literally, however. Another friend of mine—he's dead now, another collector slew him—once owned a stamp, a Mauritius I think, which was very, very ugly and very, very rare. I remember when he bought it. It was a scraggy-looking object, a kind of soot colour, and some one appeared to have bitten a corner off it. Still, it was proudly displayed in the window of a curio shop in Wardour Street, a dirty bit of paper in a dirty window, and he bought it. He looked at it lovingly for twenty-three minutes by the clock, then at last roused himself to remove it. He called for an envelope and placed the precious fragment tenderly in it, stuck it, sealed it, put the envelope in a box, surrounded it with cotton-wool, put it in another box, wrapped it in brown paper, tied it, sealed it, labelled it, and at last we got under way for home. How should we get home with such a treasure to safeguard? He was too proud to walk with such a stamp in his possession. A hansom? Why, the horse might slip and he might be thrown out and risk damage to his great find. A bus? Plebeian, vulgar, unworthy of the dignity of the occa-

sion. Finally, we decided on a four-wheeler; dull, slow, ugly, but safe and with a certain dignity withal. Three times he insisted on unpacking his treasure to gaze upon it fondly; then, at the third attempt, he dropped it. We searched that cab and couldn't find it. Dismay, horror, despair! "Fine specimen," he murmured hoarsely, "the original gum." Finally, I found it where he—well, where he could never have seen it—it *was the original gum and he had sat upon it!*

Only yesterday a nephew of mine—I collect nephews—burst in upon me wild with excitement:—

"By Jove, a ripping set!"

"Oh, who won?"

"Won? Who are you getting at?"

"Getting at? My dear boy, I only asked how you'd got on at your tennis."

"Tennis! Rats! Just look at this set—*complete* set, mind you—of 'V.R.I. Transvaal' I've just been given!"

Stamps, still stamps! They are so callous and unfeeling too, these stamp collectors. Last year a girl friend of mine—I collect girl friends—who has taken up medicine and surgery *pour passer le temps*, came beaming in to me:—

"I say, jolly good example of compound perforation," at the same time thrusting some small object under my nose. I leaped hastily backwards; I don't like horrors.

"Compound perforation! Then for goodness sake put the poor thing out of its misery!"

"Why, you old goose, it's only a stamp!"
Stamps, still stamps!

For some occult reason, which I have never been able to fathom, it seems to be almost *de rigueur* for a stamp to be perforated. I don't know why, it seems to send the value up. Not always, though. Once upon a time I perforated some stamps myself for a friend; I thought he would appreciate it. He didn't appreciate it, not one little bit.

I did the job well too; right through the centre of each stamp with a darning-needle, I did "God bless our happy home" along the entire set, and yet he didn't seem to appreciate it. I fear stamp collectors are ungrateful. I got even with him afterwards though. He got married, and I sent him a frying-pan as a present. I knocked holes in that frying-pan before I sent it. They're more valuable perforated!

They have no sense of humour, either, stamp collectors. "You don't know what this bar across the stamp means," said one to me with a knowing leer. "Bar across the stamp!" said I. "Why, to prevent any idiot from damaging it of course!" But he only looked hurt.

There is a little yarn about a stamp collector who somehow got to heaven, goodness knows why! For a bit he got on fairly well; but he soon began to get more and more fidgety, until at last one of the saints (I forget which, the patron saint of liars probably) went up to him and asked him kindly what was the matter. "Well," he said, slowly raising one of his wings and looking at it regretfully, "ever since I came here I've been holding up this blooming wing to the light, but I'm hanged if I can make out the watermark!"

I don't believe this story myself, because I'm sure no stamp collector ever yet got to heaven.

Let us conclude this dissertation with one little gem from the poets:—

Little bits of paper,
In little albums planned,
Fill up the asylums
In this happy land.

[We are very much obliged to the author for this clever skit, and hope to have further contributions from his facile pen. A little clever light matter of this kind is just the thing to liven up our pages, and we shall hope for more of it.—ED. G.S.W.]

Newfoundland

By W. WARD

FROM a "moderate" philatelist's point of view, this is practically the pick of the British Colonies. Taking the issues all round, they are fairly straightforward. Many, no doubt, look upon the Jubilee Cabot issue with the same feeling as U.S. Commemoratives, etc., though really they are no worse than the Canadian series of 1897, and I think these are mostly considered legitimate.

Newfoundlands have one favourable asset, that is, they cannot be termed "common"

to the degree of other North Americans (United States, Canada, or Mexico). Naturally this is on account of the sparsity of the population and minor importance of the commerce with other countries.

Being one of those fortunate individuals who had opportunities of securing the stamps direct, I was early able to secure many little gems straight from the country of their origin (as postage franks).

My father having business connections with Newfoundland, many nice little parcels

of stamps, found their way into my possession. I well remember how my display of Newfoundland was the envy and admiration of my schoolfellows.

Would I had those days over again! It pains me to think of the many stamps, now hard to procure, that I swapped, in my juvenile ignorance, for what I believed bargains and beautifully coloured South Americans and other *hoc genus*.

How I looked upon the 1 c. Prince, 2 c. Cod, 3 c. Queen in Widow's Weeds, and 5 c. Seal, as very common stamps indeed, and would give several, perhaps, for a rectangular Cape of Good Hope! These latter stamps being half-brothers, so to speak, to the "three-cornereds," we boys looked upon them with something approaching reverence. The Capes would, of course, be only the common "Anchors" and "CA's," and though the Newfoundlands mentioned above are by no means rarities, they are worth from 4s. to 1s. 6d. each now, so it will be seen I had not even an elementary knowledge of stamp collecting.

Alas!

I confess, however, I never received any of the early pence issues direct—no; those were before my time. Still, I have often written to friends in the "foggy" isle, but the stamps of the "Rose, Thistle, and Shamrock" type are even scarcer there than here. They are similar to the gentleman that had occasion to complain of the quality of his "table d'hôte" luncheon, and, calling the garçon, queried, "Waiter, is the proprietor of this restaurant in?" "No, sir," was the reply, "'e's gone hout for 'is dinner!" So with the "Perkins Bacon" Newfoundlands, it is little use trying to get them direct. The stamps of any country are usually favourites with the "natives," hence greater scarcity and higher prices. One can generally pick up British stamps at cheaper prices on the Continent than at home.

The great features about the "New Isle" stamps are that they are free from (i) varieties of perforation and (ii) varieties of watermark (having none officially). True, there are two varieties of paper in each of the sterling and dollar currencies, but the collector may please himself whether he includes them.

Anyhow, my modest monopoly of these stamps in earlier days laid a good foundation, which later, aspiring to the realms of an orthodox philatelist, gave me a good scope for study—and incidentally, easy completion.

The pence issues are magnificent specimens of early steel engraving, the penny and fivepenny stamps being perhaps the most handsome, though complex, in design. I often wonder whether the designer of these stamps was also a student of Euclid,

or perhaps the postal officials in Newfoundland wanted to please all tastes. I know not which, but the shapes are rectangular, square, and triangular, which together with both circular and oval postmarks complete the whole of the "solids" of geometry.

These early stamps go to show the extent of the population sixty years ago in this American island, the inscription being "St. John's, Newfoundland," on all the "sterling" stamps, so that there was little likelihood of there being any towns contemporary with the capital, and probably only trappers' and loggers' temporary camps throughout the whole country.

Most of these stamps are now rarities, and difficult to obtain in good condition. By the way, Gibbons No. 1 describes as "The designs represent the Royal Crown and heraldic flowers of the United Kingdom." This is slightly incorrect, as no crown will be found upon the 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 6½d., 8d., and 1s., seven out of the whole nine values, the penny and fivepenny being the only ones that tally with the description.

It is interesting to note the differences of the shamrock. On the 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 8d., and 1s. a complete spray is shown, on the 6d. only two leaves, whilst the 6½d. shows one leaf faintly covered by one better defined.

One stamp of these issues I consider is priced very cheaply by Gibbons, that being the 2d. of 1862 at £1, unused, but not priced used. This stamp is really hard to get hold of in any sort of condition consistent with what a collector should properly desire if he is making a representative collection of any one country. Indeed, I have seen more of the 1860, used, 2d. (many, however, poor cut-close copies) than the later same value. Of course the 2d., 1857, is probably THE gem. The 6½d. same issue is catalogued more in used condition, but can hardly, in my opinion, run close with the former. I have a note in my catalogue that a mint copy was sold for \$100 (just over £20) during the present century in the States. It is interesting to note that most foreign catalogues place Gibbons' Nos. 17 and 17a as Nos. 2 and 3, that is after the Penny of 1857. I am unable to speak authoritatively on this, as I have not yet seen a copy, or copies, of Nos. 17 and 17a showing portion of the "Mill" watermark. Perhaps some one interested may throw a little light. Of course all English catalogues are similar to Gibbons, being more or less "faithful flatteries" and most of the earlier stamps copied from Gibbons. The Penny is not a very great rarity, *unused*, but is scarce in mint condition, one rarely seeing "full gum" copies.

It is to be regretted that there should be such narrow margins on the Penny and

Fivepenny stamps, being just barely over one-sixteenth of an inch between the stamps. It will often be noticed that mint copies of the last issue, with the sole exception of the 6½d., are partly oxidized, portions turning from lake to a dirty brown. The

named value, however, I have never seen discoloured, and it seems therefore to be printed in a different ink, though the virgin colour is practically similar to the other "lakes" of this series.

(To be continued.)

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Australian Commonwealth.—*The Monthly Journal* (31.1.08) reports the discovery of the undermentioned four varieties, none of which have been listed heretofore.



POSTAGE DUES. Chalk-surfaced paper. Wmk. Crown and NSW.

(a) Perf. 11½, 12.		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
5s., emerald-green		—	—
(b) Perf. 11½, 12 compound with 11.			
1s., emerald-green		—	—
2s. " "		—	—
(c) Perf. 11.			
5s., emerald-green		—	—

Barbados.—We take the following paragraph from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (25.1.08):—

"We are informed that the total quantities of the Nelson issue printed on multiple Crown CA paper were as follows:—

½d.	50,000.
2d.	12,000 (two shades mixed).
2½d.	27,000.

There is presumably no record as to the proportion of each shade in the lot of 2d., but the bistre shade seems to be rarer than the bright yellow. All are now obsolete."

Bavaria.—From *Der Deutsche Philatelist* (20.1.08) we learn that five values of the current set of postage stamps have been overprinted with a large letter "E", standing for the word "Eisenbahn" (railways.) These stamps are intended for the use of the railway officials, as all the Bavarian railways are the property of the Government. They are not, as some may suppose, Railway Letter stamps, but have about the same standing as had our "I. R. Officials," "Board of Education," etc.; that is to say that they are simply intended for the use of a Government department.

We do not know as yet if these stamps may be obtained in an unused state, and our illustration of the overprint is only approximately correct.



E

Officials (Railway). Overprinted in red (R) or green (G). White paper. Wmk. horizontal wavy lines. Perf. 14½.

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
3 pf., deep brown (R)		—	—
5 " deep green (R)		—	—
10 " carmine (G)		—	—
20 " ultramarine (R)		—	—
50 " marone (G)		—	—

Cayman Islands.—In *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (25.1.08) we read that Messrs. Coates and Marsh have received the new ½d. and 1d. with the inscription POSTAGE—REVENUE. These stamps differ slightly from the old design, being similar to the Gold Coast we have illustrated.



Inscribed POSTAGE—REVENUE. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Ordinary paper. Perf. 14.

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
½d., green		—	—
1d., carmine		—	—

Colombia—Mr. H. Speakman calls our attention to an error in our issue of 28 December, 1907. We chronicled a certain stamp, a 2 c., red, saying that it would be No. 350a in the Catalogue. We took this chronicle from *Champion's Bulletin* (25.11.07), and are sorry to say that we mistook the issue in referring to the

stamp. This 2 c. is already chronicled in the Catalogue as No. 362b.

We very much regret this mistake, and thank Mr. Speakman for calling our attention to it.

Ecuador.—*Champion's Bulletin* (25.1.08) chronicles another value, the 25 c., of the fiscal set, overprinted 3 c. for postal use.



Dated 1901-1902. Overprinted as above, in black.
Unused. Used.

3 c. on 25 c., yellow — —

β Gibraltar.—*The London Philatelist* (27.1.08) reports that the 2s. has been issued on chalk-surfaced paper with multiple watermark.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper. Perf. 14.
Unused. Used.

2s., green and blue — —

Hong Kong.—We learn from *The London Philatelist* (27.1.08) that the \$10 has now been issued on chalk-surfaced paper.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper. Perf. 14.
Unused. Used.

\$10, grey-black and orange on blue — —

Italy.—We have now been shown a second value, the 50 c., in the new design; it is nearly similar to the 25 c. described in our issue of 25 January, but the letters and figures of value are in white on a coloured ground. As before, the stamp is surface-printed, on thin paper, and is perforated 14.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News (1.2.08), also chronicles a 40 c.



Wmk. Crown. Perf. 14.
Unused. Used.

40 c., light brown — —
50 c., mauve — —

Luxemburg.—We learn from *Der Deutsche Philatelist* (20.1.8) that five more values of the set portraying the head of the present Grand Duke were issued in January. In our issue of 5 October, 1907, we spoke of the probability of some of these values being issued before very long.



Perf. 11 x 11½. Unused. Used.

30 c., olive-green — —
8½ c., slate-blue — —
1 fr., violet — —
2½ fr., black — —
5 fr., mauve — —

Mauritius.—In our issue of 3 August, 1907, we chronicled a 2 c., lilac and mauve, Arms type, on chalk-surfaced paper. We received supplies of this stamp bearing the marginal plate number "1" on 28 October, 1907, and we have now (27.1.08) received further supplies of the same stamp bearing the plate number "2."

Papua.—*Le Timbre-Poste* (25.1.08) reports having received the two missing values, the 2d. and 2½d., in the set with the smaller overprint.



Papua.

Overprinted "Papua," second typ. Unused. Used.

2d., black and violet — —
2½d. " " ultramarine — —



We now illustrate the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. of the permanent set. It was described in our issue of 18 January.

■ Rio de Oro.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (31.1.08) reports having received a large 50 c., green, stamp, overprinted in carmine (aniline) ink, as illustrated below. The stamp itself is something like the well-known fiscal stamps of Spain, and is imperforate, but our contemporary does not give any details as to its design. Our illustration of the overprint is only approximately correct.

RIO DE ORO
HABILITADO
PARA
CORREOS
5 CENS

Large fiscal (?) stamp, overprinted in carmine, as above. Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c. on 50 c., green	—	—

Salvador.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have drawn our attention to an interesting point in connection with the September, 1907, issue.



The stamps of this issue show a picture of the Palacio Nacional, beneath which appear the words PALACIO NACIONAL. We had not previously noticed that this inscription exists on each stamp in *black*, and *also* in the colour of the frame. As two-colour printing means two distinct impressions from two different plates, it follows that this inscription must exist on both plates, probably with the idea of superimposing the two inscriptions so as to get the rest of the stamp in perfect register. It is not apparent on every specimen that the inscription is in two colours because of its minuteness, but traces of the second colour can generally be seen.

Santander.—Mr. Speakman informs us that we chronicled a 20 c., black, *twice*; once in our issue of 14 December, and again on 28 December. We are very sorry, and have only one thing to be thankful for—the two chronicles did not differ!

Surinam.—The four values chronicled below have now been issued: we referred to specimen copies of these stamps in our issue of 7 December last.



Perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., olive-green	—	—
2 c., red-brown	—	—
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., deep green	—	—
3 c., orange-yellow	—	—

Switzerland.—We have received copies of the 50 c. and 1 fr. on granite paper, with the multiple cross watermark, perforated 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12.

We have also seen the 20 c. and 50 c., with the same watermark and perforation as above, but on *white* instead of *granite* paper: i.e. they are similar to Nos. 194 and 197 in the Catalogue, except for the perforation.



Wmk. Multiple Cross. Perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12.
(i) Granite paper.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
50 c., grey-green	—	—
1 fr., carmine	—	—
(ii) Ordinary white paper.		
20 c., orange	—	—
50 c., grey-green	—	—

Venezuela.—We learn from *The Metropolitan Philatelist* (4.1.08) that the colour of the current 50 c. Official has been changed from *lake* to *brown-red*.



Arms and OFICIAL in black. Perf. 12.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
50 c., brown-red	—	—

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 8
Whole No. 164

22 FEBRUARY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

France—continued

THE contract for the supply of postage stamps, etc., held by the Bank of France was cancelled in 1880 by the Government, who bought all the plant and material and established its own factory in the Rue d'Hauteville, Paris. In 1895 the manufacture was transferred to the present fine premises in the Boulevard Brune.

For some years complaints had been rife as to the suitability of the design of the "Peace and Commerce" stamps for so great and artistic a nation as France. M. Mesureur, afterwards Minister of Commerce, especially interested himself in the matter, and through his efforts the Chamber of Deputies, 9 February, 1893, voted a sum for the expenses of a public competition amongst French artists to "establish a new design for the postage stamps having a character truly Republican and modern and worthy of our Government and our democracy." The *Journal Officiel* of 4 February, 1894, published the rules and regulations of this public competition, and on 8 May of the same year an exhibition of 684 designs was held at Paris. None of the designs were deemed worthy of adoption, and the jury decided that "in conformity with the public opinion they could not recommend any of the designs for a 'National Postage Stamp.'"

The project was shelved for some time and the old stamps continued in use, though the plates began to show signs of wear. Some surprise was caused by the appearance of the 5 c., yellow-green, and 2 fr. (referred to in the last number), in the earlier variety of the design, but in the case of the 2 fr. the plate was made entirely from clichés reproduced from the die before it was damaged, whilst the plate of the 5 c., as well as new plates of the 10 c. and 50 c., was made of casts taken before and after such damage. This was during the years 1898 to 1900, and this evidence of wear was

one of the chief factors in expediting fresh stamps. In 1895, however, the authorities, being so pestered about a fresh issue, had commissioned M. Grasset, a celebrated picture-poster artist, to furnish a suitable design. He submitted the one later on used for Indo-China (Type 6) and now just obsolete, and though this was severely criticized when the drawing was illustrated in the papers (February, 1896) it was accepted by the responsible Minister. Before anything definite could be arranged the Ministry fell, and once again the subject was shelved.

The approach of the Exhibition year (1900), however, finally precipitated matters, and on 13 June, 1899, a notice appeared that M. Mougeot, the new Minister and a very practical and efficient man, had invited a few celebrated artists to submit sketches so that the work could be proceeded with in good time.

It was decided to have three types, viz. for the value 1 c. to 5 c., 10 c. to 30 c., and 40 c. to 5 fr. respectively, and there was to be no public competition. The design of M. Joseph Blanc was selected for the lower values. It represents the device of the Republic and shows a winged female figure, possibly emblematic of *Liberty*, holding a pair of scales, the symbol of justice (or is it meant for *Equality*?), in her right hand, and a mirror, the symbol of truth, and an olive branch, the symbol of peace, in her left hand. On her right side are two little Cupids kissing each other, possibly representing *Fraternity*. The engraver was E. Thomas.

For the middle values M. Eugène Mouchon was artist and engraver both. The design is apparently a modification of one that gained some merit in the public competition of 1894, and represents a female figure typical of the French Republic holding the hand of Justice and a tablet inscribed DROITS DE L'HOMME. The in-

scription has reference to the Republican principles which France had been so prominent in putting into practice. The "hand of Justice" seems incongruous on a Republican stamp, as it has always been an attribute of royalty.

The higher values were designed by M. Luc-Olivier Merson and engraved by M. Thévenin, and represent "the Republic as preserver of the peace." The reclining figure holds a sword across her knees, and suggests the "Republic armed," whilst the numerous olive branches are an allusion to "Peace."

The lower values have a letter "C," an abbreviation of "centimes," after the numerals, and the "franc" values similarly an "F," but the other values have no indication of denomination.

The plates were of the same size as before, the smaller-sized stamps being arranged in the same way. The larger stamps were arranged vertically in three panes of 25 to a half-sheet.

The numerals of value on the 10 c., 20 c., 25 c., and 30 c. were at first printed separately, so that the positions are not always constant. Later on fresh plates were made for the 10 c. and 25 c., and they can, amongst other tests, be distinguished by the shape of the numerals.

The stamps did not meet with public approval—new issues for utilitarian purposes seldom do—and the designs, especially of the 15 c. and 25 c., the chief values for internal and external correspondence respectively, were honoured by a debate in the Chamber, but a formal motion to withdraw the stamps from circulation was not carried.

For the first time the national stamp for France was not *bluc*. This was on account of the convention with the Postal Union. The colour chosen was said to be the hardest to clean, but it was not received with favour. The stamps were not issued till 6 December, 1900, a long time after the opening of the Exhibition; perhaps the authorities feared to trust the artistic sense of the polyglot visitors. The lower and higher values are still in use, but the medium values have undergone two changes. A new value, 45 c., necessitated by a change in postal rates, was issued in the Merson type in 1906. The second colour mentioned in these large stamps is that of the background below the word *POSTES*, and the double printing was intended to check fraud. This second colour was so faintly applied that in many instances stamps appear to be in one colour only, but such is not actually the case. The need of a 2 fr. value, specially supplied in April, 1900, was soon over, for there was little demand for the value in the new issue, and an order was given 29 June, 1904, for its suppression as soon as the stock was exhausted.



1900-6. Perf. 14 x 13½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., grey	0	1	0	1
2 c., claret	0	1	0	1
3 c., orange-red	0	1	0	1
4 c., brown	0	1	0	1
5 c., green	0	1	0	1



10 c., carmine	0	3	0	1
15 c., orange	0	4	0	1
20 c., brownish purple	0	6	0	3
25 c., blue	0	6	0	1
30 c., lilac	0	9	0	2



40 c., red and pale blue	0	6	0	1
45 c., green and blue	0	7	0	2
50 c., cinnamon and lavender 0	7	0	1	0
1 fr., lake and yellow-green 1	1	0	2	0
2 fr., dull purple and buff 2	2	0	4	0
5 fr., deep blue	5	3	1	3

M. Mouchon the next year set to work to try to improve his design, and in April, 1902, the 30 c. appeared in an altered form. The chief object aimed at was to clear the design and make the figure stand out more in relief. The tablet containing numerals of value was changed in shape, and the word *POSTES* removed to the top of the stamps. The other values were all on sale before the end of the year, the 15 c. having been also changed in colour. It was now rather akin to the 3 c., but rather more red; there had been so much criticism that in 1901 the authorities had promised to change it, but still the public did not care for the shade. By artificial light it was easy to confuse the 15 c. with the 10 c. On some occasions the postal clerks supplied a sheet of 15 c. stamps when asked for 10 c. Clever tricksters also cut out the figures of value from a cancelled 15 c. and pasted them on an unused 10 c.,

and so defrauded the revenue. Many such stamps are known postally used.



	1902. Mouchon type redrawn. Perf. 14 x 13½.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 c., carmine	0 4	0 1
15 c., pale red	0 2	0 1
20 c., brownish purple	0 3	0 1
25 c., blue	0 5	0 1
30 c., lilac	0 9	0 1

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Recent Important Purchase

MY firm has just had first choice of a very large and important collection that has been broken up on the Continent, or rather first choice of the British Colonials of this collection, and second choice of the rest of the Europeans.

In the older issues I was able to purchase many fine stamps to add to our stock. Among these I note as follows:—

Cape of Good Hope.—Four Woodblock Errors, two of the 1d. blue and two of the 4d. red; one of the blue pennies is a marvel, very lightly cancelled, and large margins all round, the finest error I have seen in the past twenty years. The red errors are two distinct shades, the bright vermilion-red and the brick-red. In the Capes there was also a 4d., an intense deep blue, much darker than usual. In the later issues a scarce stamp is the 3d. on 3d., inverted and unused.

United States.—The best stamp I got here is a superb August, 1861, *première gravure*, 1 c., indigo, mint.

Tasmania.—Strip of ½d. on 1d. with "al" sideways, a variety that is rapidly becoming very rare.

Mauritius.—Some early impressions, including a superb 1d. on yellowish-white paper.

Turks Islands.—Scarce provisionals, such as 2½d. on 1s., blue.

Niger Coast.—A number of the rarer provisionals, such as Nos. 14, 15, 27, and 29 in our Catalogue.

Labuan.—Rare old surcharges, 6 on 16 c., blue, etc.

North Borneo.—6 c. on 8d., small POSTAGE, etc.

St. Christopher.—"One Penny" on 2½d., blue, small surcharge, mint, etc.

South Australia.—A few good things, including 6d., Prussian blue, perf. 11½ x roul., mint.

Victoria.—1s., blue, with STAMP DUTY in blue, postally used, and very rare thus.

Bangkok.—The first issue, 32 c. on Straits, unused, etc.

Straits Settlements.—Many rare surcharges, such as 8 c. on 12 c., blue surcharge, rare Perak, etc.

New South Wales.—A number of fine Sydneys, the pennies being specially good.

Fiji Islands.—A number of rare surcharges.

Selections of rarities will be sent with pleasure to clients who will be good enough to send a list of those stamps they wish to see on approval.

The Stamp Exhibition

THE following notices are from No. 2 of *Notes and News* issued by the Junior Philatelic Society:—

Opening Ceremony

The Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, M.P., has kindly consented to open the Stamp Exhibition on the afternoon of Thursday, 12 March, subject to the exigencies of his Parliamentary work. It is highly fitting and appropriate that an Exhibition which will illustrate the resources of His Majesty's mails throughout the Empire should be opened by the head of the Department of the Post Office in the mother country, and the Committee desires to express its grateful acknowledgments to the Postmaster-General for the high honour he confers upon the Junior Philatelic Society in consenting to open the Exhibition.

The time for the opening ceremony has been fixed for four o'clock.

Mainly about Money

It does not appear to be generally known that the Exhibition Committee is relying largely upon the voluntary donations of all stamp collectors interested, in order to cover the very heavy expenses involved in such an undertaking.

As the admission is entirely free to all visitors, there are only two sources of income open to the Committee, and little more than one-half of the total expense will be covered from the hire of the trade stalls.

Up to the present the voluntary donations only amount to £29, and this sum will have to be very considerably increased if the Exhibition is to be carried through without a heavy deficit.

Exhibits Wanted

The Exhibits Sub-Committee report that they have up to the present not received promises of exhibits of the following colonies. Owners of collections of these colonial possessions are requested to communicate with the Hon. Secretary, 44 Fleet Street, E.C., at once.

North American Colonies (except Canada), Grenada, Nevis, Turks Islands, Virgin Islands, British Guiana, South Australia, British North Borneo and Labuan, Fiji, Uganda, Natal, Swazieland, Stellaland, and New Republic.

"Truth" on "The Colonial Postage Stamp Scandal"

I AM very glad to see an article in *Truth* of 29 January last under the above heading, and I take the liberty of reproducing the greater part of it.

I am absolutely in accord with the writer. The issue of the numerous stamps from the Cayman Isles during the past year is simply caused by the wish to raise money out of stamp collectors and dealers, and this new issue business is being seriously overdone by dozens of stamp-issuing places, and the result will be to kill the goose that has laid the golden eggs for so many years.

Many collectors are beginning to ignore most of these speculative issues, and the directors of my firm will probably take a drastic step in reference to such rubbish in the near future. The remedy practically lies in the hands of the collectors.

Some years ago we and other leading dealers formed a Society pledged not to deal in issues that were condemned as speculative; the result was that numerous issues were not stocked, and in due time became very scarce. These very issues were then called for by collectors, whose orders all went to those dealers who had not joined the Society; the result was that members dropped out in order to be at liberty to deal in the condemned stuff, and the Society came to an end. Therefore I say advisedly that the remedy lies with collectors and not with the trade.

The following is from the article in *Truth*:

While attention was being called in recent issues of *Truth* to the "faking" of postage stamps that is practised in the post offices of some of our minor colonies for the purpose of imposing

on collectors, a fresh example of this scandal has been perpetrated. The *locus in quo* this time is the Cayman Islands. As in the case of Brunei, the scene of an earlier operation of this kind already described, the place is one that probably very few British subjects who do not collect stamps have ever heard of. The islands were discovered by Columbus, but have been overlooked by the editors of *Whitaker's Almanack*, *Hazell's Annual*, and the *Daily Mail Year Book*, and all I can learn about them is that they are a dependency of Jamaica, that the population two years ago was 2322 (of whom presumably more than 2000 were blacks), and that prior to the institution of the bogus stamp business, the only local industry was the turtle fishery. Perhaps this last fact may serve to interest the Corporation of London in the present narrative. Under the late Queen two postage stamps of low denominations were considered, no doubt rightly, sufficient for the normal requirements of this humble community of fishers and exporters of turtles. On the accession of his present Majesty, five denominations, ranging from ½d. to 1s., were issued, either in honour of the event or in the interests of the stamp-dealing trade, certainly for no other reason. Last year the postal currency was increased by five more stamps ranging up to 5s. in value. A collector to whom I am indebted for information on this subject, in discussing the motives of this further issue, suggests that the 5s. stamp may have been designed to facilitate the transmission of a turtle from Grand Cayman to the Guildhall by post, with a label and a 5s. stamp stuck on his back; but he thinks it more probable that the stamp was issued for revenue purposes. As there was this time no demise of the Crown to furnish a pretext for the new issue, I should think it more probable still that the stamp trade accounts for the milk in the coco-nut, or the stamp on the turtle.

I merely mention these preliminaries to show the direction in which the postage-stamp policy of the Cayman Government has been tending for some time past. It seems to be a case of *vires acquirit eundo*. Towards the end of 1907, there being by this time no decent excuse for the issue of any more new stamps, we next come to a coup in the style for which so many good colonial precedents have been established. On the plea that the Cayman Islanders and the turtle trade had unexpectedly absorbed the whole available stock of halfpenny stamps, a "provisional issue" of penny stamps surcharged "½d." was resorted to. This was not many weeks ago, but the demand for the provisional issue was so great—whether among the Cayman Islanders or in the London market the reader will judge from what follows—that it soon exceeded the supply. So some of the 5s. stamps were next reduced to ½d. value by "surcharging." Scarcely was this done when it was discovered that Cayman had run out of penny stamps, through so many of them having been converted into halfpenny ones. Forthwith a "provisional" issue of penny stamps was effected by surcharging the 5s. stamp "1d." According to a recent statement in a trade journal, nineteen sheets (2280) of the second "provisional" were issued, and twelve sheets (1800) of the third.

In view of what has already been shown as to the true purport of similar operations in other

insignificant colonies, it is scarcely necessary to argue that these provisional issues can have had no purpose except to supply the demands of the London stamp market, at suitable profit to all concerned in the trade. But to remove all room for doubt about the matter, I call attention to the following paragraph in a recent issue of one of the London dealers' circulars:—

CAYMAN ISLANDS

During Christmas week we had altogether about 1500 of the provisionals offered to us from various sources, and should we secure any of them, preference will be given to New Issue clients, and secondly, to collectors booking orders; preference to regular buyers.

These "provisionals" had all been issued in the last two or three months of 1907. As a matter of fact, the very same issue of the journal in which the above paragraph appears contains the announcement of the issue of the last of them, and it is stated at the same time that "last week we chronicled a second provisional"; so that these last two can hardly have been issued earlier than the end of November. Yet by Christmas week a London dealer is able to inform his customers that he has acquired about 1500 of them. To suppose that these 1500 new stamps had all come to England on letters in less than a month would be absurd. The only possible inference is that they were shipped off wholesale to England for sale in the stamp market as soon as manufactured, and that they were manufactured for no other purpose.

That the "King's Head" should be made use of in this way under the authority of the Crown is essentially a scandal. Stamps so issued are essentially "bogus," because they are not issued for use by the public in the ordinary course of postal business. The object is to impose upon ignorant and credulous collectors by producing adhesive labels for their benefit, and not to meet any requirement of the postal service. If this were done for the benefit of the public revenue—as it has been often done by various impecunious foreign Governments, and sometimes by Governments which ought to know better—it would be a disreputable way of "raising the wind." But it is highly doubtful whether the revenue of the colonies where these tricks are played benefits to any extent by the operation. The face value of the two last Cayman provisional issues, if the figures quoted above are correct, would only be £12 5s., and there is no reason to suppose that the local post office has got more for them. The London dealer who advertises that he has 1500 of them for sale has been asking 5s. each for them. At this rate the whole issue would be sold to collectors for £1020. This leaves a clear middleman's profit of £1000 to be divided up somehow between the sale of the stamps by the post office and their ultimate delivery to collectors. How this profit is divided I do not pretend to know, but the fact that such profits should be made at all is a scandal of the first magnitude, and the Colonial Office ought to put a stop to it at once. Lord Elgin or Mr. Winston Churchill—I do not know which of them is the real energizing factor at the Colonial Office, but stamp

collectors generally seem to have more faith in Mr. Churchill—ought to look into all the cases that have been described in *Truth*, the cases of the Labuan, Brunei, and Gambia stamps, dealt with in my article of 25 December, and the above case of the Cayman Islands. They can easily ascertain by inquiries of London dealers and collectors what a huge profit has been made on the sale of these bogus issues; they can easily ascertain how much of this profit has accrued to the Crown through the local post office; and they can easily form their own conclusions as to the whole nature of the transaction, and take measures accordingly. I hope they will do it without delay.

A minor matter in connection with the last Cayman Islands "provisional" issue is worthy of note from the philatelic point of view. This is the rough style in which the process of "surcharging" is executed. One of the trade circulars gives facsimiles of the 5s. stamp surcharged "3d.," remarking that "the overprint is very crudely handstamped, and we have not seen a specimen in which the '1' comes out clearly." The printing, in fact, could hardly be cruder. The "3d." is blobbed over the stamp, apparently with a rubber stamp, so defective or badly inked that in some cases the mark is hardly legible, and in others looks as much like "2d" as "3d." The third "provisional" (1d. surcharged on 5s.) is open to much the same criticism. The obvious effect is to make forgery a perfectly simple operation. Anybody could treat one of the surcharged stamps in the same way, and thus, in the case at least of the lower denominations, multiply its market value a hundredfold or more. I very greatly doubt whether the process of surcharging can ever be really necessary in the ordinary course of post-office business, but if an emergency ever really requires that the denomination of certain stamps in stock should be altered to meet some unexpected rush of business, at least care ought to be taken that it is done in a way that cannot be readily imitated. It is scarcely necessary to point out that this is as essential for the protection of the Post Office as the collector. The reality of the danger from forgery in cases of overprinting is shown by the fact that an intelligent Syrian was lately prosecuted at Beyrout for forging the 2d. Levant stamp surcharged "1 piastre." This provisional issue was dealt with in my article of 25 December, and is one of the most flagrant examples of the trick now under notice. In this case I presume that the officials concerned are under the jurisdiction of the Foreign Office, and Sir Edward Grey would do well to give his attention to the subject simultaneously with his colleagues at the Colonial Office. Again, if the Royal Philatelic Society took the lead by boycotting unnecessary issues, other societies would follow suit and the battle would be won.

The reference to the Royal Philatelic Society seems to be very much to the point. Surely, if such a Society has any *raison d'être*, it must be its business to combat abuses like those dealt with above. Its members, whoever they may be, should call the attention of the Government departments concerned to the various practices that have been referred to in this and previous articles. One simple way of doing this is by means of a

question to Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons. I suppose that stamp collectors are to be found in that assembly, and I would suggest that one or other of them should set the ball rolling.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

No. 121. *Cyprus and Uganda.* Value £1041.

A VERY strong and fairly complete stock book. In Cyprus there are some of the rare plate numbers and interesting blocks of four, etc., showing the corner numbers and inscriptions. The later issues are very complete.

The Uganda are a very fine lot, and include the balance of the Breitfuss Collection, as well as a specialized collection we have purchased. In the rare early Missionary stamps there are a number of fine blocks, six or seven showing *lête-bêche* varieties; also several stamps on entire letters, and a

very fine lot of singles of most values. The November, 1896, issue is very fine both in singles, blocks, full panes, used stamps, etc., and the same stamps overprinted "L" for local use are fine, and include some of the scarcest varieties. I think this is the best stock book of Uganda that we have ever made up.

Wanted to Purchase

Cyprus.

Unused. ½d., plate 19; 1d., plates 184, 193, 196, Cat. No. 6; ¾d., 18 mm., Nos. 217, 218; ½d., 16 mm., Nos. 201, 218, Cat. Nos. 16, 22a, 24, 27a, 27b, 37, 45, 46, 54, 55.

Used. 1d., plates 184, 193, 196, Cat. Nos. 16, 17, 18, 22a, 24, 46, 51.

Uganda.

Unused. 1 to 25 fine, 31, 40, 49, 76, 77, 79, 82, 83, 92.

Used. 1 to 25 fine.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

Great Britain—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

Malta—continued

Shades.

All shades which occur in the unsurcharged stamp are to be found overprinted as above.

1d. on 2½d., ultramarine, instead of blue.

1d. ,, pale ultramarine, instead of blue.

The stamps were overprinted in panes of sixty stamps only, being split up into quarter-sheets before being surcharged, in order to facilitate their handling. In all 180,000 stamps were surcharged.

The overprinting of the stamps occupied three days, the sheets being surcharged at the rate of 1000 a day. On the third day, just before the commencement of work, the machine containing the type used in overprinting the stamps was jarred by a passing truck, and an "e" from the word "Penny" of one of the inscriptions fell out on the floor. It was hurriedly replaced, and in the confusion it was not noticed that it had been inserted after and not before the double "n," the mistake not being discovered until the sheets were delivered at the Valetta Post Office, when it was found that one stamp in each pane of sixty, No. 57, had the word "Penny" misspelt PNNEY. There were, therefore, 4000 stamps having this error.

It was discovered early in June, 1902, that the stock of penny stamps on hand at the Maltese Post Office would not be sufficient to meet the postal requirements of the colony until the arrival of the new King's Head series, which had been ordered from England. In order, therefore, to augment this supply, some 3000 sheets of the 2½d. value of the Queen's Head series of 1886, which was still current, but was in little demand since the introduction of the penny postal rate between Malta and Great Britain, were overprinted "One Penny" at the foot of the stamp and issued to the public on 4 July, 1902, at the General Post Office at Valetta, and were used concurrently with the remaining stock of the regular stamps of that denomination until the 26th of the same month, by which time the entire stock of surcharged stamps had been exhausted, a large number having been purchased as a speculation by a local banker.

1902.

Provisional issue. Queen's Head design of 1885. Wmk. Crown CA (single). Perforation 14. Typographed. Surcharged "One Penny" at the foot of the stamp in great primer type, in two lines, in black. Overprinted in the Government Press, Valetta.

"One Penny" on 2½d., blue.

Error.

"Penny" misspelt "Pnney."
 "One Pnney" on 2½d., blue.

Shade.

"One Pnney" on 2½d., ultramarine, instead of blue.

In an excess of zeal the local postmaster caused the entire remaining stock of unsurcharged 2½d. stamps to be marked with a pen-tick in red ink, in the top left-hand corner of the stamps, in order that they might not be used by unscrupulous persons for the manufacturing of fraudulent surcharges, especially of the "Pnney" error. He also, sad to relate, carefully removed from all sheets of the provisional penny stamp sold to the public the stamp containing the error, which, after having accumulated a large supply, he disposed of privately to stamp dealers at a large advance upon their face value. Both the above steps having been taken entirely upon his own initiative, and being entirely irregular, the procedure was brought to the notice of the proper authorities, and a special commission having been appointed to inquire into the matter, the said postmaster was shortly afterwards relieved of his post.

On 12 March of the following year the first values of a new King's Head series of postage stamps were placed on sale, the design chosen being practically a redrawing of that used for the first stamp issued by the colony, the ½d. buff of 1861. The general appearance is pleasing, and the blending of the colours excellent, and altogether a considerable improvement upon the stereotyped De La Rue Colonial design so much in evidence on the current issues of the British Colonies.

A medallion portrait of King Edward VII is enclosed in an octagonal frame of solid colour, surrounded by a laurel wreath, the whole being upon a faintly-lined coloured background, with the word MALTA contained in a tablet at the top, and the value in words in one straight line at the foot.



1903.

Design as above. Wmk. Crown CA (single). Perforation 14. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in London. Medallion in second colour.

- ½d., grey (issued March 12th, 1903).
- 1d., carmine and black (issued May 7th, 1903).
- 2d., green and mauve (issued March 12th, 1903).
- 2½d., ultramarine and mauve (issued September, 1903).
- 3d., mauve and grey (issued March 26th, 1903).
- 4d., brown and black (issued May 18th, 1903).
- 1s., violet and grey (issued April 6th, 1903).

Printed in sheets of 240, four panes of 60, ten rows of 6. In place of the usual Jubilee lines round the panes there are two rows of short cuts opposite the end of each vertical and horizontal row of stamps, the outer line being in the colour of the medallion, and the inner in that in which the body of the stamp is printed. There is the marginal plate number "1" in all four corners of the sheets.

(To be continued.)

British Stamps used Abroad

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP IV—continued

Ecuador

A FAIRLY important independent republic in South America, on the Pacific coast, is sandwiched in between Peru on the south and Colombia on the north. It has only one town of any importance.

C. 41. Guayaquil

The capital and principal port, which has a population of about 45,000. It has a fairly large export trade in cocoa, coffee, sugar, and rubber, mainly with Great Britain. British stamps were first used about 1863, and remained in use until the middle of 1880. The narrow horizontal oblierator alone

was in use, the date stamp being struck on the back of letter.



- ½d., plate 6.
- 1d., " 14 L. C.
- 1d., plates 85, 94, 105, 110, 145, 166, 174.
- 1½d., plate 3.
- 2d., plates 9, 13, 14.
- 3d., " 4 emb., 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 16, 18.
- 4d., " 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 15, 15, 16.

- 6d., plates 4, 5, 6 emb., 6, 8, 9, 11, 12 buff,
12 grey, 13, 14, 15, 16.
8d., plate 1.
9d. ,, 4 sp.
10d. ,, 1.
1s., plates 4, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13.
2s. ,, blue and brown.
5s. ,, 1, 2.

Nicaragua

Is a republican State in Central America, stretching across the isthmus from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean. It has not the trans-oceanic importance that Panama possesses, owing to the greater distance from sea to sea. The principal port and capital is

C. 57. Greytown

situated on the Atlantic side, sometimes known by the Spanish name of San Juan del Norte.

It is sparsely populated, and its trade, which consists chiefly of rubber, bananas, and mahogany, is mainly with the United States.

British stamps were used here from about 1869 till 1882, but are very scarce. The date stamp was usually used alone, but is sometimes found in conjunction with the large upright obliterator.



- 1½d., plate 3.
2d. ,, 14.
3d., plates 19, 20 spray.
4d. ,, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15 vermilion, 15,
16, 17 Garter, 17 Crown.
6d., plate 16.
1s., plates 6, 7, 8, 12, 13 green, 13 orange;
wmk. spray, 13 orange; wmk. crown.
2s., blue and brown (?)
5s., plates 1, 2.
1d., plate Venetian red, 1880.
1½d. ,, ,, ,,

Mexico

One of the largest of the Spanish-American republics, has had an even more chequered history than the other independent republics, inasmuch as, besides the usual and ever-recurring internal strife and revolutions, Mexico has been involved in warfare with Great Britain, France, Spain, and the United States.

Great Britain, France, and Spain occupied Vera Cruz in December, 1861, but Great

Britain withdrew in May, 1862, her claims having been settled by negotiation, and it is probable that the establishment of a British Post Office dates from that time, although stamps do not seem to have been issued till about 1866. Mexico must have been already then in enjoyment of postal conventions with other countries, as not only were there high-value stamps, evidently for external correspondence, but the number of British stamps used there is quite out of proportion to the trade with Great Britain, which took one-third of the total exports and furnished two-thirds of all the imports.

The fact that diplomatic relations with Great Britain were suspended from 8 December, 1867, till August, 1884, may be largely responsible.

C. 64. Vera Cruz

A fortified town, the largest seaport in Mexico, is situated on the Atlantic coast, in the Bay of Mexico. Through it are shipped quite one-half of the total exports, of which Great Britain takes more than half. British stamps were used here between the years 1866 and 1872, but owing to diplomatic disturbance—warfare, with its accompanying sieges and blockades—very few were used.

The obliterator is usually found in black.



- 3d., plates 6, 7.
6d. ,, 13, 15.
1s. ,, 4, 4, 7.

C. 63. Tampico

The second port of Mexico, in the Gulf of Mexico, used British stamps probably as long as did Vera Cruz, and these are equally scarce and hard to find. The obliterator employed was similar in shape and size.



- 2d., plates 9, 14.
4d. ,, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.
1s. ,, 7.

(To be continued.)

Newfoundland

By W. WARD

BEFORE leaving the pence issues of our North American isle, a few notes on the forgeries would be opportune. These, at least, must have that credit accorded them for not being poor or badly printed imitations. No, those who flattered Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Company's masteries of engraving were themselves no novices in the typographical art. They may be divided into three sections.

- I. Forgeries.
- II. Forged postmarks on genuine stamps.
- III. "Forged" reprints from original plates.

These latter are probably the most dangerous of the three instances. After the withdrawal of the "sterling" values, the plates were ordered to be broken up or damaged to prevent further use. Some person, however, managed to secure *portions* of the plates of a paper, happily, entirely different from that of the originals, being quite white and not so firm. The colours also were no doubt meant to represent the earlier scarlet-vermilion, but are poor comparisons. These stamps are generally looked upon as reprints, but this is incorrect, as we understand it from a philatelic standpoint. They were not reprinted by the Government, but from plates illegitimately obtained, and, therefore, should be more correctly called forgeries. The paper used for the original stamps is of a strong, tough, parchment character.

The out-and-out forgeries, however, are fairly easily distinguished, but, nevertheless, clever frauds. The chief points of difference are, that in every forgery the figures of value are poorly formed in unison to each other. The network in the body of the stamps is broken and uneven, whereas in the genuine it is very clear, distinct, and symmetrical. The "J" of "St. John's" has a thin bar and a very thick hook, besides being badly balanced, and in all the forgeries I have seen the rose has no petals.

The scarcity of used specimens of these stamps and the simplicity of the postmark have naturally led those who wished to improve the value of their unused copies to copy, but, in most cases, without an exactly faithful facsimile.

The genuine postmark consists of a circular arrangement of thin, narrow, well-defined bars, in a dull black but even colour. The forged cancellations are both oval and round. The former leaves an impression as though made by a rubber stamp, and very bright

black is used, similar to the ordinary printing ink. The latter is round, but has very thick bars, which are irregular, and, I think, in most cases a champagne cork and writing-fluid has been used—a most rude and antiquated method, but sufficient to send the novice astray in regard to genuineness.

On the authority of a Canadian collector, the remainders of the "St. John's" stamps were very few in number, the Post Office having known for many months previously of the impending change in currency, thereby keeping their stocks as low as consistent with the demand. This may be correct, but during the early and middle nineties this country was flooded with most of the values of the last issue, and prices went very low. They are now recovering very fast, and very few dealers hold large stocks, and with the difficulty of replacing, one can safely predict a good substantial appreciation in the near future.

A friend showed me the other day a 6d., scarlet-vermilion, for my opinion. I have seen many "wrong uns" of this country, but this stamp is one of the most dangerous I have ever come across. It was on a sheet in an exchange packet, and marked at £2. The paper it was printed on was a thick yellowish with a slight glaze, evidently of Continental manufacture. The impression was very clear, and in almost the correct colour, but the ink used had what one may call a "sheen." As with most forgeries of the "sterling" Newfoundland, the figures of value and the emblematical flowers were its failing. The postmark [*sic!*] was rather humorous, since it was *type-set* in a circle, besides being a bright black. The method of printing, I should surmise, was by the "half-tone," or photographic, process, and then touched up, hence the non-unison of the value numerals.

In 1865, by Royal Decree, this colony had the great honour of being the proud owner of its own coinage, for, previous to that date, the currencies of Great Britain, Eastern Canada, and the North-Eastern Yankee States were used to barter for the necessities and luxuries of this life. Thus we see, ten years after the founding of the "Home-Rule" Government, the "New Isle" issuing a set of stamps with the value expressed in centesimals of a dollar—cents. The issue instanced consisted of six values on thin "toned" paper, printed by the American Bank Note Company of New York, as also were the issues of 1868-73, 1876-9, the reprints of 1896 and 1897, the Jubilee Cabot,

1897, 3 cents, 1897-8, and present stamps. The 1880, 1887, and 1890 sets were engraved, stereocd, and printed by the Canadian branch of the A. B. N. Co. at Montreal, trading under the title of the British-American Bank Note Company. The values were 2 cents, the caricatured illustration of a fish, alleged to be a Cod, but *mono-tailed!* The 5 cent, another monstrosity in the shape of a FORE-LEGGED Seal, disporting itself on an ice-floe, with a faint background of bergs of the same congealed H₂O. The 10 c., a full-faced portrait of the present King (then Prince of Wales).

I have heard it said by some that this *may be* a portrait of Prince Albert, but since His Highness died in 1861 I question as to whether it is very likely we should find a posthumous portrait, at least so soon afterwards. We must not, however, look upon this as a good photo of the King as he then appeared. The 12 c. and 24 c. stamps both show Queen Victoria, a profile to the left, and a portrait as she appeared at her coronation, while on the 13 c. is a full-rigged schooner of the fast Atlantic type of rather earlier days than the date when this stamp appeared. A peculiarity about this schooner is that in the foreground the sea is very choppy, at the back smooth, a faint appearance of rising land showing. To those who notice marine waters, the waves nearest and rolling on the shore appear quite as billowy as, if not more so than those further

out at sea—unless, of course, in a bay, or otherwise sheltered—but as land in the picture mentioned only appears in the left-hand corner the scene cannot illustrate a bay.

Towards the end of 1866 four of these values (2 c., 10 c., 12 c., and 24 c.) were printed on a white wove paper. The 5 cents, brown, Seal, of this issue is probably the best stamp of the "dollar" currencies, and exceptionally difficult to find well centred, or mint—indeed, Gibbons' quotation of 25s. is much too little for the latter condition.* In common with most scarce stamps, this value has been flattered by the forger. Those I have seen have been imitated by the photographic process, and in all cases have not been quite as large as the original. The genuine are perforated 12, the forged 14, and printed upon similar paper to the description I give of the 6d. first issue of Newfoundland. The colour also differs, being of a reddy-brown, whereas the genuine is a dull solid brown. In 1868 this last-mentioned stamp (together with a 1 cent, typifying Edward VII as a youth in Scottish Highland garb) was issued. As with its predecessor, this stamp has been forged—indeed, extremely likely, printed from the same block, the colour being changed from brown to black.

* The prices referred to are taken from the 1905-7 Catalogue; some have been altered in the current edition.—E. D. G. S. W.

(To be continued.)

Control Letters of Great Britain

By J. F. B.

IT seems desirable to place on permanent record, as a supplement to the able series of articles on twentieth-century stamps at present appearing in the *Weekly*, the following particulars concerning controls which I have been able to glean from one source and another:—

King's Head, ½d., dark green.

A, earliest recorded date	. 1.1.02
B " " "	. 22.12.02
C " " "	. 12.12.03
C4 " " "	. 27.1.04
D4 " " "	. 16.4.04

King's Head, ½d., light green.

D4, earliest recorded date	. 26.11.04
D5 " " "	. 20.3.05
E5 ^{102A} " " "	. 5.9.05
E6 " " "	. 30.6.06
F6 ^{106A} " " "	. 10.8.06
F7 " " "	. 5.7.07
G7 " " "	. 25.9.07

King's Head, 1d., red.

A, earliest recorded date	. 1.1.02
B " " "	. 22.12.02
C " " "	. 29.12.03

C4, earliest recorded date	. 1.2.04
D4 " " "	. 11.4.04
D5 " " "	. 30.6.05
E5 " " "	. 23.8.05
E6 " " "	. July (? date) 06
F6 " " "	. 12.9.06
F7 " " "	. 5.7.07
G7 " " "	. 5.10.07

In all the above, until we reach F7, both in ½d. and 1d. values, the margin is imperf., i.e. the perforations between the stamps are not continued across the margins. In F7 of both values we find the margins perforated (I have not seen them imperf.). Both values of G7 were first issued imperf., but are since perforated.

Perf. ½d., G7, earliest recorded date 28.11.07
1d., G7 " " " 12.12.07

It is worthy of note that, though I myself purchased ½d. and 1d. G7 perf. on the dates given, I have subsequently been supplied with copies of both imperf., so either some sheets imperf. have been left on hand at some of the post offices or the issues have been promiscuous. For many of these dates I am indebted to Mr. Ewen.

American Notes and News

By EUSTACE B. POWER

The "Postage Stamp"

FOR 4 January has just fallen into my library, and I sincerely wish the mailing department of that periodical would learn how to wrap up a newspaper. Mine comes screwed into a kind of ramrod, with four folds, and a dob of paste sticks the leaves together. I see by its columns that I have returned from England, which event happened, *actually*, some four months ago.

Ecuador Surcharges, 1907-8

It is generally known, I think, that we here in New York buy the cancelled mail of a very large importing house doing business with South America. Lately we have noticed some extraordinary defacements on the stamps of Ecuador. First we found a diamond-shaped overprint struck in the centre of blocks of four; then, a few mails later, a violet overprint which was circular. Then we came across a little "1907" struck in the left corner, and there are others at that. I have written to our Ecuadorean correspondents, and hope to have something further to say about them when my questions are answered.

Salvador

THE new set, with a view of the palace, is coming to us, used, in quantities. Looking through something short of a quarter of a million (!!) a few days ago, I found the 1 c. and 5 c. without the shield. This now makes three denominations without this disfigurement, viz. 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c. Perhaps another barrel of them will show up additional values.

Reduced Postal Rates

ARE beginning to have their effect, for what used to cost \$1.60 a pound now costs 50 c., and the high values are going to be better from now on. I advise collectors of used stamps to fill up over the 50 c. value in all countries before it's too late.

Salvador, 1898

THIS set, as originals, has been very scarce indeed. The stock in dealers' hands all seems to be reprints, and not until to-day did I manage to secure a supply. Miss Fox, that able and careful assistant to G. B. Calman, was kind enough to tell me that when the "vault," or entire wholesale remainders, of that year came up for inspection there was a box of 1898 as returned from Salvador to Mr. Seebeck. And sure enough there they were, and now we've got a supply and will alter our prices. For those of a speculative or secretive disposition I might

mention that there were no 10 c. and no 50 c. values. Buy these, as they are going higher. Speaking of this reprinting of the Seebecks, I should like to put in a word of praise for my old—I might say *our* old—friend Henry L. Calman, the present manager of G. B. Calman's business. Henry L. Calman is a man of undoubted honesty, and the minute the reprints were shown to him he then and there ordered his entire stock to be gone through for originals. He is not to blame for the affair, and I merely mention it as I should grieve to see any imputation of such work put upon so honourable and old-established a concern. Henry is a good friend of mine, and don't you forget it. [How much old stamp literature did you get for this?—ED. *G. S. W.*]

Bound Volumes "G. S. W."

ARE getting good. London is sold out of I, II, III, and we've only got a few of II and III left, so readers who hope to have a complete file had better get after these two books before they go down to history with the first editions Milton's *Paradise Lost*. Vol. II is \$1.50, Vol. III \$1.25, express extra.

A Proposal

I HAVE in mind the publication, from our New York office, of a monthly bulletin. There are a very large number of customers who want the new issue chronicles collated into condensed form, want to have the Catalogue corrections, and don't want any reading matter, and they hope, I suppose, not to get any "ads." Very well. Now if the American readers of this paper will write to me at 198 Broadway, and tell me if they are willing to pay 12 cents a year to have such a bulletin once a month, I will see what can be done. Twelve months' postage at a cent a month eats up the proposed subscription price of 12 c., therefore our own recompense must lie either in editorial honour or financial gain from a few "ads." We prefer the latter. [Don't do this, Eustace—it costs money, and we want *all* the money U.S. collectors *care* to part with. Tell them to take *G. S. W.* for a year.—ED. *G. S. W.*]

A U.S. 24 cent Continental Print

Is a pretty rare article unused. Until now I personally have never had one to sell. Breitfuss didn't have it. Most of the biggest collections miss it, and therefore I was particularly glad to secure one on Thursday. If it had been on a Friday it might have been wrong some way; but on a Thursday, lovely! and at 18s. Think of it!! The seller told me he had left it with another New

York dealer to sell as a *national*, and he couldn't sell it! Great Jehoshaphat!! and now it's gone into a big collection, never to be aroused again from its slumbers. I hate to tell you what I charged for it, and, anyway, I am not allowed to divulge the secrets of the firm under penalty of having to read five pages of Barnsdall's manuscript when written in a hurry, and I'd sooner die first!

New Year's Resolutions

DAY breaks but doesn't fall, and night falls but doesn't break, which is odd, but has nothing to do with *my* having fallen down and *broken* one of my New Year's resolutions lately promulgated. Who can guess which one it was? For a correct solution, accompanied with half a dollar, or 2s., or 2 marks,

or anything silver that looks about the same size, I will send an unused stamp listing \$3.75 in our Catalogue. Quickly, now, or you'll be too late.

Part II Gibbons Catalogue

IN American money will be here by the time such of these notes as escape the Czar's blue pencil appear in print. One dollar and sixteen cents, gentlemen, places within your reach the grandest, handsomest, and most reliable guide to prices existing in the entire universe. Who can be so short-sighted as to—"Mr. Power, would you kindly dictate your letters, as the time is getting late?"—"Oh, yes, Miss Geier, I forgot."—So next time I'll tell you more about that Catalogue.

Things Grave and Gay

By "UNCLE TOM"

A Cat Story

A COLLECTOR recently received through the post a nice assortment of West African stamps, which he at once proceeded to wash off the paper. Very carefully and reverently he coaxed each specimen apart from its bit of envelope, spreading the stamps face downward on a newspaper to dry. The watermarks, visible now on account of the wetness of the stamps, interested him vastly, and long and lovingly he bent over them. But the drying proved a long process, and meanwhile he went out for a stroll.

Enter now the domestic cat, the pet of the house. Stamps on the floor were something new, and she must needs reconnoitre. Gingerly she pawed her way across the floor to where they lay, and, being of the feminine order, her curiosity was aroused. She put out a paw and ventured to touch one of the stamps. It stuck to her paw. She attempted to flip it off, but it refused to be dislodged. In her alarm she gave a little bounce, and when she turned—more stamps were adhering to her person. Then she skipped, and the skip landed her full into the centre of the newspaper, where she rolled!

The collector, returning from his walk,

during which he had been pluming himself on the surprise he had in store for some philatelic friends who were to call that night, espied Miss Puss in the garden. "Who's been throwing whitewash?" cried he. "Puss, puss, come here, little tootums, and—Gracious! Also snakes alive! You wretched little beast—I'll flay you alive when I get hold of you!"

Puss had been rolling in the sand, but each revolution of her body only availed to make the stamps stick tighter to her fur. There were multiples on her paws, single watermarks adhering jauntily to her tail, and a chalky in her eye. But the collector was patient—as all good collectors should be, even under the most trying circumstances. "Well," said he, as he dipped the animal in the water-butt, "I never saw before a king's head on a cat's tail!"

The *Colonial Office Journal* talks about doubly-fugitive inks in a way that makes one sigh to be an expert, so as to be able to follow the argument, but this collector says he has, at any rate, got some doubly-fugitive stamps! Fugitive when they frolicked round his garden, and fugitive again when they emerged from the water-tub, for the colours had "run" disastrously.

Correspondence

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—It may be of interest to your readers to know that I have recently applied a philatelic fact known to collectors in a direction where it has been well appreciated.

The Calcutta Historical Society was formed a few months ago and has already done excellent work. Lord Minto is at its head and Lord

Curzon and a long array of leading Anglo-Indians are closely associated with it. I have the honour to be its Honorary Treasurer. We have travelled in large parties to all sorts of places of great interest in Bengal, previously practically inaccessible to most on account of cost and distance—and all have benefited by an acquired extended knowledge of the historic India of early Dutch, Danish,

French, and British rule. In the pages of *Bengal Past and Present*, our official journal, a magnificent illustrated quarterly, the subject of a Nishan (flag) for our Society was raised and my suggestion of a resurrection of Clive's old standard adapted to modern times adopted. Its central feature is the badge of the old E. I. Co. as given on the Scinde Dak stamps with "C. H. S." substituted for "E. I. Co." So we have sent the old flag flying again on eastern waters—it has been to Chandernagore, Chinsurah, Hoogley, Bandel, Serampore, Bansberia, Berhampore, Kasim Bazar, and other old-world settlements, and a few days ago flew at the head of a noble procession of elephants on the field of Plassey itself. This thanks to Philately, for but for our little Scinde Dak friends I don't suppose it would have occurred to any one of us to revert to the now quite forgotten ensign of the great days of old.

During the progress of the long line of elephants bearing the Calcutta visitors to Plassey's field from the nearest railway station, a grand old tusker (lent by H. H. the Nawab of Murshidabad), whose father might well have carried Clive himself, waxed unruly and was eventually banished from the cavalcade. His resentment did not fail to vent itself upon the "guide" elephant, whose mahout bore proudly aloft in the early morning breeze the Nishan with the strange device (or something very much like it) depicted in S. G., Part I, as that on the earliest issues of India. "Dak," in *Bengal Past and Present*, makes use of the incident in a set of verses. Here are two of them I quote from memory. The elephant is supposed to be speaking:—

What of the day, for the morn is fair and the cane is
awake hard by,
What of the day, oh brothers and wives, for the ankle-
band is frail!
The new sun calls to the lively earth and the sweet-song'd
amorous sky,
Out and away, out and away, on the track of the old,
old trail!

Mind ye the day when the land spat flame and the cane lay
red in the mire,
When the scarlet sons of the strong white North belched
death to a turbaned world,
And the dripping flanks of our sires ripped wide a road-
way of blood and fire
Through the tumbled host? It has come again with the
Flag of the North unfurled.

He goes on to preach rank sedition and the throwing off of all human control, but I must not quote more as the rest does not concern Philately.

Wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year,

Yours faithfully,

WILMOT CORFIELD.

CALCUTTA, 30 December, 1907.

To the Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—The last issue of your *Weekly* contains an article on "Specialism," by R. E. R. Dalwigk, in the course of which he remarks, "Perhaps collecting Fiscals and Revenue stamps adds to the appearance of a good collection; but, all the same, there is much to be said against the collecting of this type of label, which was issued by several countries with the sole intention of catching unwary philatelists into purchasing large quantities for speculation purposes."

With the opening part of the sentence there is no fault to be found, but really the remainder is absolutely incorrect. One of the great advantages of fiscal-stamp collecting is that the stamps are quite free from the taint of "made to order for collectors" varieties, and I do not know of any case where an issue has been made for the benefit of fiscal philatelists.

Also there certainly have never been any large quantities purchased for speculation purposes.

Although fiscal stamps have no place in the columns of your paper, I trust you will be so good as to publish this letter in fairness to those philatelists who take up the study and collecting of revenue stamps as an additional branch to postage-stamp collecting.

Yours truly,

A. B. KAY,

Secretary of the Fiscal Philatelic Society.

January 24, 1908.

To the Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—The person who wrote "Spectacles on Stamps" in this week's *G. S. W.* does not mention the spectacles on the 700 r. current issue of Brazil, also on the present 25 l. of Crete.

Yours truly,

H. DEWAR.

DOLES HOU-E, ANDOVER, HANTS,

January 18, 1908.

To the Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—May I point out a mistake in Mr. Dalwigk's article on "Specialism in Old German Stamps"? He brackets together Hamburg and Hanover, and says, "Both these free cities issued stamps . . ." but only Hamburg was and has remained till now a free city. Hanover was an independent kingdom until 1866, when it was annexed to Prussia, and the Head issues which he mentions were those with the head of King George.

I should like to mention here some German stamps well worth the attention of specialists in these stamps, namely, stamps of Prussia, Hanover, Thurn and Taxis, with Hamburg postmark like the enclosed specimen of a Prussian 3 sgr. stamp. The history of these stamps is the following: Up to 1866 when Hanover ceased to exist as an independent kingdom, and 1868 when the North German Confederation was established, Hanover, Prussia, Thurn and Taxis had their own post offices in Hamburg, and all letters sent from Hamburg to other parts of Germany, Austria, and Russia had to be prepaid with stamps of these countries, and Hamburg stamps were not available for these letters. The Prussian, Hanover, Thurn and Taxis stamps used in this way in Hamburg were obliterated with the Hamburg postmark, and with some searching they may all be found. All these foreign post offices were united under one roof in the Post-Strasse, but all with separate entrances, and the letters arriving from Germany at these separate offices were delivered by their own postmen in their respective uniforms, the Hanover postman wearing the scarlet coat as all postmen in the kingdom of Hanover, and as

some English postal officials wear in England to the present day.

These facts account for the comparative rarity of used Hamburg stamps in Germany, for none of the letters arriving in Germany from Hamburg bore Hamburg stamps. Letters to England and countries overseas had to be franked with Hamburg stamps, and all local Hamburg correspondence. Letters to Russia passing through Prussia went with Prussian stamps, and also those to Austria. Denmark and the Baltic were

served by a Danish post office like those of Prussia, etc.

Perhaps some of these facts may not be known to English collectors, and may be of some interest to some of your readers who specialize in these stamps of the old German States.

Believe me, dear sir,
Yours faithfully,

KARL WIEHEN.

STREATHAM, S.W.,
February 2, 1908.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Albania.—Monsieur Hanciau informs us that a Royal Decree, dated 20 October, 1907, authorized the issue of the following stamps on 1 November, 1907:—

1. Italian stamps of 10 and 50 centesimi, overprinted 20 and 80 paras respectively: these are for use in the town of Callée Janina. The overprint is 20 (80) PARA 20 (80), *without* mention of the name ALBANIA.

2. Similar stamps, but with the overprint illustrated below: these are for use in all the remaining Italian offices in Albania.

We have not seen these stamps yet, but we presume that they have already been issued.

ALBANIA

10 Para 10



a



b

Italian stamps, overprinted as above in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
30 para on 20 c., rose (a)	. . .	—
80 " " 50 c., mauve (b)	. . .	—
<i>As last, but without name. Intended for use in Janina.</i>		
30 para on 20 c., rose (a)	. . .	—
80 " " 50 c., mauve (b)	. . .	—

Bavaria.—We are indebted to *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (31.1.08) for the following information:—

"The pleasing 'Arms' design, which has been portrayed on the Bavarian stamps since 1867, is to be done away with. The Minister of Posts has invited competitive designs for a new set, prizes to the value of £175 being offered for the designs accepted. The following regulations have been laid down:—

"1. The 3, 5, 10, and 20 pfennig values are

to be similar in design, and are to be surface-printed; they must be of the same size, shape, and colours as the issue now in use; the design is not to represent any national monument, nor any historical event.

"2. For the 30 pfennig and higher values complete freedom as to the designs is given to the competitors, but the stamps are to be rectangular, instead of square [*sic*], and are to be line-engraved.

"A selection committee has already been appointed, and comprises two painters, two architects, a sculptor, and two Post Office officials. The designs will be exhibited in Munich during the present year."

British Levant.—We learn from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (8.2.08) that a 2 piastres on 5d. and a 12 piastres on 2s. 6d. have been issued on chalk-surfaced paper.

4 PIASTRES.

Overprinted in black on King Edward VII stamps.
Chalky paper.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 pi. on 5d., purple and ultramarine	—	—
12 " 2s. 6d., lilac	. . .	—

Morocco Agencies.—We regret that in our issue of 1 February we chronicled a 30 c. on 3d., which we are now informed does not exist. A correspondent has received a communication from a postal official to the effect that "no stamps at 30 centimes have been issued for Morocco."

Knowing that there was some doubt as to whether such a stamp be issued or no, we refrained from chronicling it until we noticed it priced in the *Bulletin Champion* (25.12.07).

New Zealand.—A correspondent has forwarded us sheets of the current 3d., green, watermarked NZ and Star, close (Type 41), but perforated with a new comb-machine, gauging 14 horizontally and 13½ vertically. The perforating (in our sheets) is started from the bottom of the sheet, so that the top margin shows vertical lines of perforations.



Wmk. Crown NZ, close. Perf. 14 x 13½.
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.
 ½d., green 0 1 —

Nicaragua.—We have another batch of marvellous and wonderful varieties from our New York house. This time they are all on the Waterlow stamps.

The 15 centavos has been favoured with the overprint B—DPTO. ZELAYA, in red.

The 50 centavos, in addition to the above overprint in black, has been defaced with two varieties of VALE 10¢ in dull blue.

The 2 centavos has been treated exactly the same as the 50 c., but the VALE 10¢ is in black.

The 2 centavos has also been seen with the VALE 10¢ reading upwards, but no "Zelaya" overprint.



Vale 10¢ **Vale 10¢**

41

42

ALL OVERPRINTED ON THE WATERLOW STAMPS.

Overprinted with Types 41 and 42, in black, reading up.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 c. on 2 c., red (41)	—	—
10 c. on 2 c. ,, (42)	—	—

B

Dpto. Zelaya

23

Overprinted with Type 23 in red.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
15 c., olive	—	—

Overprinted with Type 43, in black, and in addition—

(i) Types 41 and 42 in black, reading downwards.		
10 c. on 2 c., red (41)	—	—
10 c. on 2 c. ,, (42)	—	—
(ii) Types 41 and 42 in dull blue reading downwards.		
10 c. on 50 c., orange (41)	—	—
10 c. on 50 c. ,, (42)	—	—

Paraguay.—The *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal* (1.2.08) chronicles a 30 centavos, grey, Official stamp. This stamp, as well as the 20 c. chronicled in our issue of 1 February, was issued

between 10 and 15 December, 1907, and the 30 c. was sold out in a few days.



Official stamp. Perf. 11½, 12.
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.

30 c., grey — —

Persia.—Mr. L. E. Hall sends a set of new stamps for our inspection, the design being similar to that of the 1903-4 issue; the colours are approximately the same as before, but have a different appearance, as the paper used for the whole issue is of a strong shade of blue.

Mr. Hall informs us that these stamps were received at Sultanabad in December, 1907. Sultanabad is an out-of-the-way place, so it is possible that other values are not sale at Teheran. Sultanabad is such a small town that a firm of merchants has actually lent the local post office stamps on two occasions.

The letter was dated "Sultanabad, Jan. 4, 1908," and was postmarked "Teheran, 11.1.08."

Later.—We have just received a supply of these stamps from our correspondent in Teheran.



Blue paper. Perf. 12½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 ch., violet	0 1	—
2 ch., bluish grey	0 1	—
3 ch., deep green	0 2	—
6 ch., crimson	0 3	—
9 ch., ochre	0 4	—
10 ch., sepia	0 4	—

Switzerland.—On rearranging our stock books of Switzerland we have found several new varieties of perforation and paper, and have also discovered that No. 218 was inserted in the present Catalogue by mistake.

It also seems to us that, in view of recent discoveries, the latter part of Switzerland (from No. 191) is not arranged in the best possible manner; so we have rewritten the list from this number onwards. We shall be much obliged if our readers will make a note that Nos. 192 to 218 are to be deleted, and the following list substituted in their place.

An asterisk indicates a hitherto unchronicled variety (i.e. in the Catalogue or in *G.S.W.*)

The old Catalogue number is given in brackets.



8

1902. Type 10. Wmk. Type 8. Perf. 11½ x 12.

*192 | 1 fr., carmine



10

Unused. Used.

s. d. s. d.

— 0 2



12

1904. Type 12 (Type 10 redrawn). Wmk. Type 8. Perf. 11½.

193 | 40 c., pearl-grey (192) 0 9 0 4



9

1905-8. Wmk. Type 13. Type 9. Granite paper. Perf. 11½.

194 | 2 c., olive-brown (199)	. . . . .	0	1	0	1
195 | 3 c., drab (200)	. . . . .	0	1	0	1
196 | 5 c., pale green (201)	. . . . .	0	1	0	1
197 | 10 c., scarlet (202)	. . . . .	0	3	—	—
198 | 12 c., deep blue (203)	. . . . .	0	3	0	3
199 | 15 c., violet (204)	. . . . .	0	4	—	—



13

Type 10. (i.) Plain, white paper.
(a) Perf. 11½ x 11.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
206 | 20 c., orange (194)	0 6 0 1
207 | 25 c., pale blue (195)	0 6 0 2
208 | 30 c., deep brown (196)	0 8 0 2
209 | 50 c., grey-green (197)	1 0 0 2
210 | 1 fr., carmine (198)	2 0 0 2
211 | 3 fr., bistre-brown (218?)	4 0 —

(b) Perf. 11½ x 12.

212 | 20 c., orange	. . . . .	0 6	—
215 | 50 c., grey-green	. . . . .	1 0	0 2
*216 | 1 fr., carmine	. . . . .	2 0	0 3

(ii.) Granite paper. Perf. 11½ x 12.

224 | 20 c., orange	. . . . .	0 3	0 1
226 | 30 c., deep brown	. . . . .	0 5	—
227 | 50 c., grey-green	. . . . .	0 8	—
228 | 1 fr., carmine	. . . . .	1 3	0 2

Type 12 (Type 10 redrawn). (i.) Plain paper.
(a) Perf. 11½.

230 | 25 c., pale blue (206)	. . . . .	1 0	0 1
231 | 40 c., pearl-grey (203)	. . . . .	1 6	0 4

(b) Perf. 11½ x 11.

*232 | 25 c., pale blue (213)	. . . . .	0 9	0 1
*233 | 40 c., pearl-grey	. . . . .	5 0	0 6

(ii.) Granite paper. Perf. 11½ x 12.

*234 | 40 c., pearl-grey	0 6	—
--------------------------	-----------	-----	---



14



15

1907-8. Types 14 (2 c., 3 c., 5 c.) and 15. Wmk. Type 13. Granite paper.

235 | 2 c., olive-yellow	. . . . .	0 1	—
236 | 3 c., red-brown	. . . . .	0 1	—
237 | 5 c., green	. . . . .	0 1	—
238 | 10 c., carmine	. . . . .	—	—
239 | 12 c., deep blue	. . . . .	—	—
240 | 15 c., mauve	. . . . .	0 3	—

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Philatelic Societies

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.
Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.
Entrance fee: 2s. 6d. No Entrance fee for ladies or for Juniors.

The seventh ordinary meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, 18 January, at 3 Bedford Street, Strand. The President took the chair at 8 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Society: Messrs. S. Chas. Graham, Thos. St. Lawrence Stephenson, Theo. Voigt, John Murray, William Everard, Edgar Nelson, and Dr. F. J. Greenish, J.P.

Mr. F. J. Melville said the Exhibition Committee, finding a little relaxation from their arduous duties necessary had formed themselves into a team, and now challenged the members of the Society to a football match on Saturday, 15 February. Any member desiring to play had to communicate with Mr. Gilbert Lodge or any member of the Exhibition Committee. Mr. Melville again drew the attention of the members to the subject of exhibits at the forthcoming Exhibition; there is still a large number of colonies which have not yet been promised, and members are urged to send in their promises at once.

Mr. C. E. Purdon next gave us a paper entitled "The Perfect Philatelist," the original and humorous nature of

which caused a good deal of interest and amusement. Mr. E. M. Gilbert Lodge proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Purdon. Mr. Patman seconded, and it was carried with enthusiasm.

Mr. T. W. Hall next gave us a display of the stamps of Uruguay, which were greatly admired by all present. The collection contained a very large number of the extremely interesting Diligencia issue and the following square types. Besides these, the later issues, printed by Messrs. Waterlow and Co., created a good deal of interest by their brilliant colours and beautiful designs. At the close Mr. Melville proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hall for his kindness in coming and giving us such a splendid display. Mr. A. J. Sefi seconded this vote of thanks, and it was carried with acclamation.

The following donations have been received towards the Exhibition Expenses Fund:—

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	24	6	0
E. A. Beaumont, Esq.	0	10	0
— Bench, Esq.	0	10	0
C. L. Harte Lovelace	0	5	0
	25	11	6

Further donations to this fund are solicited, and will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged by Mr. H. F. Johnson, Stamp Exhibition Offices, 44 Fleet Street, E.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 9
Whole No. 165

29 FEBRUARY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

France—continued

THE *Droits de l'homme* design, as mentioned last week, failed to please the artistic sense of the French nation, and the stamps were the subject of much ridicule. Caricatures dealing with the "droits de la femme" were numerous and commanded a ready sale, though the crusade for "women's rights" was not pushed to the extremity at present obtaining in England.

Bowing to the public demand, the Government decided by decree of 16 October, 1902, to change the design of the medium values and "La Semeuse," the figure on the current coins, was chosen as the model. These coins had been designed by Monsieur O. Roty, an artist of great talent, and they were certainly very pleasing. M. Mouchon, the engraver, was instructed to prepare essays, and ultimately what is known as the "first Sower type" was selected. It shows a graceful female figure, typical of the French Republic, walking over a newly ploughed field, holding a bag under her left arm, and sowing with the right hand. In the background of fine lines the horizon is marked by a straight line, above which is shown the rising sun.

The curious may inquire, "Why a sower on the stamps and coins of France?" The idea apparently—and one not without some arrogance—is that the French Republic "sows ideas from which the whole world can profit," a continuation therefore of the "rights of man" sentiment. Whereas on the coins the design appears well, the engraving in relief bringing out the best points, much of the beauty is lost on the stamps. From a utilitarian point of view the inscription and value are not distinct enough, and in addition the colours in which the stamps were printed were poor.

The colour of the 15 c. was altered to a slate-green, and this value was the first to be put on sale, viz. 2 April, 1903. The 25 c. followed on 28 April, the 10 c. on 6 May, and the 20 c. and 30 c. on 29 June of the same year. The arrangement of the plates and the perforation were the same as before.



1903. Sower type. Perf. 14 x 13½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
10 c., rose-carmine	0	4	0	1
15 c., slate-green	0	2	0	1
20 c., brown-purple	0	3	0	1
25 c., blue	0	5	0	1
30 c., lilac	0	9	0	1

The high rate of postage on inland letters had for years been a very sore point with the public, and the contrast with the rates enjoyed by England and other continental nations was continually being illustrated. A motion for reduction was quite a hardy annual. With every new session of Parliament the subject cropped up, to be received with sympathy by the Government in office, and shelved again for some "other fellow" to tackle. In 1897 the Government of the day proposed the reduction to 2 sous (the popular description), and suggested making up the anticipated loss by raising the postage on printed matter. The proposition met with a cold reception, and was dropped, though it was pointed out that at this time England was extending the 1d. rate to her colonies. The authorities did not forget the subject however. In 1899 a motion to carry soldiers' letters free was lost, but its sponsor was comforted with the assurance that the matter would receive attention with many other interesting questions, "including the reduction of inland postage to 10 c., then under contemplation."

In February of the next year the military franchise was granted, but in April the Government confessed its inability to introduce the cheap postage. Again, in 1903, it was said the scheme was not practicable, and it was not until the spring of 1906 that the reform was finally granted. In the previous year *Le Matin* (the French *Daily Mail*) had tried the "power of the Press," and had

conducted a strenuous campaign to force the hand of the authorities. It caused the circulation of thousands of picture post cards all addressed to the President of the Chamber, and giving on the back facsimiles of the stamps serving for "penny" postage in other countries, and praying the Chamber to vote the desired reduction.

The law authorizing the reduction was passed on 6 March, 1906, and was to come into operation on 16 April. It fixed the rate for inland letters and for letters between France and its colonies at 10 centimes per 15 grammes or fraction of 15 grammes. This rate necessitated the creation of stamps of 35 c. and 45 c., viz. for a single and double registered letter respectively, 25 c. being the fee for registration. The decree contained also a decision to discontinue the further printing of 30 c. and 40 c. stamps, and, though it is not mentioned specifically, the 15 c. was also to be discontinued.

For several months previously the manufacture of the 10 c. stamps had been pushed forward, so that all post offices had a good supply for the "opening day." But for so important an event in the postal history of France it was felt that a special stamp should mark the epoch.

Accordingly, as several complaints had been formulated about the "Sower" design—the lady, apparently by the fluttering of her hair, was sowing against the wind, and again the side of the figure exposed to the sun was shaded, whereas the other side screened from the sun appeared bright and clear—M. Mouchon was instructed to redraw it. He submitted a design in which the chief differences consisted in the position of the inscriptions and the rays of the sun, and instead of walking on flat ground, the sower appeared to be going uphill; the lines in the background, including the horizon, were removed, and altogether a much improved stamp was the result. This was accepted and the preparation of the stamps begun, when it was hurriedly decided that they would not do, and recourse was had to an essay made three years before. In this all the lines of the background had been removed, and the figure showed up clearly against a solid ground of colour. The modification required was soon effected and all the lines of background were cut away except a few under the feet, and from 13 April to 10 May, 1906, the stamps in this redrawn type were put on sale.

The stamps were at first printed in blocks of fifty to expedite delivery, but later the usual make-up was adopted. The 5 kr. stamp of Austria, 1867, served as a model as regards colour, which was to be bright red—republican red?—but this shade was hardly attained, it being more of a vermilion. All the brownish red or dark red

shades of this issue which are to be met with are due to chemical action.



April-May, 1906. Sower type redrawn.

	<i>Perf.</i> 14 × 13½.	Unused.	Used.
10 c., vermilion		<i>s. d.</i> 0 2	<i>s. d.</i> 0 1

Yet again the design had to be altered. A new Ministry came into office, and calling to his aid the assistance of several highly placed artistic officials, the new Secretary, M. Barthou, refused to adopt the redrawn type as a definite design, and poor M. Mouchon was again requested to modify it. This time the figures of value were redrawn, all the support for the lady's feet was removed, the little blotch in front of the left arm, in reality the mouth of the bag, was cut away, and several lines to accentuate the grace of her figure were added. The latter were not strong enough to satisfy the "artistic coterie"—it made the lady too slight and thin—so a working engraver at the factory was instructed to strengthen these lines on the plate. As the retouches are not all alike, "slight" and "fat" Sowers may be found on the same sheet. The first sheets of 10 c. from these retouched plates were issued about October, and the 35 c., in the colour of the old 30 c., on 9 November, 1906. The 5 c. were first issued in small booklets 5 March, 1907, and in sheets on the 19th of the same month; the design perhaps shows up best of all on this value. Although the 30 c. was to be discontinued, it appeared in the new type in an orange colour 25 May, 1907. This value was needed after all for franking the cards used in the pneumatic post. The 25 c. was issued 19 June, 1907; the first shade was found too dark and metallic to allow the obliteration to be seen clearly, and it was quickly changed to a brighter blue, and since then other shades have appeared. The 20 c. was only issued in December of last year, though sheets had been shown in a frame of stamps lent by the authorities to



the Exhibition of French Stamps held at Paris 5 June, 1907. Latterly the stamps in this type have been appearing with the figures

of value redrawn, these now being thicker than before.

1906-7. *Sower without sun or ground.*

Perf. 14 x 13½.

	Unused.	Used.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
5 c., green	0 1	0 1
10 c., vermilion	0 2	0 1
20 c., brown-lake	—	—
25 c., blue	0 4	0 1
30 c., orange	0 5	0 2
35 c., deep violet	0 5	0 3

This completes the general issues of France, but collectors should be reminded that the Postage Due stamps of the country form an interesting group. Seeing that prepayment of letters was optional until comparatively recent times, the various changes

in postal rates are equally well reflected in these Postage Due stamps as in the general issues.

The Military Frank stamps also mark an interesting portion of the postal history. For over thirty years the subject, of carrying free the letters of soldiers and sailors serving with the colours, had been an annual subject of discussion. It was not until 9 February, 1900, that the project was adopted, and from that date two letters per month were allowed free to men coming under the above description. At first it was suggested that these "franks" should be of a definite design, but eventually it was arranged that the current stamp for inland postage should be overprinted "F.M."

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Absence from London

I HAVE to give notice that I propose to be absent from London from about 27 February until early in April. I shall be travelling on the Continent, and I hope I may meet many of my readers abroad. All business letters and articles and letters for *G.S.W.* should be addressed to Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. Private letters will be forwarded to me as much as possible, but my addresses will be very uncertain, and considerable delay will occur in all letters addressed to me personally.

The Calcutta Exhibition

I THINK all my readers will join me in a hearty vote of thanks to my friend Mr. W. Corfield for the capital account of the successful Stamp Exhibition recently held in Calcutta, which I give in full in this number. There seem to have been some grand exhibits, and I wish I could have been there to study the treasures of Sir David Masson, Major Brown, Professor Müller, Colonel Hancock, and other successful exhibitors.

A Parisian Mystery

ABOUT 1 February my firm received a printed circular in French, purporting to be issued by *La Société Française de Timbrologie*, and signed by the full committee, whose names included such well-known stamp men as MM. Jules Bernichon, Dorsan Astruc, Coyette, Langlois, etc.

This circular made a most serious accusation against one of the leading stamp dealers

of Paris, a man that we have always found trustworthy in every way. It also accused a group of dealers in Paris of being stamp swindlers: some of them I knew to be of bad reputation, but the condemnation was too sweeping to be accepted.

Before publishing such a circular it was necessary for any journalist to make the most complete inquiries, and accordingly I wrote to two of the leading stamp men in Paris, and my letters were the first intimation they had about the matter. Inquiries were at once made, and it was found that the circular was a forgery. The French Society will repudiate it in the most public manner, and none of the gentlemen whose names were given as having signed the circular knew anything whatever about it.

This all goes to show how careful we who edit stamp papers must be before accepting articles sent in to us. All statements must be checked as carefully as possible. If we had published this circular we should not only have caused serious discredit to perfectly honest people, but we should have laid ourselves open to an action for damages.

The intention of the forger must have been to damage the firm in question, and possibly to attempt to break up the French Philatelic Society.

The "Stamp Journal"

THIS week I have to extend a welcome to a new philatelic paper which has just appeared with the above title. It is published at Denver, Colorado, that flourishing town on

the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains. The chief articles are :—

What the A.P.A. should do at Columbus.

Notes on U.S. Stamps, being a series of papers read before the Denver Stamp Club by Dr. H. A. Davis.

Philatelic Journalism.

U.S. Revenue Department, etc.

I wish the new-comer every success ; there is certainly room for some good stamp papers in the wide area of the United States. Considering the great number of collectors over there, the number of papers is extremely limited.

Monsieur le Comte Durrieu

WELL known as the owner of the grandest collection of French stamps in the world, has been elected a member of *l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres* of France, in the place of M. Lair. M. Durrieu has spent some months in London, chiefly at the British Museum, collecting information for a great work he is engaged upon in connection with another of his hobbies.

Curious Postmarks

SOME of my readers may come across letters marked with an extra obliteration thus—T.S.F. From *Le Coll. de Timbre-Poste I* learn that this means "télégraphie sans fil," literally, "wireless telegraphy." This mark has been seen on letters received from French troops employed in the operations at Casablanca, Morocco. A wireless installation has been put up there to communicate with the French warships.

The "Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society"

I HAVE received the first number of this new and important publication, to which the following note is attached :—

The circulation of the Journal being reserved exclusively to members of the Society, review copies of future numbers will not be sent out, and the editors regret that they cannot accede to requests for exchange with other philatelic publications.

In order to secure this publication it will be necessary to join the new Society, and I trust that many of my readers will do so, as the more study there is of philatelic literature the more will collectors learn about their stamps and how to collect on the best lines.

The contents of the first number are as follows :—

Introductory Note, by E. D. Bacon.

The Library of the Royal Philatelic Society, by L. W. Fulcher.

The Principal Sources of Information for Philatelic Literature Collectors, by E. D. Bacon.

Notes, Queries, and List of Members.

This new Society starts with thirty-four members, and I trust that number will be increased tenfold ; in a recent number I published the statutes, etc.

At present the Journal will be issued quarterly, but later on it is hoped to issue it at more frequent intervals.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

Nos. 34 and 391. Value £1272.

Switzerland (2 vols).

Two very fine volumes, especially strong in Cantonal stamps, of which there are as follows in these new stock books :—

Zurich, 4 rp.	1 unused,	7 used.
" 6 "	9 "	63 "
(3 retouched).		
Geneva, 5 c. + 5 c.	unused and used.	
" 5 c.	different vars., 10 unused, 33 used.	
Basle	" 4 "	1 "
Vaud, 4 c.	" "	3 "
" 5 c.	" 1 "	22 "
Neuchâtel, 5 c.	" 1 "	3 "
Winterthur, 2½ rp.	" 1 "	12 "

The *Orts-Poste* and *Poste-Locale* are very fine, both in used and unused.

The *Rayons* are a fine lot, and include a number of unused with gum, now getting rare thus.

The "silk-thread" issues have been rearranged to agree with the new Catalogue, which list is, I think, more correct than that formerly given. The later issues are very complete in all shades and perforations, and include some of the rarities of the Postage Due.

Wanted to Purchase

Unused. Most of the silk thread, fine, with gum : 78, 79, 83, 85, 91, 97, 114, 131, 133 to 137.

Used. 27 to 41, 45, 46, 49 to 62, 68, 69, 70, 86, 87, 91, 97, 103, 108, 111, 114, 131, 132, 133 to 137.

No. 7. Value £1183.

Antigua, Bahamas, Nevis, and Seychelles.

In *Antigua* stock seems to be running down, and there are many stamps wanted to fill up, especially in used. A few rare things are here, such as fine copies of the 1d. and 6d., imperf., with good margins.

In *Bahamas* a fairly good lot of no wmk., including some rarities unused. Here we have also a fine lot of colour proofs and some unique essays with the name and value painted in by hand.

The *Nevis* are a grand lot, strong in every issue, the best lot of these stamps we have had for a long time. First, there is a die proof in black for the 1s. value, but before the name and value were inserted ; then a number of essays for colour and imperf. varieties.

In entire uncut sheets I note the following:—

Engraved: 4d., orange, a superb sheet, much rarer than the 4d. lithographed.

Lithographed: Three sheets of 1d., perf. 15, and a sheet of 1d., perf. 11½; 6d., grey, a very rare sheet, and 1s., pale green.

There are a number of reconstructed sheets, with each stamp numbered and priced separately; altogether a grand lot of these fine old stamps.

Seychelles, a popular country with all the issues well represented.

Wanted to Purchase

Antigua.

Unused. 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14,

Used. 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, 25, 26, 27, 31 to end.

Bahamas.

Unused. All no wmk.; 13, 14, 28, 32, 38.

Used. " 13, 25, 30, 35, 36, 41 to end.

Seychelles.

Unused. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 24a, b, c, 30, 37, 39, 47.

Used. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 30, 32 to end.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901–June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

Great Britain—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

Malta—continued

DURING 1904–5 this same series began to appear with the Multiple Crown CA watermark, three pictorial stamps, the two issued in 1899 and one in 1900 being included in the set. Of these stamps the 4½d. value depicts a modern Maltese felucca, whilst the 5d. stamp shows an ancient war galley of the time of the Knights of St. John. The ½d. denomination, issued in 1900 for the purpose of prepaying the inland postal rate upon newspapers, and showing a view of the grand harbour at Valetta, with the fortifications and the warships at anchor, was also issued with the Multiple watermark. When first issued these stamps were of course watermarked Crown CA (single).

1904–5.

Designs of 1899, 1900, and 1903. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perforation 14. Unsurfaced paper. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., London, excepting the ½d., 4½d., and 5d. values, which are line-engraved. Medallion in second colour.

- ½d., red-brown (issued October, 1905).
- ¾d., green (issued November 6th, 1904).
- 1d., scarlet and black (issued April 24th, 1905).
- 2d., grey and mauve (issued February 22nd, 1905).
- 2½d., ultramarine and mauve (issued October 8th, 1904).
- 4d., brown and black (issued April, 1906).
- 4½d., brown (issued February 28th, 1905).
- 5d., vermilion (issued November 19th, 1904).
- 1s., violet and grey (issued November 19th, 1905).

Printed in sheets of 240; four panes of 60; ten rows of 6. Early in 1907 the 1d. value of the above series made its appearance, printed all in one colour. This was not so much on account of the Postal Union edict as for economic reasons, as the provision of the Union is merely that the body of the stamp shall be printed in the prescribed colour, the authorities having no objection to the centre of the design being printed in a second colour, provided that it is of a dull hue, such as black, grey, mauve, green, etc. It is, however, much less expensive to print a stamp all in one colour than to issue bicoloured stamps, the saving amounting to almost half, and in all probability it is for this reason, more than from any desire to please the Postal Union authorities, that the stamp is printed in one colour only. The stamp overprinted REVENUE for fiscal use was issued as far back as January last, but it was not brought into use without the surcharge until April.

1907.

Design, watermark, and perforation as before. Unsurfaced paper. Printed all in one colour. 1d., carmine (issued April 8th, 1907).

N.B.—The high values issued in 1899 are in concurrent use with the above series. The 2s. 6d. value shows a picture of Minerva, whilst the 5s. shows the shipwreck of St. Paul on the island and the attack by the serpent. Both have the old Crown CC watermark.

Morocco Agencies

The Sultan of Morocco, possessing no post offices or postal service of his own, has

extended to four of the principal European Powers the right of establishing postal agencies within his dominions and of organizing a postal system for the use of their countrymen resident in Morocco. These four nations are Great Britain, France, Germany, and Spain.

The British Morocco Agencies were first established about 1893 as a branch of the Gibraltar Post Office, and for the first few years of their existence used the ordinary uncharged stamps of that colony. In 1898, however, in response to a petition made by the Head Postmaster at Tangier, who requested that the stamps in use at these offices should be distinguished from those used at the Rock fortress, in order that it might be shown in the accounts that the maintenance of these offices was justified by the amount of business transacted; a special series of stamps consisting of the then current issue of Gibraltar, overprinted "Morocco Agencies," was issued for the use of these Agencies, and from that time until 31 December, 1906, the stamps of Gibraltar, overprinted as above, were the only ones obtainable at the British Postal Agencies in the Sherifian Empire.

On 1 January, 1907, however, the control of these offices was assumed by the British Post Office, and the Agencies were placed on the same footing as the British post offices in the Turkish Empire. To these offices they are in all respects similar; that is to say, they are in charge of regular salaried officials representing the British Government, and may be made use of by any one, irrespective of nationality, during business hours.

The head Agency of the British service, as

of all the other Powers, is located in the Sokko, or market square of Tangier, the chief port and commercial centre of the country and the residence of all the foreign representatives. The remaining British Agencies are situated at Tetuan, Laraiche, Rabat, Casablanca, Mazagan, Mogador, Saffi, Fez, Alcazar, and Mequinez respectively.

The mails are conveyed to and from Europe by a direct line of Royal Mail steamers, plying between Gibraltar and Tangier. From the head office the mails are distributed to the outlying Agencies by native runners, known locally by the Arabic designation "rakkas," who, clothed only in an oilskin jacket and short loin-cloth, and with no other means of defence than a short knotted staff, convey the mail bags over a country where no roads or bridges exist, and where in bad weather the rivers are frequently unfordable for days together, taking as a rule only eight days to traverse the distance between Tangier and Mogador, the farthest outlying Agency—a journey of over four hundred miles. The "rakkas" are, however, well paid for their services, often receiving as much as three guineas for a single trip.

During the present year the service afforded by these Agencies has been completely reorganized, but owing to the recent disturbances, it is unlikely that any improvements have yet been brought into full effect.

The British Morocco Agencies were admitted to the Postal Union 22 February, 1888.

Stamps first issued June, 1898.

Currency: 100 centimos = 1 peseta = 9½d.

(To be continued.)

Calcutta Philatelic Exhibition

THE Exhibition of the Philatelic Society of India closed on 23 January after a successful course of four days, during which it attracted a large number of delighted visitors between the hours of 3 and 8 p.m. The Photographic Society of India ("the other P. S. of I.") very kindly placed its spacious Exhibition Room at No. 40 Chowringhee, Calcutta, at the disposal of the Committee, and it proved in every way suitable for the purpose. No. 40 is one of the "palaces" of Chowringhee, situated between the palatial New Club and the colossal Army and Navy Stores; it faces the best portion of the Maidan, and is very conveniently placed as regards the most desirable residential roads of the European quarter. Chowringhee, one of the finest

streets in the world, is the great thoroughfare of Calcutta. It starts by the Mosque at the corner of Dhurrumtollah and ends with the Cathedral of St. Paul. Under another name it leads to the great Temple of Kali, the goddess whose worshippers are legion. The season here is at its height; only those who have braved the adventures of Calcutta in January know fully what that means, and the Exhibition has done not a little, as a feature of the season, to add to the gaiety of the Second City of the British Empire.

It is a long time since there was a Stamp Exhibition in Calcutta. The earliest on record was under the auspices of the Philatelic Society of Bengal, and was held on 28 and 29 February and 1 March, 1896, in the Fine Arts Gallery of the Indian

Museum, Chowringhee, its Secretary being Mr. E. Berthoud. Then came those of the Philatelic Society of India on 27 to 31 December, 1897, and 26 to 29 December, 1898, both in the Art Gallery of the Indian Museum and both with Mr. P. A. Selge as Secretary. All these were eminently successful. The Fine Arts Gallery was dismantled years ago, and the Art Gallery has followed it into oblivion, its site having been devoted to an extension of the Museum now in course of erection. Then came the Minto Fête's show, "the show that failed," of January, 1907, of which I was the Secretary, and the story of whose luckless career is told in the back pages of the philatelic Press, and now, twelve months later, we are congratulating each other on a renewed success, and acclaiming Mr. B. Gordon Jones, the Secretary of the 1908 Exhibition, and the man to whom its success is chiefly due, as a born organizer of the very first water.

The Exhibition Committee of Management was as follows: Mr. J. A. E. Burrup (whose serious illness is the cause of wide regret); Mr. W. Corfield; Lt.-Col. G. F. A. Harris, I.M.S.; Mr. Th. Hoffmann; The Hon. Mr. C. F. Larmour; The Hon. Mr. F. A. Larmour; Mr. Goodwin Norman; Mr. J. O'B. Saunders; and Mr. B. Gordon Jones. And the Judges were: Mr. W. Corfield, F.R.P.S.L.; Lt.-Col. G. F. A. Harris; Mr. B. Gordon Jones; The Hon. Mr. C. F. Larmour; and Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, F.R.P.S.L.

Medals (with the "Lion and Palm Tree" device) were given as follows: Mr. E. Berthoud, 2 silver; Mr. J. A. E. Burrup, 1 bronze; Mr. J. T. Chamberlain, I.C.S., 2 silver; Mr. W. Corfield, 1 silver; Fiscal Philatelic Society, London, 1 silver, 1 bronze; Lt.-Col. F. H. Hancock, 1 silver, 1 bronze; Lt.-Col. G. F. A. Harris, 1 silver; Mr. Th. Hoffmann, 1 silver; Mr. Hajee Esmail Aboobaker Jhaveri, 1 silver; Mr. B. Gordon Jones, 2 silver; The Hon. Mr. C. F. Larmour, 1 silver; Sir David Masson, Kt., C.I.E., 2 silver, 4 bronze; Mr. P. Mookerjee, 1 silver; Mr. J. B. Robert, The Hague, Holland, 1 silver; Mr. J. O'B. Saunders, 2 silver; Lieut. A. E. Stewart, 1 silver; Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, 2 silver; Mr. M. L. Tannan, 1 bronze; Mr. A. Bancroft Thompson, 1 silver; and Mr. W. T. Wilson, 2 silver, 2 bronze. Owing to several classes in the Exhibition having no entries, and also to the large number of medals offered by donors, slight modifications were made by the Committee in the scheme of awards, and two special Gold Medals added for the best exhibits in Sections I and II, in order to utilize the surplus funds received.

The list of exhibits and the awards were as follows:—

SECTION I.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

The special Gold Medal for the best exhibit in this section was awarded to Sir David Masson for his Kashmir stamps in Class IV.

CLASS I.

Great Britain.

No entries.

CLASS II.

British India.

Frames Nos. 1 and 2.

Major R. J. R. BROWN. *Bronze Medal.*

A select exhibit (about 50 sheets were not shown), including the following:—

1854, mint sheets, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., deep blue, "August"; and 1 anna, deep red, "September" (1854). 2 a., green, a mint sheet of 80. 4 a., red and blue, a very fine lot of pairs, strips, and blocks of all three transfers; and a single, unused, cut close.

1855, 4 a., on blue, mint strip of 3.

1855-64, 2 a., yellow-green, a mint pair, and a single apparently used; 2 a., dull pink, unused; 4 a., green, unused; 8 pies, on *bleuté*, unused.

1867-74, mint block of 20 of each, 6 a. 8 pies, slate; and 1 rupee, grey.

Service, 1867, provisionals, a fine lot, including the long 4 a. and 8 a. stamps; small Service, 2 a., a mint block of 6, one showing the wide S variety. 1883, H.M.S. 1 a., plum, unused block of 4 with *inverted overprint*.

Frames Nos. 3 to 7.

Sir DAVID MASSON. *Silver Medal.*

A very fine specialized exhibit of enormous extent (over 350 sheets not shown), the under-noted stamps being of general interest:—

1854, mint sheets of $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue, of the various printings in shades; ditto, 1 a., red; 2 a., green, mint block of 40. 4 a., red and blue, a very fine lot of the different transfers, in pairs and blocks, including three singles and two superb corner pairs, mint.

1856-64, imperf. mint pairs $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue, and 2 a., yellow; perf. mint pairs 2 a., yellow, and 2 a., dull pink; 8 pies on *bleuté*, mint, etc.

1866, 6 a., provisionals, a mint pair, short letters.

1874, 1 rupee, grey, mint blocks of 4 and 14.

1883, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., double print, mint block of 6.

1865-74, mint panes of the 8 pies, 1 a., 2 a., orange; 4 a., green, oct.; 6 a. 8 pies, slate (also blocks of 30 and 20 showing shades), and 8 a., Die II.

1865, 8 a., Die I, E. Head, large used blocks of 25 and 16.

Service, 1867, small print, a large selection, with and without wmk., including a mint block of 32 of the 2 a., yellow. Large "Service," $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue, Die II, a mint block of 5.

Service, provisionals, 2 c., black and purple, a single and a strip of 20, mint; 2, 4, and 8 a., green and purple, two superb mint sets, etc.

Frames Nos. 8 to 14.

Professor O. V. MÜLLER.

A specialized Indian collection (about 60 sheets not shown), including:—

1854, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ arches.

1854, mint sheets, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., deep blue, "August"; and 1 a., deep red, "September" (1854). 2 a., green, a mint block of 4. 4 a., red and blue, pairs of all three transfers on originals; and a single, used, with *inverted head*.

1856-64, 2 a., yellow-green, 2 a., dull pink, 4 a., green, all unused. 8 pies, on *bleut*, a single and a block of 4, all mint.

1865, 8 a., carmine, Die I, unused.

1866, 6 a., provisional, tall letters, a used strip of 4.

1883, double print, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., pair; 2 a., single, mint.

Service, 1867, provisionals, 4 a. and 8 a.

1867-73, large Service, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue, Die II, unused; 6 a. 8 pies, slate, mint.

Frames Nos. 15 to 17.

Mr. J. O'B. SAUNDERS.

A selection of Indian stamps (a large number of pages not shown) including:—

Some early Scinde Dawk stamps, all three colours.

1854, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ arches. Unused blocks of $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2 a. stamps. 4 a., red and blue, pairs of the various transfers; also a single with *inverted head*, etc.

1865-74, several mint panes of 80 stamps, 6 a. 8 pies, slate; 8 a., carmine, Die II; 1 rupee, grey; also the $\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 a., double print.

Frames Nos. 18 and 19.

Lieut. A. E. STEWART.

A good assortment (about 40 pages, mostly of mint blocks, 1865-1905 issues, not shown), including:—

1854, various mint blocks, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2 a. 4 a., red and blue, first transfer, a strip of 4; second transfer, a pair.

1860, 8 pies, on *bleut*, mint.

1883, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., double print, mint.

Service, provisional, 2 a., black and purple, mint pair.

CLASS III.

Indian "Convention" States.

Frames Nos. 20 to 22.

Lt.-Col. F. H. HANCOCK. *Silver Medal*.

A very fine, compact, specialized collection of these issues, all in mint condition (about 20 pages of blocks and minor varieties not exhibited), and including the following rarities:—

Chamba, "Chmaba" misprint, ordinary, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 3 a. Service, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 4 a. Inverted, 3 pies, grey.

Faridkot, "Aridkot" misprint, 6 a.

Gwalior, first issue, 19 stamps, complete; "Gwalier" misprint, $\frac{1}{2}$, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., and 1 r. "Serviv" misprint, 4 a. and 8 a.

Jhind, complete set of 9, curved print; "Jeend," set of 9; "Jhind" in red, set of 6;

"Jeind" misprint, full set of 6, of the very greatest rarity; 2, 3, and 5 rupees.

Nabha, complete set of 9, curved print, etc.

Puttiala, complete set of 9, curved print; 2, 3, and 5 rupees. "State" only, 1 and 4 a.

Frames Nos. 23 to 25.

Sir DAVID MASSON. *Bronze Medal*.

A very large specialized exhibit, of which only a small number of sheets were shown (about 600 sheets of mint blocks, panes, etc., not being included). The most interesting stamps in this exhibit were:—

Chamba, 2 and 3 rupees, blocks of 12; 5 rupees, a block of 24, all mint. Service, 1 rupee, grey, a mint block of 70.

Faridkot, 12 a., mint block of 56. Service, 8 a., aniline, mint block of 84; 1 rupee, bicoloured, a mint block of 48.

Gwalior, first issue, complete. Third issue, short black Hindi, 3 a., block of 16; 8 a., block of 12; 1 rupee, slate, block of 6, also two pairs, all mint.

Jhind, the "Jeend" surcharges, in blocks of 4, complete set, all mint; 2, 3, and 5 rupees, used.

Nabha, 2, 3, and 5 rupees, mint blocks of 12 of each; Service, 12 a., a pane of 120 (Queen).

Puttiala, 6 a., olive, "Patiala," a pane of 80, mint; 2, 3, and 5 rupees, two mint sets. Also a sheet of rare misprints, some of great rarity.

CLASS IV.

Indian "Feudatory" States.

Frames Nos. 26 to 38. Sir DAVID MASSON.

(a) JAMMU AND KASHMIR. *Silver Medal*.

A magnificent, very highly specialized collection (extending to over 700 pages), of which only 88 pages were shown. This collection was at the Manchester Exhibition of 1899, and gained a gold medal for "philatelic research"; since then it has been enormously improved and enlarged. Sir David Masson based his well-known Jammu-Kashmir handbook (published by the Philatelic Society of India) on this collection. The following rarities may be noted (a lengthy description of this collection appeared in the *Philatelic Journal of India*, May and June, 1907):—

1866, circulars, a very fine collection of the *water and oil* colours, consisting of some hundreds of specimens; many of extreme rarity.

Early rectangulars, a wide range, including "superfluous" colours, on Native and European papers; many very rare.

1886, $\frac{1}{2}$ a. "single die" rectangulars, 8 copies.

1866, compound plate, black, a large selection.

Later issues, an immense range, including several uncatalogued stamps, and many great rarities.

(b) POONCH.

A very fine collection extending to over 60 pages, of which only two frames were exhibited; including many great rarities.

CLASS V.

Any British European or Asiatic Colony.

Frame No. 39. Mr. TH. HOFFMANN.

CEYLON. *Bronze Medal.*

A selection of the early "Pence" issues, including:—

1857, imperforate, 4d., 8d., 9d., 1s. 9d. and 2s., all fine.

Star, clean perfs., 8d., used; 2s., unused, etc.

Frames Nos. 40 and 41. Mr. GOODWIN NORMAN.

CEYLON. *Bronze Medal.*

A very fine specialized collection of the earlier issues:—

1857, imperforate, on *bleuit*, 6d., unused.

Ditto, on white, 4d., 8d., 9d., 1s. 9d. and 2s., used; and 10d. and 1s. 9d., unused; all superb copies.

Star, clean perfs., 1d., 2d., 4d., and 8d., all unused; 6d., 8d., and 2s., used, all very fine.

Star, rough perfs., 4d., 6d. (2), 8d. brown, 8d. yellow-brown, 9d., several shades, 10d., 2s., all mint, superb; 8d. yellow-brown, used, etc.

1862, unwatermarked, complete, including 1s., mint.

CC, 12½, 2d., emerald, three shades; 2d., sea-green; 5d., purple-brown; 10d., orange-red, strip of 3; all superb mint; 2d., yellow-green, 2 used copies; and other stamps, singles and in strips, mint.

1872-84, 2 r. 50 cents, fine used. 24 cents, purple-brown, unused, etc.

1885, provisionals, 10/16 cents, lilac; 10/36 cents, blue; both mint, etc.

Service, a full set of "Pence" issues, mint.

Envelopes, "Pence" issues, a very fine lot.

Also a few early stamps on originals, etc.

Frame No. 42. Lieut. A. E. STEWART.

CEYLON.

A pleasing exhibit, including:—

1857, imperforate, several stamps, 10d., unused; 1s. 9d., two unused, and 2s. (3), all fine.

Star, rough and clean perfs., a nice lot.

CC, 2d., emerald, mint, and others all mint, fine.

Single CA (King), a complete mint set, etc.

CLASSES VI, VII, and VIII.

Australasian Colonies, British American Colonies, British West Indian Colonies.

No Entries.

CLASS IX.

British African Colonies.

Frame No. 43. Mr. TH. HOFFMANN.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. *Bronze Medal.*

A good collection, including:—

Early triangulars, all in excellent condition.

Woodblocks, both stamps.

Frames Nos. 44 to 46.

Lieut. A. E. STEWART. *Silver Medal.*(a) *British East Africa and St. Helena.*(b) *British Central and British South Africa.*(c) *Gambia and Lagos.*(d) *Sierra Leone and Gold Coast.*

Lieut. Stewart had four entries in this class, bracketed as above, and showed some fine stamps in the various entries; the following were of interest:—

British East Africa, first issue, two sets, used and unused; various rare manuscript provisionals; the overprinted set on Indians, complete; 1897, 1 to 50 r., all mint.

St. Helena, practically complete, some fine stamps.

British Central Africa, first issue, up to the 10s. value; Three shillings on 4s., 1895-7, a capital selection.

British South Africa, 1890, £1 to £10 used postally; 1891, set of four provisionals.

Gambia, imperf., no wmk., complete; ditto, CC, all fine; CC, 14, 4d., unused, 1s., both shades, unused.

Lagos, perf. 12½, nearly complete; C A, 2s. 6d., olive, and 5s., blue, mint; single C A, King, 5s., mint.

Sierra Leone, a good lot, many rare.

Gold Coast, ditto.

SECTION II.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

The special Gold Medal for the best exhibit in this section was awarded to Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson for his Holland stamps in Class I.

CLASS I.

European Countries.

Frames Nos. 47 to 50.

Mr. E. BERTHOUD. *Bronze Medal.*(a) *German States.*(b) *Italian States and Italy.*(c) *Switzerland.*

A very nice selection, including many fine rarities.

Frames Nos. 51 to 56. Mr. C. STEWART-WILSON.

HOLLAND. *Silver Medal.*

A magnificent highly specialized collection, containing only perfect lightly postmarked stamps, artistically mounted and arranged. An exhibit of great merit, which obtained the Gold Medal in its class at the London Exhibition of 1906. This collection extends to several volumes, but only a portion of the used stamps was shown. The unused section, mostly consisting of immaculate mint singles, pairs, strips, and blocks, etc., was not exhibited, as owing to the delicacy in tints of the earlier colours it was not considered advisable to risk possible damage by long exposure to light. The stamps shown consisted of the issues of:—

1852, 1864, 1867-71, the engraved stamps of the earlier series, an exhaustive selection in an immense range of shades, showing the numerous perforations, etc.

CLASS II.

Asiatic Countries.

Frame No. 57. Mr. C. H. CROSSE.

SIAM.

A small collection containing some interesting stamps.

Frames Nos. 58 to 71. Sir DAVID MASSON.

AFGHANISTAN. *Silver Medal.*

A highly specialized collection, extending to about 750 sheets, of which comparatively a small portion only was exhibited. This collection is of great interest and importance, and probably the finest in existence of these intricate and little-known stamps. In the portion exhibited the undernoted stamps were of interest:—

1288-95, Sher Ali series. 1289, reconstructed plate of 4. 1290, five copies of the purple stamps. 1292, partly reconstructed sheets in purple and in black. 1293, tablet series, partly reconstructed sheets in both colours. 1293, later plates, a superb range of reconstructed plates in all the colours. 1294, ditto, ditto; special attention was drawn to the sheet of 40 in olive-green on *wove* paper, which is probably unique. 1295, a very fine series of plates. 1295, skeleton type, ditto, ditto; the reconstructed plate in *black*, showing all the 40 varieties, is absolutely unique.

1298, Abdur Rahman circular issues, very fine, containing many very great rarities.

Later issues, a magnificent and exhaustive range.

CLASSES III AND IV.

United States.

Any other Foreign Countries.

No entries.

SECTION III.

SPECIAL.

CLASS I.

British Empire Rarities.

(Shown in Frame No. 80. Section IV,
Class II.)

Mr. B. GORDON JONES. *Not for competition.*

A small exhibit of rare Colonial stamps, etc.

CLASSES II. AND III.

Foreign Rarities. Indian Native States' Rarities.

No entries.

SECTION IV.

NON-POSTAL.

CLASS I.

British Indian Fiscals and Telegraphs.

Frames Nos. 72 to 75.

Mr. C. S. F. CROFTON. *Silver Medal.*

A highly specialized collection of Fiscal and Telegraph stamps, including a great number of rarities (about 100 pages not shown):—

Telegraphs, "Electric Telegraph" issue. Double-headed issue, 8 a. and 1 rupee, imperforate; 2½ rupees, unused; both halves of the Bombay handstamped provisional; 2 r., provisionals, unused, etc.

CLASS II.

Other Fiscals and Telegraphs.

Frames Nos. 76 to 79. Mr. C. S. F. CROFTON.

CEYLON.

A specialized collection of Fiscal and Telegraph stamps, including a number of rarities (over 100 pages not exhibited).

Some surprise was expressed that this magnificent exhibit was not awarded a medal. It is probably the finest of its kind ever brought together, and evidences the widest research in a new and attractive field of philatelic activity.

Frame No. 81.

Messrs. GILBERT and KOHLER. *Bronze Medal.*

An assortment of Revenue stamps, some of the greatest rarity.

Cape of Good Hope, a complete mint set of Stamp Duty 1864 stamps, ¼d. to £50.

Persia, a mint collection of Revenue stamps, probably complete.

CLASS III.

"Curiosities."

Frame No. 82.

Mr. WILMOT CORFIELD. *Bronze Medal.*

A very interesting exhibit.

Original autograph of Rowland Hill.

Stamped envelope to "Mrs." Harriet Martineau in the handwriting of Charles Dickens, with his autograph in corner.

Four "Mulready" envelopes, one addressed by Miss Harriet Martineau to Robert Martineau (Mayor of Birmingham 1846).

Parliamentary franked envelopes. Lord Palmerston, Daniel O'Connell, Thomas Attwood, Eardley Wilmot, etc.

The Penny Postage Jubilee Envelope and Card (1890), with caricatures of same by Harry Furniss.

Oxford University stamps (suppressed).

The United States Postal Currency Notes, 1862, 5, 10, 25, 50 cents

Indian Essays, including Lion and Palm Tree design, and the issued 4 a. with inverted head.

Print of the 6 a. of the "India" series of the Empress, never issued.

The Official Label of the Philatelic Exhibition, London, 1897.

The Official Label of the Philatelic Exhibition, Manchester, 1899.

The Official Postmark of the Minto Fête, Calcutta, 1907.

Views of the Calcutta Philatelic Exhibition of 1898.

Caricature of 5 c. of Switzerland, 1907.

The Control Letters of Great Britain, Queen's Head (portion only), etc. etc.

Frame No. 83.

Mr. P. MOOKERJEE.

An exhibit chiefly remarkable for neat arrangement.

Mr. GOODWIN NORMAN.

Two letters dated 1712 and 1806.

Acrostic Competition

THIS Valentine's Day as we write this, when "Cockneys and sparrows are singing in chorus," and we are rejoicing to think that our lightsome attempts are appreciated by an increasing number of solutions and congratulatory letters, for which we thank the writers. This new one may be a damper, for it is a queer mixture of missing words to find from popular quotations, and weird efforts at rhyming and hiding of meanings, combined with geographic mysteries. In some cases brevity, which is said to be "the soul of wit," is sacrificed to clearness, and we admit that our feet or metres (lineal or square) are meteoric and immeasurable and scansion scandalous; while as to rhymes it may be remembered that Milton hath declared rhyme to be "but the invention of a barbarous age to set off wretched matter and lame meter." So there you have it all and we leave it to your mercy.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 3 (OF SERIES)

The Juniors mean it without any doubt,
Old fogies may now have their pipes put out.
This show in a Westminster hall with its lamps
Will show up the people as well as the stamps.

(For the benefit of those living outside our little village we give away the information that the next stamp show is at Caxton Hall, Westminster.)

1. With centric and . . . scribbled o'er,
Cycle and epicycle, orb in orb.
Paradise Lost.
2. This turn is not meant philatelically,
But unless you spell it phonetically,
You must start with a letter (e) prefix,
Which makes the "special's" total less
than six.
3. Don't say that the last light is this—
There's no deception, I declare:
It has nothing to do with races,
Though "sporty" and oft makes long faces.
4. It is a tale
Told by an . . . , full of sound and fury,
Signifying nothing.—*Macbeth.*
5. Though bully, it is not Chicago,
But it had an Exposition
Not very many years ago,
Which caused some perturbation
Through issuance of special stamps,
Dividing people into camps.
6. Stamps of these Isles will not fill an album,
though bearing a Queen's Head; their total number is but three, and there's no more to come.
7. It's simply this—this sixpenny weekly
Has lately taken interest in our hobby,
Then proves that it can not be weakly,
By speaking itself as plain as a bobby.
8. Ancient name of a State whose Royal blood
Was lately joined with that of ours—
Yet, both as friends and foes, our men
Have often shed their blood together.

9. It was the . . . that shrieked, the fatal bell-
man
Which gives the stern'st good night.

Macbeth.

10. If you teach him, naught is got for all your
pains—
As nature made him, so he still remains.
BEN.

Answers on the printed forms only from the United Kingdom must be received before or by first delivery on Thursday, 5 March, marked outside "Acrostic, G.S.W., 391 Strand, London." After this we hope to give results every two weeks. Letters from Europe must be posted by 7th, and from North America to 15 March. All letters from Ireland and Scotland should be posted early on Wednesdays.

For the first (18 January) acrostic, Tea (for A.E.T., France) is credited with 2 marks; and one each is allowed, for this once only, to E. Lucas, A. Mackay, and J. R. Summerskill, instead of two, their letters not reaching us till Thursday afternoon, each with two postmarks of 23rd; others on 24th are altogether too late. The one received from Reg has two postmarks of 24 January.

The correct solution of No. 2 Acrostic (8 February) is:—

F	uncha	L
E	ventid	E
B	olivi	A
R	I	P
U	vwx	Y(z)
A	lsac	E
R.		A.
Y	ea	R

Correct answers (three marks) credited to Aei, Algy, Anona, Birdie, Beyond, H. Bean, Chicken, H. Chapman, Captain Clarke, F. D., F. T. G., C. W. H., W. T. B. H., J. C. Luker, M. M., Mot, W. G. Mackie, A. M. Marsh, Old Girl, C. V. O'Neil, Psi, A. B. Paterson, A. H. P., F. W. R., O. R. R., Roy, A. St. J., E. H. F. S., E. H. Shears, Taffy, Ubique, Vox, and Zimpa.

One wrong (two marks) to:—Ado (or Adv), Argonaut, Attila, C. E. A., C. B., Bar, Brigida, P. Boden, A. M. Buttar, Cadi, C. W. C., H. B. C., Carl, Crofter, Cronlix, J. D. Champion, W. G. Cochrane, W. S. J. Eyles, Flut, J. R. Fish, S. C. G., T. G., W. Gardner, E. B. H., J. R. H., Hiz, A. R. Hebblethwaite, T. J., Jaquar, Jap, Jud, W. G. Jones, Kappa, Kasaj, Lotus, E. Lucas, Mascot, A. Mackay, Mon, H. Metcalf, Oudeis, Pen, Pharaoh, S. B. R., Reg, J. Rodway, W. H. S., Seabee, Selim, Siwol, Hawk, Skey, E. Schilizzi, H. A. Spowart, Tasman, Tea, Thistle, Timbre, W. H. Tab,

P. Talagrand, M. C. Tancock, Upton, J. Walker, and B. Wyllie.

Two wrong (one mark) to:—A. Atkinson, F. R. C., Cromlix, W. F. Godwin, A. Harvey, F. A. J., Late, F. D. Oxen, W. T. P., A. Read, M. S. C. S., Tertius, and U. P. U. Also S.H., Jr., and Wisla credited one mark (see note above as to late arrivals). Mr. Belgrave's letter, not posted till 11 a.m. Thursday, is too late, and some others.

Notes

No. 5: Alphabetical "order" was obviously meant, as "one more" completes it. I am in doubt whether "you are a gay wisehead" is intended as a compliment. No. 6: Alsace and Lorraine is, of course, equally correct. No. 7: These initials for Royal Academicians or officers of the Royal Artillery seem very simple.

Roumanian Exhibition Stamps and the 25 bani, green, error

By RUDOLF ZOSCSÁK

Translated from the "Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung" by FRANK PHILLIPS

DURING the past year I have noticed oft-repeated questions as to what sort of footing the above-mentioned error belonged, especially as the postal authorities of Bucarest remained mute.

□ I hoped to find out a great deal more about it during that time, but in vain.

Even though there has been no official pronouncement on the part of the authorities, and though what I have to say is for the most part hypothesis, events and observations of the past year have been sufficient to make the true character of the stamp quite clear.

I will endeavour to answer all queries, and set dispute at rest, in the following lines, from which it will be seen that the history of the error is quite above-board.

At a sitting of the Berlin Philatelic Society, held on 2 October, 1906, members were warned not to buy this error, as it had been offered for sale by a "Bank" of Bucarest, before the appearance of the real stamp.

The real stamp, in blue, was issued on 13 September, 1906. I was one of the first to see the error, and that was on 15 September. We can therefore safely assume that the real stamp and the error were issued concurrently, but the latter was not sold over the counter. I cannot say whether the error was issued a day or two in advance of the real stamp or not, but that is not an important point.

In the March (1906) number of the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung*, Herr Bach published a short article treating of this error, and raised the questions of its official character, the number issued, the time during which it was issued, and the price at which it was sold.

There is no doubt whatever as to the error having been issued officially; it was printed from the same plates as the normal stamp, and by the same firm, and was de-

livered to the authorities in Bucarest in the ordinary way. Further, the whole of the copies in circulation can be traced back to the authorities, from whom they were bought.

The one thing we want to make sure about is whether the error was printed by sanction of the authorities, or by chance. By the way, the Post Office officials are the only persons concerned, as the Government officials have nothing whatever to do with the postage stamps.

At one time I myself thought that the Post Office officials had really ordered the error, but when I found that at least 50,000 copies had been issued, and 200,000 more were to be sold to the highest bidder, I concluded that if the error had been made purposely, so many would not have been printed.

The simplest thing would be for an influential philatelic society to institute inquiries, either from Post Office officials in Bucarest, or else at the printing office in London. I think that a satisfactory answer could be obtained from one or the other.

Although the officials were reticent in giving information about the error to the public, notice must have been sent out to all the post offices in the country soon after it was issued, informing them that under no circumstances would the green 25 bani be available for postage.

The following are the more important points to be considered in passing judgment on the philatelic standing of this stamp:—

1. The error was *never* sold over the counter, but only in complete sheets to officials and dealers.
2. The error has *never* been available for postage. Letters bearing such stamps were always returned to their senders so that proper postage stamps might be affixed.

Therefore there are no properly post-marked copies in existence, with of course the exception of a very few which got through either by chance or with the connivance of officials. Some errors were post-marked because they were affixed to registered



letters that were sufficiently franked with other stamps, but the errors were so affixed that a portion of the postmark intended for the real stamps fell on them.

Only a week or two after the errors were issued, it was rumoured that all that remained of them were to be overprinted 5 bani, and used up in the ordinary way.

It proved nothing but rumour, as there was absolutely no need for any more 5 bani stamps. Of this value quite a large stock was on hand; in the list of stamps to be sold by tender 1,220,000 5 bani stamps, of two different issues, are given.

In passing, I would like to say that one dealer took advantage of the rumour in true American style; he offered the overprinted error, *which did not exist*, at 6d. a copy.

The great variations in the prices asked for the green error, at any rate at first, are largely due to the extraordinary means the officials took to place it in circulation. Nearly all those who bought the errors at first were not philatelists, and, as they had no idea how many were really in existence, each happy possessor of a sheet made his own market for them. One asked 25 lei (20s.) per stamp, another wanted between 200 and 300 lei (£8 to £12) for the sheet, the face value of which was 25 lei. But the source of supply did not show any signs of becoming exhausted, so the price gradually dropped to 50, 40, and even 35 lei. At last single copies were obtainable at double face, e.g. 50 bani.

Nothing has come to light as to what the errors fetched when the remainders were sold by auction; but judging from the prices fetched by the charity stamps, I should think about 5 or 10 bani each.

As for the future value of the stamp, each collector or dealer who bought at a high price will be able to think it out for himself. I am convinced that if all stamps were brought before the collecting world like this 25 bani, green, three-quarters of the collectors would give up their hobby in despair.

I hope that the preceding lines will serve to show in what manner the Roumanian postal authorities have dealt with collectors, so that should there be Jubilee or similar issues in future, collectors will turn their backs upon them, and keep their purses closed.

I will not conclude this article without saying a few words about another scandalous set of stamps issued by Roumania. I allude to the "Exhibition Set of 1906" [Nos. 483 to 493 in S. G. Catalogue].

They are all well suited to this article, dealing with "The Illegitimate Children of Philately."

Although it was not hitherto the custom to advertise a new issue of stamps, the authorities were so anxious that this particular issue should not be condemned as



"unofficial," that they published the following proclamation. No. 160 of the *Monitorul Oficial*, dated 14-27 October, 1906:—

"GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF POSTS,
TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

"It is hereby brought to the notice of the public, that, on 16-29 October, 1906, various postage stamps will be issued, showing pictures of the Universal Roumanian Exhibition.

"The issue will consist of the following values: 5, 10, 15, 25, 30, 40, 50, 75 bani, 1.50, 2.50 and 3 lei: and they will be on sale to the public at the post offices in the Exhibition.

"26 October, 1906 (New Style).

"No. 48138."

This document speaks for itself by reason of its beautiful brevity! Not a word as to their availability for postage, or for what period they would be on sale. That was not at all necessary, as the Post Office authorities had not the faintest intention of letting them pay postage at all! So, during the three days they were on sale, they were only sold carefully postmarked! Many people had ordered quantities of these stamps in advance, and had paid for them; they naturally wanted the stamps unused, but those who refused to accept them used simply received their money back. The stamps were not sold singly, only in sets.

Up to the present I have not seen a single letter or post card on which the postage has been paid by means of these stamps; and I should very much like to know if anybody possesses such a letter or card. That is surely a much more important matter than the announcement in a Government organ.

If no evidence can be brought that these stamps actually paid the postage on letters, then they are certainly not worth collecting, as they are nothing more than a collection of pictures, sold postmarked in sets.

Summing up, I think we may take it that 25 bani, green, error, and the Exhibition sets are nothing for the Roumanian postal officials to be proud of, and I will close by expressing the hope that they may be the last of their kind in that country, as its regular issues are of more than passing interest to specialist and general collector alike.

P. Talagrand, M. C. Tancock, Upton, J. Walker, and B. Wyllie.

Two wrong (one mark) to:—A. Atkinson, F. R. C., Cromlix, W. F. Godwin, A. Harvey, F. A. J., Late, F. D. Oxen, W. T. P., A. Read, M. S. C. S., Tertius, and U. P. U. Also S.H., Jr., and Wisla credited one mark (see note above as to late arrivals). Mr. Belgrave's letter, not posted till 11 a.m. Thursday, is too late, and some others.

Notes

No. 5: Alphabetical "order" was obviously meant, as "one more" completes it. I am in doubt whether "you are a gay wisehead" is intended as a compliment. No. 6: Alsace and Lorraine is, of course, equally correct. No. 7: These initials for Royal Academicians or officers of the Royal Artillery seem very simple.

Roumanian Exhibition Stamps and the 25 bani, green, error

By RUDOLF ZOSCSÁK

Translated from the "Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung" by FRANK PHILLIPS

DURING the past year I have noticed oft-repeated questions as to what sort of footing the above-mentioned error belonged, especially as the postal authorities of Bucarest remained mute.

□ I hoped to find out a great deal more about it during that time, but in vain.

Even though there has been no official pronouncement on the part of the authorities, and though what I have to say is for the most part hypothesis, events and observations of the past year have been sufficient to make the true character of the stamp quite clear.

I will endeavour to answer all queries, and set dispute at rest, in the following lines, from which it will be seen that the history of the error is quite above-board.

At a sitting of the Berlin Philatelic Society, held on 2 October, 1906, members were warned not to buy this error, as it had been offered for sale by a "Bank" of Bucarest, before the appearance of the real stamp.

The real stamp, in blue, was issued on



13 September, 1906. I was one of the first to see the error, and that was on 15 September. We can therefore safely assume that the real stamp and the error were issued concurrently, but the latter was not sold over the counter. I cannot say whether the error was issued a day or two in advance of the real stamp or not, but that is not an important point.

In the March (1906) number of the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung*, Herr Bach published a short article treating of this error, and raised the questions of its official character, the number issued, the time during which it was issued, and the price at which it was sold.

There is no doubt whatever as to the error having been issued officially; it was printed from the same plates as the normal stamp, and by the same firm, and was de-

livered to the authorities in Bucarest in the ordinary way. Further, the whole of the copies in circulation can be traced back to the authorities, from whom they were bought.

The one thing we want to make sure about is whether the error was printed by sanction of the authorities, or by chance. By the way, the Post Office officials are the only persons concerned, as the Government officials have nothing whatever to do with the postage stamps.

At one time I myself thought that the Post Office officials had really ordered the error, but when I found that at least 50,000 copies had been issued, and 200,000 more were to be sold to the highest bidder, I concluded that if the error had been made purposely, so many would not have been printed.

The simplest thing would be for an influential philatelic society to institute inquiries, either from Post Office officials in Bucarest, or else at the printing office in London. I think that a satisfactory answer could be obtained from one or the other.

Although the officials were reticent in giving information about the error to the public, notice must have been sent out to all the post offices in the country soon after it was issued, informing them that under no circumstances would the green 25 bani be available for postage.

The following are the more important points to be considered in passing judgment on the philatelic standing of this stamp:—

1. The error was *never* sold over the counter, but only in complete sheets to officials and dealers.
2. The error has *never* been available for postage. Letters bearing such stamps were always returned to their senders so that proper postage stamps might be affixed.

Therefore there are no properly post-marked copies in existence, with of course the exception of a very few which got through either by chance or with the connivance of officials. Some errors were post-marked because they were affixed to registered

letters that were sufficiently franked with other stamps, but the errors were so affixed that a portion of the postmark intended for the real stamps fell on them.

Only a week or two after the errors were issued, it was rumoured that all that remained of them were to be overprinted 5 bani, and used up in the ordinary way.

It proved nothing but rumour, as there was absolutely no need for any more 5 bani stamps. Of this value quite a large stock was on hand; in the list of stamps to be sold by tender 1,220,000 5 bani stamps, of two different issues, are given.

In passing, I would like to say that one dealer took advantage of the rumour in true American style; he offered the overprinted error, *which did not exist*, at 6d. a copy.

The great variations in the prices asked for the green error, at any rate at first, are largely due to the extraordinary means the officials took to place it in circulation. Nearly all those who bought the errors at first were not philatelists, and, as they had no idea how many were really in existence, each happy possessor of a sheet made his own market for them. One asked 25 lei (20s.) per stamp, another wanted between 200 and 300 lei (£8 to £12) for the sheet, the face value of which was 25 lei. But the source of supply did not show any signs of becoming exhausted, so the price gradually dropped to 50, 40, and even 35 lei. At last single copies were obtainable at double face, e.g. 50 bani.

Nothing has come to light as to what the errors fetched when the remainders were sold by auction; but judging from the prices fetched by the charity stamps, I should think about 5 or 10 bani each.

As for the future value of the stamp, each collector or dealer who bought at a high price will be able to think it out for himself. I am convinced that if all stamps were brought before the collecting world like this 25 bani, green, three-quarters of the collectors would give up their hobby in despair.

I hope that the preceding lines will serve to show in what manner the Roumanian postal authorities have dealt with collectors, so that should there be Jubilee or similar issues in future, collectors will turn their backs upon them, and keep their purses closed.

I will not conclude this article without saying a few words about another scandalous set of stamps issued by Roumania. I allude to the "Exhibition Set of 1906" [Nos. 483 to 493 in S. G. Catalogue].

They are all well suited to this article, dealing with "The Illegitimate Children of Philately."

Although it was not hitherto the custom to advertise a new issue of stamps, the authorities were so anxious that this particular issue should not be condemned as



"unofficial," that they published the following proclamation. No. 160 of the *Monitorul Oficial*, dated 14-27 October, 1906:—

"GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF POSTS,
TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

"It is hereby brought to the notice of the public, that, on 16-29 October, 1906, various postage stamps will be issued, showing pictures of the Universal Roumanian Exhibition.

"The issue will consist of the following values: 5, 10, 15, 25, 30, 40, 50, 75 bani, 1.50, 2.50 and 3 lei: and they will be on sale to the public at the post offices in the Exhibition.

"26 October, 1906 (New Style).
"No. 48138."

This document speaks for itself by reason of its beautiful brevity! Not a word as to their availability for postage, or for what period they would be on sale. That was not at all necessary, as the Post Office authorities had not the faintest intention of letting them pay postage at all! So, during the three days they were on sale, they were only sold carefully postmarked! Many people had ordered quantities of these stamps in advance, and had paid for them; they naturally wanted the stamps unused, but those who refused to accept them used simply received their money back. The stamps were not sold singly, only in sets.

Up to the present I have not seen a single letter or post card on which the postage has been paid by means of these stamps; and I should very much like to know if anybody possesses such a letter or card. That is surely a much more important matter than the announcement in a Government organ.

If no evidence can be brought that these stamps actually paid the postage on letters, then they are certainly not worth collecting, as they are nothing more than a collection of pictures, sold postmarked in sets.

Summing up, I think we may take it that 25 bani, green, error, and the Exhibition sets are nothing for the Roumanian postal officials to be proud of, and I will close by expressing the hope that they may be the last of their kind in that country, as its regular issues are of more than passing interest to specialist and general collector alike.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

British Honduras.—*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* (1.3.08) lists a 2 c., red, and a 5 c., blue, both on white paper. We are inclined to think that these are chronicled somewhat prematurely, probably from specimen copies, so we shall not list them until we are satisfied that they have been actually issued.

East Africa and Uganda.—Mr. A. D. Jenny informs us that he has now received the two missing values in the "cents" issue, the 1 c. and the 75 c. The earliest date seen is 18 January.



Value expressed in "cents." Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

(i.) Ordinary paper.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., grey-brown		

(ii.) Chalky paper.

75 c., grey and pale blue	—	—
-------------------------------------	---	---

Fernando Poo.—*La Circulaire Philatolique* (2.08) chronicles an overprint, in black, on the 10 c., claret, 1907 issue. We do not know if our illustration of the overprint is correct, as it is copied from that given by a contemporary.



HABILITADO
PARA
05 CTMS

Overprinted as above, in black. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c. on 10 c., claret	—	—

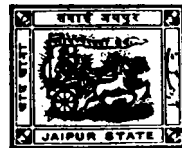
French Soudan.—We are informed that a new camel post is to be inaugurated on 1 March right across the desert of the Sahara. The present postal service in Algeria extends to El Salah, 700 miles from the coast. El Salah is just in the northern Tourareg district. From here monthly mails will be dispatched through the Great Oasis, south-east to Agades, 850 miles distant; thence another 200 miles due west on camels to Timbuctoo, on the banks of the Niger. The mails will then be taken, by boat up the Niger as far as possible, into French Guinea to Konakry, 950

miles from Timbuctoo. Konakry is on the coast, and the whole journey from the Algerian coast is about 3300 miles, of which three-quarters will have to be done on camel-back. The mails will run in both directions.

We have no information at present as to what stamps will be employed. It is unlikely that the French Soudan will be resuscitated, as they are the old Tablet type. French stamps are used in Algeria, so most probably they will serve for this route, in which case they will be recognizable only by the postmarks.

Algeria has long desired a separate issue of stamps; perhaps this occasion will be made the excuse for one.

Jaipur.—Mr. H. A. Cresswell has shown us copies of the current 1 anna in a bright shade of red, instead of in *brown-red*. The new shade is much brighter than the 1 a. of the 1904 issue, perf. 12.



Perf. 13½. New shade.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 a., bright red	—	—

Mauritius.—Our contemporary *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* (1.3.08) is a little vague in listing a 3 cent, lilac, "1896 type." This may be, and probably is, a new mono-coloured stamp, on ordinary multiple watermarked paper, listed from a specimen copy; or it may be No. 130 in the Catalogue.

New South Wales.—We have found in our stock a few copies of the 10d, violet, on Crown and double-lined A paper, perforated 11.

The Australian Philatelist (1.1.08) chronicles a 1d., red, of the 1881-84 issue, perforated 10x12, overprinted OS in black. This stamp will be No. 650x in the Catalogue.



Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.
10d., violet 5 0



Official. Overprinted O.S., in black. Wmk. Crown and NSW. Perf. compound of 11, 12, and 10.

	Unused.	Used.
1d., bright red	s. d.	s. d.

New Zealand.—Mr. H. L. Hayman sends us an envelope franked with an impressed 1d. frank. He informs us that a special machine has been supplied by the Post Office to his warehouses in Wellington. A sovereign is put into a slot in the machine, and then letters may be impressed with franks of ½d., 1d., or 2½d., until franking to the amount of £1 has been done. The machine will not impress any more franks until another sovereign is put into the slot. Such machines should prove of great convenience to business firms, and we should not be surprised to see them come into general use in a few years. The machine has been patented in all countries, and we believe that negotiations are being entered into with most postal administrations.

In New Zealand only a limited number of machines have been issued to large business firms of known repute.

If the machine came into general use it would certainly cause the lower-value stamps of some countries to become appreciably scarcer.

Mr. Hayman also informs us that he has a pair of the 6d., pink, large size, overprinted OFFICIAL, perforated 14 horizontally, but with all three vertical sides imperforate.

Even's Weekly Stamp News (15.2.08) chronicles the 1s., vermilion, in the same design as the old issue, but reduced to the size of the current 3d. and 6d.; that is to say, 21½ × 18 mm. The watermark is NZ and Star, close, as usual, and perforation gauges 14 × 13, 13½, being the work of the new comb machine referred to in last week's issue.

Our contemporary points out that the new comb machine is only suitable for the small-size stamps, these being the ½d. (already issued), 1d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s. (already issued); we may expect to see these soon with the new perforation. The 2d. and 8d. will probably be reduced in size and brought into line as regards perforation. The 2½d., 5d., 9d., 2s., and 5s. are all much larger stamps, and we have heard no rumour that they are likely to be reduced. If they retain their present dimensions they cannot be perforated by the new machine.



As above, but smaller size. Wmk. NZ and Star, close. Perf. 14 × 13, 13½.

	Unused.	Used.
1s., vermilion	s. d.	s. d.



OFFICIAL

Overprinted as above, in black. Perf. 14 horizontally, imperf. vertically.

	Unused.	Used.
6d., pink	s. d.	s. d.

Nicaragua.—We have received from our New York house a supply of the Official stamps chronicled in our issues of 25 January and 8 February. They consisted of panes of twenty-five stamps, all the 1 c., green, Waterlow, and all with the overprint reading upwards. It would appear that the overprint is set up in blocks of twenty-five, as the top right-hand stamp of each pane (i.e. No. 5) has the bar following the word "cvs." omitted. By the way, our former illustration of the lower values of these Officials, up to and including the 50 c., was incorrect, as the bars both sides of the value were not shown.

Several values of this overprint appear in both black and deep blue ink, but we do not think that the difference between the inks is sufficiently marked for both varieties to be catalogued.

We repeat the chronicle (in brackets) of the four values previously mentioned, owing to the incorrect illustration.



OFICIAL

—10 cvs—

a

OFICIAL

OFICIAL

UN PESO

DOS PESOS

b

c

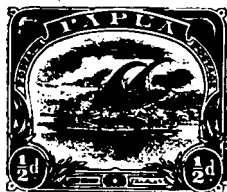
Officials. Waterlow print, overprinted as above, in black or deep blue; 1 and 2 pesos overprinted in red. Overprint reads upwards.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 c. on 1 c., green (a)	. . . 0 3	—
[15 c. " 1 c. "] (a)	. . . 0 4	—
[20 c. " 1 c. "] (a)	. . . 0 6	—
[50 c. " 1 c. "] (a)	. . . 1 0	—
1 p. " 1 c. " (b)	. . . 1 9	—
2 p. " 1 c. " (c)	. . . 3 6	—

Variety. Bar following "cvs." omitted.

10 c. on 1 c., green (a)	. . . — —
15 c. " 1 c. " (a)	. . . — —
20 c. " 1 c. " (a)	. . . — —
50 c. " 1 c. " (a)	. . . — —

Papua. — We learn from *The Australian Philatelist* (1.1.08) that the 4d. of the permanent issue exists perforated 12½, as well as 11.



Wmk. Crown and Δ. Perf. 12½.
Used. s. d. s. d.
4d., black and sepia — —

Siam. — With regard to the recently chronicled 1 att on 24 atts provisional, Mr. Fred J. Melville very kindly sends a most interesting extract from a recent issue of the *Bangkok Times*.

The article starts by referring to the frequent shortage of stamps, and the reason for this shortage, as follows:—

“This trouble has now been going on for a period of ten years. Periodically since 1897 there have been no 1 or 2 atts stamps available. In each case the public has blamed the Post Office, but although many grievances are urged against this branch of the public service, the blame for the present famine in 1 att stamps must be laid on other shoulders.

“The position is this. Contrary to the system which prevails in every other civilized country, it is the Treasury which orders new stamps from Europe; it is the Treasury that undertakes their safe keeping and distribution. When stamps are

required by the post office authorities, a request is sent to the Krom Bat at the Treasury for the values required. Also when sending these stamps, the Krom Bat, monthly, furnishes a statement of the stock, and when this is getting low the Post Office requests the Treasury to order more. It very often happens, however, that not one request but several have to be sent to the Krom Bat before the order is dispatched to Europe.

“Over a million 1 att stamps are used every year, and therefore it is imperative that a good stock should always be kept of every value, bearing in mind that at least five weeks must lapse before a fresh supply can be obtained.

“The result of following custom so zealously for a period of ten years has resulted in Siam having about twenty-five different surcharges; and now 200,000 of the 24 att stamps are being surcharged 1 att in order to meet the difficulty caused by one branch of the Government service usurping the duties of another. It is really to be hoped that the present experience will help to check the tendency of other departments to do the work which naturally falls within the regular province of the P. and T. Department.

“For such a thing as a stamp famine to happen once is unfortunate; for it to happen every few years is disgraceful. The difficulty has continued for ten years, and it would seem a happy moment, now that the cycle is completed, to break the ‘tammien’ and to proceed on business lines more in accordance with His Majesty’s well-known desire for efficiency.”

Switzerland. — We notice that a mistake crept into our list of this country in last week’s issue. We gave the current 12 c. of the new Type 15, No. 239, as *deep blue*; this should have been *ochre*.

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Answers to Correspondents

C. McN. (London).—Many thanks for note about the Sierra Leone No. 24a in new Catalogue. I note that you have this dated 1883, and therefore its proper place is in the set issued in June, 1883, after the ½d., brown. Its correct number should be 21a.

Miss M. S. (Market Deeping).—Many British, colonial, and foreign stamps exist with inverted watermark, but we do not attempt to catalogue these, although some specialists do include them in their collections. You can generally reckon their value as 6d. or 1s. more than the normal stamp, except British stamps, which fetch a higher price.

E. D. (Penge).—A question similar to yours was answered a few weeks back in these columns, so there is no need to repeat that answer.

C. A. S. (Manchester).—The highest value Cayman Isles we have seen is 5s.; we think the advertisement you refer to must be a mistake.

A. R. (Guildford).—The term “mint,” as applied to a perfect stamp with full gum, has much to recommend it, as it is so short and is well understood by stamp collectors. In American auction catalogues we often see the words “P. O. state,” exactly expressing the condi-

tion, but not so short as our little word. The Germans say “Prachtstück” or “Cabinetstück” for an exceptionally fine piece, but, although well understood, we prefer our little word, which, like many others, has been adopted by stamp collectors. *Chambers’s Dictionary*, 1905, has one definition of “mint” as a place where anything is invented or made; therefore a stamp in the condition it comes from Messrs. De La Rue, Perkins Bacon, etc., may be said to come from their mint, and be in “mint” condition.

P. J. N. (Penarth).—The correction about the British stamps has already been made in these pages. Thanks for the note about return of a letter seventeen years after posting, but it is hardly worth publishing, as so many of these incidents have already appeared in print.

W. H. W. (Glasgow).—Many thanks for cuttings, some of which we have been able to use.

N. DN. H. (Temple).—Thanks for samples of the “Sinn Fein” advertisement labels; they have nothing to do with postage stamps, and are of no interest to stamp collectors.

K. D. (Barnt Green).—The variety of Queensland you mention does not occur in No. 166.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 10
Whole No. 166

7 MARCH, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Consular Offices

A NUMBER of French stamps have been surcharged or modified for use in post offices abroad; a reference to these conveniently follows an article on the stamps of France, since the French Colonies, in general and in particular, have been supplied with special stamps, and in any sense cannot be said to embrace such offices. These stamps for use abroad are generally spoken of as "for French Consular Offices," a very good term, and they have been employed in China, Turkey, Crete, Madagascar, Morocco, and Zanzibar.

The origin of these offices is long anterior to the introduction of postage stamps. The right to carry letters within any territory has nearly always been a monopoly of the governing power. True, couriers from any State to its representatives in other lands were allowed to travel without hindrance, but their dispatches were properly confined to State business. As international commerce grew a means of communication became necessary, and the trading countries found it expedient to establish offices for regular correspondence in the chief centres of such commerce. With the gradual progress of postal organization, and, more particularly, the prepayment of letters, these offices gave place to the modern system of "foreign post offices." For many years after the introduction of adhesives these offices used the stamps current at home, and such use can only be determined by the obliteration. The stamps of our own country so used are being exhaustively treated in the excellent article still running in *G.S.W.* under the title of "British Stamps used Abroad."

The record of French post offices abroad can be traced back to the Middle Ages, and the present system had its prototype in that of the Italian and Swiss offices established so many years ago. As examples, it is known that French offices were in existence in Venice, 1561; in Rome, 1580; in Genoa, 1595; and in Turin, 1650. The correspondence was mainly between Lyons and these places, but, as well, by treaties with the interested

Governments, the French offices had the right of collection and delivery throughout the kingdoms of Naples, Sicily, Sardinia and Tuscany, the Papal States and the Republic of Genoa, etc. Later offices were established in Geneva (1669), and Liège (early in the eighteenth century). From 1792 to 1813, independently of the military posts, civil posts were created in all the important commercial centres of territories conquered by France during the "First Empire."

The Levant

Philatelists, however, are more concerned with the offices that used postage stamps. Of these the earliest were those in the so-called "Levant," but more correctly speaking, "Turkish Empire," for the designation "Levant" applies geographically only "to the coasts of Asia Minor and Syria bordering on the Mediterranean Sea," whereas these offices were situated in many other parts of Turkey.

When the Peace of Kutschuk-Kainardje (17 July, 1774) allowed free access of foreigners to the Ottoman Empire, commercial relations between it and other countries quickly sprang into great activity. For many years in Constantinople, as in other capitals, relations between the European Powers had been conducted by means of special couriers. Now, these couriers were put at the disposition of the general public, and little by little the system grew into a regular postal service, and Austrian, Russian, French, and English offices were established at the respective embassies. Other countries followed this example, Italy and Greece (soon to be dropped) about 1840, Egypt in 1866, and Germany in 1870. These offices were replaced in time by properly equipped post offices acting under the direct control of the home postal authorities, and quite separate from the diplomatic service.

The Austrian service, established under present conditions in 1867, has until recently had the lion's share of the traffic. Up till 1887 all letters for and from the East were sent via

Brindisi by the Austrian Lloyd steamers, and priority was given to those franked with Austrian stamps.

The French service, founded about 1879, comes next in importance, and distributes chiefly letters for and from the following countries:—France and French colonies, Spain, Portugal, Greece, South America, China, and Japan. Latterly this service has to a great extent been superseded by that of Germany, and it must be conceded that of all foreign post offices the most up-to-date and business-like are the German.

For many years these offices (established originally without consent) were suffered without protest, notwithstanding the damage accruing to the Turkish posts, which by consequence were confined to local services. In 1864 the Turkish Foreign Minister demanded the suppression of these offices, and in 1875 an Englishman, F. J. Scudamore, was engaged to reform the Turkish posts. The protest was without avail, and Mr. Scudamore's reforms suffered the usual fate of reforms in Turkey. Nothing happened in effect till 1879, when the Turkish authorities commenced to undersell the foreign offices, and the latter, to preserve their clientele, were obliged to submit to similar reductions. Despite repeated protests these offices have continued till the present day, and instead of diminishing their activity have extended their operations until they embrace most forms of postal service practised at home. The loss of revenue to Turkey is naturally considerable, but the corruption and ineptitude of all public departments in this lethargic country render these foreign post offices a necessity.

The following is a list of French offices, with dates of creation and suppression. Until 1885 the stamps of France current at the time were sold at these offices without any distinguishing mark. Those still existing have no date in the last column:—

	Date of Creation.	Date of Suppression.
Alexandrette, Syria	before 1855	—
*Beyrout	"	—
Cavalle, Turkey	1874	—
*Constantinople, Turkey	before 1855	—
Galata, Constantinople	1879	—
Sтамбoul	1887	—
Dardanelles, Asia Minor	before 1855	—
Dedeagh, Turkey	1874	—
Enos	1874	1876
Galatz, Moldavia	1857	1875
Gallipoli, Turkey	before 1855	1872
Ibraïia, Wallachia	1857	1875
Inéboli, Asia Minor	1857	1876
Jaffa, Syria	before 1855	—
Jerusalem, Palestine	1900	—
Kırassunde, Asia Minor	1857	—
Kustendje, Turkey	1872	1879
Lattaquie, Syria	before 1855	—

	Date of Creation.	Date of Suppression.
Mersina, Asia Minor	before 1855	—
Metelin	before 1855	1872
Ordou	1869	1876
Port Lagos, Turkey	1874	1900
Rhodes, Asia Minor	before 1855	1887
Rodosto, Turkey	1872	1876
*Salonica	1857	—
*Samsoun, Asia Minor	1857	—
Sinope	1857	1869
*Smyrna	before 1855	—
Sulina, Turkey	1857	1879
Trebizonde, Asia Minor	1857	—
Tripoli, Syria	before 1855	—
Tulscha, Turkey	1857	1879
Varna	1857	1876
Vathy	1893	—
Volo	1857	1883

The offices are divided into four categories:—

1. Offices with full powers (these are marked with an asterisk * in the foregoing list).
2. Offices for distribution with power to deal with Money Orders up to 500 francs.
3. Offices similar to last, but only empowered to deal with Money Orders up to 50 francs.
4. Offices without paid officials, but carried on under commission by agents of the *Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes*.

To Class 4 belong Cavalle, Dedeagh, Port Lagos, and Vathy. Up till 1893 these offices were supplied with uncharged stamps, but to avoid loss through exchange and to facilitate accounts the stamps from that date were overprinted or inscribed with the name of the office.

In 1884 Turkish money underwent a serious depreciation, and the French offices which sold their stamps at the full equivalent of exchange saw their customers being captured by the Germans, who had the forethought to overprint their stamps with the facial value in Turkish currency, without regard to fluctuation of exchange.

To remedy this state of things the French Government, by a decree, 5 August, 1885, decided that from 16 August, 1885, the stamps of 25 c. (bistre on yellow), 75 c., and 1 fr. should be overprinted "1 piastre," "3 piastres," and "4 piastres" respectively, in black, and buyers were advised to provide themselves with Turkish money to avoid loss of exchange.

On 14 October, 1886, the 25 c., bistre, was replaced by the 25 c., black on rose, overprinted this time in red.

In June, 1890, by reason of a ministerial decision of 7 March of the same year, the 75 c. was suppressed, and the offices were supplied with two new values, viz. 2 piastres

on 50 c., and 20 piastres on 5 fr. In 1900 the 2 fr. was issued surcharged 8 piastres.



1885-1900. French stamps surcharged in black or red.		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
1	pias., on 25 c., bistre on yellow . . .	0 9	0 9
1	" 25 c., black on rose . . .	0 4	0 1
2	" 50 c., carmine . . .	0 9	0 9
3	" 75 c., carmine . . .	1 6	1 3
4	" 1 fr., olive-green . . .	1 6	0 6
8	" 2 fr., brown on azure . . .	3 0	2 6
20	" 5 fr., lilac . . .	6 0	6 0

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Something for Everybody

DURING the past year very large sales have been made from the Mann-Castle and Breitfuss Collections, and it has become necessary to rearrange these stamps. We have commenced with the British Colonials, and have put into our new stock books all these stamps from the Breitfuss Collection. Most of the British Colonial books have now been arranged by the new Catalogue, and they are a fine set.

In the foreign countries there were many very interesting "side lines" on Philately in these grand old collections, and we are now busy grouping these into small blue books, which can be sent by registered letter to any part of the world.

The following are some of the groups of books that are now made up, and which we shall be glad to submit to specialists on application:—

Essays, Proofs, Colour Trials.—A grand lot of books, specially strong in rare Essays of Germany, Belgium, France, etc.

Postmarks.—A very fine series of books of the rarer varieties of postmarks, especially those of the Italian States, Germany, etc. I draw special attention to the superb lot of Alsace and Lorraine, including many of the really rare varieties.

Millésimes.—The "millésime" is the last figure of the year in which the stamps were printed, and in the French stamps this figure is given once between two panes of stamps. For instance, the figure "2" on the margin of a stamp indicates that this stamp was printed in 1892. This is a most useful guide to the arrangement of shades in their chronological order. In France we have a grand lot of these stamps, mostly in unused pairs, with the "millésime" between the two stamps, and including many of the really great rarities in the early numbers.

Great Britain Control Letters.—Some fine books of these, nearly all unused, in singles and in corner pairs; other dealers tell us we are selling these much too cheap, but we bought cheaply and can give our clients the benefit.

A Young Collector

AFTER the service the little boy lingered behind, and insisted on seeing the great missionary. At length his wish was gratified.

"Ah, my boy," said the clergyman, as he patted the lad's head, "do you wish to consecrate your young life to this noble work?"

"No, sir!" replied the boy. "I wanted to know if you have got any foreign stamps!"

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

No. 14. *Barbados.* Value £612.

A fairly good book, perhaps not so strong as I should like to see it in the early issues.

The perforated stamps are well represented, nearly every variety in wmk. and perf. being shown unused, and many in several shades. There are some scarce blocks of four, also unused. In the rarities, I mention the 1d. on half of 5s., three *unsevered pairs*, one being superb, unused, with gum, and the other two pairs different types, used, also singles. "Halfpenny" on 4d., brown, surcharged in red and in black, a stamp that is rapidly becoming very rare.

Later issues very complete, shades in unused being specially marked.

No. 27. *Wurtemberg.* Value £649.

We are now commencing to rearrange our stock books of European stamps, our British Colonials having nearly all been rearranged by the 1908 Catalogue.

In these new stock books of Europe we

shall include the bulk of the stamps from the Mann-Castle and Breitfuss Collections, and the result will, no doubt, be the finest set of books of European stamps that we have ever got together. The great rarities, specially fine single stamps and rare blocks, will be kept in small green approval books, which will be submitted to advanced collectors upon demand.

This book of Wurtemberg is the first of the German States to be rearranged, and is very fine and complete. The early issues are mostly represented by a number of unused of each variety, mostly in grand condition; the used stamps are also very fine, and the book is well worth inspection, even by advanced collectors.

No. 2. Value £972.

Bermuda, British Honduras, Dominica, Cayman and Turks Islands.

A good book, well worth attention even of advanced collectors. The Turks Islands

are exceptionally fine and contain, amongst other things, 1s., prune, unused and used. Provisionals, ½d. on 1d., full sheets of thirty, and half-sheet showing full setting of the fifteen varieties; 2½d. on 6d., black, block of four; 2½d. on 1s., blue, singles and strip of three, the lower stamp being the very rare variety thick 1 and thin 2 in fraction, this only occurs twice in each full sheet; 2½d. on 1s., a unique block of nine stamps; six No. 30 and three No. 31; pair of Nos. 28 and 29, and many single rarities.

The other countries are also well represented.

Wanted to Purchase

British Honduras.

Unused. 1 to 16 fine; 33, 58.

Used. 1 to 16 fine; 33, 45, 46, 52 to 79.

Cayman Islands.

Unused. 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 17.

Used. All.

Turks Islands.

All provisionals, well centred and fine.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

Great Britain—continued

Morocco Agencies—continued

IN 1903 these Agencies were provided with a series of King's Head stamps of the same design as those of Gibraltar of the same date, but with the value at the foot of the stamps, which is printed in from a separate plate at a second operation, expressed in Spanish instead of English currency, and overprinted "Morocco Agencies" in two lines in black. Of this series the 5, 10, 25 centimos values appeared in 1903, and the 20 centimos in 1904, but the 50 centimos value was not issued until July, 1905, the same stamp with the Multiple Crown CA watermark being actually on sale at the British Morocco Post Offices before the Single CA stock was issued. Of this value almost the entire stock with the Single Crown CA watermark was cornered by a single firm of suburban dealers, who, despite the fact that 3120 copies were printed, thus making the stamp not nearly so scarce as the 9 piastre Cyprus, £1 Southern Nigeria, 10s. Lagos, or many other rare Single CA stamps, refused to supply these stamps at less than 25s. each to collectors, or to dealers for retail at less than that amount, though in the first place they paid only face value,

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

equivalent to 5d. in English money, for them.



1903-5.

Regular designs of Gibraltar, May, 1903, with value in Spanish currency. Surcharged "Morocco Agencies" in two lines in black. Wmk. Crown CA (single). Perforation 12. Value in second colour. Typographed and surcharged by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in London.

5 centimos, grey-green and green (issued January, 1904).

10 centimos, lilac on red (issued September, 1903).
20 centimos, grey-green and carmine (issued September 9th, 1904).

25 centimos, lilac and black on blue (issued July, 1903).

50 centimos, lilac and violet (issued July 3rd, 1905).

1 peseta, black and carmine (issued November 19th, 1905).

2 pesetas, black and blue (issued November 19th, 1905).

Printed in sheets of 120; two panes of 60; ten rows of 6.

With marginal plate number "1" in white on solid ground of colour at each corner of the sheet, and a series of short, broken lines opposite the end of each vertical and horizontal row of stamps in the same colour as that in which the values of the stamps are printed.

Varieties.

The third stamp in the seventh row of the left-hand pane of all sheets of the above series, No. 39 on the sheet, has the left-hand serif of the "M" in "Morocco" unduly prolonged.

Thick serif to "M" in "Morocco."

- 5 centimos, grey-green and green.
- 10 " lilac on red.
- 20 " grey-green and carmine.
- 25 " lilac and black on blue.
- 50 " lilac and violet.
- 1 peseta, black and carmine.
- 2 pesetas, black and blue.

In addition, the fifth stamp in the third row of the same pane, No. 17 on the sheet, has a hyphen between the "n" and "c" in "Agencies" thus "Agen-cies."

- 5 centimos, grey-green and green.
- 10 " lilac on red.
- 20 " grey-green and carmine.
- 25 " lilac and black on blue.
- 50 " lilac and violet.
- 1 peseta, black and carmine.
- 2 pesetas, black and blue.

Only three values of this series were issued with the Multiple watermark upon ordinary unsurfaced paper, as follows:—

1905-6.

Design and perforation as before. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Unsurfaced paper. Value in second colour.

- 5 centimos, grey-green and green (issued May, 1905).
- 10 centimos, lilac on red (issued January 31st, 1905).
- 20 centimos, grey-green and carmine (issued January 24, 1906).

Sheet arrangement as before.

Varieties.

The variety with the long serif to "M" in "Morocco" occurs in the same position in all values of the Multiple series.

- Long serif to "M" in "Morocco."
- 5 centimos, grey-green and green.
- 10 " lilac on red.
- 20 " lilac and black on blue.

Only the 5 centimos value of this series has the hyphen between "n" and "c" in "Agencies," and this on a very few sheets only as the variety was corrected in this issue.

Hyphen between "n" and "c" in "Agencies."
5 centimos, grey-green and green.

During the course of 1905-6 the entire series of seven values appeared printed upon the new chalk-surfaced paper.

1905 6.

Design, watermark, and perforation as above. Chalk-surfaced paper. Value in second colour.

- 5 centimos, grey-green and green (issued January 21st, 1906).
- 10 centimos, lilac on red (issued October 12th, 1905).
- 20 centimos, grey-green and carmine (issued July 1906).
- 25 centimos, lilac and black on blue (issued June 13th, 1906).
- 50 centimos, lilac and violet (issued July 3rd, 1905).
- 1 peseta, black and carmine (issued November 27th, 1905).
- 2 pesetas, black and blue (issued November 27th, 1905).

Varieties.

Although in this issue the variety with the hyphen between the "n" and "c" in "Agencies" does not occur, that with the long serif to the "M" in "Morocco" remains in its same position on the sheets of the three high values only.

Long serif to "M" in "Morocco."

- 50 centimos, lilac and violet.
- 1 peseta, black and carmine.
- 2 pesetas, black and blue.

On 1 January, 1907, the management of these Agencies passed from the hands of the Gibraltar Post Office into those of the British Post Office, and they are now controlled direct from the General Post Office in London, as a part of the British Postal system, after the manner of the British Post Offices in Turkey. A full series of nine values of the current issue of Great Britain, overprinted with the inscription MOROCCO AGENCIES, and a new value in Spanish currency, replaces the surcharged stamps of Gibraltar, the remainders of which were destroyed. Four new denominations, viz. 15 centimos, 3, 6, and 12 pesetas, are included in this series, the 12 pesetas being added in April, 1907. The demand for the 3 pesetas value was so great that the first supply was sold out at the head office at Tangier within three weeks of its receipt, and a second supply had to be ordered by telegraph from London.

MOROCCO
AGENCIES

MOROCCO
AGENCIES

5 CENTIMOS

3 PESETAS

1907.

Regular King's Head series of Great Britain, 1902. Overprinted MOROCCO AGENCIES in short, thick sans-serif capitals, in two lines at the top, and value in centimos and pesetas in tall, thin sans-serif capitals in one line at the foot, in black. The ½d., 1d., 2½d., and 5s. values are on unsurfaced, the remainder upon chalk-surfaced paper. Value in second colour.

5 centimos on	½d.,	pale yellow-green
10	"	1d., scarlet.
15	"	1½d., purple and green.
20	"	2d., green and scarlet.
25	"	2½d., ultramarine.
50	"	5d., lilac and ultramarine.
1 peseta on	10d.,	purple and scarlet.
3 pesetas on	2s. 6d.,	lilac.
6	"	5s., carmine.
12	"	10s., pale ultramarine (issued April 30th, 1907).

Parcels Post Stamps

A special series of stamps, similar to the above but without the surcharge of new value at the foot of the stamps, is, as in the Levant Offices, issued for use upon parcels and printed matter only, the postage upon which is charged in English currency.

1907.

Regular designs of Great Britain, 1902. Overprinted MOROCCO AGENCIES in short, thick sans-serif capitals at the top of the stamp in two lines, in black. For use on parcels and printed matter only. All values, except the ½d. and 1d., are printed on chalk-surfaced paper.

½d.,	pale yellow-green (issued June, 1907).
1d.,	scarlet (issued May 5th, 1907).
2d.,	green and scarlet (issued April 30th, 1907).
4d.,	brown and green (issued April 30th, 1907).
6d.,	purple (issued May 5th, 1907).
1s.,	scarlet and green (issued May 5th, 1907).
2s. 6d.,	lilac (issued May 5th, 1907).

(To be continued.)

Specialism

By R. E. R. DALWICK

EUROPE—continued

HUNGARY.—This country, although of no special interest, nevertheless has some stamps of identical designs for two issues, the only difference being that the earlier set is lithographed, while the later issue is engraved. This is a point of consideration for collectors who cannot distinguish a lithograph from an engraving. In a country like Hungary it will at once be seen, by referring to any catalogue, that unless one understands both processes of production thoroughly, it would be very easy to be swindled to a large extent by an unscrupulous person, as he could say he was selling you the lithographed set (the rarer of the two) and all the time be giving you the engraved specimens! Besides these two types of production the country has nothing of great interest, beyond the fact that there is a quantity of varieties which have compound perforations of various sizes. Nearly all the stamps are cheap, but are of no particular value, as the majority are very common.

Italy.—This is a nice-sized country, as regards its issues, for the medium specialist. All the early stamps of this country have a very extraordinary appearance, and at first sight give one the impression of being forgeries or reprints! This effect is probably brought about by the stiffness of design, and the indifferent way in which the embossing (in most specimens) is done. Really fine embossed stamps in mint condition are always artistic, even if the rest of the stamp

does not seem particularly attractive. Several of the old Italian stamps in fine condition are undoubtedly hard to obtain, and should in the near future have a good sale, now Europeans are once again on the upward tendency. Putting aside the stiff design, there are some truly remarkable shades of most varieties, varying to such a degree that in two cases one might be led to imagine them to be distinct colours. The more modern issues, although of quite different designs from those of their ancestors, and displaying somewhat inartistic taste, are by no means ugly. These modern stamps are very cheap and can all be obtained without any large outlay.

Two Sicilies: (1) *Naples.*—A very fine and rare little lot of stamps, containing at least one very rare stamp in the ½ tornese, blue, of 1860. In the issue of 1858 each stamp has two distinct shades of colour (although there are minor shades). All values, also, have the same two shades, viz. lake and pale lake. The designs of this issue are quaint, weird, but nevertheless very interesting.

(2) *Sicily.*—The stamps bearing the portrait of "King Bomba" are marvellous productions, their colouring being brilliant, while in design they are quaint and effective. Any intending specialist who has some spare cash and requires a small but good country could not go far wrong in deciding upon the Two Sicilies, which to get complete will require much interesting research.

Tuscany.—Like the Two Sicilies, this is a

small country, but has many very high-priced stamps which are beyond the reach of the ordinary philatelist. Again, like the two preceding countries, Tuscany is an interesting and instructive dependency as regards its philatelic issues. For a specialist who is blessed with a large purse this is an attractive dependency, but it is little use taking up such a district with only a few shillings to spare.

Luxemburg is a prolific and somewhat complicated stamp-issuing country. There exist quantities of perforations, roulettes, printings, surcharges, etc., so that it would be necessary—one might almost say essential—to have had previous experience in

specialism before taking up such a country as Luxemburg. The actual designs are few and not very artistic, whilst the various varieties of compound perforation are enough to turn one's hair grey in a week! But even when these perforations have been mastered, there are more difficulties to follow, such as the surcharge S P., which varies in size, width, and spacing of the two letters. Luxemburg is for the specialist who likes his brain to be kept in perpetual motion, and moreover likes to brood over knotty questions. It is not a good country for a beginner to take up, unless he feels inclined to exclude minor varieties, which seems a poor way to specialize.

(To be continued.)

Newfoundland

By W. WARD

IN 1870 another new value made its appearance, the 3 c., printed in orange-vermilion. I consider this stamp one of the most difficult to procure, though it is only priced at 15s., used or unused. It portrays Queen Victoria in widow's weeds, and is one of the few stamps with the Queen facing the right. In the same year the six cents was issued, similar in design to the 3 c., in a dull strawberry colour. I do not agree with the colour, dull rose, in Gibbons, Part I, though I am fain to admit there are many shades of this stamp, at least three in my own collection being strawberry, dull strawberry, and dull lake respectively. The great similarity between the colours of the 3 c. and 6 c. was confusing, especially by artificial light, but the former was changed to a deep rich blue in 1873.

December, 1876, saw another change in the four lower values of the last-mentioned design, they appearing on a tougher or parchment-like paper, and rouletted about 6. The roulette varies much, and many sheets have such faint "cuts" that no doubt too many sheets were placed under the "roulette" blade at the same time, with the result that the lower sheets were hardly "punctured." The rouletting differs from the perforating machines in that there is no counter, or negative, "receiving" bed. An old razor with nicks along the edge gives a very good idea of the roulette-knife. The lowest value of this issue may be found in several shades, from brown-lilac to lake, but in distinctly different colours from the perforated 1 c., which embodies purple, brown-purple, brown-lilac, and purple. The 2 c., green, is a shade lighter than the same value issued in 1866-7, the 3 c. remains as 1873, but the 5 c. varies from deep blue, blue, to pale blue.

The year 1880 saw the birth of a new set,

similar designs to last but modified, and the 2 c. and 5 c. zoological errors corrected (i.e. Cod with forked tail and Seal with fins).

Gibbons, Part I, catalogues the 1 c. of this issue in *grey-purple*. I think the colour name is incorrect, for I have yet to see this stamp corresponding to such, and I have had many hundreds pass through my hands. I think the more correct namings are lilac-brown and purple-brown. The 2 c. shades from yellow-green to green, 3 c., light blue, but hardly so pale as to be called sky-blue. The 5 c. varies from sky-blue to light blue.

In 1887 we find a reissue of the 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., and 5 c. in different colours, together with a new value ($\frac{1}{2}$ c.) and a new design (10 c.), the former illustrating the head of a smaller type St. Bernard dog, generally known as the Newfoundland,* and the 10 c. a schooner of about the late "seventies."

In this issue I must once more point out an error in the one and only Philatelic Bible. *The 5 c. was issued in dark blue in 1887*, but is conspicuous by its absence from Gibbons, Part I. It is amusing to see firms, yea and journalists, *who, of course, don't copy*,

* The dog portrayed on the $\frac{1}{2}$ c. stamps of Newfoundland is often called a Newfoundland dog. One does not expect a philatelist to be a dog fancier, but still we like to be correct. There are three varieties of the dog generally designated "the St. Bernard"—the original Swiss or English type (the largest), the Newfoundland, and the Labrador (the smallest). The latter is the more common type met with in the "New Isle"; the second being more often found as an exhibition dog in Great Britain and the United States; and, from appearances, the illustration is the Labrador variety, though I may say most fanciers would consider it a very poor specimen, it being a "bad" shape in the head.

make no mention of the 5 c., dark blue! It tends to show the amount of "follow-my-leader" play done by a large section of the philatelic trade and press. Besides dark, this value is found in a rich blue, both of which are much less common than their contemporaries. The $\frac{1}{2}$ c. in rose-red is by no means very common in used condition, and much underpriced at 2d., since the reprint of 1896 in vermilion-red is quoted at 6d. The 1 c. shades from deep grass-green to very dark green, and the 2 c. from orange, deep orange, to orange-vermilion. The 3 c. is changed from blue to dark brown, and the 10 c. is in black. Up to at least 1894 the 12 c. and 24 c. (both on white paper) of 1866, together with the 6 c., 1870, were on sale at the head office in St. John's, a friend of mine purchasing for me some in that year.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ c. dog's head was changed to black in 1890, and a new 3 c. value issued showing a bust of Queen Victoria. One can make a collection of this last value in itself, so numerous are its shades.

I rather advocate the theory that the red-lilac of this stamp is an error. A list of the more orthodox colours will prove of use to the collector.

3 c., 1890.

1. Slate.
2. Blue-slate.
3. Grey-slate.
4. Lilac-slate.
5. Slate-lilac.
6. Lilac (scarce).
7. Lilac-grey.
8. Grey-black.
9. Grey.
10. Red-lilac.
11. Blue-slate, or slate on rose paper.

Numbers 4 and 5 may seem synonymous, but on comparison are distinct. Number 11 is another stamp not catalogued by Gibbons. That it exists there is no doubt, that is, as a *bona fide* variety. I have it both used and unused. Some few years ago I was present at an auction when a complete sheet was sold—mint, of course.

There are odds that our old friend the enlightened postal clerk first saw the variety, and, being an American, promptly "cornered" it. I have often seen the stamp unused, but my own used copy is one of only two I have yet had brought to my notice. These stamps were printed by the American Bank Note Company at New York. This same firm also printed the 1881-6 issue of Chili, and, curiously, the 5 centavos of this issue, which was in use up to 1899-1900, is also to be found on rose paper of exactly the same tint and texture as the Newfoundland 3 c. under notice. One need not be a second Conan Doyle to arrive at a deduction that these two stamps would be printed at

the same period. I have a copy of the 5 c., Chili, in my Newfoundland collection alongside its contemporary of the latter country. A rather amusing instance in regard to this occurred some two years ago. As most are aware, numbers 4, 5, 6, and 7 are very fugitive colours, and often "run" when soaked, thereby staining the paper as tea would. I was at the time exhibiting my collection of Newfoundland. A specialist of Chili, and other unpopular South Americans, expressed the opinion to me that the Chili 5 centavos was akin to the 3c. Newfoundland, inasmuch as the latter was chemically changed in unison with the fugitiveness of the design-colouring, and at the same time said that he had never known the Chili, *as he had it not in his collection!* Perhaps I am not one to be easily quashed in a controversy, but, at any rate, an argument ensued. Shortly afterwards another collector approached me in regard to the Chili, and with a view to my selling same to him.

Alas for his commissioner! he was a poor one for such a delicate piece of business. In the course of conversation I expressed surprise at hearing of his specializing in Chili, but he reassured me: he was desiring to purchase on behalf of Mr. So-and-so—the one who repudiated the *bona fides* of the stamp!

Needless to say I still have the stamp.

Another is, or at least was, in the possession of a Manchester specialist of Chilians, together with the same value on yellowish or toned paper.

(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, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ × 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Post-free in Great Britain, 10s. 7d.

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

Points for Beginners

By B. W. W.

Used or Unused?

THE question as to which class of stamps it is most advisable to collect has been often debated, but no decisive answer can be arrived at. In days of long ago, we old fogies used to declare that a stamp was not a postage stamp until its franking power had been tested properly, and used stamps, therefore, were our great treasures as veterans who had been in the wars, an unused one being looked upon with suspicion, or merely as a label until post-marked to show it had done good service. So far as mere rarity goes, it will often happen that a stamp is a hundred times scarcer in a used condition than it is as an unutilised piece of paper with a coloured design on it, because there are tens or hundreds of thousands of stamps exported from some small out-of-the-way island, and probably less than a thousand are postally used by the residents. So you take your choice according to individual fancy or the look of the thing. My particular plan was to get used ones of every variety possible, and for final mounting leave space for an unused specimen, so as to examine it carefully in case a doubtful or faked copy was offered me. Then there is, or used to be, a certain amount of interest in the postmark as such, and where a great quantity of stamps of a low value had been printed, but only a few actually used before they were withdrawn from sale or use, the used copies fetched much higher prices, and so led to rogues making imaginary or forged postmarks to sell better. If used stamps are preferred, the envelope paper at back should be removed carefully by soaking a piece of flannel with water and laying the back of stamps thereon for a few minutes, when the extra paper will come off easily. There are many old stamps that will bear soaking in either hot or cold water to strip off the paper, but many of recent years will not stand such treatment.

First Issues of Stamps

It should not be necessary to remind any one in these days of cyclopædic information (from sixpence to as many pounds the lot) that the honour or credit of the first introduction of adhesive stamps which would frank or pay for the delivery of a letter was due to an Englishman named Rowland Hill, who issued a pamphlet on Postal Reform early in 1837 that led to an Act of Parliament fixing a penny postage rate throughout the United Kingdom. We

cannot go into details now, but may briefly mention that the postal rates previous to 1839 varied according to distance from one penny locally in some towns to fourpence for under fifteen miles, and one shilling for three hundred miles, a general rate of fourpence for the whole country being adopted as a trial at the end of 1839. The universal penny rate was then decided on and commenced from 10 January, 1840, but the actual issue of adhesive stamps for the prepayment of postage did not take place until 6 May in that year. At the same time there were issued letter-sheets and envelopes or covers with an allegorical picture design by William Mulready, R.A., occupying the greater part of an area of 5 by 3 inches, printed in black for the penny rate and in blue for a letter requiring twopence postage. The central figure represented Britannia with a lion at her feet, and in actual postal use this was taken as the postage stamp proper, and obliterations were usually stamped at the post offices on that portion instead of at top right corner.

Though a beginner may not have a prospect of getting these first stamps in an unused condition—they may now be considered historical—he should certainly get a specimen or two used as early as possible. One enthusiast a little while back was advertising for original covers bearing the adhesives posted on certain dates, to complete a collection then making of every day's postmarks from 6 May to the end of the year—but then he was not a beginner. The first printings of the one penny value with the Head of Queen Victoria were in black, those of twopence were similar in type but in deep blue, and these were shortly afterwards spoken of as "Queen's Heads," as distinct from the Mulready type which was unpopular. In 1841 the first colour was changed to a dull red often brownish with age, and the blue stamp was slightly altered by having an uncoloured line added under "Postage" at the top and another above "Twopence" at foot. These differences are mentioned so as to be especially looked for. It is natural, apart from patriotism, that any collector should begin with the stamps of his own country, and there is such a range of varieties in the different issues of Great Britain that he or she may well devote half of the spare cash available as a start to obtain the early printings, or any up to 1880. It is always possible that one may hear of some unused specimens discovered in a small drawer of a desk or other out-of-the-way place, carefully put away as curios by an aged person of days gone by,

and long forgotten. I was very near obtaining such a find a few years ago, for one day a man came into a post office close to, with a portion of a sheet of the "penny blacks" and asked if they were still usable, or could they be exchanged for current issues. On being informed by the young lady she could not do so, and being offered my address as a possible purchaser, he seemed alarmed, as he had found them in an old account-book, and left hurriedly to find some one else. Shortly after, this block of stamps (nearly half a sheet) was sold by auction and realized an average of about two shillings each. The refusal of the post office was because of an official demonetization the year before of these and other issues prior to 1880, which cannot now be legally used for postage.

Albums and Catalogues

Having got over the probationary stage of a temporary mounting of your stamps, or looked over that neglected, almost forgotten old album, and being desirous of making a fair start again, the questions of what album is best, and is a catalogue necessary, arise at once. This, however, should be preceded by a decision or calculation as to what class or extent of collecting is thought of. Owing to there being over 20,000 main varieties of stamps issued up to last year, it is not a simple matter to look forward to getting a fairly complete collection, starting from a few hundreds now in hand. It was very different in the old days, for about 1870 I had ticked off in Smith's Catalogue of previous year over 80 per cent of the items as being in my possession, but then there were barely 2000 listed at that time—watermarks and perforations had not been thoroughly analysed or thought important enough for special distinction.

For the young collector the best training is to go in for a "general" collection—on a very simple basis of getting at least one or two stamps of every country and increasing as opportunities offer—mounted with hinges

in an album capable of holding six to ten thousand stamps, which can be got for five to ten shillings. Many are with pages arranged to take all the British Empire first and the rest of the world in continents, which is better than a strictly alphabetical arrangement, as one can learn much of history and geography by a proper grouping of the stamps. My first album was one to hold 5000, with countries grouped in continents; my next was similar but larger, with lists of stamps issued to date printed on left side of page, thus combining catalogue and album; while my third venture, in 1879, was an Imperial Album with stamps arranged in spaces numbered to agree with descriptive lists on opposite page. I soon advanced beyond this because of finding unlisted shades of colour and taking a fancy to used pairs of stamps, when possible to get them, and (if not to be got at all used) to pairs or corner blocks of unused stamps—but must leave that to a future page.

If there is not a descriptive list of types in chronological order, however brief, printed in the album chosen, a catalogue is decidedly necessary for one who wishes to be an earnest collector. Whatever this catalogue is—simple or complex—does not matter much, if correct; for the young who do not expect to ever reach a total of 10,000 the simplified form is sufficient. For a more ambitious collector, or one who does not propose to follow up certain countries beyond type specimens, so as to concentrate efforts on particular groups, the Gibbons Catalogue is undoubtedly the best, and even for the younger one it is useful, as he may come across many varieties not listed in the simpler books, which stamps are obtainable at low prices still. The more elaborate catalogue need not frighten the novice; let him look at it and keep it as a valuable book of reference, taking only distinct differences of colour and types, until the days arrive for a more extensive album and the possibilities of other varieties to be then included.

(To be continued.)

Stamp Frauds

By PAUL HOWARD

THE beginner will quickly discover that there are frauds and fraudulent practices even in the realm of stamp collecting. Perhaps the majority of such frauds as occur are perpetrated by collectors, but occasionally it is some seller of stamps who is at fault.

A stamp seller may fill his packets with second or third rate stuff, advertise them in big headlines, or stick the best half-dozen copies on the outside of the envelope, in the

hope of their being taken as fair samples of what is inside. Needless to say, the contents of these packets do not always please. The purchaser soon accumulates a stock of 5 c. French, 10 öre Sweden, and the 10 pfg. German of 1889—an American paper says this latter stamp should be the most hated stamp in existence; it is always turning up, it often forms the bulk of "mixed lots," and there seem to be millions upon millions of it.

However bulky such a packet may be, if it

is largely made up of this class of stamps it cannot be a good shilling's-worth; the purchaser is buying duplicates every time, and common duplicates at that. Some regard should be had to the reliability and respectability of the firm who offers the packets. Many firms have a reputation which is too precious to be risked in anything save fair and square dealing. Get your packets from such a reliable house, a house given to sober statements, and you will find the stamps all right.

Exchange

The collector who possesses duplicate stamps soon becomes aware of the possibilities of fraud, should he embark on exchange. Some exchange advertisers will take your best stamps and send you in return "a few samples of the stamps of our country"—just a dozen or two of the commonest denominations in the colony. Any extensive venture in this direction is sure to meet with correspondents of this type, people who "make something" out of every exchange lot that passes through their hands. Perseverance in such a profitable pursuit should eventually place them among the magnates of their native land.

Luckily they are few in number, and they are but casual advertisers; the honest exchanger predominates, and, as a rule, he is a constant advertiser—it is well to remember that the constant advertiser is far more likely to be a reliable person than the man whose announcements are only casual. The one is building up a reputation, the other may be a catch-penny sort of individual. The honest exchanger will send you, as far as he can, what you ask for. But the other man may hold back your stamps and say he wants better stamps; he may talk largely about the splendid stuff he has in store for you, and perhaps you listen, and send him what he wants. And after that there is silence!

Perhaps, after all, that collector is the happiest who possesses no duplicates. For him these woes do not exist. No bother, then, with writing out "want lists" and long explanations, no expensive postage and registration, no underpaid letters and no sorrow over disappointing contents. "Buy what you want," advises a busy man, "and spare yourself the worry and the uncertainty of every other way."

Substitution

Here is an atrocious practice, against which every collector should be on his guard. Maybe you send out a sheet of your duplicates to some person through the post, and when they return good stamps have been removed, and common ones stuck in their places. Or a fine copy has been taken off, and a poorer copy of the same stamp substituted. It is really stealing, a very

mean form of theft, and it is not uncommon; occasionally it is to be met with even in so select a circle as a Stamp Club! Only this winter a mint single-watermark stamp was removed from a sheet, in a club of long standing and reputation, and the same stamp with multiple watermark affixed in its place. The substitution was not apparent till the stamp was examined, when it was seen that a specimen worth, say, five shillings had been exchanged for one worth not a fifth of that sum.

This sort of thing destroys all confidence between buyer and seller; it obliges a dealer to carefully scan each sheet as it returns for possible evidence of misuse, it gives a club secretary no peace until he has discovered and ousted the offending member. "Out! Out!" as the soldiers of Harold shouted to the troops of the Conqueror at Hastings—only they didn't manage to drive them out.

It should be one of the resolutions of the beginner that, in this matter, he will keep his hands clean. The stamps thus purloined can never give their "possessor" (?) any real satisfaction. What must be the feelings of the man, some of whose choicest specimens have been acquired in this way? Every time he sees the stamps they should glare at him from the contaminated page like dumb accusers. A man's integrity is hardly worth pitching to the winds for the sake of a stamp!

Integrity in Minor Matters

A dealer quotes an instance of an approval sheet being returned to him with 6s. 0½d. worth of stamps removed therefrom. Exactly 6s. 0½d. was remitted. What a wonderful revelation of character in the remitter was the sending of that odd halfpenny! After such evidence of the customer's integrity the dealer felt he could have trusted the man with half his stock. He goes on to say that the next letter he opened contained 4s. 3d. as payment for 4s. 5½d. worth of stamps removed, the remitter trusting that the dealer would not trouble to apply for the small deficiency. He didn't, but he sent no more stamps!

It is a common practice for the remitter to knock off a penny for return postage, but the ethics of this proceeding are hard to discover. Why should the seller be expected to bear the cost of postage both ways? His stamps have been marked at the lowest prices, he is dependent on his sales for a livelihood, and his profit is usually smaller than most people realize. Postage both ways is an extra burden, on the top of many others, which the dealer should certainly be spared.

It is also scarcely fair to remit in unused stamps to save the cost of a postal order, or

to keep the stamps so long that an inquiry has to be posted off about them. The same rules of etiquette should apply in stamp dealing as obtain in other businesses: courtesy, civility, prompt attention, and prompt payment. It is always a pity when any manly English fellow, perfectly upright

maybe in everything else, adopts tricks like any of these in his stamp relationships. The conscientious discharge of every obligation, down to the last halfpenny, is the surest way to an easy conscience; it gives a man the power to look the whole world in the face without any need for flinching.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Junior Exhibition in Regensburg

ON 22 December last a Junior Stamp Exhibition took place in Regensburg. It was by no means so important an Exhibition as will be held in the Caxton Hall on 12 March, under the auspices of our own Junior Philatelic Society; but nevertheless there were twenty-three exhibitors, who divided amongst themselves no fewer than twenty-three prizes! Verily a successful Exhibition from the exhibitor's point of view.

The correspondent of *Der Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* remarks that it was a pity that there was no exhibit from some great German collector—to show the juniors to what heights their hobby soars. I agree with him, and am glad to see that the Exhibition Committee of the Junior Philatelic Society are doing otherwise. I hear that some of the gems of Mr. Hausburg, Mr. Yardley, and others are to be on show.

Australian Protection

I SEE that the tariff on albums and catalogues has been raised to a still higher point than it was before. On albums it is now 35 per cent, instead of 25 per cent, on the cost price, and on catalogues 6d. instead of 3d. per pound!

German "Philatelisten Tag," 1908

IT is well known that a grand reunion of German collectors takes place every year at a different town in some part of Germany. This year the "Philatelisten Tag," or Philatelist's Day, is to be celebrated at Gössnitz, on 2 August. Gössnitz is a small town of under six thousand people, and is about forty miles south of Leipzig.

The festivities will start on 31 July with a meeting of stamp dealers, which will be continued on 1 August. The grand reunion will take place in the Central Hotel, at 9.30 a.m. on 2 August, and the following papers will be read:—

"Remainders," by A. E. Glasewald.

"Errors with Inverted Centres," by Th. Haas.

At 11.30 a.m. a breakfast will be partaken of, followed by a reception; and at 4 p.m. the chief feature of the meeting will take place—a grand banquet.

On 3 August there will be an excursion to Altenburg at 9.15 a.m., and at 10 a.m. another paper on—

"Should Children Collect Stamps?"
by Professor Balke.

Tickets, admitting to all the festivities and including certain refreshments, will be issued at 10s. for gentlemen, and 7s. for ladies. Special tickets for 2 August only will be issued at 7s.

Italian Forgery

A FORGERY of the lately issued 15 centesimi, black, evidently made to defraud the postal revenue, has recently been discovered. The forgery can at once be distinguished from the genuine stamp by the perforation, which gauges 11½ instead of 12. There are certain other points of difference; e.g. the lines of shading of the neck are composed of dashes, instead of dots; the vertical lines on the uniform are nearly invisible: the white of the eye is not shaded in the forgery, this making the face look different from that of the genuine.

Dutch Indies

I HEAR that the authorities are in difficulty, owing to the cleaning of certain stamps, which are then used again on letters. The Chinese are said to do a large traffic in these cleaned stamps of the Dutch Indies, so it is rumoured that a trial of fugitive ink is to be made. I wonder if we shall see doubly fugitive ink, and consequently on chalk-surfaced paper. I hope not, and I hardly think so, as the process of manufacture is rather expensive.

Belgium and Holland

A SPECIAL postal convention has been signed between these two countries, in virtue of which the postal tariff for the exchange of letters is lowered. Instead of 25 centimes, or 12½ cents, the rates are now 20 centimes, or 10 cents, for the first 20 grammes. For towns not more than 30 kilometres (18½ miles) apart, the rate is only 10 centimes, or 5 cents! I wonder if we shall ever see penny postage across the Channel. Now then, Mr. Henniker Heaton, what can be done with these two countries as an example?

France to Resuscitate Telegraph Stamps

IN 1870, Telegraph stamps were suppressed in France, and telegrams were prepaid in money. It has been decided that all telegrams shall be prepaid in postage stamps after 15 February, and also that, if these stamps seem to answer the purpose, a special set of Telegraph stamps should be issued! Rather funny to issue a special set if postage stamps are found good enough.

Our friends across the Channel are rather inclined to look upon this scheme as a retrograde movement, seeing it was in full swing in 1868 and was found to be unsatisfactory. Postage stamps answer very well for this purpose in England. After all, the only object of stamps of any kind is to prevent the remote possibility of speculation on the part of officials.

Cercle Timbrologique de Bruxelles

THIS well-known Belgian society celebrated its tenth anniversary on 25 January last. Sixty of the one hundred and thirty members assembled to celebrate the occasion in the customary manner at a celebrated restaurant. Delegates from most of the Belgian societies were present, and all passed a delightful evening, which was brought to a conclusion by a free lottery. Many of the prizes were well worth getting; the first prize consisted of about 80 francs' worth of stamps.

Red Tape in the German P.O.

IT is so consoling to find that red tapeism is universal. The *Globe* publishes the following "laughable solution of a difficulty" received from Hamburg:—

A delightful story of "red tape" is circulating here with regard to the Post Office methods. It appears that two small places, Lemsahl-Mellingstedt and Kakenham, both near Bergstedt, have had their letters delivered by two rural postmen, who took each place in turn for one week. Now one of the postmen owns a bicycle, which he used for delivering the letters; the other postman, having no bicycle, had to go his rounds on foot. Naturally enough, the letters were delivered in turn earlier one week than they were in the following week. The natives of the two small places at last complained to the Hamburg head office about the irregular way in which their letters were delivered. Inquiries were made, and it was found that the irregularity was due to the fact that one of the two postmen owned a bicycle. The postal authorities rose to the occasion. Regularity could be secured only in one way without involving any expenditure of money, and that consisted in ordering the "mounted" postman to go his rounds on foot. It did not occur to the authorities that the other postman might also be "mounted." However, the inhabitants in question are very sorry now that they ever complained, as they did get their morning letters much earlier every other week. Now the letters are always delivered much later.

Correspondence

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR MR. PHILLIPS,—I have been hearing a good deal lately about Simplified Catalogues, and I certainly think they are good for beginners. There are four of these latter in my family who are quite content not to enter upon the subject of perforations and watermarks, etc., *as yet*, and no doubt a Simplified Catalogue will not frighten them so much as to what they still have to do.

But why should a copy of *Erwen's Weekly* be sent me, in which it seems to be suggested that specialists are to blame for loading up the catalogues with a lot of unnecessary (?) detail? If he considers me to be one of them I am flattered. But I would like to ask him whether progress is not inevitable. The results of study must be—are—interesting; only when matters stand still do they become uninteresting, and as to going back—who would do it?

Shall we decide that the highly complicated mechanism of our present railway engines shall give way to the modest "puff-puff" of our boyhood? Shall we condemn the modern bicycle with its free wheel and triple gear? Shall we prognosticate the weather only from a piece of seaweed hung in the hall? Shall I get rid of this typewriter?

A Simplified Catalogue suits my youngsters now, but if you do away with all the detail of the complete ones, *they* will in their turn study the matter

afresh and fill it all in again, till it becomes as clear to them as a rediscovered Egyptian hieroglyphic!

And don't let any one run away with the idea that we moderns know everything yet! Oh dear no!

Yours very truly,

A. J. WARREN.

13 February, 1908.

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—There seems to be some misunderstanding existing among the members of the stamp trade as to the value for advertising and selling purposes of the extra stalls added to our Exhibition. Hence we are experiencing considerable difficulty in letting the remaining stalls, which it is desirable we should do at once if the Exhibition is to be opened without any serious deficit.

In the first place, the experience of dealers who had stalls at the International Exhibition in the Royal Horticultural Hall has in a measure prejudiced some against stalls which are in the second large hall, known as the Council Chamber. But we would point out that the circumstances are totally different in the present instance, as while the upstairs stalls at the International were in a small room containing no display, the stalls we now offer are in a hall nearly as large as the first

hall, and the centre of the room will be filled with exhibits and seating accommodation.

Further, we have no doubt that the Exhibition will be crowded in ALL PARTS with visitors, and they cannot all get into the first hall. Particularly will this be the case at the opening, in the evening, and all day Saturday. So that there will be a continuous interchange from one hall to the other, especially as some very fine exhibits will be shown in the Council Chamber.

It may be asked how we are so confident of getting so large a crowd. The Exhibition has been advertised on a scale which has not been equalled by any former philatelic exhibition in the world. ALL the London newspapers have contained notices of it for weeks past, and one paper with a huge circulation has devoted a leading article to the Exhibition.

Newspapers all over the country have followed the lead of the London ones in this respect.

The output of our own circulars and tickets has been enormous. Five thousand copies of No. 1 of Exhibition *Notes and News* were distributed.

Coupon tickets are being printed in papers circulating largely among collectors, representing a circulation of nearly half a million, and while the majority of these are "waste," if only 10 per cent, or even 5 per cent, are used, it will require the whole of the space of both halls and all the extra rooms to accommodate the visitors.

DOUBLE ROYAL POSTERS are being displayed at five hundred railway and tube stations in London.

The expenses of the Exhibition will be heavy, but comparatively small compared with other big exhibitions. We estimate that £300 will cover all, but at present we have only £160 income received. The stalls unlet represent a value of £56.

We feel confident that the good wishes of the trade are with us in this great effort in the interests of stamp collecting, and we sincerely trust that the remaining stalls will be booked at an early date, to relieve our committee of any anxiety on this score.

The stalls still unlet are:—

Stall No. 15 (6 ft)	. . .	£
" No. 16 (6 ft.)	. . .	6
" No. 17 (16 ft.)	. . .	16
" No. 18 (16 ft.)	. . .	16
" No. 19 (6 ft.)	. . .	6
" No. 20 (6 ft.)	. . .	6

Yours faithfully,

HERBERT F. JOHNSON.

44 FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.
14 February, 1908.

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

TRANSLATION.

Société française de Timbrologie,
19 Rue Blanche 19, Paris.

MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.,
LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,—We enclose you a notice which we should be obliged if you would publish in the next number of your paper.

Will you kindly send us a copy of your paper in which it appears?

Yours, etc,
(Signed) A. COYETTE,
President.

PARIS, 9 February, 1908.

NOTICE.

Many philatelists, most of whom live abroad, have received an undated circular during the last few days, stamped with an imitation of the seal of the "Société française de Timbrologie." The circular was marked "Avis confidentiel" (private and confidential).

The "Société française de Timbrologie" hereby give notice that this document did not originate from them, that they know nothing of its publication, nor did they cause it to be issued; lastly, that proceedings have been entered before the Seine courts of law.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Federated Malay States.—According to *Evening's Weekly Stamp News* (22.2.08) the \$5 has been issued on multiple-watermarked, chalk-surfaced paper.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper. Perf. 14.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

\$5, green and blue

Holland.—We have already listed de Ruyter stamps overprinted for use as Postage Dues in the Addendum to the Catalogue; but we have not listed certain of the values in a second type, which were referred to by Mr. Leon de Raay in our issue of 1 February.

As our correspondent stated, in all the five values in which the figures of value consist of a large figure and also the fraction "½" there are two distinct types. In Type I the figure and the

fraction are nearly twice as far apart as they are in Type II. Several collectors seem to imagine that Type II exists only in the second printing of these stamps, but Mr. M. Z. Booleman very kindly gives us information showing that this is not quite the case.

The sheet consists of 150 stamps, made up by ten horizontal rows of fifteen stamps each.

First Printing.

1½ c., 2½ c., 6½ c.

The whole sheet had the figures as in Type I.

7½ c. Whole sheet

Type I, except No. 40, which is Type II.

12½ c. Whole sheet Type I, except No. 108, which is Type II.

Second Printing.

The whole sheet had the figures as in Type II.

Same as First Printing.

Whole sheet Type II.



PORTZEGEL PORTZEGEL

7½

CENT

I.

7½

CENT

II.

Postage Dues. *De Ruyter issue, overprinted in black as Type II (figure and fraction close).* Unused. Used.

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1½ c. on 1 c., lake	—	—	—	—
2½ c. " 1 c. "	—	—	—	—
6½ c. " 2½ c. vermilion	—	—	—	—
7½ c. " ½ c. blue	—	—	—	—
12½ c. " 3 c. "	—	—	—	—

Italy.—According to the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* (20.2.08) three values of the Postage Due stamps have been issued in new colours.



Postage Dues. *Figures in scarlet. Wmk. Crown.* Perf. 14.

2 c., pale olive-green	—	—
3 c., brown	—	—
6 c., blue-green	—	—

Japan.—Captain R. T. Toke sends us a 4 sen stamp of the current design, perforated 13 × 13½; besides the difference in perforation the colour has been changed, it being now *pink*, instead of *rosine* like No. 202 in the Catalogue.



Perf. 13 × 13½.

Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

4 sen, pink

Luxemburg.—We have just received a supply of the stamps chronicled in our issue of 15 February, and we find that the actual colours are not in accordance with our chronicle, which was taken from a German contemporary. The 30 c. and 87½ c. were correct, but we give a fresh list of all five values.



Perf. 11 × 11½.

30 c., olive-green	0	5	—
87½ c., slate-blue	1	0	—
1 fr., lavender	1	3	—
2½ fr., orange-vermilion	2	9	—
5 fr., marone	5	0	—

Nicaragua.—Our New York house informs us that another provisional 10 c. has been seen on the 50 c., Waterlow. The overprint is in *dull blue*, but we shall not make any distinction between *dull blue* and *black* in these stamps in the next edition of our Catalogue.



Vale 100 Vale 100

41

42

Waterlow, overprinted in dull blue, receding up.

10 c. on 50 c., orange (41)	—	—
10 c. on 50 c. " (42)	—	—

Queensland.—The *Australian Philatelist* (1.1.08) informs us that "most of the values have recently appeared on Crown and A paper of a different design to that of the other States. In several instances the colours are slightly changed—they lack the fulness of the previous issues. The high values are lithographed."

The following list is given:—

Wmk. Crown over A. Perf. 12½.

½d., green	6d., green
1d., vermilion	2s. 6d., vermilion
2d., blue	5s., rose
4d., yellow	10s., black-brown

£1, grey-green.

We are inclined to think that we have already listed three of the high values, Nos. 229, 230, and 231 in the Catalogue, more especially as we *did* list these three stamps as lithographed, wmk. Crown and single-lined A, twice sideways. As our contemporary is not very clear as regards the watermark, we will not list the remainder until we have been able to inspect a set.

Rio de Oro.—According to *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (15.2.08) several provisionals have just been issued. On the 1905 issue there are three, a 2 c. on 2 p., orange, with violet overprint, and 10 c. on a 50 c., green, and 75 c., violet, with red overprint. Then the 25 c. of the 1907 issue has been provided with an overprint, in red, similar to that on the 25 c. of the 1905 issue.



1908	1907
2	10
Cens	Cens

Overprinted in violet (V.) or red (R.).

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 c. on 2 p., dull orange (V.)	—	—
10 c. on 50 c., myrtle-green (R.)	—	—
10 c. on 75 c., violet (R.)	—	—



Overprinted as above in carmine. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
15 c. on 25 c., bronze-green.	—	—



Russia.—A correspondent in St. Petersburg writes us as follows:—

“Possibly you are aware that the cleaning of Russian stamps is carried on in quite wholesale fashion, and the cleaned stamps sold and re-used.

“Particularly in Poland there are numerous workshops devoted entirely to this interesting calling! The stamps that lend themselves most easily to the cleaning process are the 7 and 10 kop., ordinary blue Russians, and as much as Rbls. 2 per 1000 is paid for these stamps in used condition.

“The Russian postal authorities have been making experiments to print a stamp which cannot be cleaned without destroying the design, and have adopted a stamp which, while retaining the Russian style, reminds one of the Austrian stamps in that there are shiny bars of varnish on them.

“Although not yet issued, the writer has seen printed copies with which experiments have been officially made by treating with petroleum, ether, and benzine. In each case the varnish bars then appear as white lines, thus:—



“It must be mentioned that used stamps are cleaned by being soaked in petroleum, and by the adoption of the varnish bars the possibility would now seem to be obviated.

“The commonest values, the 7 and 10 kop., are to be issued first, the other values gradually.”

Salvador.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (15.2.08) lists some varieties of the September, 1907, issue. The 1 c. and 2 c. are said to exist with double shield, and 3 c. imperforate horizontally.

Moreover, the 2 c. has been overprinted UN CENTAVO, two varieties being known—a double overprint, and single overprint with double shield. Our illustration of this overprint is only approximately correct.



UN
CENTAVO

102
Type 102. Overprint twice with shield, in black.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

1 c., black and green	—	—
2 c. " " red.	—	—

Type 102. Imperf. horizontally. Perf. 14½ vertically.

3 c., black and pale yellow	—	—
-----------------------------	---	---

Type 102. Overprinted as “a” in black.

1 c. on 2 c., black and red	—	—
1 c. on 2 c., black and red	—	—
1 c. on 2 c., black and red	—	—

(ii.) Shield double, and overprint “a.”

1 c. on 2 c., black and red	—	—
-----------------------------	---	---

Straits Settlements.—Mr. E. W. Mann has shown us specimens of the current 3 cent stamp, on un surfaced paper, in an extraordinary shade of red-violet, that one might almost term plum. We should think that this shade can only have been in issue a very short time. A 3 c. is promised in the colour of the present 4 c., carmine, by the way.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Ordinary paper. Perf. 14.
3 c., red-violet.

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 11
Whole No. 167

14 MARCH, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Consular Offices—continued

The Levant—continued

WHEN the new French stamps were introduced in 1900 it was decided that these should be modified for use in the foreign offices, but the special stamps were not issued till 1902.

The alterations were in the inscriptions only. For the lower values ("Blanc" type) the word REPUBLIQUE was replaced by POSTE, and the name of the office, e.g. LEVANT, was substituted for the word POSTES.

For the medium values the redrawn "Mouchon" type was adopted, the name of the office replacing the lower inscription, whilst POSTES was altered to POSTE-FRANCAISE.

Similarly for the higher values ("Merson" type), the name of the office replaced the word POSTE, and POSTE-FRANCAISE was substituted for REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE.

For the "Levant" generally a full series was issued, of which the 25 c., 50 c., 1 fr., 2 fr., and 5 fr. were overprinted with the value in Turkish currency. No explanation apparently has been published why these values only were overprinted. They correspond with the surcharged values rendered obsolete, and possibly were the only ones that entered into competition with stamps sold by the other Powers. The unsurcharged stamps probably did duty for other branches of postal service, similarly to the British stamps used at present in Morocco and Levant without indication of local currency.

About the middle of last year a rumour was current that the 1 c. to 4 c. were to be suppressed, and that the remaining values were all to be overprinted in Turkish currency—the 5 c., 10 paras; the 10 c., 20 paras; and so on in proportion, but no change has yet been made.



1902. French stamps modified. Perf. 14 x 13½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., grey	0	1	—	—
2 c., claret	0	1	—	—
3 c., orange-red	0	1	—	—
4 c., brown	0	1	—	—
5 c., green	0	1	—	—
10 (c.), carmine	0	2	0	2
15 ,, pale red	0	3	—	—
20 ,, brown-purple	0	3	—	—
30 ,, lilac	0	5	—	—
40 ,, red and pale blue	0	6	—	—

1 PIASTRE I

Surcharged as above in black.

1 piast. on 25 (c.), blue 0 4 0 1



Surcharged as above in black.

2 piast. on 50 (c.), brown and lavender	0	7	0	2
4 ,, on 1 fr., lake and green	1	1	0	6
8 ,, on 2 fr., purple and buff	2	3	2	6
20 ,, on 5 fr., blue	5	6	4	6

Early in 1905 a provisional was created. It was stated that owing to an unusual demand for New Year's Day the stock of the surcharged values at Beyrouth, except 8 and 10 piastres, gave out, and to provide a supply of 1 piastre stamps (the most called for) one thousand of the 15 c. were surcharged with the needed value in greenish black. They were first issued on 17 January, and continued in use till the 28th, and it is said that these provisionals were affixed to letters in the post office, and that none were sold to the public. Unused copies, however, are on the market, for which high prices are



asked; so it seems probable the postmaster or his clerks were not quite proof against speculation.

1 Piastre

Beyrouth

17 January, 1905. *Provisional issued at Beyrouth.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 piast. on 15 (c.), pale red	—	—

This completes the list for the general offices of the "Levant," but before leaving the stamps of the above designs it would be as well to mention that the 25 c., blue, and 50 c., brown and lavender, are known without value in Turkish currency. These are said to be for use in French offices in Abyssinia, viz. at Addis Ababa and Dirre-Dauoa. The latter was created 1 November, 1906, and the former about March, 1907. There is also an office at Harar, but this office is merely an appanage of Djibouti, and the stamps of the French Somali Coast are used here. It is uncertain whether "Levant" stamps, genuinely used at the above-mentioned Abyssinian offices, are really in existence.

Particular Offices of the Levant

These, as stated last week, are Cavalle, Dedeagh, Port Lagos, and Vathy.

The first three are ports in Turkey in Europe, within easy communication of each other, and are outlets for a busy manufacturing and producing district for wine, cotton, wool, copper, and tobacco.

Cavalle was dealt with in *G.S.W.*, No. 98.

Dedeagh, or **Dedé-Aghatch**, in the vilayet of Adrianople in Roumelia, is situated on the Gulf of Enos in the Ægean Sea at some distance from the mouth of the Maritza. It has about two thousand inhabitants, and is the chief town of a district occupied by about 150,000 people. It is the terminus of the Austrian, Servian, Bulgarian, and Turkish railways, and Great Britain is represented by a vice-consul.

Philatelic History

On 1 April, 1893, this office was supplied with a set of overprinted stamps, the lower values, 5 c., 10 c., and 15 c., merely having



the name, whilst the higher values had the value in Turkish currency in addition. The 8 piastres was issued in 1900.

1893-1900. *Contemporary French stamps overprinted "Dedeagh"; the four higher values surcharged with value in Turkish currency in addition in red, blue, or black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., green	0 2	—
10 c., black on lilac	0 4	0 4
15 c., blue	0 6	—
1 piast. on 25 c., black on rose	0 9	0 6
2 " on 50 c., rose	1 0	1 0
4 " on 1 fr., olive-green	2 0	1 3
8 " on 2 fr., brown on azure	—	—

In 1902, when the new stamps were supplied, this office received the 1, 2, 4, and 8 piastres, similar to those for the general offices in the Levant; but only three values were issued of the unsurcharged series.



1900. *French stamps modified.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., green	0 1	—
10 (c.), carmine	0 2	—
15 " pale red	0 3	—



Surcharged as above in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 piast. on 25 (c.), blue	—	—
2 " on 50 (c.), brown & lavender	—	—
4 " on 1 fr., lake and green	—	—
8 " on 2 fr., purple and buff	—	—

Port Lagos was near to Salonica on the Bay of Lagos, and was the outlet for the woollen industry. The port has now decayed, and the French office was closed in 1900.

Philatelic History.

This is short, and corresponds exactly with the first issue of Dedeagh, precisely



similar stamps being supplied, with the exception of the 8 piastres. The stamps, however, are much scarcer.

1 April, 1893. *Contemporary French stamps overprinted "Port-Lagos," etc.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., green	1 6	—
10 c., black on lilac	2 0	1 0
15 c., blue	2 6	—
1 piast. on 25 c., black on rose	2 0	0 6
2 ,, on 50 c., rose	3 0	—
4 ,, on 1 fr., olive-green	4 0	2 6

Vathy is a thriving port and capital of the principality of Samos in Turkey in Asia (province Djezairi-Bahri-Séfed). It is situated on the Bay of Vathy, has about 4500 inhabitants, mainly Greeks, and has an active commerce in wine, fruit, and olives. Samos played an important part in ancient history. Antony and Cleopatra resided there, and arts and letters were highly cultivated.

Philatelic History

Here again the history is brief, the stamps supplied being similar to those of Port Lagos, but with the addition of the 8 and 20 piastres, which were issued at the same time as those

for the general offices in the Levant. No further stamps were required in 1902, as shortly before this the office was taken out of the hands of the shipping agents and properly equipped from headquarters.



1 Dec., 1893-1900. *Contemporary French stamps overprinted "Vathy," etc.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., green	0 2	—
10 c., black on lilac	0 6	0 6
15 c., blue	0 8	0 6
1 piast. on 25 c., black on rose	1 0	0 9
2 ,, 50 c., rose	1 0	—
4 ,, 1 fr., olive-green	1 9	1 9
8 ,, 2 fr., brown on azure	5 0	—
20 ,, 5 fr., lilac	10 0	—

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

New Set List

I WISH to draw the attention of all my readers to the new Set List for 1908 that is now appearing, week by week, in our advertisement pages. These sets are made up from stamps of which we have a surplus stock, and they are priced at rates of from 20 to 50 per cent below our Catalogue prices for the same stamps bought separately. Look through the list each week and buy a set or two in each country as they are advertised, and you will be surprised at the cheap stamps you will obtain.

All set lists prior to 1908 are now cancelled.

The £100 Prize Competition

HAS interested many competitors in different parts of the world, and we have already received a considerable number of entries. This week a Chinaman in British Columbia sends us six new subscribers, all in British Columbia, and of these five are Chinese, a surprising proof of the hold that stamp collecting has taken upon all nationalities. I am hoping to receive next some good entries from Japan.

"The Stamp Collections Register"

REALLY seems to have filled a long-felt want, and it promises to be a great success, and of real use to collectors.

Up to date of writing we have had twenty-five collections placed in our hands for sale; of these two have been withdrawn by the owners and twelve have been sold, an excellent average; and others would have sold if they had been a little cheaper.

Some people have a curious idea of the manner in which we conduct our business. A client told us last week that he mentioned to a certain City dealer that he had placed a collection in our hands. The dealer said: "The very worst thing you could have done; they won't show your collection, but will only try to sell their own goods."

This, of course, is an untruth, and our friend knew it to be such.

As a matter of fact, we largely advertise these collections in our *Register*, and we make frequent sales to collectors, as they realize that they can buy decided bargains in this manner, for the stamps are usually offered at much cheaper rates than those at which we could afford to sell our own goods.

It is really extraordinary how often derogatory remarks recoil upon the heads of those who use them.

In order to make the *Collections Register* even more widely known, we are now issuing it in pamphlet form, and any of my readers who desire a cheap collection (from £40 to £2100) can have a copy of this pamphlet on receipt of a penny for postage.

The Sectional Imperial Album

FOR many years past collectors have asked us for an album on the well-known principle of the Imperial Albums, but having movable leaves, and this want will be fully supplied by the new album we now have in the press.

There was great objection to the last Imperial Album, as it consisted of three large books, and young collectors with 2000 or 3000 varieties found their stamps lost in so large a space. In addition to this we have found by long experience that very few collectors want to collect the stamps of the whole world, but prefer to take up certain continents, countries, or groups of countries.

We are providing for all requirements by means of the Sectional Imperial Album. As its name implies, the album will be in sections, and *each section will be sold separately.*

Each country will constitute a section, and collectors can thus decide what countries they will take up, and buy those sections only. When they want to add fresh countries to their collections they can do so at a very low cost.

The leaves of the album will all be loose, and special cheap binders are being made to hold them. These binders will each hold any number of leaves from twenty up to nearly two hundred.

On the left-hand page there is a full description of all stamps, with illustrations of all types and watermarks. Each stamp is numbered, and on the right-hand page there is a corresponding number under a square or rectangle of the correct size of the stamp; so the beginner will have no difficulty in placing the stamps in the correct spaces.

The numbers to the stamps and squares correspond in all cases to those given in the 1908 edition of our Catalogues; so collectors who want to fill up certain spaces can turn to the Catalogue to see the price, and if they decide to buy, can send us a want list consisting only of the name of the country and the number of the square. All stamps given in our 1908 Catalogues will have spaces provided for them in the Sectional Imperial Album.

Some collectors may not want to collect such things as Postal Fiscals, Official, or Unpaid Stamps, etc. Therefore this new album has been so arranged that the pages for these are quite separate from those of the ordinary postage stamps, and can be removed without interfering with the rest of the section.

Collectors will not have to wait until the whole album is printed, as each section will be put on sale immediately it is ready.

The sections will be issued in the following order:—

Great Britain.
West Indies.

North American Colonies.
Colonies in Africa.
Australia.
All other Colonies.
Europe, Foreign Countries.
Asia " "
Africa " "
America " "
Rest of the World, Foreign
Countries.

The price of a section will vary, according to the number of pages occupied, from a few pence to several shillings each. As each section is ready it will be advertised in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, to which we refer our readers for further particulars as the album appears.

Sheffield Stamp Exhibition

THE Sheffield Philatelic Society held a successful conversazione and exhibition of stamps at the Mappin Art Gallery on 21 February last.

The following is a brief summary of the chief exhibits:—

Mr. F. ATKIN.—A fine collection of United States down to 1895.

Mr. A. MAXWELL.—Modern issues.

Mr. J. H. CHAPMAN.—Australians, British, and some Colonials.

Mr. W. C. FOX.—A fine lot of British Colonials, many countries being marked "complete"; but in Nevis I see no notice of the 1s. on laid paper, the double surcharge, etc., so do not know what is the standard of completeness. Mr. Fox also showed a fine lot of French Colonials.

Mr. J. F. PEACE.—German States, Belgium, Russia, etc., and a collection of Commemorative stamps.

Mr. CHARLES CLIFFORD.—A very fine lot of British Colonials, including Ceylon, nearly complete; Nova Scotia 1s., superb; Transvaal, fine in old issues; St. Vincent, British East Africa, British Central Africa, etc.

Mr. R. SNEATH.—A good exhibition of Australians, Cape, etc.

Mr. J. E. BARTLETT.—Great Britain, Queen's Heads, and British South, East, and Central Africa.

Nearly 300 were present during the evening, including the Master and Mistress Cutler (Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Bedford), the President (Mr. F. Atkin), the Hon. Presidents (Councillor F. A. Kelley and Mr. Charles Clifford), and the American, French, Spanish, and Austrian Consuls. It was the seventh exhibition held by the Society since its formation in 1894.

The First Welsh Stamp Exhibition

THE South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society is to be congratulated

upon the success of the Exhibition that has just been held at the Cardiff Museum.

The following account has been kindly sent me by a correspondent; it is from the *Western Mail*, Cardiff, of 19 February:—

The most important step yet taken by the Society has been the inauguration of an annual exhibition, and the first of what is hoped will be a long series of yearly reunions was opened at the Cardiff Museum on Tuesday morning by the Lord Mayor (Mr. Iltyd Thomas), who, addressing a large company of enthusiasts, expressed his pleasure that Cardiff was making a name for itself in the forefront of philatelic centres. Amongst those present were the President of the Society (Alderman W. J. Trounce), Mr. Walter Scott, solicitor, Ex-President, the Chairman (Mr. E. P. Crowther) and Mrs. Crowther, the Secretary (Mr. Harry Perkins), Dr. and Mrs. de Vere Hunt, and Mr. G. E. Petty (Consul for Uruguay), several of whom delivered short addresses on the objects of the Society.

Mr. Charles E. Page (Newport) has an exceptionally fine display of the line-engraved Early British series, and several of the illustrated Mulready envelopes in use before Rowland Hill's headship at the General Post Office. Mr. V. E. Brukewich shows a complete series of British specimens from the earliest to the current issues, including all the rarer Officials, whilst Mr. G. E. Petty has contributed his well-known and unsurpassed complete collection of Uruguayan issues, as well as a fine display of Spain. A complete collection of Newfoundland, including copies of the rarer early issues, is exhibited by Mr. Gwilym R. Lougher; Alderman W. J. Trounce fills a case with Canadians and North British Americans; Mr. A. E. Fiddian is prominent with his collection of Jamaicans, including several interesting varieties and errors; Dr. K. Mackenzie (Caerphilly) shows a magnificent series of Ceylon; and Mr. Henry Perkins has a case of the Orange River Colony, including most of the known varieties of the 'V.R.I.' surcharges, and the very interesting 'V.R.L.' error. A pretty and complete collection of the rare Cayman Islands is shown by Mr. Godfrey, whilst in another room can be seen Mr. E. P. Crowther's excellent collection of Finland (used and unused, including errors and rarities, complete) and a fine range of French and Russian stamps, alongside of Mr. J. H. Korner's extremely fine Roumanian series, including a number of errors.

The cases filled with the collections of Mr. Walter Scott are *facile princeps*. They include a complete series of the Mauritius issues, with the exception of two stamps. A magnificent series of three-corner Capes comes next in importance in Mr. Scott's section, together with an equally splendid lot of the scarce Sydney Views; and other rarities in his collection are the Penny Black V.R., the 3 lire 1860 Tuscany, and the Cardiff Penny.

Ottawa Philatelic Society

IN order to promote the interests of stamp collectors an association to be called the Ottawa Philatelic Society was formed last evening in the Carnegie Library. Lieut.-Col.

Anderson was in the chair, and Mr. H. R. Landry acted as Secretary.

Thirty-five philatelists were present, amongst whom were Miss Harvey, Miss McNulty, Lieut.-Col. Anderson, A. McKechnie, A. F. Sladen, Alf. Morris, H. R. Landry, Thos. Ferguson, C. Delaute, L. English, Z. B. Buckman, Mr. Harvey, A. T. Foster, M. M. Cox, F. Ross, J. M. Jackson, B. Martin, R. L. Fuller, J. McNulty, J. Macdougall, J. J. McNulty, R. M. Perse, Ernest Christensen, H. B. Perrin, E. J. Hellyer, and F. Hugh.

Col. Anderson, who is one of the best-known stamp collectors of the capital, gave an address on the Society's work. Other speakers were Mr. A. F. Sladen and Mr. A. McKechnie.

The exchange rules of the old O. P. S. were read. On the same lines it is probable the rules for the new Society will be made. A Committee consisting of Col. Anderson and Messrs. Landry, Sladen, McNulty, and Perse was appointed to draw up the constitution, which will be submitted at a meeting to be held in the Carnegie Library on Monday, 24 February.

Secretary Landry is offering a magnificent loose leaf album to be sold at auction for the benefit of the new Society.—*Ottawa Free Press* (10.2.08).

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

Nos. 140 and 141. Value £1000.
France (2 vols).

TWO magnificent volumes replete with good things, a superb lot of the early issues in *blocks of four*, pairs and singles, mostly mint, and in many shades.

Amongst the single rarities on hand in French stamps I may mention about *twenty-six tête-bêche pairs*, including some of the rarities.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1849. | 15 c., green, pair and nine singles, unused. |
| | 25 c., light and <i>deep blue</i> , in blocks, unused. |
| | 1 fr., orange-vermilion, two unused, three used. |
| 1852. | 10 c., pair and six singles, unused. |
| 1853-60. | Pair 20 c., <i>blue on green</i> , unused (very rare). |
| | Superb shades in unused of the 10 c., 20 c., and 80 c. |
| 1870. | Bordeaux, a grand lot, all types and shades, the unused being specially fine, including three 20 c., Type I (two mint), and very rare colours of the 40 c. and 80 c. |

The later issues very complete in unused and used.

The "millésimes" and specially rare post-marks have been arranged in separate books for the convenience of specialists.

These new stock books of France include the balance of the Mann-Castle and Breitfuss Collections, and are worthy of inspection by even the most advanced collector. The prices are marked very moderately and considerably below many prices quoted in the French official catalogue.

The "Monthly Journal"

OF 31 January contains the following important articles:—

The Postal Issues of Denmark, by L. Hanciau, dealing with the issues and essays of 1884-1902, and some important "official documents" dealing with stamps, cards, envelopes, etc.

Queensland: Stamps of 1879-1906, by J. Bornefeld, with three full pages of illustrations. This important article is worthy of study by all who are fond of the minutiae of stamp collecting.

Salvador, 1 c., 1879, by B. W. Warhurst. Mr. Warhurst writes an important critique on Mr. J. B. Leavy's article, and points out fully where he cannot agree with that gentleman.

From "Notes and News" I reproduce the following:—

"*The Lindenberg Medal*."—I have especial pleasure in announcing that the Lindenberg Medal Committee has awarded the medal for this year to Major Edward B. Evans. The previous recipients have been Mr. Theodor Haas, Leipzig;

Dr. Legrand, Paris; Dr. E. Diena, Rome; Mr. E. D. Bacon, London; and M. L. Hanciau, Brussels.

The Lindenberg medal was founded by the Berlin Philatelic Club in honour of its distinguished founder, Karl Lindenberg, and it is intended as a mark of distinction for those who have won special fame in Philately by scientific investigation and numerous contributions to philatelic literature.

The *M. J.* also has three pages of editorials by Major Evans, and no less than eight pages of the usual capital chronicle of "New Issues."

A Philatelic Curiosity

FOR some time it has been a question of unifying the postal tariff on letters between Belgium and Holland. It is now proposed to issue a new stamp of ten centimes, which could be used for franking a letter from either country to its neighbour. The idea is certainly novel, and the experiment will be watched with interest.—*The Globe* (31.1.08).

Societies' Reports

I SHOULD like to call special attention to the Report of the "Stamp Trade Protection Association" in this number, and to emphasize the need of financial support for the good work this Association is doing. All members of the trade should certainly belong.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire

Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II

British Possessions in Asia

Brunei

THIS somewhat insignificant strip of territory, lying on the north-east coast of the island of Borneo, tucked away between the semi-independent State of Sarawak and the British protected region administered by the British North Borneo Company, forms the latest addition to the ever-increasing list of British Crown Colonies. It comprises chiefly a narrow strip of coast-line some seventy-two miles in length, and a large portion of the hinterland, amounting to about 3000 square miles in area, enclosed on all sides by the boundaries of British North Borneo and Sarawak.

At the beginning of the last century, Brunei was the largest and most important State,

and its ruler the most powerful potentate throughout the third largest island in the world; although even at that time its star was on the wane.

To-day, as a result of the numerous concessions made by its Sultans, under pressure, to Great Britain and the Netherlands, the area of the State has been reduced from over 284,630 square miles, which it previously represented, to the figures given above, whilst its ruler, after maintaining his independence under British protection for many years past, has been compelled to receive at his Court a British Resident to assist him in the administration of his depleted territories, and to accede to the introduction of the Crown Colony system of government for himself and his subjects to the number of about 15,000.

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

Brunei is one of the oldest of the Asiatic States. It was visited in 1521 by a Spanish squadron, and found to be in a high state of civilization. The visitors were greatly impressed by the pomp and magnificence of the local Court, and were sumptuously entertained by the native Sultan.

Half a century later the reigning Spanish monarch, mindful of the stories he had heard concerning the great wealth and splendour of this Eastern sultanate, dispatched an expedition against it, and having seized the capital, Brunei, and driven the inhabitants into the jungle, established a trading post there, which was maintained, however, only for a very brief period, the Spaniards being driven out with great loss by the natives, who returned in largely augmented numbers.

From that time on Brunei was apparently unmolested by any of the Western Powers until late in the eighteenth century, when the Honourable East India Company, operating under a special charter from the British Government, erected a small factory at the mouth of the Brunei River, near the capital, and endeavoured, like their Spanish predecessors, to maintain a trading post there. It was soon discovered that there was really little, if any, trade of importance to be done in that part of the world, certainly not sufficient in volume to warrant the upkeep of a separate factory for dealing with it, and so, after a short time, this enterprise was also abandoned. Again nearly half a century elapsed before further European intervention in this region occurred. However, in the early forties, Brunei became noted as a favourite haunt of the savage Malay pirates, who at that time infested the China Sea, and were a constant menace to the merchant shipping of the world.

It was in a British expedition, commanded by Sir Thomas Cochrane, sent to suppress this practice and to destroy the headquarters of these pests, that Sir James Brooke first visited Brunei, and, in 1842, received from the Sultan of Brunei the concession of the territories which now compose the State of Sarawak, of which Sir James Brooke was the first Rajah.

About the same time the whole of the northern part of the island of Borneo, over which the Sultans of Brunei had hitherto held sovereign sway, was transferred to Great Britain, and shortly afterwards the southern and eastern sections to Holland. Four years later, in consequence of an armed rebellion against Imperial authority, a second punitive expedition visited Brunei, and occupied the capital, and, conditionally on the withdrawal of this force, the Sultan ceded the island of Labuan, situated in the bay about forty miles from the coast of Brunei, to be administered by the British

Government as a Crown Colony, and which was converted into a naval coaling-station for the British fleet in Eastern waters.

In 1888 the Sultanate of Brunei, like its neighbours, North Borneo and Sarawak, was placed under British protection, and on 1 January, 1906, a British political officer took up his residence at the Sultan's Court to assist and advise him as to the proper method of governing his dominions. Later in the same year Brunei was converted into a Crown Colony of the British Empire.

The chief value of this latest addition to the British dominions lies in two large and important coal mines, which are leased to the Sarawak Government, and which, though at present but little worked, are expected to prove later of considerable value.

Most of the interior of the country is covered with dense jungle, and is practically uninhabited, more than two-thirds of the total population dwelling either in or near the capital and only town.

A little sago is cultivated, but the chief occupation of the men is the manufacture of ornamental brass-work, at which they are extremely skilful, whilst the women weave fine embroidered cloths interwoven with gold threads; both of which articles are traded for food and other necessities with the inland tribes of the neighbouring States. The town of Brunei, which is the capital and only town of size and importance in the colony, is picturesquely situated on the estuary of the Brunei River, near the foot of a short range of high forest-clad hills, and from the fact that the houses, which are principally composed of bamboo, are built partly upon piles and partly upon small islands in the river, has gained for itself the appellation of "Eastern Venice."

The climate is tropical and extremely unhealthy, malaria and other forms of fever being prevalent.

There are neither imports nor exports of any magnitude, and it is reasonable to suppose that, with the exception of the British Resident, there are not more than half a dozen Europeans to be found in the State. A few Indian and Chinese traders, however, maintain agencies at the capital, and there are also some Malays and Dyaks.

The sole means of communication with the outside world is by steamer to Labuan, which occupies five hours.

The reigning potentate is H.H. Sultan Jemal-ul-alam, who succeeded to the throne in May, 1906.

Currency.—On same basis as that of Straits Settlements and Labuan, known as the Eastern Dollar. 100 cents = \$1 = 2s. 4d.

Entered Postal Union, June, 1906.

Stamps first issued, 15 October, 1906.

(To be continued.)

Specialism

By R. E. R. DALWIGK

EUROPE—*continued*

MALTA.—Like Gibraltar this little island enjoys great popularity over here because of the fact that it is a British colony. Malta, however, has more to recommend it to the philatelic public than the mere fact that it belongs to Britain, as it is a really admirable little country in every respect. In design, colour, and price it is everything that can be desired by non-wealthy philatelists. The higher face-value stamps are larger in size than the lower values, and also show designs which are extremely pleasing, and uphold the theory that most Colonial stamps are well designed—but we will not say well executed! In the various issues Malta boasts stamps whose face values run from $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 10s., which shows that in this small island, at least, they have a reasonable value for local town post. Even in King's Head stamps Malta does not adhere to the usual ugly Colonial type, but on the contrary the issue is really well chosen and has some fine colouring. The actual head of King Edward is the only thing to disfigure the stamps, it being of the usual "marble statue" type, which one may honestly say is an absolute libel on His Majesty. Besides the actual issued stamps there is a provisional 1d. stamp having an error, "Pnney". Laying aside all favouritism for Colonials, this is really a good sound country to start, as it possesses so many advantages, and after all a country which has pretty stamps and at the same time is good should not be overlooked. Most countries which possess really prettily engraved stamps are no good, and are consequently very little patronized.

Monaco.—A small and inexpensive country, containing only two distinct designs, one of which, however, has colour changes. It is so small a country and contains so little worth having that it is hardly worth specializing unless some other country is also taken up. For the collector who does not take any interest in his stamps, Monaco might do as well as another country; but for the active specialist it is too slow and uninteresting to stop him on his journey to choose a suitable country or district.

Montenegro, like Monaco, is cheap, but of more interest to the philatelist. The early issues of this country are the only stamps worth considering. The later series are mostly Commemorative issues and such-like rubbish, which, in nearly every instance, seem manufactured for unwary specialists. The earlier stamps are certainly inter-

esting and curious in design. For the philatelist who has a partiality for errors this country affords a fairly open field.

Norway.—This, again, is one of the European countries which are good and at the same time extremely interesting. Many of the first issues are already priced fairly high, but they are not dear at the prices quoted, as they are likely to rise much higher in the next few years. In taking the earliest stamps we find that there existed four dies of each separate value, each die having some very slight difference to distinguish it from the others. Nearly all these stamps, well centred and in mint condition, are good, and are rapidly rising in price. When we come to the issue with numeral in centre, enclosed by Posthorn, we find two printings of NORGE at the top of the stamp. In the stamps of 1877 NORGE appears at the top of the stamps printed in sans-serif capitals, whilst in 1894 this lettering was superseded by Roman capitals. A good plan would be to collect Norway and Sweden together, as both are good. Of course it must be understood in choosing a country from these remarks on Specialism that various tastes and inclinations differ, so that I cannot do much more than give hints as to which are good and which bad countries to take up.

(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 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. 10d.

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

Newfoundland

By W. WARD

THE 1 c. was again issued in 1891, but this time in brown and dark brown.

The 2 c. was changed from orange to rich grass-green; 3 c. to deep blue; and 5 c. to a rich blue, hardly so light as sky-blue.

About this time so many applications were being made to the postal authorities for several of the values, that quantities of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., and 6 c. were reprinted by the American Bank Note Company in 1896. The following are the quantities and colours, the latter being different in shade as well as of brighter appearance. Though many of these stamps never did service, they are even still "official" and by no means unworthy of the collector's notice, as in the case with those reprints of many American States that have no postal value. The stamps below are easily distinguished from the originals in a mint condition, since the gum used is yellowish, whereas their predecessors had a clear transparent adhesive matter.

$\frac{1}{2}$ c., vermilion (1880-7 design),	20,000
1 c., deep brown "	20,000
2 c., deep green "	20,000
3 c., dark blue "	20,000
3 c., blackish brown "	20,000
6 c., crimson-lake (1870 design),	12,000
12 c., brown-lake (1866 design),	12,000

Again, in 1897, a reprint of the 1 c. was made in pale yellow-green, the quantity being 20,000.

At the instigation of Sir Robert Bond and Sir William Whiteway, the authorities decided to issue a Commemorative set of stamps in 1897, and thereby "kill two birds with the same stone," so to speak, by celebrating two important events. These were the sixtieth year of the reign of Queen Victoria and the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of Newfoundland by an English navigator, one John Cabot. This latter gentleman has been differently described by historians as being an Italian and an Englishman; also as his Christian name, John, and Sebastian. His correct biography, however, accords him the honour of being of English birth, though his father was a Genoan and *his* name was Sebastian. His mother was either Venetian or English, but their son, afterwards the famous marine inventor, navigator, and geographer, John, was born at Bristol in 1467, the town from whence he sailed on his famous voyage thirty years later. In 1497 he attempted to reach the West Indies, holding a commission, or charter, from the King, to take possession of the new lands. He,

however, reached the island now known as Newfoundland. It was on this voyage that he discovered the variation of the needle—as will be seen, since he originally intended to arrive in Central America. He made several voyages to the "New World," and prepared a "modern" map of the world. For discovering the "new isle" and marking the latitudes of the compass he received the sum of £10 (equal to about £50 now) from that parsimonious king, Henry VII, and the title of Grand Pilot of England (no doubt an honorary position). He died at the ripe age of ninety in 1557, leaving three sons, also famous navigators in their time. About the beginning of the fifteenth century, Newfoundland was occupied by the Spaniards, but these were eventually driven out by Sir Humphrey Gilbert in 1583, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

The stamps celebrating this great year, 1897, were designed and printed by the American Bank Note Company at New York, and consisted of fourteen values, of which the following quantities were printed:—

1 c., Queen Victoria in Widow's Weeds	400,000
2 c., John Cabot	400,000
3 c., Cape Bonavista, where Cabot first landed	1,000,000
4 c., Caribou hunting	400,000
5 c., Miners at work	500,000
6 c., Oxen drawing hewn timber	400,000
9 c., Cod-fishing	200,000
10 c., Cabot's ship, the <i>Matthew</i>	250,000
12 c., Ptarmigan or Grouse	200,000
15 c., Group of Seals	200,000
24 c., Salmon fishing	100,000
30 c., Great Seal of the Colony	100,000
35 c., Iceberg	100,000
60 c., King Henry VII	100,000

These were on sale on the Queen's birthday. The 1 c. and 2 c. values were soon exhausted, but since the plates had been destroyed none were reprinted. Until a few years ago many of the higher values were on sale at St. John's. The numbers were not great, and one may hazard the opinion that the stamps are sure to appreciate much in value in the near future. A glance at the catalogue will show the low quotations, doubtless on account of the little popularity of this country. The time is at no great distance when collectors will tire of the necromancy of some of our British Colonies and the multitude of unnecessary issues, perforations, and complex watermarks. The augmentation of Canadian and Newfoundlandian populations will create a demand as well for the stamps of North American Colonies.

(To be continued.)

Acrostic Competition

DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 4 (OF SERIES)

Both have been called the land of the free ;
By others, the old and the new country.

1. Though many by this name are known,
None but this one has portrait shown
On postage stamp of rosy tone.
2. This is all our own and ours alone,
The Latins said so, they must have known.
Quite equal to quacking or quieting quakes,
So take up your cues and make no mistakes.
3. Another good name our rhymester sings,
'Tis owned by peasants, peers, and kings ;
One of whose heads if stuck on a letter,
Takes it ten thousand miles or better.
4. There's only four of these to find,
Some of them then to doubly bind ;
But if one you got with no more enclosed,
You'd throw it down, with anger roused.
5. If—it you take—and place quite safe
Within two vowels—they'll be A I—
You need not fear a blunder ;
But it may take you time to find,
Unless you go down under.
(Don't say this is hard.)

6. Friend Gulliver of old,
So at least we are told,
Received this title grand,
The highest in the land
Of little Lilliput.
7. A common ailment known to fame
In early days by a simpler name ;
Equivalent to slow starvation,
In this and many another nation. BEN.

Solutions, on the printed forms only, must be *received* before or by first delivery on Thursday, 19 March, marked outside—"Acrostic, *G.S.W.*, 391 Strand, London." May be sent from Egypt or Europe to the 21st, or from North America up to 28 March. Acrostic No. 1. Miss Keyser is credited with two marks ; letter posted in Calcutta.

For Acrostic No. 2, three marks are credited to Kasaj (with apologies) ; also to Greek, with two to DoWi and H. T. Parker, all from America ; and two to Gingi (Florence), and to Hawk. As this paper is printed on Fridays for the following week's publishing, it is too great a rush to analyse the numerous answers sent in on Thursdays and send the list to printers 240 miles away the same day, so that the correct lists will not appear till three weeks after publication of Acrostics.

Answers to No. 3 will appear next week.

Our Philatelic Society's Exhibition

By W. WARD

OUR Society had resolved to hold an exhibition in order to further the "cause." Needless to say the great scheme emanated from the President—who else would have conceived such a thing? The classification, the judges, the venue, were all arranged by the President—and, incidentally, the medals. Now, our leader prides himself upon his collection of British Solomon Islands, and curiously this was the only country for which a Gold Medal was allotted, others having to be content with a Silver or a Bronze "Trophy"—chiefly the latter.

The local Town Hall was engaged as the most suitable place to hold our "show." The Municipal Hall in our town serves many, and a variety of purposes, from an Art Gallery, a Socialists' and Suffragettes' Chamber (of Horrors), and a Dog and Rabbit Show. Anyhow, we engaged it. Shortly before the great day several members composing the "Arrangement Committee" went through the whole town commandeering all sorts of glass cases and shades with which to cover the displays, and protect from the "collecting" fingers of those collectors that "collect" stamps from other people's collections. There

were picture-frames, window and show cases, old mirrors with the mercury scratched off, and I am very sorry to say, one member went so far as to raid the local cemetery for those bell-shaped glass covers off "everlasting" wreaths. What could not be begged, was stol—er—borrowed.

On the eve of the opening we all helped to unpack and stage the exhibits. Thanks to the free advertisements of the Philatelic Press, the competing displays came in their hundreds. The varieties of the albums used proved conclusively that "variety is the spice of life." There were small albums, large albums, emaciated albums, and overfed albums. Those who had not their treasures in albums used exercise books, notebooks, scrap books, old blue books (an admirable end, by the way), and bank books (I *don't* think!). Some had their stamps mounted on cardboard, or typewriting paper—indeed, one competitor had every stamp mounted separately in the centre of a cigarette paper. Then the means of mounting the stamps differed according to the exhibitor's tastes, anything from mounts and stamp margins to glue (solid, substantial, and thick!). The

artistically inclined had drawn pretty designs round each stamp or set. Some had a thick black border as if in mourning, others a bright red rectangle. One had put rather too much red in his "rectangles"; the edges of the stamps, the faces, the backs—in fact, all his exhibit was a gory red. I don't think he could have got on more if he had been a butcher, and mounted his selection in a slaughter-house.

Another noticeable, yea, notorious feature, was the condition of the stamps. The condition—Great Scott! There were certainly many fine used and mint specimens, but the remainder? My word, if *you're* not off! Used stamps with POSTMARKS (caps, please, Mr. Composer—I know they were postmarks—all cancellation and no stamp. Queenslands with a big "Q L" Postmark covering the stamp—one can imagine the collector ejaculating a rare variety of "Q L," *without the bar in the letter Q!*). There were perforated stamps imperforated. Stamps cancelled by the Afghanistan method—some even like the law about dog-bites, you could have *two!* Stamps with a hole through the centre—so you could look at the watermark without removing the stamp!

All these after much admiration (*and other thoughts*) were eventually transferred to the motley glass fixtures.

Most of us remained in the hall guarding the exhibits that night. We had a fright early in the morning. A big furniture van had been drawn up at the entrance, and a buzzing noise, such as one hears in Regent's Park from the canaries, grew in volume every minute. We trembled—not on account of the safety of the philatelic treasures we were guarding, but ourselves. Most of our wives had never had better husbands in their lives, and so we were naturally anxious for their safety. After a little scouting—*à la* Baden-Powell—we discovered that the hall was the headquarters of the local Women's Suffrage Union, and they were preparing to raid the local House of Keys. Fancy the chances the Emperor Nero missed. Fancy still more the chances of a man (Yes, M-A-N) put into that van of feminine polly-ticians. (Run away, you boys!)

Well, the suspicious—er—auspicious day dawned. It was a great day. The local postmaster had been prevailed upon to formally open the exhibition after judging. This gentleman had never done a public service before (being a postal official), and was under somewhat of a misapprehension as to his status as a Government official. Having once seen our mayor opening a bazaar in his cloak and municipal insignia, he dressed himself almost accordingly. He wore a white wig, and what to me looked like a lady's opera cloak. Round his neck was hung a very large gold chain (same

carat as a brass candlestick is made of), no doubt hired for the occasion from a theatrical costumier.

After drinking his own health, he rose and addressed those present. As far as I remember, his speech went something like this:—

"Ladies, gentlemen, and *others*,—It is with great pleasure that I am selected for the honour of opening this bazaar—er—exhibition of old stamps—er—er—not—not old, but useless stamps—er—er—" I did not quite catch the remainder, but he said he had a little cold through drinking out of a damp glass. "I have never collected stamps, but I have often had great annoyance—er—pleasure in giving small boys stamps with the control letter affixed, and looked through my stock to see if any of the watermarks were the other way up. I know nothing about these watermarks—I don't like water—but your President informs me that they will be found inverted on all our British stamps, with the sole exception of those issued in 1867 with a Maltese Cross."

At this point my attention was drawn to an old farmer and his wife expressing various remarks about the exhibits, that I did not follow further the remarks of our worthy postmaster's opening speech.

Stopping at a case in which some Papuas were mounted, the aged agriculturalist remarked, "Sithe lass, them's stamps wot th' paupers use in th' union. So tha knows wot th'all hev ter lick when hoo's in th' wark-house." The adjacent case displaying Portugal was easily recognized—"There's poor felly wot wer' kill't wi' a bom'. If I'd ben King o' Portygal, I'd a stayed awhom in auld England—I always said them there niggers conna be trusted."

"Hey, lad! is'na yon ded spit o' our Mary Alice?"

Looking, I saw that the fond mother had conceived a similarity in her kin to Queen Wilhelmina. So they went along, reviewing, criticizing, and wondering at first this, and then that country's philatelic display. A couple of lads, evidently more sons of the land than sons of philatelists, next drew my attention. They were looking at the 1906 issue of the Grecian Olympic games. "Yon's Hacksmith an' th' Terrible Turk wrestling!" quoth one, pointing to the 25 lepta, blue. The 1 lepton, yellow-brown, elicited a difference of opinion—one said it was C. B. Fry, and the other J. T. Tyldesley, at the wickets.

Quite a little crowd were gazing at a photo of the Penny and Twopenny "Post Office" Mauritius: we could not prevail upon any one to send the originals, so we sent the hat round, collected a shilling, and *sent to Gibbons for the photo*. The criticism on the value of these stamps came fast and strong. "Hoo's a gawny, that'll give a thousand o' gouden goblins fur a bit o' pap-

per!" "Aw's find summut better to do wi' my spending brass!" One, evidently a printer by profession, said, "If I could print nobbut a better stamp than that, I'm noan a Lonkysheerman!" A lady commented on the small 3d. Victoria, "I'd swaller them bits"; and another [*sic*] gentleman said his "Boss'd have to sack him before he'd larrup them labels," alluding to some of the large Venezuelan Ship type.

Business unfortunately called me away, or perhaps I might have heard other unphila-

telic remarks on our hobby. That our venture proved of great result to gain more disciples I have no doubt, for many prospective collectors gave our Secretary a busy time, clamouring to be made members. If you want to give the papers something to talk about, and the man-in-the-street enlightenment, hold a Philatelic Exhibition, even if you are only a Junior Society, in London, or are obliged to have the venue near a National Assembly. If there is only Caxton Hall left—have that.

British Stamps used Abroad

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP IV—continued

Venezuela

A REPUBLIC on the northern coast of South America, was formed in 1830 by secession from the Confederation of Free States founded by Simon Bolivar. Its history practically from then represents little of interest except eternal intestine dissensions amounting practically to chronic civil war, varied occasionally with conduct productive of an ultimatum from some other Power.

The chief articles of export are minerals (copper ore, etc.) and cocoa.

The principal port is La Guayra, which is connected by rail with Caracas, the capital. The trade is small and the stamps consequently scarce. A post office was also established at Ciudad Bolivar or Angostura, but, judging by the number of stamps used, could have hardly been needed. Venezuela joined the Postal Union in 1880.

C 60. La Guayra

The principal seaport of Venezuela; its trade is fairly extensive. It is connected with the capital by rail. British stamps were used here from 1866 to 1880. The obliterator employed consisted of the narrow oblong oval, and was used in conjunction with a date stamp. Previous to the introduction of stamps an oval obliterator with "Paid at La Guayra" round a crown was used, and is to be found occasionally on the stamps.

- 1d., plates 96, 145, 177, 178, 180.
 1½d., plate 3.
 2d., " 14.
 3d., plates 14, 15, 18, 19.
 4d., " 12, 13, 14, 15 red, 15 sage.
 6d., " 5, 8, 11, 12, 12, 13, 16.
 10d., " 1 dark, 1 pale.
 1s., " 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.
 2s., plate 1 blue.
 5s., plates 1, 2.



D 22. Ciudad Bolivar, or Angostura

Is on the Orinoco, 225 miles from its mouth, and is the commercial centre of the interior of Venezuela. It is, although so far inland, a port, as the river is navigable by ocean-going steamers. British stamps were used here from 1870 to 1880, the date stamp shown being employed. A round date stamp was struck in red on the front of the letter, and has been found on the stamp.



- 3d., plate 5.
 4d., " 16.
 1s., plates 4 spray, 5, 7, 12, 13 green.
 2s., plate 1 blue.

Brazil

Originally a colony of Portugal, was proclaimed a kingdom in 1815—the royal family of Portugal having fled there in 1807. The Portuguese Court returned in 1821, and by a national congress assembled in Rio de Janeiro, Dom Pedro, eldest son of the King of Portugal, was chosen "Perpetual Protector" in May, 1822. He proclaimed the independence of the country in September, 1822, and on 12 October of the same year was chosen as Constitutional Emperor. He abdicated in 1831, and his son, Pedro II, ascended the throne. In 1889 he was deposed peaceably, a quite unusual course for any political upheaval in a South American State, and a republic was established under the style of the United States of Brazil. Its history is singularly uneventful—civil warfare is for once in a South American republic conspicuous by its absence; occasionally strife with neighbouring Powers, however, did take place. The three largest towns are Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, and Pernambuco—with populations of about 275,000, 130,000, and 115,000 respectively. They are all ports of entry, and each was provided with a British post office. Brazil entered the Postal Union in 1877.

C 83. Rio de Janeiro

Capital of the republic, and after Buenos Ayres the largest town of South America, has to-day a population of about three-quarters of a million. Its trade is extensive, the principal article of export being coffee. British stamps were used here from 1865 to 1877, and the obliterator employed was the large upright oval. This was used sometimes alone and sometimes in con-

junction with a date stamp, of which two types were in use, one with and one without the word "Paid."



- 1d., rose-red, L.C. perf. 14, white paper.
- 1d., plates 71, 132, 135, 200, 207, 209.
- 2d. ,, 9, 12, 13, 14.
- 3d. ,, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 17.
- 4d. ,, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 red.
- 6d. ,, 6 spray, 8, 9, 11, 11, 12 grey.
- 9d. ,, 4 emblem, 4 spray.
- 10d., plate 1.
- 1s., plates 4, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12.
- 2s., plate 1 blue.
- 5s., plates 1, 2.

A curious error in postmarks is to be found here. In January, 1879, in altering the year, the "7" evidently was removed and the "9" inserted upside down, reading "68." The writer has the 1d., red, plate 207, which was not issued till 1878, postmarked Jan., 1868.

C 81. Bahia

The second largest seaport of Brazil, is a beautiful and important town. Its trade is extensive and consists chiefly in the export of coffee, sugar, cotton, etc. The obliterator employed was the large upright oval C 81. British stamps were used from 1865 to 1877. A round date stamp was used on the face of the letter.



- 1d., plates 108, 113, 117.
- 1½d., plate 3.
- 2d., plates 13, 14.
- 3d. ,, 4 emblems, 8, 9.
- 4d. ,, 9, 11, 12, 13.
- 6d. ,, 6 spray, 8, 11, 12, 12.
- 9d. ,, 4 emblem.
- 1s. ,, 4, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.
- 2s., plate 1 blue.
- 5s. ,, 1.

C 82. Pernambuco, or Recife

As it is sometimes called, is the third largest town in Brazil, and is the nearest Brazilian port to Europe. It is the landing station for the cable and does a considerable



trade with Europe. British stamps were used here from 1865 till 1877, and the obliteration employed was the large upright oval. A date stamp was also used.

- 1d., plates 108, 111, 130, 132, 149, 198.
- 2d. ,, 9, 13.
- 3d. ,, 4 spray, 5, 6.
- 4d. ,, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.
- 6d. ,, 5, 6 spray, 8, 9, 11 dark, 12, 12.
- 9d. ,, 4 emblems, 4 spray.
- 10d., plate dark.
- 1s., plates 4 emblems, 5, 6, 7.
- 2s. ,, blue.
- 5s. ,, 1, 2.

(To be continued.)

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.

Correspondence

MR. S. CHAPMAN kindly sends us the following interesting notes and corrections:—

G.S.W. Page 118.

MALTA.—If only 180,000 stamps were surcharged, this would represent 3000 panes of 60, and obviously the next paragraph should read: 1000 panes were surcharged daily, and consequently there would only be 1000 errors, not 4000.

G.S.W. Page 120.

VERACRUZ AND TAMPICO.—The writer of this article is wrong in saying half the total exports

are shipped through this port and that Great Britain takes more than half. The official figures for the year 1906-7 are:—

Total exports . . .	\$248,018,010
Through Vera Cruz . . .	\$48,470,084
" Tampico . . .	\$80,249,965
To Great Britain from all ports . . .	\$31,874,024

The high-value stamps of Mexico in the earlier years were largely used for registration, for which the charge up to 1868 was 1 peso, and interior postage was high, so that a letter of no great

weight frequently cost more than 8 reales (1 peso) if carried a long distance.

It is only within recent years that Tampico has had rail communication; and Vera Cruz was not connected with the capital before 1873, if I remember rightly.

In that year the total imports to Mexico only amounted to \$20,166,013, as against \$233,363,389 last year.

G.S.W. Page 122.

CONTROL LETTERS OF GREAT BRITAIN.—I have the following marginal perforations in addition to those listed:—

- | | |
|--|---|
| ½d. A, vertical | } as vertical margin is missing on my stamps, cannot say whether perf. horizontally also. |
| B " " | |
| F6, vertical only. | |
| F6, horizontal " | |
| F7, vertical " | |
| G7 " " | |
| G7 horizontal " | |
| 1d. D5 " " | |
| E5 " " | |
| E5 " " | and vertical. |
| F7, vertical only. | |
| G7, horizontal and vertical. | |
| G7, vertical perforation extended so as to perforate one hole between each break in marginal line. | |
| G7, horizontal perforation similarly extended. | |

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—With reference to Mr. Kay's letter in *G.S.W.* of 22 February, I admit my remark that "Fiscals were made for collectors" is rather unjust to collectors of such labels, but I think Mr. Kay is wrong in saying he has never heard of any speculation in Fiscal stamps. It must be an out-of-the-way hobby indeed if no speculation goes on. I know of a dealer in this country who, according to my ideas, "speculates" somewhat largely in Fiscal stamps.

I am much obliged to Mr. Wiehen for his correction of my error in the German States. It was a bad oversight on my part. I should be obliged if you would insert this in your paper.

Yours faithfully,

R. E. R. DALWIGK.

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

SIR,—The following additions may be made to the record of control numbers enumerated in the interesting article on page 122, *G.S.W.*:—

- ½d., green.
- E5, perf. through side margin only.
- E6, perf. through bottom margin only.
- 1d., red.
- F6, perf. both side and bottom margins, and the outer edge of margin is also perf.
- F7, imperf.

Can space be spared in the *Weekly* to give a little more information on this subject? I am at a loss to find a reason for the varieties of ways in which the margins are perforated. Are these stamps printed in one sheet of 240, or are several sheets printed at once and perforated straight through? This would appear to be indicated by

the perforation running through side and bottom margins, but I have not seen any sheets with perforations at the outer edge of top or bottom margins.

This is a small matter, but as a junior collector, it is interesting to study stamps that can be easily obtained, and by careful examination to gain information and recreation without undue expense.

The accumulation of a great number of postal labels is not my idea of a collector's duty, but rather to find out the reason, as far as possible, for each little variation from the ordinary stamp.

Yours faithfully,

FRANK GENTRY.

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—I have read your correspondent's (I. F. B) article on "Control Letters of Great Britain," in which he comments on the varieties of ½d. and 1d. King's Heads and the perforations of the margins of them. It may interest your readers to know that in addition to the "perf. and imperf." numbers (F7 and G7) mentioned by him, I possess others.

The list is as follows:—

- ½d., King's Head, dark green, D4, both.
- ½d. " " light green, D5, both.
- ½d. " " " " perf., E6 only.
- 1d., red, King's Head in both B, C, D4, D5.
- 1d., red, King's Head, E5, perf. only.

These were bought in the ordinary way at the post office.

Yours faithfully,

EDWARD R. WOODWARD.

21 February, 1908.

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—In your issue of 22 February, 1908, there is an article on "King's Head British Control Letters," in which the writer states that "until we reach F7 . . . the margin is imperf." This is not quite correct, for I have E5 and F6 with the perforated margin both in the ½d., green, and the 1d., red.

I may also say that I have F7 in both values with imperforate margins, which your contributor has not seen.

One of the controls I can antedate one day. E6 on the ½d., green, according to *Appleton's Weekly*, No. 19, dated 11 August, was first on sale at Bradford on 29 June, 1906.

Your contributor makes no mention of the two varieties which exist in many of the control letters, namely, with continuous line of rule (commonly called the Jubilee line) and with a line made up of short pieces of rule separated by a small space.

The continuous line occurs on 1d., red, A, B, C, C4, D4, and on ½d., green, A, B, C, C4; while the broken line occurs on the 1d. from C onwards, and the ½d. from B.

C and C4 on the ½d., green, broken line, occur in some sheets on the right-hand and in others on the left-hand bottom corner of the sheet, i.e. sometimes under the second and sometimes under the eleventh stamp. (See *Philatelic Record*, Vol. XXVI, 1904.) There are therefore two varieties of each of these controls.

Yours faithfully,

LANCE E. HALL.

22 February, 1908.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Afghanistan.—According to *Der Philatelist* (15.2.08) a 1 rupee has just been issued; it is somewhat similar in design to the 1 and 2 abasi of the June, 1906, issue.



Imperf.

Unused.	Used.
s. d.	s. d.

1 r., blue on bright blue

Austria.—Herr Karl Ledermann very kindly sends us a copy of the *Neues Wiener Abendblatt* (19.2.08), in which we find particulars of a new issue of Newspaper Stamps. Our correspondent also encloses us a specimen of the 2 c., and we must say that the new design has not one-tenth of the artistic merit of the older design. The classic head of Mercury, shown in medallion, is replaced by a horrible caricature of the Messenger of the Gods, looking downwards and to the right; the chin shows an indomitable will-power that makes this stamp more suitable as a label for Suffragettes.

The stamps are printed by typography on paper that is slightly chalk-surfaced. They are unwatermarked and imperforate.

Later.—We have just received a small supply of these stamps.



Newspaper Stamps. Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 h., deep blue	0 1	—
6 h., orange	0 1	—
10 h., rose-carmine	0 2	—
20 h., chocolate	0 3	—

France.—In arranging our stock we have noticed that the 3 c. of the 1900-6 issue exists in two very marked shades. No. 264 in the Catalogue is called *orange-red*, and the second shade may be termed *lake-red*. All we have of these latter appear to have been used about May and June, 1907.



1907. Perf. 14 x 13. New shade.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

264a] 3 c., lake-red — 0 1

Papua.—We learn from *Der Philatelist* (15.2.08) that the remaining values of the permanent issue inscribed PAPUA have now been issued. They are all on Commonwealth paper, and are perforated 11.



Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

1d., black and red	—	—
2d. " violet	—	—
2½d. " ultramarine	—	—
6d. " green	—	—
1s. " orange	—	—
2s. 6d. " brown	—	—

Queensland.—We have now received a used copy of the 5s., rose (referred to last week), like the 2s. 6d., 10s., and £1; it is lithographed, and is watermarked Crown and single-lined A, twice sideways; this watermark is often badly placed, so that only various incomplete portions show on some stamps. Our copy was used postally on 23 December, 1907.



Lithographed. Wmk. Crown and A. twice sideways.
Perf. 12½, 13. — 2 0

5s., rose — 2 0

Servia.—We are informed by *Der Philatelist* (15.2.08) that all the values of the current set, with the exception of the 3 din., have been issued on thicker paper, laid horizontally, the perforation being now $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, instead of $11\frac{1}{2}$.



Thick horizontally laid paper. Perf. $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 p., black and pale grey	—	—
5 p. " " green	—	—
10 p. " " rose-red	—	—
15 p. " " lilac	—	—
20 p. " " yellow	—	—
25 p. " " blue	—	—
30 p. " " grey-green	—	—
50 p. " " deep brown	—	—
1 din. " " buff	—	—
5 din. " " violet	—	—

Switzerland.—Baron A. de Reuterskiöld informs us that we were in error in calling No. 207



in our revised list in our issue of 22 February, *pale blue*; this should be *blue*.

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

He also forwards us specimens of the 25 c. and 3 francs on granite paper, perforated $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$.

Granite paper. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
210/25 c., blue	—	—
223/ 3 fr., bistre-brown	—	—

Turkey.—Although we have catalogued the error "50" instead of "5" in the upper right-hand corner, in Arabic, of the 5 piastres, 1892-9 issue (No. 149a in the Catalogue), we have never listed this variety with the IMPRIMÉ overprint like Nos. 272 to 276 in the Catalogue. The error occurs once in each sheet, so it must of course occur with the overprint as well. This will be No. 226c in the next Catalogue.

The Arabic sign for "5" resembles a rather irregular "o", and the error consists of a small coloured dot under the "o", which transforms it into "50."



Stamps for printed matter. *Overprinted in black.*

Variety.

With "50" (in Arabic) at upper right-hand corner.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 piast., lilac	—	—

Answers to Correspondents

G. W. D.—Old British stamps are rather more valuable on their original envelopes, although we find them too bulky to keep in that form.

W. G. I.—We know 1s. Cape of Good Hope in both the shades you mention, but do not make any difference in our stock books. We should think the \$5 Straits must have been dipped into some coloured liquid by mistake: it was certainly only printed on white paper.

KANGAROO.—We are of the opinion that the perforation on your Bolivia stamps is forged. See note after No. 77 in our 1908 Catalogue.

R. E. R. (Norwich).—The Hyderabad stamps of 1871 have the inscription POST STAMP, but in 1905 the $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ anna stamps were issued in a somewhat similar type with the inscription POSTAGE. See new Catalogue, Nos. 31-3.

A. W. (Margate).—The £5 and £10 B.S.A. stamps are very common used as fiscals and cancelled with pen and ink. These are frequently cleaned and regummed and offered as unused, and

no doubt the two you saw sold at auction for £2 were treated in this manner.

As regards unused Cyprus, first issue 1d. and 2½d., my firm bought the balance of the stock from the Government some twenty-five years ago for about £800 cash. As the stock consisted of nearly two million stamps, of a face value of nearly £16,000, you can easily understand that at wholesale rates they could be sold below face value, but now nearly the whole stock is sold out.

R. J. B. (S.W.).—The Costa Rica stamps you mention have forged surcharges.

E. H. D. D. (Bath).—The Mauritius you mention is absolutely bogus.

NATAL READER FROM IMPENDHLE.—Thanks for yours of 29 January, but we cannot read one single letter of your name, and therefore cannot return your envelopes. The postmarks are curious, but it is impossible to note such things, as there is no end to the varieties.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 12
Whole No. 168

21 MARCH, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Consular Offices—continued

Crete and Egypt

THESE States politically are tributary to Turkey, so that, apart from convenience, an account of the French offices established therein fittingly follows one dealing with those of the "Levant."

Crete

As a matter of fact, before the provision of a particular set in 1902, the French offices in Crete used the stamps of the French "Levant" series.

It is needless to deal with the topography or history of the island, for an account appeared in *G. S. W.* (No. 101). Suffice it to say that Austria, Italy, and France have each established "foreign post offices" there, and as Major Evans so wittily put it, when chronicling the first surcharged stamps for French offices, "the Cretans, if they ever patronize the foreign post offices, must be getting a little confused. Their currency is *lepta* and *drachmai*, the Austrians supply them with *heller* translated into *centimes*, and the French with *centimes* and *francs* converted into *piastres*." Italy in her turn surcharged *centesimi* with *piastra*, and then relapsed into the sweet simplicity of *centesimi* and *lire*. It is good that the majority of the inhabitants are Greeks, a nationality with a reputation for commercial astuteness.

Philatelic History

This is confined to two issues. The first, towards the end of 1902 and early in 1903, consisted of a full set, 1 c. to 5 fr., similar to that of the "Levant," but, of course, with the name altered. It differed, however, in having all the stamps unsurcharged. Early in 1903 a second series was provided, in which the

at the time as to which set was to be permanent, and inflated prices were asked for the unsurcharged stamps. Later it appeared that the latter were for general use, and to-day the surcharged set is obsolete.

1902-3. French stamps modified.		Perf.	
		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
1 c., grey	0 1	—	—
2 c., claret	0 1	—	—
3 c., orange-red	0 1	—	—
4 c., brown	0 1	—	—
5 c., green	0 1	—	—
10 (c.), carmine	0 2	—	—
15 " pale red	0 3	—	—
20 " brown-purple	0 3	—	—
25 " blue	0 4	—	—
30 " lilac	0 5	—	—



40 (c.), red and blue	0 6	—
50 " brown and lavender	0 9	—
1 fr., lake and green	1 6	—
2 fr., purple and buff	2 6	—
5 fr., blue	6 6	—

1903. Surcharged as in French Levant, in black.

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
1 piast. on 25 (c.), blue	1 0	—	—
2 " " 50 " brown and lavender	—	—	—
4 " " 1 fr., lake and green	—	—	—
8 " " 2 fr., purple and buff	—	—	—
20 " " 5 fr., blue	—	—	—

Egypt

Foreign post offices were in existence in Egypt long before this tributary State of Turkey had its own regular postal organization. Egypt as a stamp-issuing country, and its stamps, have been fully dealt with in *G. S. W.* (No. 130); but a few words as to the foreign services in operation at the time Egyptian stamps first claimed philatelic attention may not be amiss.

In Egypt, as in Turkey, the representatives of the European Powers, in this case consul-generals, had by virtue of ancient



25 c., 50 c., and higher values were overprinted in "piastres." Doubts were raised

treaties the right to conduct their own postal services, and thus in 1866, when Muzzi Bey organized the viceregal posts, England, France, Italy, Austria, Russia, and Greece all had offices. With the exception of the Austrian, which used the stamps of Austrian Italy, the offices employed the stamps current at home, and they can only be distinguished by the obliteration. They had to be paid for in the currency of the issuing country, and as the services were of a varying efficiency, the sender of a foreign letter had several points to consider—speed, cost, safety, etc.

These foreign posts were dependent upon the various shipping lines connecting the mother country with Egypt. Thus, for example, the French were maintained by the Messageries Imperiales in its Mediterranean and Indo-China services; the English by the P. and O. through several services. Southampton to Alexandria, India via Red Sea, etc. Belgium had opened offices, but they were closed when the line from Antwerp to Alexandria was suppressed. In addition to the above, Turkey had franking rights as the sovereign power, and a Spanish service was established shortly after.

With the exception of those of France, all the offices have ceased their operations, as the Egyptian Post Office has for some time transacted efficiently all the services which exist in the post offices of other countries forming the Postal Union.

Though France has still two offices in Egypt, they have outlived their necessity. Perhaps they have maintained as some counter-influence to that of England, the latter country having, since the abolition of the joint control of France and England in 1883, dominating influence in Egyptian affairs. As a matter of fact, fully 25 per cent of the total correspondence is with Great Britain.

French Offices.—The two still open are those at Alexandria and Port Said. The former was established before 1855 and the latter in 1867. Formerly there were also offices at Cairo (opened in 1867 and closed in 1875), and at Suez (opened in 1862 and closed in 1888). Previous to 1899 ordinary French stamps were used, and those of Alexandria can be recognized by the obliteration "3704" in small figures, "5080" in large figures or date stamp. The surcharged issues of 1899 and onwards were dealt with in *G. S. W.* (No. 33).

Port Said, with about 45,000 inhabitants, derives its importance from being at the northern termination of the Suez Canal. It is situated between the Mediterranean and Lake Menzala. The town is of comparatively recent creation, viz. about 1859, and owes its existence to the development of the Canal. It is, with the exception of the Arab quarter,

a finely built and attractive city, and its quays and shipping facilities are magnificent.

The first definite issue was in 1899, when a set of 1 c. to 5 fr. of the contemporary stamps of France were overprinted with the words **PORT-SAID** in red, blue, or black. The 2 fr. was issued in 1900.



1899-1900. French stamps overprinted.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on blue	0	1	0	2
2 c., red-brown on buff	0	1	0	2
3 c., drab	0	1	—	—
4 c., brown-lilac on grey	0	1	—	—
5 c., green	0	1	—	—
10 c., black on lilac	0	3	—	—
15 c., blue	0	3	—	—
20 c., red on green	0	5	—	—
25 c., black on rose	0	5	0	5
30 c., cinnamon	0	9	—	—
40 c., red on yellow	1	6	—	—
50 c., carmine	2	0	—	—
1 fr., olive-green	1	6	—	—
2 fr., brown on azure	6	0	—	—
5 fr., lilac	7	6	—	—

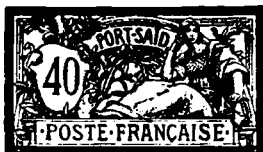
In November, 1899, the stock of 25 c. stamps ran short owing to the influx of visitors in connection with the inauguration of the monument to M. de Lesseps, and authority was given to surcharge a certain number of the 10 c. stamps. Nine thousand of these had their value raised by a surcharge, **VINGT-CINQ**, in two lines of letters (5 mm. high), in red. There are two varieties of the surcharge; a first attempt, with figures only, was not considered satisfactory, so the surcharge in words was struck on the top of the figures (two thousand stamps), and afterwards by itself (seven thousand stamps). These provisionals are very scarce, particularly unused.



November, 1899. Surcharged in red.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
25 in words on 10 c., black on lilac	—	—	25	0
25 in words and figures on 10 c., black on lilac	—	—	75	0

In 1902 a set of the new French stamps was modified for use here as follows, and is still current.



1902. French stamps modified.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., grey	0 1	—
2 c., claret	0 1	—
3 c., orange-red	0 1	—
4 c., brown	0 1	—
5 c., green	0 1	—
10 (c.), carmine	0 2	—
15 " pale red	0 3	—
20 " brown-purple	0 3	—
25 " blue	0 4	—
30 " lilac	0 5	—

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
40 (c.), red and blue	0 6	—
50 " brown and lavender	0 7	—
1 fr., lake and green	1 1	—
2 fr., purple and buff	2 6	—
5 fr., blue "	6 0	—

(To be continued.)

THE BEST STAMP HINGES

We have 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.

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By "THE SUB"

Straits Settlements

THE following extracts from an excellent article on "Straits Stamps" in *The Singapore Free Press* of 17 December last may be of interest:—

The present one cent stamp with its background of palms is emblematical of Singapore and incidentally of the *Free Press* on which it pays the postage. The three cent stamp with the background of *pinang* trees of course represents Penang, while the four cents adorned with *nipah* palm stands for Malacca. In its new shade of crimson this is perhaps the most artistic of the set. On the eight cent is shown the *Aris*, which may stand for Malaya as a whole. The four stamps so familiar to all were designed by Sir Walter Egerton, and though perhaps he cannot find time to complete the series, surely there are other artists who might carry on the work.

Malay States

THE pronunciation of the names of the Protected States has been referred to before in the columns of *G.S.W.*, but the following note from Mr. R. E. James makes the matter quite clear:—

What stumbling-blocks the names of Malayan States appear in the mouths of stay-at-home collectors! If you practise the following, you will have the satisfaction of knowing you are right: *Perak*, meaning silver, Peerah; *Pahang*, Pähäng with the "a's" as long and broad as you can make them; *Selangor*, Sè-län-gor, with the accent on the middle syllable; *Negri Sembilan*, the nine countries; Nèg-ree Sèm-bee-lan, also accentuated on the middle syllable; *Sungei Ujong*, Sùng-i you-jong. This latter name, translated from the

vernacular, means the river at the boundary or edge.

The capital of the four States which now comprise the Federated Malay States is Kuala Lumpur, the mouth of mud, and should be pronounced Kwälä Lämpör.

It is not perhaps generally known by philatelists that the word "Kemahkotaan" on the Johore issue of 1896 means "Coronation," and should be pronounced Kem-ah-kötään. The Arabic inscription in the circular portion of the frame reading from right to left is "Post Johor dan hasil," Johore Postage and Revenue.

A Great Rarity

A REFERENCE will be found in the correspondence column to the "cent cent" error of the 1 c. on 50 c. Selangor of 1900, a description of which appeared in *G.S.W.*, No. 162. Can Mr. James give us any particulars as to how the surcharge was set up? As Major Evans, in referring to the article, pertinently remarks in the current *M.J.*:—

We must suppose from this that the type was set up so as to cover only one vertical row of five stamps at a time; had it been a larger block, as was usually the case, covering thirty stamps (half a pane), it would have been impossible for one vertical row only to shift without the whole forme tumbling to pieces.

Stamp Exhibition

By the time these notes appear the "Imperial Stamp Exhibition" at Caxton Hall will have been held, and doubtless have proved an unqualified success. Nothing has been left undone to ensure the latter, and I

am glad to see the Royal Society has contributed a handsome sum towards the expenses. Other well-known names in the stamp world also appear in the list of donations, and I hope that before the close of the Exhibition the expenditure will have been amply covered by income. Next week I hope to give an account of the function.

Boston Philatelic Society (U.S.A.)

I HAVE just received a card giving the menu of the annual jollification of the Society, held on 18 February last, and besides this and the programme of the meetings for 1908, etc., an effusion by the Society's tame poet is prominently displayed. It does not do to dwell too lovingly on the menu, which contains much that sounds indigestible—lobster salad, Tom and Jerry, raspberry sherbet, orange sherbet, ice cream, etc.—but the B.P.S. song by A. W. Dunning (who, by the way, is a better philatelist than poet) may have been written to distract attention. This is not the first offence, Mr. Dunning. You perpetrated an ode on the A.P.A. a short while since, from which we are only slowly recovering.

B.P.S. SONG

"WE LIVE IN YANKEE-DOODLE TOWN"

We live in Yankee-doodle town,

The city by the sea, sir!

We once acquired great renown

By dropping T in C, sir!

Chorus:

Then give three cheers for the B.P.S.

A better Society never!

Are we members? Yes! Yes!! Yes!!!

And we hope to be for ever!

And since that time, long years ago,

If ever you should ask, sir,

We'd tell you that we are not slow

In working at our task, sir!

Chorus.

We have published a book on Revenues

Of which we are justly proud, sir!

And our meetings are open to any who choose

To come, and there's often a crowd, sir!

Chorus.

So join us, collectors everywhere,
Whatever your rank or station!
We have benefits plenty and to spare,
So send in your application!

Chorus:

Then give three cheers for the B.P.S.!

And then a three-times-three, sir!

Are we members? Yes! Yes!! Yes!!!

And we hope YOU soon will be, sir!

Description of New Stock Book arranged and priced during the last week

No. 11. Value £929.

Baden, Bergedorf, Bremen, Brunswick, and Hamburg.

THIS is a very good book, and in it we have included the commoner stamps from the "Mann" and "Breitfuss" Collections. The rarer stamps of Europe (mostly those over £10 each) are now mounted in small approval books in order to facilitate sending them to clients on the Continent, and also in order to keep the rarer stamps from being so often handled as they are bound to be when in the big books. These rare Europeans will—with pleasure—be submitted to those collectors who wish to see them.

All the above countries are well and strongly represented in this new stock book, Bremen being especially strong. I note a great shrinkage in our stock of the common and old used Europeans, those priced at 2s. each and under, and I add a list of those we wish to purchase, *all used* and in perfect condition only; they must be centred, have good margins, and be lightly postmarked.

Wanted to Purchase

Baden.

Cat. Nos. 1, 4, 5, 12, 15, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 33.

Brunswick.

Cat. Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16, 18, 19.

Hamburg.

Cat. Nos. 4, 5, 9, 10, 11 to 18 inclusive, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 30, 43.

The Influence of Queen's Head Postage Stamps

By J. W. H. HESLOP

ONE of the earliest facts which the nineteenth-century savage became acquainted with was the fact that the white men who visited his shores were ruled by a Queen. This was to him a startling thing, for two reasons: first, because woman-kind in his eyes was incapable of rule; on many a savage shore woman was little better than a beast of burden, and even in her

highest estate was always made subservient to man. Second, because the white men whom the savages knew were remarkably brave and daring, officers or bluejackets from some man-o'-war, or strong and hardy pioneers or explorers. No weaklings were they. And yet these hardy fellows were governed by a Woman!

The natural and apparent superiority of

the white man overawed the cringing savage. The white man's eyes had no fear in them. His manner was brusque, his speech imperative, his actions definite. The knowledge of these characteristics was telegraphed from island to island, as efficiently as if the message were sent over actual wire. All the chiefs and tribes knew it. And together they whispered that the ruler of these men was a Woman, the Great White Queen. Presently they learned, and did not forget, her name: Victoria. Many a savage has grunted, and grunted again, as he digested this fact.

When the savage understood this, it provided him with a key to another matter. At heart these Englishmen were more merciful than other white men who were about. Now the savage would hardly have thought it, judging from their rough exterior, their dictatorial speech, their proficiency in the uses of gunpowder. Power, with him, meant opportunities for oppression and tyranny. Not so with these Britishers. The savage had heard of horrible things done in other climes by white men—but not by Englishmen. Behind the Englishman there seemed to be a mighty feminine force which made such things impossible for him. The Britisher was just, tolerant, and at times even kind. Why? Why, of course, it was due to the influence of the Woman at the helm. The savage has reasoning powers, and those on the spot tell us this is the way he thought it out.

What he feared most was tyranny—it was the atmosphere in which he had been bred. That strong tribes should overwhelm weaker, and as a consequence enslave, mutilate, or kill—just as fancy led them—was to him a commonplace. When overpowered he expected these results as a matter of course. But the astonishing thing to him was that these Britishers neither degraded nor slew, save when driven to extremities by sheer necessity. They conquered in order to be kind. Their advent brought peace. Whole

territories suddenly came under the influence of a stern law that forbade fighting and disorder. Whole tribes were confronted with the curious necessity of being actually obliged to bury the hatchet. The savage began to move about less stealthily, safety was in the air, and freedom a new joy. He had come within the sphere of the Pax Britannica. No doubt he grunted—vigorously. But, of course, it was the Great White Queen's doing.

Postage stamps he came to understand in time, and the Queen's Head thereon found in him an admirer. Away back in the wilds many a native has bent over a postage stamp in his palm, gaping with his thick lips and big eyes at the Queen's portrait. It stood for mercy and tolerant treatment, for a thousand benefits that were coming over at the heels of the white man. It appealed to him because he liked visible representations. All his gods and deities—he wouldn't worship them unless he had a visible representation of them. Rude blocks of wood or stone embodied his gods, but the image on the postage stamp was more lifelike than anything he could create, than anything he had ever seen. European pictures are always a source of deep fascination to savage races; even a common print, when seen for the first time, inspires the profoundest awe. And a postage stamp has very often been the first specimen of pictorial art the native has come across. To him it was wonderful.

How far the Queen's Head stamps have helped the progress of civilization will never be exactly known, but beyond doubt their influence has been far-reaching. The stamps brought within reach of every member of the Empire a representation of the queenly power whose armies were but the agents of her tender mercies, and the womanly grace and charm of the earlier stamps have gone home to a thousand hearts in the world's wildest and most unlikely places.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—continued

Brunei—continued

WHEN Brunei finally attained the full dignity of a British Crown Colony, and an integral part of the "Empire upon which the sun never sets," provision was made for endowing this hitherto somewhat neglected portion of the British do-

minions beyond the seas with such of the many and varied blessings of civilization, as pertain to that far "East of Suez," including a properly organized postal service and post office of its own.

According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* a requisition for a distinctive series of

postage and revenue stamps for use in the new colony was forwarded to the Crown Agents in London about the end of May or the beginning of June, 1906, accompanied by full particulars as to the proposed design, size, paper, method of production, numbers, etc. An order was subsequently placed with Messrs. De La Rue & Co. for a series of eleven stamps, ranging in value from 1 c. to \$1, and of denominations identical with those in use in Labuan and the Straits Settlements. This firm, owing to stress of work, found themselves unable to have the stamps ready for shipment to Brunei by 15 October of the same year, which was the date fixed for the inauguration of the colony's postal system. As a matter of fact the stamps were not even delivered to the Crown Agents in London by that date, and were not received by them until almost the end of the same month. After they had been checked and packed at the offices of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, the issue was finally shipped to the colony by a steamer leaving London about 1 November, 1906, and was not actually received in Brunei until some time in January, 1907.

In order that the local post office might be opened for service upon the date appointed, it was absolutely essential that stamps of some description or other should be available for sale to persons who applied for them, and in the absence of the regular issue which had been ordered from England, but could not arrive for some months after the time announced for the opening of the post office, recourse had to be made to surcharging, and small quantities of each denomination of the 1902 Crown issue of the neighbouring colony of Labuan, remaining in the hands of the British North Borneo Company's postal department (by whom the Labuan post office was then administered), were purchased on behalf of the new colony, and overprinted (presumably) at Victoria, the capital and chief town of Labuan, with the word BRUNEI, and a thick bar obliterating the former title of "Labuan."

Several of the values required for the new colony were completely exhausted at the island post office, and as Labuan was shortly to be incorporated in the Straits Settlements, no further supplies had been printed. Stamps of the requisite denominations had therefore to be improvised by taking such values as were available, and superimposing upon them new duties in ordinary printer's type, at the same time blocking out the original face values with a second thick bar similar to that obliterating the word "Labuan."

The first values of this provisional series to be placed on sale at the Brunei post office were those of the denominations of 1, 2, 3, and 8 cents, which were issued to the

public on 15 October, 1906. The remainder followed on the 17th of the same month. The local postal authorities were extremely reticent with regard to the issue of these provisional stamps, and the series had actually been in use in the colony over six weeks before the fact became known in Europe. Unfortunately almost the entire issue found its way into the hands of philatelic speculators, who abound in the East, and consequently, despite the comparatively large numbers surcharged, these stamps command very high prices, ranging as high as 25s. per set, as the local speculators are holding on very tightly to their possessions in hopes of sending the prices even higher still, and European and American dealers have been compelled to pay as much as five and six times face value for such supplies as they have been able to obtain.

This issue was in use until March, 1907, when all of the surcharged stamps were completely sold out.

The issue was as follows:—

BRUNEI.

15 and 17 October, 1906.

Provisional issue. Eleven values of Crown series of Labuan, 1902-3, overprinted with the word BRUNEI in small thick sans-serif capitals in one line at the top in red, with a thick red bar cancelling the original designation LABUAN, and, with the exception of the 1, 3, and 8 cents values, a new duty; also in small sans-serif capitals in red at the foot of the design, with a second red bar obliterating the original denomination of the stamp. Issue prepared by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, in London: frame-work design lithographed, and centre engraved taille-douce; printed on thick wove paper, without watermark. Perforated 13½. Centres in second colours. Overprinted (presumably) at Victoria, Labuan. (Figures in brackets refer to total numbers of each denomination overprinted.)

- 1 c., violet and black (4000).
- 2 c. on 3 c., brown and black (15,000).
- 2 c. on 8 c., vermilion and black (5000).
- 3 c., brown and black (5000).
- 4 c. on 12 c., yellow and black (20,000).
- 5 c. on 16 c., brown and green (5000).
- 8 c., vermilion and black (8000).
- 10 c. on 16 c., brown and green (9000).
- 25 c. on 16 c., brown and green (2000).
- 30 c. on 16 c., brown and green (2000).
- 50 c. on 16 c., brown and green (2000).
- \$1 on 8 c., vermilion and black (2000).

Surcharged in complete sheets of one hundred stamps; ten rows of ten. Presumably from stereotype plates of local manufacture, overprinting fifty stamps or one half-sheet at each impression. New

values printed in from separate plate, surcharging a similar number of stamps at one operation, thus making two impressions necessary to overprint one complete sheet of stamps with the new name only, and four for those having new values in addition.

Variety.

When the overprinting of these stamps was first commenced, a single sheet of the 1 cent denomination was surcharged experimentally in black, this being done, in all probability, in order to see that the press was in good working order. For some unexplained reason this essay, instead of being destroyed, was allowed to be issued in the regular manner along with the values having the red surcharge. As only one sheet of one hundred copies of this stamp exists, it is naturally of considerable rarity, and is in great demand.

Black instead of red overprint.

1 c., violet and black.

There are no other varieties of any real importance, and such as exist are composed chiefly of raised or damaged letters in the overprint which, though valuable to assist in plating the stamps, are otherwise of no genuine philatelic interest.

On a few values there is a slight discrepancy in the length of the bar obliterating the name, the normal length of which is 21 mm. The space between the two surcharges of name and value also varies from 11 to 13 mm.

Forgeries.

Fortunately for the philatelic public at large, practically all of the stamps overprinted for use in Brunei show a marked difference in shade from those of the same denominations, unsurcharged, either previously issued by, or remaining in the possession of the British North Borneo Company. The danger of fraudulent surcharges being made by unscrupulous persons is therefore greatly lessened. The above remarks do not, however, apply to the 1 c. value, of which supplies, printed in the identical shades of those surcharged for the new colony are, or were until recently, obtainable at the Company's offices in London, and in point of fact dangerous forgeries of this stamp, especially with the scarce black overprint, made their appearance as early as March, 1907, and great care should be exercised when purchasing copies of this rarity.

(To be continued.)

Points for Beginners

By B. W. W.

Condition and Mounting, etc.

THE question of condition seldom troubles the beginner whose one idea is to secure as many varieties as he can in a short time, but it does appeal to him a little when he notices the untidy appearance of the pages in his album because of torn corners or heavy postmarks. If he has gone through the process of buying packets of stamps at various places and had a few given him as a start, he will be sure to have some duplicates, and it is with these he can exercise discretion. What is looked for in the first case by careful collectors is usually what is called well-centred specimens, that is, where the stamp has equal margins outside the engraved design; the next point is the cancellation in used copies. If the obliteration is very heavy on a nicely centred stamp, it will often be better to keep a more lightly marked one even if its margins are not so perfectly equal. A penmarked cross is usually doubtful as a genuine cancellation by post, and figures or initials generally indicate fiscal use. Then there is the state of the perforations or denticulations—if two or three are missing at the corners or have been cut almost close at sides or top, the value of a good stamp in unused condition

may be reduced quite one-half, and for used ones too in some cases. In no case should there be any trimming of the edges because they are a bit uneven, unless there is a real excess in one part. Some stamps that have been issued without perforations to separate them are cut very unequally, but to cut down a margin that is a trifle wider at one part may reduce it so much as to be indistinguishable from a later perforated issue of the same stamp which has had its teeth cut off, the value of which may be only one-third that of the genuine imperforate.

Any paper at the back of a stamp should be removed as a rule, as its retention makes the stamps double the thickness, and some hundreds of these in an album will prevent its shutting close down, and in time may break the binding. To some collectors a nice postmark is very attractive, especially if only a third of it is on the stamp and remainder on a clean piece of envelope, so they keep it on the original paper. The Germans are very fond of different towns' postmarks on stamps of same value in their own country and also of some foreign ones, but these varieties are more suited for those who are postmark collectors and who often ignore the stamp altogether. In some cases

it is certainly desirable to have stamps on a piece of an original cover, because there have been many stamps reprinted that are rare in either used or unused condition, which reprints are sold at very low prices. These reprints have often had obliterations put on by obliging clerks at a post office, but the marks are more frequently forged, so as to add to their selling price, and also to prevent their easy recognition as reprints by the experts. A piece of paper attached is not a certain proof of genuineness, but it may be decisive occasionally. The stamps commonly called Seebeckian were often supplied in sheets with neat postmarks at the junction of every four stamps, which often have the gum carefully washed from the backs so as to appear genuinely used when separated. In days gone by there was such a demand for used copies where letters from certain places were few, that the postmasters when written to for sheets of stamps by large dealers used to postmark most of them, believing they were obliging the buyers by doing this. I well remember the difficulty of getting some Samoan stamps in unused or "mint" condition as printed, because the whole lot of values even of 1s. and 2s. 6d. were received by the dealers here with nice light postmarks, which the postmaster refused to take back or exchange. It has already been explained that the safest way to remove the paper from the back of stamps is to soak a bit of flannel in a saucer of water (hot by preference) and lay the stamps thereon face upwards. Many old stamps, especially of the line-engraved class like our old red penny ones, will stand soaking in water and the colour be improved thereby, but the Russian and many others of recent years will lose their colours as well as their backing by being soaked.

There is no excuse nowadays for sticking stamps down on a page with a dab of gum, as anybody can buy a thousand hinges for a few pence. The best hinges are made of a particular quality of tissue paper cut to shape and gummed by machinery, and if not moistened too much will allow of a stamp being removed without sacrificing the hinge. This facility of removal is, however, a temptation to dishonestly inclined acquaintances to take out a stamp or two when looking through your album, and this became the excuse for sticking the stamps down fast. These "stickers" are usually folded down about one-third and damped lightly on the lip (not the tongue), to attach to the top of the stamp, the larger portion of hinge is then moistened and placed on the page, so that the back of stamp can be examined for watermark or gum, or to see if damaged. It will happen, though, that where stamps are placed on both sides of the leaves (as in the smaller cheap albums) the stamps so hinged are liable to catch against the *sides* of those on

opposite page, so that many collectors prefer the extra trouble of fixing the hinges at the *sides* of stamps, so as to be on the right side of stamps when mounted on a left-hand page, and *vice versa*. As the hinges have to be on the back of the stamps this is a little confusing, unless you remember that the stamp when laid face downwards will require hinge at left side of the back for the left-hand page, and on right for a right-hand page.

Do not, on any account, use the marginal paper from sheets of stamps; the gum or cement, as it is technically called, is so strong that you cannot remove it afterwards from the back of stamp without injury as a rule. A stamp that is "skinned" through such removal, or by being hastily torn from an old book or the corner of a letter, is often of next to no value, its "condition" having been destroyed just as much as by cutting off the margins.

Spacing

Of the stamps on pages should also be considered by the beginner. Do not fill up every space in a line with just such stamps as you have got at the time. On the other hand, you cannot leave spaces for every stamp listed, or for one-sixth even, in a small album. Look at your catalogue for the correct order, and leave one, two, or three spaces only for such low-priced ones as you may reasonably hope to get later on. In 1901 our publishers calculated there were listed in their Catalogue stamps at the following prices:—

746 at 1d.	947 at 4d.
1067 at 2d.	275 at 5d.
843 at 3d.	1039 at 6d.

or probably at the present time over 5000 stamps that can be bought at 1d. to 6d. each. If a list is sent of, say, 150 stamps of each of the two lower prices, there is a big discount if over 100 can be supplied of each price, which is equivalent to paying $\frac{1}{2}$ d. or $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. each only for about 1300 stamps, which will fill up a good many spaces. There are many cheap sets of stamps sold of different countries, which are very useful for filling up those leaves of particular countries that you most fancy—but on the whole, it seems easier to first select from the catalogue all those low-priced ones to place on the blank pages that are most needed to make a respectable general show, after mounting your first purchases.

(To be continued.)

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. 6d. in Paper Cover, or 4s. 6d. strongly bound in Cloth.

Jamaica

By EUSTACE B. POWER

SITTING as we are, in the writing-room of the hotel here in Kingston, with the windows all open, and a desire to pull off our coats, on an early day in February, the thought comes to me that perhaps the readers of *G.S.W.* may like to know about the postal arrangements of this most heavenly place.

To-day I went to the General Post Office. A strange sight it is, this post office. The photograph reproduced here shows the ruin

Across the street from the P.O. are the Telegraph and Parcel Post Departments, the former using telegraph stamps, and not postage stamps as at home. The photograph reproduced was taken whilst I was here, and is therefore the actual state of the building to-day.

Kingston is not an interesting stamp town. There are two or three local collectors; but the chief merit of a stamp here seems to be how many shillings it will sell for, and the



caused by the earthquake, and even now, thirteen months after the disaster, the clerks are doing business with the clear, cloudless sky for roof! I naturally was anxious to find out what was in use, so I asked the saffron-hued lady, who promptly said, "Do you collect the stamps also?" Upon my telling her that I did, she produced a little tin box, which she assured me contained pairs with "the desirable error." The variety with broken letter of *SERVIET* in the Arms type is highly prized here, especially the 5d. value. A collector in the town told me that he bought the 2d., 3d., and 4d. values, with the pine watermark, *from us* in London, and sold here for a profit; so without violating any confidence I would suggest filling up the first issue at current prices.

prices asked are, as a rule, about twice as much as asked in England. The stamps actually procurable to-day are: 1d., Arms, all green; 1d., Arms, all red; 2½d., Arms, bi-colour, single; 3d., Queen, multiple, ordinary; 4d., Queen, single; 5d., Arms, multiple, chalky; 6d., Queen, multiple; 7s., Queen, multiple; 2s., Queen, single; and 5s., Arms, multiple, chalky. The error of the *SERVIET* occurs once in a sheet of 240 stamps.

The Cayman Islands, some 350 miles *by schooner* from here, have, as you know, produced three provisionals. The printed surcharge was made in the Government printing office here in Kingston. The overprints on the 5s. were done locally in the Cayman Islands by the postmistress, Miss Parsons. I saw the printed surcharge here,

but not the handstamped ones. I am now going to bed, with all the lattices wide open, only a sheet to cover me, and the prospect of 82 degrees in the shade to-morrow. It will seem strange in a few days to be wearing a fur coat and sitting as near to the fire as possible.

One word ere I close. If any reader wants to see the grandest scenery imaginable, in a splendid climate, and an island that can grow almost everything imaginable—from sea island cotton to green tea, from coffee to potatoes—let him visit Jamaica, the most beautiful spot in the world.

Acrostic Competition

IN reply to three letters received as to the fifth light of No. 2 Acrostic, and another "acknowledging the beautiful simplicity of the 'sell,'" in which reference is made to the last paragraph of regulations for the *first* acrostic in particular, stating that "single words are intended"—the writers forget that the previous week they had been cautioned as to reading the lights in different ways, and that exceptions to a general rule would be "specially mentioned," as by "a phrase" which limits the answer. In the light referred to, such exception is specifically announced by the words "put three letters" in order, and if both sets of letters were correct all would come in true consecutive order, the extra allusion as to a final letter as the only "one more" being to make doubly sure. Occasionally a word will be spelled backwards, which of course makes it no longer "a word" in the technical sense, but some intimation will be given of the change of form in the light, as, "Yet pause, the best-laid schemes will meet reverse."

As to current solutions below, the lights were so clear that many persons jumped to conclusions that the last one was simplest of all, so we get Nihil, Nil, Ne'er-dowell, and Numskull, etc. This last word means a numbed or dull brain in a skull, or "a blockhead, dunce, or stupid fellow"; whereas "as nature made him" implies a natural "idiot," or "born without the usual powers of reason." The words quoted are from three of the best dictionaries.

In both these instances the majority sent in the correct words, but several failed in other lights, which placed them second only.

Don't be downhearted: there are barely ten per cent in the first place so far, and one week may reduce them and bring others up to their level.

BEN.

THE correct solution of No. 3 Acrostic (29 February) is:—

Eccentric
X tr A
H oa X
I dio T
B uffal O
I onia N
T rut H
I beri A
O w L
Natura L

Three marks for correct answers are credited to: Anona, Birdie, Brigida, H. Bean, A. M. Butter, Cadi, Carl, Champion, Chicken, H. Chapman, Captain Clarke, W. G. Cochrane, F. D., J. R. Fish, T. F. G., Hiz, E. B. H., J. R. H., S. H. jr., A. Harvey, A. R. Hebblethwaite, Jaguar, Jap, Kappa, Kasaj, Mascot, A. Mackay, H. Metcalf, G. Murray, Old Girl, Omega, Oudeis, C. V. O'Neil, Pen, S. B. R., Skey, M. S. C. S., E. H. Shears, A. St. John, Tertius, Tasman, M. C. Tancock, Mot, Ubique, Upton, Vox, and J. Walker.

Two marks (one wrong) are credited to: Adv, Aei, Algy, Argonaut, Attila, F. W. A., A. Atkinson, Bar, Beyond, C. B., Crofter, Cromlix, C. W. C., H. B. C., W. S. J. Eyles, Fleet, G. A. F., W. T. B. H., Jud, T. J., W. G. Jones, Late, Lotus, E. Lucas, J. C. Luker, Mon, M. M., W. G. Mackie, A. M. Marsh, F. D. Oxen, Psi, A. H. P., Reg, Roy, O. R. R., Seabee, Selim, Siwol, E. H. F. S., H. A. Spowart, Taffy, Tea, Thistle, W. H. Tab, P. Talagrand, and Zimpa.

One mark to: S. C. G., W. Gardner, W. F. Godwin, Hawk, Horsa, C. W. H., F. A. J., E. Schilizzi, and Timbre.

No. 2 Acrostic:—Two marks to D. Harvey and M. E. H., both of Canada.

THE IMPERIAL ALBUM

Tenth Edition.

Size of pages, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 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.,
39, Strand, London, W.C.

Historical Philately

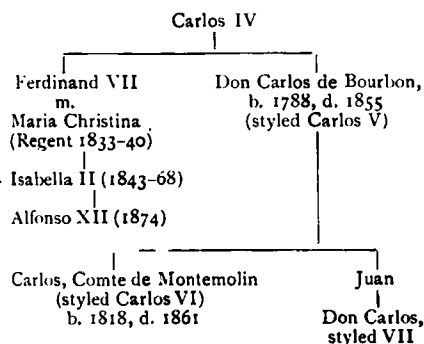
The Stamps of the Carlist Rising

By NORMAN THORNTON

The Carlist Stamps of Spain

THE Carlist insurrection of 1872-6 was the outcome of many years of unsettled conditions in Spain, and it may be useful to give a sketch of the causes which led up to it before dealing with the stamps themselves.

When King Ferdinand VII died in 1833 he left no male heirs, but he had caused the Salic law of succession to be revoked in favour of Isabella, daughter of Maria Christina, his fourth wife. The following tree will show shortly the claims of Don Carlos to the throne:—



The revolution of 1868 drove Queen Isabella to France; General Serrano became chief of the Provisional Government, and the Cortes decided to look about for a candidate for the vacant throne. They refused to accept Alfonso, and the candidature of Leopold of Hohenzollern was made the excuse for the Franco-Prussian war. Finally Amadeus, Duke of Aosta, second son of Victor Emmanuel, was induced to accept the throne, and commenced his short and unsuccessful reign on 16 November, 1870. He, however, received but little support, became discouraged, and abdicated 11 February, 1873. A republic was organized, which lasted a little under two years, and on 29 December, 1874, Alfonso XII was proclaimed King.

Thus it can readily be seen that Don Carlos could hardly have chosen a more favourable opportunity for raising his standard, and during the years 1872-6 a large portion of northern Spain was under the control of his troops, including the provinces of Navarre, Biscay, Guipuscoa, Alava, a great part of Catalonia, and the province of Valencia. Of these, however, only the Basque Provinces and Navarre remained in his uninterrupted possession, and the fortified towns—Pampeluna, Vittoria, Bilbao, San-

tander, Barcelona, and Valencia—were in the hands of the Madrid Government.

With the Carlists in occupation of these districts, the operations of the Spanish Government posts were naturally suspended, and as no steps were immediately taken by the insurgents to organize a post, internal correspondence had to be conducted by private messenger or through the agency of the smugglers, who were numerous in the mountains near the frontier.

However, as the Carlist authority over these districts became more settled, the organization of a postal and telegraphic service was undertaken, first in Navarre, then in Biscay, and by the spring of 1874 was in fair working order in the four northern provinces, and these merit first attention.

Main services were organized between Navarre and Estella, the capital of the Carlist States, to the French frontier town Bayonne, where the head office was first established, but in July, 1874, this was removed to Tolosa. Branches were established at Elizondo, Vergara, Durango, and Alava.

The postal rate within the disaffected districts was 1 real (= 15 centimos de peseta) for 15 grammes. For foreign letters a Carlist stamp franked to the frontier, and in addition the French rate of 1 real for 10 grammes had to be added. Such letters were enclosed in two envelopes, the inner one being duly addressed to the foreign recipient, and the outer addressed to the correspondence agent in Bayonne, and franked with Carlist stamps.

To ensure proper dispatch the further fee of 1 real had to be enclosed in money or unused Carlist or French stamps. All letters had to be franked in advance, otherwise they were nominally subject to double rates; actually they were more likely to be burnt without more ado.

The first issue was prepared at Bayonne in July, 1873, though whether they were actually used before the beginning of 1874 is doubtful. All were lithographed in colour on paper varying in thickness, and are imperforate.



I



II

July, 1873. Type I. 1 real, blue (shades).
Sept., 1873. " II. 1 " " (")

Type I is an error, the word ESPANA having no modification mark over the "N". This mark in Spanish denotes an entirely different sound, corresponding to the "gn" in French in such words as "Boulogne." In Type II this error was corrected.



III

July, 1874. Type III. 1 real, lilac.

This issue took place at the time of the removal of the postal administration from Bayonne to Tolosa.



IV

March, 1875. Type IV. White paper.

50 c., yellow-green.
1 r., brown.

Blue paper.

50 c., yellow-green.
50 c., emerald-green.
1 r., brown.

This issue was the result of a reduction to 50 cuartos for 15 grammes, of the rate within any one State or for the covering envelope to the frontier, the rate from one State to another remaining at 1 real.

Meanwhile in the provinces of Catalonia and Valencia matters were much more disorganized. Here the population consisted mainly of merchants and traders who were not so eager to espouse the cause of Don Carlos as were the agricultural and smuggling peasants of the northern provinces; and whilst in the latter, towards the end of 1874, there was a well-armed, well-clad force of nearly 100,000 men under good officers, the so-called armies of Catalonia and Valencia were never more than a mixed collection of adventurers, and were not in a position to offer prolonged resistance to the Madrid Government troops. Thus it was not until the spring of 1874 that a postal and telegraph service was organized, and even then delays were frequent and its workings by no means certain; indeed, in Valencia it is doubtful whether it ever had more than a nominal existence. The organ-

ization was on the same lines as in the northern provinces, but the foreign letters were sent, not to Bayonne, but to Prats de Mollo. The rate in the insurgent district was 4 cuartos (= 16 maravedis, about $\frac{1}{2}$ real) for 10 grammes. Foreign letters were treated in exactly the same way as in the Basque Provinces. The cancellation of the stamps was supposed to be done in the same way as in the Spanish Government offices, whose cancelling stamps had been annexed for the purpose, but in most cases a stroke of the pen was considered sufficient.

The stamps for Catalonia were lithographed in colour on white paper, and are imperforate.



V

15 April, 1874. Type V.

16 maravedis, rose.

16 ,, bright rose.

The stamps were very badly executed, and the following varieties occur in the inscription:—

Dios . Patria . Rfy.
Dios . Pairia . Rfy.
Dios . Pairia . Kfy.
Cataluña for Cataluña.
Catalüna ,,
10 M^s Vⁿ for 16 M^s Vⁿ.
"año en" for "año de."

For Valencia Type VI was also issued; as previously, there was only one value, and the stamps were lithographed in colour on white paper, and are imperforate.



VI

September, 1874. Type VI.

$\frac{1}{2}$ real, rose.

$\frac{1}{2}$,, violet-rose.

There were three plates made of this stamp, and these show four varieties, two occurring on the first plate; the difference consists in the number of lines in the oval containing the head and in the position of some of the letters in the inscription. On the second plate an error occurred showing $\frac{1}{2}$ real for $\frac{1}{2}$ real.

Newfoundland

By W. WARD

THE shortage of the 1 c. stamps later on in 1897, resulted in the authorities issuing the 3 c. of 1890, surcharged with two heavy black bars obliterating the original figures of value, and the new value in words, ONE CENT. There are four types of this stamp. The sheets were divided into half (50 stamps) previous to surcharging. The first four rows were what is now known as Gibbons' Type I, but three of this type are to be found with a narrow "o" in ONE. The first eight stamps of the fifth and last row were Type II, and the remaining pair of stamps Type III. The quantity printed in all (four types) was 40,000, or 800 half-sheets of fifty stamps each, the quantities of the types being—

Type I	29,600
" narrow "o"	2400
Type II	6400
Type III	1600
Total in all	40,000 stamps.

These provisionals were extensively forged in St. John's, though chiefly the rare Type III. Two or three young men were arrested early in 1898 in that town, first at the instance of a philatelist, though they were finally charged by the Postal Authorities. Counsel for the defence put forth a very able and remarkable plea. He said that by his clients overprinting 3 c. stamps, and so changing the value for postage to a cent, they were not defrauding the Post Office, but actually giving them an extra profit of 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. He forgot (naturally) to mention the difference and profit in selling these fakes to stamp collectors.

These forgers used the wrong shade of stamp for their overprint—the brownish—instead of the lilac-slate, which was the stamp genuinely surcharged. Also the words ONE CENT are 2 mm. higher from the bottom bar, and 1 mm. wider across the breadth of the stamp than the genuine. The ink is dull, whereas the original is a bright black.

1897-8 saw the issue of four values in new design of $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 1 c., 2 c., and 3 c., the last-named being brought out early in 1898.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ c., Prince Edward of Wales, then Edward of York, in dark olive, and olive-slate; 1 c., Queen Victoria in widow's weeds, in pale and dark carmine; 2 c., King Edward VII, at that time Prince of Wales, in orange and red-orange; 3 c., the Queen, then Princess of Wales, which is still current, and can be found in a variety of colours and shades—as yellow-buff, dull orange, bright orange, orange-red, and orange-vermilion. The latter, I think, must be an error, as it is the same colour as the 1899 2 c., King.

The incorrectness of the colours of the 1 c. and 2 c., neither agreeing with those enforced by the Universal Postal Union, as well as the 2 cents being similar to the 3 cents, made a change requisite. The cent was reissued in green, and can be found in the following shades: yellow-green, myrtle-green, grass-green, sea-green, and deep green.

Orange-vermilion, orange-red, vermilion, and brick-red constitute the colours of the 2 c. stamp. A new design for the 5 c. value was issued in 1899, illustrating a very fine portrait of our Royal Philatelist, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, or, as he was in 1899, the Duke of Cornwall and York. The colours are blue and dark blue. 1900 brought the last new issue of Newfoundland, a 4 c., violet, showing the Princess of Wales, then Duchess of Cornwall and York. Perhaps not a very good photo; but this stamp has a redeeming feature—the only one of the "Royal Gallery" set that has not appeared in a multitude of shades.

Under date of June, 1907, a correspondent writes me notifying an impending change in the 1 c. stamp—orders being given to the American Bank Note Company of New York for a new design showing the King in coronation robes.

At the time of writing this article, the change is still "impending"—but there is little question that same will be effected. It is not usual for the American Bank Note Company to be caught tripping or allowing any discrepancies to appear in their productions, but the $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 1 c. (green), 2 c. (vermilion), and 3 c. will be found imperforate horizontally. The 1 c. in this condition is not catalogued, but I have had it offered me from St. John's and seen it chronicled in American magazines.

Of the current issue, it is noteworthy that one seldom sees the 4 c. in used condition; indeed for quite a long time my only way of getting them was to request correspondents in Newfoundland to use that value for franking their letters. Furthermore, this value is only procurable at St. John's, as also are the $\frac{1}{2}$ c. and 5 c. For the size of Newfoundland and Labrador, which portion of the mainland is under the jurisdiction of St. John's, there is no country in the world which has so small a set of stamps and so low values in currency. From a philatelic point of view, no country makes so varied and fascinating a display as the country I have dealt with. It is free from the monotony of the De La Rue stamps, so common to most of our colonies. The true value of most of its stamps is underrated, but may not be in the near future.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Antigua.—According to the *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal* (1.3.08) the 2½d., all blue, has now been issued, while specimen copies have been seen of the ½d., green, and 1d., red.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Ordinary paper. Perf. 14.
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.

2½d., ultramarine — —

Cayman Islands.—Mr. C. R. Robinson informs us that he has received a 4d., bicoloured stamp, overprinted "2½d.", in large type; this provisional was issued on 12 February, according to information received by our correspondent from the postmistress of the Cayman Islands.

Our illustration is only approximately correct.



2 1/2

Overprinted in black with figures of value.
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.

2½d. on 4d., brown and blue — —

King Edward VII Land.—We take the following paragraphs from the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* (8.2.08):—

"In the *Fortnightly* of 11 January, under the heading of 'Philately at Home and Abroad,' appeared a news paragraph relating to the issue of surcharged stamps for 'King Edward VII Land,' the 'jumping off place' for Lieut. Shackleton's expedition to the South Pole. We now have the following cutting from Mr. A. Rosenburg, of Woodville, N.Z., which sets forth the proposal in greater detail:—

"The Postmaster-General (Sir Joseph Ward) yesterday [18 December, 1907] gave authority for the establishment of a post office in King Edward VII Land, where the base of the *Nimrod* Antarctic Expedition will be situated.

"One hundred sheets of New Zealand penny stamps will be overprinted and sent down to the iceclad territory by the *Nimrod* for the use of

members of the expedition, the overprinting indicating to those who receive the letters that there is a New Zealand post office in the most southerly portion of the world. Sir Joseph Ward's announcement evoked considerable interest."

We have now seen an unused copy of the stamp referred to above; the overprint is in deep myrtle-green, and reads up the stamp. Our illustration is only approximately correct.

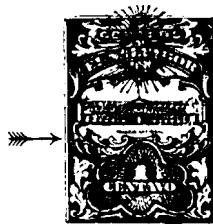


King Edward VII Land

New Zealand stamp, overprinted in myrtle green.
Wmk. NZ and Star. Perf. 14.
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.

1d., rose-argentine — —

Salvador.—Our New York house informs us that the 12 c. of the current issue has been seen with shield omitted, and also that a set of Official stamps has been issued, similar in design to the current postage stamps, except that the shield is omitted, and the words **FRANQUEO** and **OFICIAL** are inserted below the view of the "Palacio Nacional," one each side of the figures of value, but immediately beneath the view. The small arrows by the sides of the illustration show where these words are inserted.



← →

Shield omitted. Perf. 11½.

12 c., black and violet — —

Official Stamps. *As illustration, but shield omitted and words FRANQUEO OFICIAL inserted in the colour of the stamp, above the figures of value. Perf. 11½.*

1 c., black and green	—
2 c., " red	—
3 c., " pale yellow	—
5 c., " indigo	—
10 c., " violet	—
12 c., " "	—
15 c., " sepiá	—
24 c., " rose	—
50 c., " orange-yellow	—
100 c., " turquoise-blue	—

UN
CENTAVO



The above is a correct illustration of the surcharge (Type *a*) chronicled in our issue of 7 March.

Seychelles.—According to *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*, a new provisional has just made its appearance. It is a 45 c., overprinted in black on the 2 r. 25 c., with the single watermark. It is rather curious that there should be any high-value single watermarks in use, as the multiples were issued in June, 1906. If there had been any shortage lately of 45 c., stamps, it is possible that a current high value was pressed into service and overprinted. Why should the authorities take the trouble to select an obsolete watermark, especially as the designs are similar?

At any rate, we think it advisable not to list this provisional until further information be forthcoming.

Switzerland.—Mr. E. A. Tucker has shown us a copy of the 25 c. on plain paper, perforated 12 x 11½. This is a new perforation, but we have already chronicled three values of this set perforated 11½ x 12 (Nos. 212, 215, 216 in our issue of 22 February); so it is probable that we shall

call the perforation of this set "11½ and 12, compound."



Plain paper. Perf. 11½ and 12, compound.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

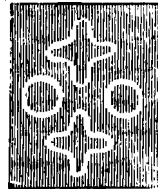
213, 25 c., blue.

Wurtemberg.—Mr. Philipp Kosack informs *Der Philatelist* (15.2.08) that the 30 pf. Official stamp has now been issued on watermarked paper. Only the 25 and 50 pf. have now to come in order to complete the watermarked set.



Official Stamp. *Wmk. Crosses and Circles.*
Perf. 11½ x 11.

30 pf., black and orange



Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

German Post Office Statistics

FROM an official report on the working of the German Post Office during the year 1906, I extract the following figures.

There passed through the post office 2576 million letters, 1559 million post cards, 1137 million articles of printed matter and, in addition, 1807 million newspapers, 202 million money orders, and 248 million parcels! Close on 4000 million postage stamps were sold, of which 1268 million were 5 pf., and 1018 million 10 pf.

There are 39,782 post offices and 141,250 pillar boxes. One post office exists for every 1548 people. There are 261,782 officials employed in the Post Office.

Forgeries

TURKEY.—A new forgery of the 25 piastres has just appeared on the Continent. The chief characteristics of the forgery are the

Correspondence

"A Great Rarity" (*G.S.W.*, 8 February, 1908)
The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—I have a copy of the rare double surcharge 1 c. on 50 c. Selangor, consisting of a strip of three, including the margin, used on en-

words "Empire Ottoman" too large, in the figures of value the "2" is too wide, and the "5" too thin.

Several parcels, containing a large consignment of forged stamps of various countries, have just been seized by the police at Port-Bou, in France. They came from a printing works at Toulouse, and were addressed to Barcelona. A formal complaint to the French authorities was made by the Spanish consul in Toulouse, and the French police paid a visit to the printing works. They seized a quantity of forged stamps, and a number of lithographic stones from which they had been printed, as well as many letters to a merchant bearing on the subject.

Perhaps concerted action on the part of the police of the two countries concerned may make Barcelona too hot to hold the little gang of forgers for which it has been noted during the past few years.

tire. From this it would seem that your contributor R. E. James is not correct as regards the type for the lower stamps of the *right-hand pane* shifting to the *left*, in the second printing at any rate. My copy shows clearly that the type for

the *left-hand* pane is shifted one stamp too far to the *right*, and the words "One cent" are printed—the "One" on the margin and the "cent" on the first stamp on the *right-hand* pane. (I mean the left-hand end stamp of the row, as I cannot say if it is a strip from the bottom of the sheet or not.) The words are in line with those on the right-hand end stamp of the left pane, and the obliterating line also runs across the margin and ends towards the middle of the doubly surcharged stamp, and is on a higher level than the line of obliteration on the stamps on right-hand pane.

I thought it would be interesting to you to have these details, those in *G.S.W.* of 8 February being so very clear and concise. Of course, Mr. James's remarks apply only to the first printing, and possibly the second was different. He says that the "lower five stamps" of the pane were doubly surcharged, but unless my copy is from a subsequent printing, the stamps surcharged "cent—cent" must be those next the margin only, as the next printing of "One cent" of the row falls in the normal position on the stamp. I shall be pleased to show you the copy if you care to see it.

My postmark is dated "Feb. 27, 1902, Kuala Lumpur." Yours truly, F. W. A.

BALHAM.

Indian Telegraph Stamps to be Superseded The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—I cut the following from to-day's *Englishman*, the leading Calcutta daily news-

paper, usually well informed as regards official decisions:—

"A TELEGRAPH REFORM

"POSTAGE STAMPS TO BE USED

"ALLAHABAD, Feb. 6.

"It is understood that sanction has been given for the abolition of the double-headed telegraph stamps. Ordinarily postage stamps are to be employed for prepaid telegrams, and receipts will be given for messages."

The "double-headed" Telegraph stamps passed away about 1890, and it is the existing label with figure of value in upper half whose abolition is evidently referred to.

It looks, therefore, as though we may expect a complete new set of Indian postage stamps from $\frac{1}{2}$ anna to 50 rupees, as only the present 2, 3, and 5 rupee values comply with the Postal Union's requirements as regards arabic figures.

The "Convention" Indian Native States, Chamba, Gwalior, Jhind, Nabha, and Patiala, are gradually assimilating the Indian $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 anna "unified" stamps. So far the words "and revenue" are not barred, but it remains to be seen whether a bar will follow if the States concerned do not use these stamps for receipt purposes.

Yours faithfully,

WILMOT CORFIELD.

CALCUTTA, 7 February, 1902.

Answers to Correspondents

H. R. (Salisbury).—You will have noticed in last week's number that the varieties of Control letters of Great Britain you mention in your letter of 1 March have, with three exceptions, been referred to by the various correspondents on this subject. In a later number we shall probably refer to the subject again, when the three exceptions will receive mention.

ENAMEL asks what is the difference between *Chalk-surfaced* and *Enamel-surfaced* paper. The former is paper that before being used for printing is treated with a coating of some soluble substance (into the composition of which chalk largely enters), so that any attempt to remove obliterations by means of washing results in the design being washed off also. Chalk-surfaced paper if only slightly rubbed with silver on the face will show a black mark. *Enamel-surfaced* paper has no coating beyond the ordinary papermaker's size, so that any printing upon its surface is practically permanent.

W. K. W. (U.S.A.) mentions that he has the following Gibraltar stamps with Moroccan postmarks:—1d., 1886; Tangier, 1887; 10 c., 1889; Tangier, 1892; 25 c., 1889; Casablanca, 1890. So far as our information goes, the first British office was opened in 1893. Can any reader supply an explanation of the above-mentioned varieties? In reply to W. K. W., previous to 1898 stamps without overprints were used;

"Novice" was hardly clear on this point. We cannot find any of the stamps you require.

J. H. B. (Tunbridge).—A piece of dirt may have fallen on the plate when printing and so produced the variety you mention. We know of no such constant error. Has the stamp been tampered with?

H. A. W. (Southampton).—There are a good many Seychelles Revenue stamps about at the present time apparently used for postage, but most we have seen had original gum, and were evidently obliterated to order. We do not think any such fiscals have been authorized for postage, and certainly none have come under our notice *postally* used. As regards the wmk. on the Turks Islands, are you not mistaking portions of the "Crown" and letter "C" for the alleged W.O.? With only part showing it is quite easy to do this. Your inquiry *re* bound vols. *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* has been answered by our publishers.

REV. CANON T. (Stamford).—Many thanks for your letter and enclosure. We will communicate with our Acrostic Editor and see whether he can use the latter. Your first stamp is doubtless a French Colonial stamp used in Gaboon before definite stamps were issued to the colony. The obliteration generally took the form you describe. We can form no idea about your second inquiry unless we see the article you describe.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 13
Whole No. 169

28 MARCH, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Consular Offices—*continued*

Morocco

BESIDES the Levant and kindred offices, France maintained others in various places. These were chiefly of two kinds, the one established for practical permanency, where no adequate postal organization existed, e.g. Turkey, Morocco, and China; the other created temporarily, pending annexation or protection, e.g. Tunis, Monaco, and Madagascar. In all, until 1885, at earliest, the stamps in use at home were employed without further distinguishing mark, and they can only be recognized by the obliteration.

Morocco, the Mauritania of ancient geography, is the largest, most fertile and populous of the Barbary States in North-West Africa, but the worst governed and most neglected in its natural resources. It has an area of about 220,000 square miles, and a population estimated at 5,000,000, many of whom own no allegiance to the Sultan, but have their own chiefs, and levy dues on goods and passengers within their respective domains, while some of the coast dwellers have repeatedly brought the Government into collision with foreign maritime Powers, owing to their piratical habits.

The unsettled condition of affairs in Morocco rendered it necessary that other Powers interested should come to an understanding regarding their respective rights, and the Conference of Algéiras in 1906 must be fresh in most readers' memory.

France, seeing the work done in Algeria and Tunis, is probably the natural heritor of Morocco. Were the occupation an accomplished fact, the French people would realize one of their cherished aspirations, "a United North Africa." There are postal services under the control of the British, French, German, and Spanish Governments. These provide a daily service of couriers (of one or other of the four administrations) from Tangier to Fez and Alcazar, to Tetuan, and to the coast towns Rabat, Laraiche, Dar-al-Baida, Safi, Mazagan, and Mogador. There are also couriers between Laraiche and Alcazar, and between Mazagan and Marakesh, and between Fez and Mequinez.

Philatelic History

The history of the British Morocco Agencies, given recently in *G. S. W.* (No. 165), applies almost equally as well to that of the French offices, except that the latter were established earlier.

The chief office at Tangier was opened in 1862, and of the ten sub-offices existing, eight, viz. Dar-al-Baida (Casablanca), Ksar-el-Kebir, Fez, Laraiche, Mazagan, Mogador, Rabat, and Safi, were opened about 1891, and the remaining two, Tetuan and Marakesh, a few years later.

Tangier, the chief port, has a population of about 35,000, is a favourite visiting place with British tourists, and possesses an agreeable climate.

Tetuan is a strongly fortified seaport not far from Tangier, population about 25,000; exports grain and fruit.

Fez, the northern capital, has a population of 140,000, and is the centre of the morocco leather manufacture. It is an ancient city, having been founded by a descendant of Mohammed in 786, and was formerly the seat of Arabic learning.

Marakesh or *Morocco City*, the southern capital, occupies an inland site on the banks of the Tensift, and has 60,000 inhabitants. It was founded in 1062 to keep in order the wild highlanders of the Atlas region, and though at one time enjoying great prosperity, has now fallen into decay. Its port is

Mogador, with a population of 20,000; chief exports, almonds and skins.

Rabat (35,000) and Dar-al-Baida, or Casablanca (20,000), are two important ports on the Atlantic seaboard, whilst Laraiche, Mazagan and Safi are ports on the same coast of lesser size. Ksar-el-Kebir is a town near to Laraiche.

A criticism of these offices that appeared in an important French paper in 1905 rather depreciates their enterprise when compared with that of other European services, especially the German. True, the profit realized in 1903 was about £1000, but the commercial Germans had done better than this, and by means of the "post" were trying to capture

the trade. The French offices are installed in obscure and Jewish quarters and are equipped in the scantiest fashion, the officials in charge being chiefly natives who can only speak Arabic, and who receive a mere pittance by way of salary. The Germans, on the other hand, have built fine offices and employ educated men who are good linguists. As a result, in places where banks have no agencies, e.g. Marakesh, the German Post Office turns over about £5000 per month in money orders, whilst the French offices do less than half. Seeing that French commerce is about six times that of Germany, the boot should be on the other leg.

The first definite issue for these offices was in January, 1891, when, in order to combat the depreciation of the money employed in Morocco, and to attract the custom of the Spanish traders, the 5 c., 25 c., 50 c., and 1 fr. French stamps then in course were overprinted in centimos and pesetas. In January, 1893, the 10 c. and 20 c. were added to the set. These stamps were only valid for Moroccan offices, and letters franked with them and coming from other places were treated as "unpaid." In 1900 the 2 fr. was overprinted for use here. In 1899, by mistake, 300 stamps of 25 c. were overprinted 10 c., and some were allowed to get into circulation. The Catalogue prices the error unused at 30s.



1891-1900. French stamps surcharged in red or black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 centimos on 5 c., green	0 1	0 1
10 " 10 c., black		
on lilac	0 6	0 1
20 centimos on 20 c., red		
on green	0 6	0 6
25 centimos on 25 c., black		
on rose	0 6	0 3
50 centimos on 50 c., carmine	1 3	1 6
1 peseta on 1 fr., olive-green	2 0	2 0
2 pesetas on 2 fr., brown		
on asure	—	—

On 5 February, 1893, 5 c. stamps ran short, and the authorities sanctioned the use of Postage Due stamps overprinted TIMBRE POSTE. There were only 150 5 c. Postage Due on hand, so 600 10 c. stamps were similarly overprinted and sold for 5 centimos each. Really only 450 were issued, as next

day a fresh supply of proper stamps arrived, and the other 150 10 c. were destroyed. As may be supposed, from the small quantities printed, these provisionals are scarce.



8 February, 1893. French Postage Due stamps overprinted in red.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., black	—	20 0
10 c. "	—	20 0

In 1902 the new French stamps were modified for use in the Moroccan offices as follows:—



1902. French stamps overprinted in red or black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., green	0 1	0 1
10 c., carmine	0 2	0 1
20 c., brown-purple	0 3	0 2
25 c., blue	0 4	0 2
50 c., brown and lavender	0 7	0 6
1 p., lake and green	1 1	1 0
2 p., purple and buff	2 3	2 3

On 10 October, 1903, the 5 c. and 10 c. ran short at the Tangiers office, so 150 5 c. and 300 10 c. of the current Postage Due stamps were overprinted P.P. (*Port Payé*) in black and put into use for prepayment. They were mostly snapped up by speculators.

10 October, 1903. Postage Due stamps overprinted P.P. in an oblong frame with handstamp vertically upwards or downwards.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., blue	—	—
10 c., brown	—	—

The offices in Morocco are also provided with a set of Postage Due stamps overprinted with values in centimos and pesetas similarly to the ordinary issues.

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By "THE SUB"

The Junior Philatelic Society's Exhibition

A FULL report of the above appears in another part of this paper, and it only remains for me to congratulate the Exhibition Committee on the magnificent success achieved. "Youth will be served" has once again been demonstrated, and the enterprise shown by all concerned is certainly worthy of emulation by the "Seniors" in future exhibitions.

The Press and Philately

THE Exhibition Press agent did his work wonderfully well, and references to the function were quite common in the general Press. Many a quaint bit of information was added by the intelligent reporter, but on the whole there was little to which exception could be taken. The contrast between present-day references to our hobby and those of a few years ago is very striking. Now, newspapers are anxious for information, and generally contrive to give it with accuracy; in earlier days quite the contrary was the rule. I am continually receiving cuttings from newspapers all over the country referring to stamps or Philatelic Societies' meetings, and there was scarcely an important London daily that failed to comment on the attendance of the Prince of Wales at the last meeting of the Royal Society.

Sinn Fein Labels

A REFERENCE was made in this column a few weeks ago to the so-called "postage stamps" of the "Sinn Fein" party. The newspaper *Sinn Fein* has been the promoter of the idea. It explains as follows in a recent issue:—

It was to make the sign of Irish nationhood to the other nations that the Irish stamp was designed. It is fulfilling that design, as the Finnish stamp some years ago fulfilled a like design, and called the attention of the world to the fact that Finland was no province of Russia, but a nation, despoiled, but separate and distinct, asserting its individuality and defending its liberties against foreign despotism.

Of course these labels have no interest for stamp collectors, but I refer to them again as many people have written asking information as to their standing.

The "Monthly Journal"

FOR February contains the following important articles:—

The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian

Colonies, by L. Hanciau, dealing with the essays of the 1855-61 issues of Sardinia and designs for stamps when Victor Emmanuel assumed the title of King of Italy in 1861.

Queensland Stamps of 1879-1906, by J. Bornefeld, is continued, and a description with plate of the four types of 1d., 1887, is given.

Salvador, by Joseph B. Leavy, deals with the numerous surcharged issues of 1900.

In addition there are three pages of Editorials and five pages of "New Issues," all in Major Evans's best style.

Description of New Stock Book arranged and priced during the last week

No. 200. Value £718.

Hanover, Lubeck, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, and Mecklenburg-Strelitz.

This is a beautiful little book, remarkably strong in unused and in fine used stamps.

Hanover is really a grand lot. Mr. Castle was very fond of these stamps, and his superb lot came back to us in the Mann Collection, and many of them are in this new stock book.

In unused I note as follows:—

1851. 1 ggr., grey-blue, four stamps, two having gum. Later issues from four to twenty of each shade unused, mostly with full gum and in perfect condition. Please note our catalogue prices in German stamps are for perfect stamps; poor copies are marked down to a quarter catalogue! In the used *Hanover* there are many interesting pairs showing the dates 1861, 1862, 1863, etc., which appear once on the margin of a sheet, and can only be found attached to a stamp once in a hundred stamps.

Of the 10 gr., green, there are seven unused and six used, including a superb pair.

Lubeck, also very strong, including a fine lot of the old stamps with gum and many full sheets.

The *Mecklenburgs* are also very complete, and the unused stamps are superb.

A book of popular stamps rapidly coming into fashion again after about ten years' stagnation as far as this country has been concerned.

Stamp Exhibition, London, 1908

Notes by FRANK PHILLIPS

THE great event of this month was the Stamp Exhibition, held at the Caxton Hall on 12, 13, and 14 March, under the auspices of the Junior Philatelic Society.

The public were admitted to the Exhibition at 3.30 on Thursday afternoon, 12 March, and they arrived in their thousands. Punctually at four o'clock the President of the Society, Mr. Fred J. Melville, took the chair on the platform, and in a few well-chosen words introduced the Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, the Postmaster-General. Mr. Buxton then made a delightfully humorous speech, as follows:—



OPENING CEREMONY.

Names of those on platform, reading from left to right:—

Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge, Major E. B. Evans, Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, Mr. F. J. Melville, Mrs. Buxton.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Before declaring this Exhibition open (and so far as I can see this seems to be somewhat unnecessary, it having been already opened), but before declaring it open perhaps you will allow me to make a few observations. I am here as Postmaster-General, and in that capacity I am much more a seller than a collector of stamps, and cannot even look upon them with the view of a philatelist. I look upon them chiefly from the point of view of revenue, while collectors regard them from the point of view of expense. But I am afraid that, as a producer of stamps, the British Post Office is not of much use to the collector, because as

a rule we produce too many stamps of one sort to be of any real intrinsic value to them.

Now this year we have got a new 1908 issue, all red, 1d. postage stamp, with the King's Head on it, a Crown over his head, with Laurel Leaves one side and Oak Leaves the other, and I will offer them to any of you at eighteen pence per dozen 1d. stamps, and if you like to take them in quantity I will let you have them at 1s. 4d. I think this is a fair enough offer.

In my younger days, like most of you, I have been a collector of stamps, and Philately, which used to be at that time (a long time ago!) rather a hobby for schoolboys, was rather encouraged by schoolmasters be-

cause it assisted in geography lessons. I think the only geography I ever learned was from my collection of stamps. It was looked upon then as a hobby, but now it has become a very serious and scientific occupation for a large number of persons, and one sees what a growth there has been, not only in the number of stamps, but in the interest taken in them. Take, for instance, the catalogues. I believe the first catalogue contained a few pages only, while the last catalogue really amounts to a large book. Again, looking back as one does to the old collecting books, they had, as a rule, only the name of the country printed on each page and a certain number of blank spaces; now you have page after page of detailed information and illustrations of all the stamps belonging to the country, and indeed the matter has rather caused the collector to despair both from the point of view of numbers and also of cost. I have endeavoured to find out from your Chairman and from other friends here and elsewhere the actual number of stamps, obsolete and current, which have been issued, but I am sorry to say that their mathematical capacities are not equal to the task. I believe they are as numerous as the sand and amount to many hundreds of thousands.

Then, of course, when it comes to the matter of cost, one sees from the sales the high prices that some of these stamps fetch. I believe that very recently £1500 was given for a "Post Office" Mauritius stamp. Well, of course, there is something to be said for and against that. A stamp is somewhat in the nature of a picture: though in the case of a picture you pay something for its beauty, you have to pay a great deal more for the name in the corner. As regards stamps, it is exactly the other way; the worse the design, the worse it is engraved, the worse it is printed, the more expensive and the more excellent these stamps become. In an auction catalogue the other day I saw, "Lot 5, an unique vase (Lot not fine); Lot 6, ditto to match." I think a good many collectors are very envious of those who have unique stamps, and want to have a "ditto to match."

Now it really is a remarkable thing what an increase there has been in postage stamps in a comparatively short space of time, because the first practical postage stamp was first introduced, as you know, about 1840, and was the first English black stamp. I believe people regard the introduction of penny postage as a landmark in English postal history, and do not consider what occurred at the same time to really make penny postage a practical measure, namely, the system of prepayment instead of payment on delivery of the letter. And the two things really went together, because it would have been of very little use to reduce the

postage if the postman still had to call in each case with each letter and ask for the postage on that letter. It was the combination of prepayment as well as the reduced postage which made the penny post such an enormous success.

Well, the first suggestion of Mr. Rowland Hill was that the letter should be put in a wrapper with a stamp upon it in the form of the old Mulready envelope. This, however, was found very cumbersome, and the public did not care about it, and finally Mr. Chalmers may claim to have actually invented the first postage stamp (no doubt with the co-operation of Mr. Rowland Hill)* with gum on the back, which was called for a long time, "the little bit of sticking-plaster."

It is curious for us to note that although 1840 was the first year in which stamps were in use in England, it was some years before they were introduced abroad. The first stamps, I believe, were introduced into the United States in 1846, and into France in 1849, and the first of our colonies adopted them somewhere about 1846-7, and New South Wales in 1849. So it is curious to note how very slowly the entry of the penny stamp developed and took hold. I believe in 1865 or thereabouts there were only about 1400 different sorts of stamps issued. Now, of course, we know that every country issues stamps, and several countries issue stamps perpetually, and some countries, Brunei near Borneo for instance, issued stamps without having post office, postmen, or Postmaster-General! They issued such stamps, and I believe collectors collected them. One of our Crown Colonies, Solomon Islands, which was, at any rate for some time, occupied by cannibals, have got their new postage stamps. I do not know their design, but I should think it should be "cold missionary pie." But of course there are many sorts of bogus issues too often produced. The smaller the country, as a rule, the larger the number of issues, and really some of the Central American and South American countries, like Mexico, Colombia, and others, seem to pour out an innumerable number of issues, presumably to the disgust of the collectors. I should think that the collectors who happen to collect any of the Central American States' stamps and stamps of that kind, must regret very much that Columbus ever discovered America.

Of course, many of these issues are a source of revenue to some of the smaller places, not even excepting some of our smaller colonies; this occasionally leads to regrettable incidents in the history of stamps.

* Philatelic writers are not unanimous in giving Mr. Chalmers credit for the invention, but Mr. Buxton may possibly be in possession of definite information on the point.—Ed. G. S. W.

I remember a good many years ago when I was in the Colonial Office, a certain person (I won't mention his name) ran out of 2½d. stamps, and in collusion with four or five friends got about two hundred of the 1s. stamps and overprinted them 2½d. His friends came into the office, bought up the whole of the two hundred, and had them put on envelopes, and stamped over the counter so as to make them appear as a genuine issue. That gentleman left the Post Office!

I think one of the most remarkable things about stamp collecting is this: The way the designs of the stamps have so enormously improved in artistic merit, and the way they are engraved and printed. I do not think this can quite be said of the English stamps. I do not think the English stamp, either in design or in artistic merit, is worthy of this great country, but, of course, that is a question of taste, and it is also a question of cost, as any alteration in our stamps would, of course, be an expensive matter. For my part, I think the French stamps are not only as beautiful in design as any, but the idea of the harvest of letters is rather an attractive detail. Although we have in this Exhibition a very large number of very beautiful stamps, some of our colonies, our Crown Colonies in particular, have stamps almost unique in design.

A new design for the English stamps was suggested to me the other day. Some artistic author, who said he did not like the idea of an envelope with a mourning band round it, thought it would be much better and more artistic if I were to issue, as a mourning stamp, the ordinary stamp with a black band round it, the depth of the black band showing the relationship to or degree of affectionate regard of the dead person. I thought this a very good idea, and I am rather inclined myself to issue a very small number of these stamps, which I am quite sure will appeal to philatelists, and I hope they will buy them up at a high price.

Now, in conclusion, I have to say what a pleasure it is to me to be here this afternoon and to open this Exhibition, and say a word on behalf of this Society. I am glad to think that this Society has made great progress in late years, numbering now, I think, nearly seven hundred members, all of whom, I am assured by the Chairman, are not only collectors of stamps, but also take such interest in them that they study the whole postal history of the country they collect. Though your President, the Chairman and practically the Founder of the Society, says it is so, I am bound to say I have some doubt about how far they study these matters. The interesting thing about this Exhibition is that we have here specimens from all the various colonies, and it rather struck me that it was something to be

proud of. As members of the British Empire we always boast that the sun never sets on it; and I was glad to find also that we can run from one end of the alphabet to the other, from Antigua to Zululand, and we have every colony here fully represented. I think this sort of collection is much more interesting than a hodge-podge of every country. And now, thanking you for allowing me to be here this afternoon, I declare this Exhibition open. (Prolonged cheers.)

The Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Buxton for his kindness in opening the Exhibition, which was seconded in a short speech by Major E. B. Evans and carried by acclamation.

In his reply to the vote of thanks, Mr. Buxton mentioned that the Post Office possessed a good collection of stamps, but that there was not sufficient room at St. Martin's-le-Grand to have it on view. He said that he hoped the new building in King Edward Street would be finished shortly, when he would endeavour to make arrangements to set apart a room for the collection. He was kind enough to issue a general invitation to all present to inspect the collection at some future time.

Our photograph shows the group on the platform.

After the opening ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Buxton were conducted round the Exhibition, and they expressed much pleasure at the completeness of the many exhibits.

Towards evening visitors thronged every part of the building, and all were loud in their praises of all that they saw, not forgetting the dealers' stalls.

In the evening, at 7.30, Mr. Melville gave his celebrated lecture, entitled "His Majesty's Mails," to illustrate which a beautiful series of slides was shown by lantern. The lecture room was packed with people, and at least twice as many as found accommodation were turned away.

Friday, 13 March

The event of the day was the visit paid by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, accompanied by his son Prince Albert and Mr. Hansell. The Royal party arrived at 11.15, and was conducted round the Exhibition by Messrs. Melville and Johnson. The visit lasted for over an hour, and, as no hint of the arrangements had been allowed to leak out, the Prince was able to inspect the exhibits, without being exposed to any undue curiosity on the part of the public.

All day visitors crowded the Exhibition, and the auction held at 3 p.m. met with great success. Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge, F.I.A., was a spirited auctioneer; altogether, over one hundred lots fetched about £32.

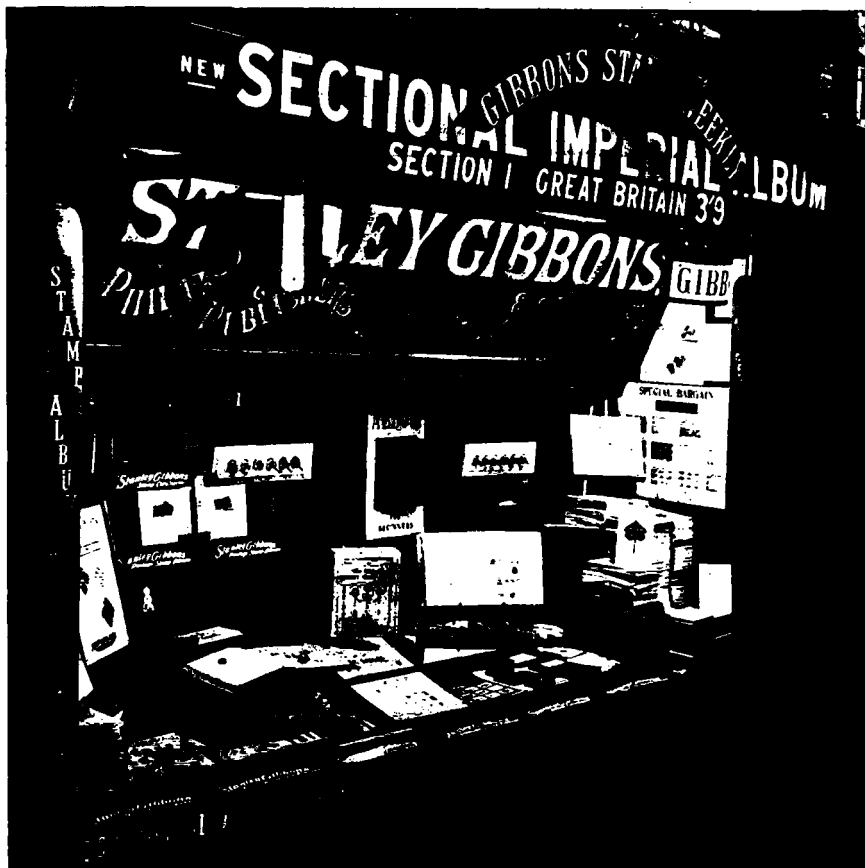
Saturday, 14 March

At 3.30 p.m. two of the prize essays were read before an enthusiastic audience. They were read by their authors, Messrs. Care and Westlake, both of whom were received with applause. The full list of awards for essays is as follows:—

Gold Medal and First Prize.—CHARLES WILLIAM CARE, London (age 16).

number, but the subject is not a very large one, and Mr. Bernstein did ample justice to it. The attendance was all that could be desired, the lecture room being packed to suffocation.

It is estimated that between 8,000 and 10,000 people visited the Exhibition on the Thursday and Friday, but Saturday's attendance was even greater than was expected. It is difficult to say how many people were



STALL NUMBER I.

Diploma and Second Prize.—A. R. C. WESTLAKE, London (age 13 years 7 months).

Diploma and Third Prize.—ALAN C. TROTT, Exeter (age 12).

Diploma and Fourth Prize.—EDMUND C. T. FINCH, Exeter (age 14 years).

At 6 p.m., and again at 7.30 p.m., Mr. I. J. Bernstein gave an entirely new lantern lecture, entitled "The Penny Postage Stamp." It was a pity that the slides were so few in

actually present, but I should say that there were quite 20,000, making about 30,000 for the three days.

In Section III were shown the exhibits entered for competition by collectors under 19 years of age. The following is the list of awards:—

Gold Medal.—Specialized collection of Straits Settlements.—L. P. NAPIER, Rugby (age 16).

Special Silver Medal.—Collection of British Colonies in a Loose-leaf Album.—C. E. HENNING, Dublin (age 18).

First Prize.—Collection of Chili.—ROY MACKENZIE STEWART, Edinburgh (age 18).

Second Prize.—A general collection.—J. WILFRID BEAULAND, Thirsk (age 13).

Third Prize.—A small general collection.—DOREEN WATSON, Hamilton (age 12).

Fourth Prize.—Small general collection with copious manuscript notes.—C. B. POPE, Streatham (age 14).

At 9.30 p.m. Mr. Melville made an excellent speech in the main hall, in which he thanked all his fellow workers for their assist-

ance, and specially mentioned the way Mr. Johnson had given up the whole of his spare time for the past six months to the Exhibition. Mr. Lodge also spoke in glowing terms of Mr. Melville, and the Exhibition was brought to an end by cheers for Messrs Melville and Johnson and by the singing of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

In conclusion, I must congratulate the Junior Philatelic Society, of which I have the honour to be a member, on the thorough manner in which every detail of the Exhibition has been carried out. The phenomenal success of the Exhibition is mainly due to the exertions of the President, Mr. Fred J. Melville, and the Honorary Exhibition Secretary, Mr. H. F. Johnson.



FRED J. MELVILLE.
President of Junior Philatelic Society.



HERBERT F. JOHNSON.
Hon. Sec. of the Exhibition Committee.

NOTES ON THE EXHIBITS

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.—A really beautiful collection of Barbados is shown. The imperf. issues are very rich in blocks and pairs, all in brilliant mint condition. There are also many very interesting bisections shown on pieces and on entire originals. The pin-perfs., perf. 14, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d., and the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, are unused. There is also a fine copy of the very rare 1d., perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$. There is a fine range of shades in the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., clean cut, no less than nine being shown. The rough perfs. are to be seen in great profusion; singles, pairs and blocks, and many shades may be noticed. We note the presence of the rare error 1s. in the colour of the 1d. Amongst the Star watermark issues may be noticed a pair and two singles of the very rare 1d., unused. It is impossible to call attention to the many good things with which the collection bristles. Especial note

may be made of two unused copies of the 4d. CC, perf. 14 by 12 $\frac{1}{2}$. The provisional 1d. on half of 5s. is shown in all its types, and forms a very strong issue, there being no less than one pair and two singles unused, five pairs and five singles used. Also a fine copy on an entire original. There is an interesting vertical pair of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 4d., brown, printed in black and red, the lower stamp being a variety with no hyphen. Amongst the later issues there is a fine series of the large Jubilee stamps in singles and blocks on blued paper.

W. Dorning Beckton.—A very fine exhibit of British Guiana, of which I was unable to find any mention in the catalogue. It contained a number of stamps of the earlier issues, two of the 4 c., 1856, a pair of the 1 c., 1852, on a

portion of the original cover, also a 4 c. on original cover. The later issues were very complete; amongst other things I noticed two sheets of the 1 c. and 12 c. Official. Of the 1882 type-set issue, there were no less than seven sheets of the long setting, and two sheets of the rare setting 3x4. The Officials are really remarkably fine and very complete.

Major H. C. French, R.A.M.C., showed two collections; first, a highly specialized collection of Canada in which used and unused copies of the pence issue are well in evidence; there are three copies each of the 10d., and the 6d. perforated, all in mint state. There are no less than twelve wonderful copies of the 10 c. of 1859, as well as a number of extremely interesting essays and proofs on India paper.

The Cyprus collection is all but complete, the plate numbers including most of the known errors and varieties. In the later issues there are mint blocks of four, from 1882 to 1908. An uncatalogued variety is the $\frac{1}{2}$ piastre, green, CC wmk., surcharged with a large "1" in the " $\frac{1}{2}$ " on the left: it is used.

Percy M. Bright.—A fine and highly specialized collection of the Cape of Good Hope, containing a fine array of good things in singles, pairs, and blocks. The woodblocks are very fine, some blocks being shown in splendid condition. We call special attention to the pair of 1d., red, Triangulars, wmk. CC; the 5s., wmk. CA; the errors THE. EE and PENCB. There are many other scarce varieties.

J. C. Sidebotham.—A very interesting collection of Ceylon.

The first issue is complete, the 4d. and 8d. values being represented by fine used specimens. The perforated Star issues are shown used and unused in superb condition. The 1862 no watermark issue is complete. The CC pence issues are represented by a fine lot, both used and unused.

The later issues to 1896 are practically complete.

R. B. Yardley.—A specialized collection of Griqualand West, arranged according to the handbook written by Lieut. F. H. Napier, R.N.

All the different printings and settings of the overprint are represented and clearly indicated.

Amongst the rarities are the following:—

1874. Manuscript surcharge, pair unused, also a single specimen.

Overprinted with the large "G" printed in red or black (Lieut. Napier's "all red" setting). There are many unused specimens of the rarer types of the 4d. with and without frame, and of the 6d., 1s., and 5s.; the rarest type, "2b," of the handbook being represented unused in the 6d., 1s., and 5s. There is a strip of three of 1d. overprinted with the second setting of the large "G," black (Lieut. Napier's B setting).

Overprinted with the large "G" printed in black (Lieut. Napier's "all black" setting). There is a vertical strip of the 4d. mint, also a complete set of the rare types on the 6d.; and an almost complete double pane of the 1d. with all the rarest types represented in position.

The smaller antique "G," roman or italic, are almost completely represented, including the double and the inverted overprint, and the rare specimens of the roman and italic "G" varieties, *se tenant*, normal and inverted. Included are a vertical strip of three of the 6d. italic overprint unused (very rare in this condition), and the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. overprinted with the roman "G" in black, normal, and the roman "G" in red, inverted.

There are three specimens of the 4d. with outer frame, with italic or roman antique overprints.

D. C. Gray and Lieut. A. E. Stewart.—Two fine collections of India.

A specialized collection of the first issue in used condition. The collection contains representative specimens of the four transfers of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, the three transfers of the 1 anna, and the three settings of 4 anna stamp. A feature has been made of the inclusion of pairs and blocks, and of the various shades of the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2 anna stamps. Among the scarcer stamps are several specimens of the retouched $\frac{1}{2}$ anna stamp, Die I, and a strip of four of the pointed bust variety of the 1 anna. Included also are a few stamps used on the entire original envelopes.—*D. C. Gray.*

A good display, including, 1854: various mint blocks of the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2 anna values, 4 annas, red and blue, first transfer, a strip of four; second transfer, a pair. 1860: 8 pies on *bleutd.* 1883: $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, green, double print.

Service, provisional 2 a., black and purple, mint pair.

The collection contains mint blocks of all varieties of the issues from 1865 to 1895.—*Lieut. A. E. Stewart.*

Owen Fearnley, R.N.—A small but most interesting collection of Ionian Islands. Practically it consists of original covers showing appropriation as to value. Unused: $\frac{1}{2}$ d. single, 1d. pair, 2d. pair from corner of sheet showing full margins. Used: eighteen on entires, including four $\frac{1}{2}$ d., strip of three 1d., and strip of three 2d., also various combinations of the values.

The exhibit also includes several interesting entires showing the postmarks employed prior to the introduction of adhesives, and concludes with an entire showing the introduction of the stamps of Greece, but cancelled with the date stamp employed for the British issue.

J. C. North.—This collection of Malta comprises a fine specialized range of shades of the first $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps in mint condition. All the later issues complete in blocks of four, including errors. In the first issue, used, fine dated copies on original covers are included, and there is also shown a superb series of trial colour proofs.

Edgar Nelson shows two collections of special merit. The first consists of New Brunswick, both used and unused. The first issue is represented by mint copies of the 3d. and 6d. and six used singles and one pair of the 3d.; seven singles used of the 6d., and two used shades of the 1s. In the second issue the 5 c., sap-green, 5 c., brown (Connell), are represented by mint specimens. An interesting series of covers is shown, including two used in 1857 and 1860, on which the postage prepaid is denoted by handstamp in red. Fine copies of the 3d. and 6d. of the first

issue and a number of the second issue, including half of the 10 c. used as 5 c., are shown.

The second is Nova Scotia. Another collection of both used and unused. The first issue is well represented, and includes a single unused and a single and pair used of the 1d. red-brown, the 1s. mauve, used, and several fine shades of the 6d. The 1860-63 issues are shown, used and unused; imperforate proofs of this issue are included. The collection also contains a nice lot of pieces on entires, and includes the 1s. mauve, several fine shades of the 6d., and half of the 6d. used as 3d.

Harvey R. G. Clarke.—This is certainly only a portion of Mr. Clarke's collection of New South Wales; it comprises a brilliant array of unused Sydney Views, many in matchless condition, forming one of the most interesting and one of the strongest exhibits in the Exhibition. The later imperforate issues are very fine, many exceptional things being shown. In the used, many reconstructed plates are to be seen, together with a host of interesting varieties. The laureated are shown in reconstructed sheets.

H. L. Hayman.—A large collection of the stamps of New Zealand, first type only, of the issues from 1855 to 1872, the greater part unused, and many shown in large blocks, pairs, and strips. Amongst them are mint copies of the 1856, thick paper, no watermark, 1d., 2d., and 6d., and several of the *pelure* paper and of other scarce stamps—nearly 1000 in all.

W. B. Edwards also shows New Zealand. A very interesting exhibit of the pictorial issues, many of the stamps being shown in blocks of four. The whole collection is particularly rich in shades.

H. H. Harland.—A very fine collection of St. Helena, including large blocks and mint pairs.

B. W. H. Poole shows the colony of Sudan practically complete, including the five types of the first issue, and the most noticeable minor varieties in singles and blocks, and a copy of the 1 m. with inverted surcharge. The Camel series is complete, including the 5 m. and 1 p. with inverted surcharge. Postage Dues are shown in singles and blocks. The Official issues perforated "S G," with punctured letters inverted and reversed. The "O.S.G.S." with their numerous varieties, the "Army Official" and "Army Service," are also complete.

F. Ransom.—This collection of Trinidad is very fine as regards the first issues, which are represented by used and unused specimens showing varieties in shades and papers, and including stamps on original envelopes. The lithographed issue of 1852 shows the various stages of the plate, and includes five pairs and an entire sheet of 54 stamps of the (1d.) red. Amongst the pin-perforated stamps of 1859 is a corner block of the 1d. red. The later issues include many blocks and pairs, and there are three copies of the "Lady McLeod."

L. L. R. Hausburg.—A truly wonderful collection of Western Australia, forming one of the most interesting exhibits shown.

1854. 1d., block of four; proof in black of 4d. litho; 4d. inverted swan, or more properly *inverted frame*; chart of the complete sheet of the 4d., showing all the transfer varieties and their positions, including that of the inverted; another transfer variety with AUSTRALIA squeezed together, which does not occur on the sheet. and was probably corrected at the same time as the inverted swan; a vertical strip of five of the 1d. rouletted (used); a pair of the 4d., blue, litho, rouletted horizontally only, and containing two of the chief transfer varieties, PE close and the letters RALLIA shorter.

1857. 2d., unused (six); 6d. (three), one showing bronze, several being mint. 2d., rouletted, Indian red, used.

1861. Perf. not so clean cut: 1d., block of four; 2d., block of twenty; 4d. (three), 6d. (three), 1s. (one). Rough perf.: 1d., block of nine; 6d., *bleat* (two), 1s., dark green (two).

1864. No watermark, 1d. and 6d., on very thin, almost *pelure*, paper.

1865. Crown and CC watermark, 4d. and 6d. double prints; 2d. in colour of 6d., mint; 1d. on 2d., block of twelve, and ditto surcharged three times, used. Crown and CA watermark, 1d., 12 x 14, two mint. All later issues shown in blocks of four, with sheets of the *sur-charges*.

T. W. Hall shows his well-known collection of Zanzibar, which is so complete that a special article would be necessary to do full justice to it.

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 7½ 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.

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.,
39, Strand, London, W.C.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—*continued*

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—*continued*

Brunei—*continued*

THE first consignment of the second and permanent issue of the colony arrived at the capital early in January, 1907, and specimen copies of each of the denominations contained therein were forwarded to the Berne authorities for distribution to members of the Universal Postal Union (to which organization the colony had been admitted in the previous summer), about the middle of the same month.

The issue was, however, not placed on sale immediately, but was withheld until practically all of the surcharged stamps were exhausted, the permanent series not being finally issued to the public until about the middle of February, 1907, the earliest postmark yet seen being that of 26 February, 1907.

The stamps are rectangular in shape, and of values identical with those of the provisional issue. They have for a central design a view of a portion of the town of Brunei, showing the quaint native huts built on piles in the river, with a native inhabitant in the foreground engaged in propelling a sampan. The frame in which this design is enclosed is of the simplest possible nature, and is inscribed with the word BRUNEI at the top, POSTAGE & REVENUE at either side, reading up on the left and down on the right, and the value in words at the foot of the stamp, and in Arabic numerals enclosed in octagons in all four corners of the design.



26 February, 1907.

Design as shown. Wmk. Multiple Crown and C.A. Perf. 14. Centres in second colours. Engraved taille-douce, and printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London.

- 1 cent, pale green and black.
- 2 cents, brick-red and black.
- 3 ,, brown and black.
- 4 ,, lilac and black.
- 5 ,, blue and black.
- 8 ,, deep yellow and black.
- 10 ,, dark green and blue.
- 25 ,, pale brown and blue.
- 30 ,, black and purple.
- 50 ,, deep brown and green.
- 81, grey and orange-red.

Printed in sheets of sixty, five rows of twelve, with usual marginal lines and decorations, and plate number "1" in all four corners of sheet.

Ceylon

"THE uttermost Indian Isle," as Ceylon was designated by ancient geographers, or the "Pearl of the Eastern Seas," under which sobriquet it now passes, is situate in the Indian Ocean, immediately to the south-east of the Indian Peninsula, from which it is separated by the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Manaar.

It is an island of tropical splendour and extraordinary natural beauty; in fact, so many and varied are its charms that it is claimed by many to be the site of the original Garden of Eden, the anomaly being preserved in many local names, such as Adam's Bridge and Adam's Peak, the most famous though by no means the highest mountain on the island. The climate though tropical is not on the whole unhealthy, excepting in the low-lying districts of the coast and in the jungle. Vegetation is, as in all tropical climes, luxuriant, and agriculture forms the staple occupation of the native Cingalese, the colony producing, amongst others, rice, tea, coffee, cocoa, rubber, cinnamon, vanilla, and the various products of the cocoa-palm. Other important

local industries which have gained for the island world-wide renown are the manufacture of gold, silver, ivory, and tortoise-shell jewellery, native mats, fans, handsome carved wood ornaments, etc., whilst its pearl fisheries and mines of rubies and cat's-eyes are famous throughout the civilized globe.

Ceylon is almost joined to the continent of Asia by a long chain of rocks, islets, and sandbanks stretching across the Gulf at its narrowest point, and forming what is known locally as Adam's Bridge. Included in the colony are also several small groups of islands situated in the immediate vicinity, including the Maldiv Islands, 500 miles due west of Colombo, making the total area of Ceylon and its dependencies 25,481 square miles, with a population of 3,950,123.

The first European settlement of the island was made in 1517, when a Portuguese leader, named Abergaria, obtained permission from the King of Cotta to erect a factory on the spot where the town of Colombo now stands. Having once obtained a footing on the island, the Portuguese, despite all efforts on the part of the native Cingalese to dislodge them, gradually obtained possession of the entire western portion of Ceylon.

Their treatment of the natives was so harsh in character that, when the Dutch Admiral Spilberg landed on the east coast of Ceylon in 1602, the native King of Kandy gladly entered into an alliance with him for the purpose of driving out his oppressors. It was not, however, until more than half a century later that the Portuguese were entirely expelled from the island, and the Dutch obtained complete control of Ceylon, under whose rule the island appears to have prospered, and much to have been done to improve the condition of the inhabitants.

The Dutch were in turn driven from Ceylon by the British in 1796, when the island was annexed to the Presidency of Madras and administered by the East India Company until 1802, when by the Peace of Amiens it was formally transferred to the British Crown, and established as a separate Crown Colony to be governed direct by the Imperial authorities.

In 1815, in consequence of a small rising of the natives, the King of Kandy, who had been allowed to retain his independence under British protection, was deposed and banished from the island, his dominions being annexed to the colony.

With the exception of a second small rebellion some years later, which was subdued without difficulty, Ceylon has ever since remained in the peaceful possession of Great Britain.

Ceylon is, for administrative purposes, divided into nine provinces, each under the

control of a British Government Agent, whilst higher government is vested in a British Governor, assisted by local Legislative and Executive Councils. There are 561 miles of railway in the island, connecting all the principal towns, and 375 post offices, with 3197 miles of telegraph.

The capital and chief commercial town of the island is Colombo, located in the south-west of the island on the Gulf of Mannar, which is also the chief port and a calling place for all vessels *en route* to Australia, India, and the Far East, and is commercially one of the most important cities in the Eastern Seas. Its population is 171,545.

The chief inland town is Kandy, the ancient capital of the island, which is connected by rail with Colombo. The only other towns of note are both seaports, Point de Galle on the southern, and Trincomalee on the northern coast. The latter, which was until recently a British naval station and the headquarters of the East Indies Squadron, is said to possess one of the most picturesque harbours in the world.

A small British and native garrison is maintained on the island by the British Government, and there is also a small volunteer force amongst the local European planters.

Currency: 100 cents = 1 rupee = 1s. 4d.

Ceylon entered the Universal Postal Union on 1 April, 1877.

Stamps first issued in 1885.

(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.

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.

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

Portraits on Stamps

By BOSWELL JUNIOR

United States of America—*continued*

William McKinley, twenty-fourth President of the United States, was born at Niles, in Ohio, 29 January, 1844. He was educated at Poland Academy (Ohio), enlisted in the 23rd Ohio Volunteers in 1861, and rose to be captain and brevet-major.

At the close of the war he began the study of law and was admitted to the Bar in 1867. He settled at Canton, Ohio, and was prosecuting attorney of Stark county from 1869 to 1871. Elected to Congress in 1877, he was chairman of the Platform Committee of the Republican National Convention at Chicago in June, 1888. An earnest advocate of a protective tariff, he was elected President in 1896 and re-elected in 1900. He signed the Act of Congress which sanctioned the holding of the Louisiana Exposition. He was shot by an anarchist at the Buffalo Exposition and died eight days later on 14 September, 1901. His portrait is seen on the 5 cents value of the 1904 series issued during the International Exhibition at St. Louis to commemorate the "Louisiana Purchase."

Confederate States

Jefferson Davis was born in Kentucky on 3 June, 1808. After a short course at Transylvania College, Kentucky, he entered the United States Military Academy on the nomination of President Monroe. In 1828 he joined the 1st Infantry and served in the Black Hawk war of 1831-2. A year later he was promoted to be first lieutenant of "Dragoons." In 1835 he eloped with the daughter of Colonel Zachary Taylor. His marriage was followed by resignation of his lieutenantcy, and he became a cotton-planter. This occupation engrossed him until 1843, when he entered politics, and soon made his mark as a popular speaker. He entered Congress in 1845. On the outbreak of the Mexican war he resigned his seat in Congress to become colonel of the 1st Mississippi Volunteer Rifles. In the siege of Monterey he displayed great gallantry, leading his command through the streets under a terrible fire. At Buena

Vista he utterly routed a Mexican brigade of lancers, greatly superior in numbers; and, though severely wounded, remained in the saddle until the close of the fight. In 1847 Davis was appointed a brigadier-general, but declined the commission on constitutional grounds. The same year witnessed his return to the Senate, and he was re-elected for the ensuing full term in 1850. He became War Minister under President Pierce (1853-7), and filled the office with great credit. Leaving the Cabinet in 1857, Davis re-entered the Senate and continued his zealous advocacy of State rights. The times were critical. The Northern States were opponents of slavery. Among the Southern States the passion for slavery was strong. Six weeks after Lincoln's election South Carolina seceded from the Union. In 1861 the Southern Confederacy of six slave States was formed. Davis, having defended the cause of the South as long as there was any hope of averting the impending struggle, left the Senate and became President of the Confederate States. A brief outline of the course of the war has already been given under the headings of Lincoln and Sherman in Vol. VI. Suffice it to say that the cause of liberty triumphed. The Confederates laid down their arms. Jefferson Davis was taken prisoner and confined in Fort Monroe for two years. The idea that he was suffering as a representative of the South made him more popular than he had been since the outbreak of the war. On his release on bail he went to New York, Canada, and England. A Liverpool firm offered to take him as a partner, without capital. After investigation the offer was declined, and Davis returned home, visiting France on the way. He was never brought to trial, and was included in the general amnesty of 1868. In 1879 Mrs. Dorsey, of Beauvoir, bequeathed to him her estate, where he lived in retirement until his death in 1889.

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.



Specialism

By R. E. R. DALWIGK

PORTUGAL is undoubtedly one of the very first-rate countries to specialize in, as several of the old issues are very fine and scarce stamps. Portugal has a large philatelic list, but, nevertheless, most of the issues (except Issues I and II) are cheap and easy to obtain.

The popularity of this country may be attributed to the quaint designs of the old stamps. There are several collectors who do not take note of the appearance of stamps provided they are good, but the vast majority of us always give a consideration to design as well as quality.

Several old Portuguese stamps are hard to obtain without showing signs of faded colour. Moreover, if one is fortunate enough to obtain a well-preserved copy, it must not be treated to a very strong light for any length of time or the result will, in most cases, be disastrous. There is a good old proverb which says "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush"; this can well be applied to old stamps of this country, as, should you possess any fine copies, stick to them.

The issue of March, 1894, is curious and interesting, portraying, as it does, various episodes in the history of Portugal. An issue of this description usually finds the appreciation of the specialist, as it gives him the chief events of the country in a few pictures. It is always entertaining to non-philatelists who may look over your albums to be told

something about the countries from historical and geographical points of view.

Portuguese Indies.—Here we come to an expensive and somewhat confused lot of stamps. In order to specialize in such stamps as Portuguese Indians, one must possess a vast amount of cash, or, in other words, be a Great Mogul. Should plenty of money be forthcoming, I think this hardly the country to invest it in, as several other expensive countries would give more satisfactory results. It is not likely that any readers of these articles will want to dabble in such a rare lot of stamps to commence with.

Roman States.—The stamps of Roman States—like other old Italians—at first sight are apt, by reason of their crude designs, to be looked upon as forgeries. These stamps, with about three exceptions, are cheap and fairly plentiful. Every design is printed in black. For the sake perhaps of avoiding the monotony of "all black," the stamps are printed on surface-coloured glazed papers of the most varied hues. The effect of this glazed paper in combination with the crude designs is somewhat extraordinary in some of the stamps. For actual quaintness and originality these stamps must hold a very high position. They are worth collecting at present quotations, even if only from the "novelty collector's" point of view.

(To be continued.)

Acrostic Competition

DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 5 (of series).

This stamp magazine is second to none,
Those who want it send to 391.

1. To these letters three, add no more than—
You'll find out the title of its editor.
2. A castle full of horrors, ghosts, and blood—
With most romantic writers' chosen food.
3. Surely the original blue cow
Came of this stock, yet it is now
More of an antelope they say,
And comes from out North India way.
4. This is rather wooden, I admit—but
Move one letter if you want a stamp.
5. "A Persian's . . . is easily made,
'Tis but black eyes and lemonade."

Moore.

6. "From China to Peru" we often quote
To indicate extremes apart;
Here in Tibet there rules this man of note—
That's not his portrait tho', that you will find
On postage stamps of far Peru.
7. Though last on the list, 'tis early in life,
Fresh, vigorous, and strong, yet not mature.
BEN.

Answers to be sent only on the printed forms, to reach us before or by the first delivery of Thursday, 2 April, marked outside "Acrostic, *G. S. W.*, 391 Strand, London." Letters from Europe should be posted by 4th, and from North America by 12 April.

Acrostic No. 3.—Correct solution received from F.E.W. (of Gib.), three marks credited.

No. 2.—Two marks to Miss Keyser.

British Levant and Morocco

By W. W.

THE issues of British stamps surcharged only with the words "Morocco Agencies" or "Levant" have evoked many deductions, and variously conceived opinions as to the use of such, in the Philatelic Press. Having a fair association with Levantine and Moorish business, I take the opportunity of letting a little light upon the causes that brought the stamps in question into existence. The favourite fallacy is that they were designated for "Parcel Post" use—in the case of Morocco. This is incorrect, inasmuch as they owe their birth to the vagaries and inconsistencies of the currencies and exchanges in use in this country of regal pretenders.

Law, order, and efficiency are policies unknown to either Moor or Turk. In the land of Othello two coinages are used by the native population, Moorish and Spanish. The former is called Hassani, a gersh or quarter being nominally equivalent to 2½d. in English. The Spanish is in pesetas and centimos. A peseta may be worth 8d. today and drop to 6d. to-morrow. At the time of writing the exchange value is about 7d.-7½d.

The close proximity to Gibraltar naturally brings English (or should I say British?) traders in great force to Tangier and other Moroccan ports. Commerce must have a *real* means of exchange, therefore the varying Spanish money is forsaken for Great Britain's numismatic exchange, which rarely fluctuates.

The two issues in present use for the Morocco Agencies are solely to accommodate the public, whether they wish to pay

for their postal necessities in Spanish or British money.

A Moorish merchant informs me that the modes of currency were of great inconvenience, and the new issue has fulfilled a requirement, proving both a time and temper saver. A man used to go into a post office with, perhaps, only English or French coins, and be obliged to wait until the assistant arrived at their value in current Spanish equivalent before the stamps were handed over. A hot climate is not conducive to haste or speed.

My interviewee repudiated the suggestion that the stamps surcharged "Morocco Agencies" only were solely for franking parcels, and at the same time showed me several envelopes from a recent mail bearing these stamps. Another Moroccan trader expressed a similar opinion.

I further interviewed a large Levant shipper in regard to the alleged withdrawal of the 2, 4, and 12 piastres stamps. He said he was still receiving them, but his idea was that they would remain in concurrency with those overprinted "Levant" only in order to convenience customers, in case they wished to pay in either Turkish or English money.

He thought that if they were withdrawn from sale at all it would be on account of the new postal rates. This latter gentleman had no desire to commit himself, for his concluding remark was, "But one never knows what they will do next in Turkey."

One may therefore come to the conclusion that, instead of thinking of philatelists, the postal authorities have, for once, provided a want *pro bono publico*.

Answers to Correspondents

D. H. HEMMING (Rugby).—We should like to see the variety you mention, as we have been told by several people that Catalogue No. 65 is a mistake.

W. FRANK (W. C.).—Everybody's ideas are not alike as regards the relative importance of countries from a philatelic point of view, hence some arbitrary order has to be followed. We recognize that the present process will take some time to complete, but it is better to try to do a thing well. We are passing on your suggestion *re* advertising to the publishers, but you will recognize that our chief concern is with the *Weekly*. As regards arrangement of stamps in blank albums, this is a matter of personal taste. Perhaps, however, the matter will be referred to in "Points for Beginners."

M. C. (Paignton).—We do not remember ever seeing the stamp you mention. Are you sure you bought it from our publishers?

E. D. H. (Ottawa).—Thanks for cutting.

Apply to our New York house, which sells a useful little contrivance for detecting watermarks, viz. "Benzine Cup," at 60 c., post-free. A little rectified benzine applied to a stamp laid face downwards on a dark-coloured surface will allow the watermark to appear quite clearly, and the majority of stamps are not injured by the benzine, which quickly evaporates.

A READER (Aberdour).—1. You had better send your stamps to our publishers for examination, with a fee of 1s. each and postage for return. If the stamps are what you think them to be, it is better to have them expertized. It is impossible to answer your question without examination of the stamps. 2. We naturally prefer that collectors should deal direct with us rather than patronize Exchange Clubs. We are sorry we are unable to give you the information required. Write to the secretary of one of the Philatelic Societies whose reports appear in *G. S. W.* There are several in Scotland.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

German P.O.'s in Morocco.—We have just received the 35 centimos on 30 pfennig on the watermarked paper.



Morocco
5 Centimos

Overprinted in black. Wmk. "Lozenges."
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
35 c. on 30 pf., black and orange
on yellow. 0 6 —

Holkar.—We take the following paragraphs from the *Philatelic Journal of India* (2.08):—

"Exit Indore (Holkar State):—
"The Indore Council of Regency having asked for postal unification, the proposal has been sanctioned by the Government of India, and on the 1st of March next the Deputy Postmaster-General, Rajputana, will take over Holkar's postal system."
"We understand that the State's 'Service' stamps will continue in use for official correspondence within Indore itself. We would be pleased to see many other States also absorbed into the Indian postal system."

Johor.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (15.2.08) reports the issue of a \$10, similar in design to the current set.



Wmk. Quatrefoil, Type 6. Perf. 14.
\$10, green and black —

New Zealand.—A correspondent has shown us a copy of the 3d., small size, perforated 14 × 13, 13½ with the new comb machine.



N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Wmk. N Z and Star, close. Perf. 14 × 13, 13½.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
3d., brown —

Persia.—The *Monthly Journal* (2.08) chronicles two newly discovered varieties. They are the 1 and 5 chahi of the 1889 issue, *imperforate*.



Varities. Imperf.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
1 ch., pale rose —
5 ch. ,, lilac —

Poonch.—Messrs. Bright and Son have shown the editor of the *Monthly Journal* (2.08) a copy of the 1 anna on what appears to be similar paper to that of Nos. 41 and 42 in the Catalogue.



Lavender wove bitonné paper. Imperf.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
1 anna, red —

St. Kitts-Nevis.—We learn from *Even's Weekly Stamp News* (7.3.08) that a 1d., rose, has just been issued on multiple, watermarked, un-surfaced paper. *The Metropolitan Philatelist* (29.2.08) reports the issue of a 6d., violet and olive; but as no particulars of watermark or paper are given, we shall not chronicle it for the present.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Ordinary paper. Perf. 14.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
1d., carmine (on white) —

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 14
Whole No. 170

4 APRIL, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Consular Offices—continued

Madagascar

MADAGASCAR is the fourth largest island in the world, and has an area of about 230,000 square miles and a population of about 4,000,000. It was discovered in 1500 by the Portuguese navigator Diego Dias, and was the object of tentative commercial exploitation by the Portuguese, Dutch, and French. The latter, whose claim over Madagascar dates from 1642, when concessions were granted and French trading-posts established in the south, notably Fort Dauphin, are now in possession of the island.

The Hovas, the most advanced, though probably not the most numerous of the native Malagasy races, are the dominant people, and in 1820, by the help of England, they established an empire. Hostilities ensued between the Hovas and the French, and though in 1890 a French protectorate over Madagascar was agreed to by Great Britain, the natives refused to recognize it. In 1895 a French expedition was dispatched to enforce the claims of France, and on 1 October, the capital having been occupied, the protectorate was recognized. In January, 1896, Madagascar became a French possession, and by a law of 6 August of the same year the island and its dependencies were declared a French colony.

The capital, Antananarivo, in the interior, has a population of 70,000. The chief port is Tamatave, on the east coast, with a population of about 7000; the next in importance being Majunga, on the north-west coast, with about 6000 inhabitants. The latter has a good harbour, and was the port of landing for the French expedition.

Philatelic History

This is a little confused. In 1884 the English Consulate at the capital created a consular service, which continued till September, 1895. The Norwegian Missions established in the island also adopted a similar service, but its history is not so clear.

As regards the French postal issues, there have been many, chiefly under the control of the Colonial Department. *Nossi-Bé*, an island in the north-west, had been a separate French colony since 1840, and *Ste. Marie de Madagascar*, an island on the east coast, was similarly constituted some years later. In addition to these the French claimed territory in the north-west district, which they alleged had been ceded to them by local chiefs. This claim led to the war mentioned above. Eventually *Diego Suarez* was surrendered, and became a French colony in 1885. From time to time stamps of local production, or stamps of the general Colonial type, with or without special surcharge, had been used. In 1892 an issue inscribed **DIEGO-SUAREZ ET DEPENDANCES** replaced all these, it in turn being superseded in 1894 by three separate sets for the three colonies named. When the postal arrangements were completed on Madagascar becoming a French colony in 1896, all the above were withdrawn and replaced by an issue inscribed **MADAGASCAR ET DEPENDANCES**, this being still the designation of the stamps in use at the present time.

Previously, however, to the French expedition in 1895 there were postal services in other parts of Madagascar, in all thirty-three offices. These were placed under the control of the Resident-General, and as Madagascar was then only a protectorate, subject to the direction of the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs. These offices used ordinary French stamps without distinguishing mark.

When the military operations commenced, postal franchise for single letters was extended to the troops engaged, and ordinary French stamps, brought from France by the military authorities, were utilized for this purpose. To provide for the needs of the civil population, and to differentiate between stamps used to frank military letters, a special set was provided, consisting of French stamps, 5 c. to 5 fr., overprinted **POSTE—FRANCAISE—MADAGASCAR**, in *red* or *black*. These stamps were only for civil use.



February, 1895. French stamps over, rinted in red or black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., green	0 3	0 3
10 c., black on lilac	0 4	—
15 c., blue	1 0	0 4
25 c., black on rose	1 0	0 6
40 c., red on yellow	2 0	—
50 c., carmine	2 0	—
75 c., brown on orange	2 0	1 0
1 fr., olive-green	2 6	—
5 fr., lilac.	10 0	4 0

In March, 1896, the military authorities, whose head-quarters were at Majunga, ran out of 5, 15, and 25 c. stamps. A decree dated 5 March authorized the use of provisionals, and other values of the French stamps were surcharged with new value in black as follows. The numbers given in brackets indicate the number surcharged, the smallness of which accounts for the rarity of the stamps. These stamps were not issued to the troops generally, but were affixed by the authorities when the letters were handed in for mailing.



March, 1896. French stamps surcharged in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5c. on 1c., blk. on azure (500)	—	—
15c. on 2c., red-brown on buff (900)	—	—
25c. on 3c., grey (900)	—	—
25c. on 4c., plum on azure (600)	—	—
25c. on 40c., red on yellow (1000)	—	—

Perhaps, to be chronologically exact, the next lot of stamps, known as the Majunga issue, should have been mentioned first, but

to save confusion the Catalogue order is adopted here also. On 24 February, 1895, before the franchise had been definitely granted to military correspondence, the office at Majunga ran out of 15 c. stamps or values to make this rate, which was the one needed for soldiers' letters. Accordingly 150 stamps of 25 c. and 100 stamps of 1 fr. were converted into 15 c. At first the surcharge "o.15" was applied by a pen with red ink, but on the greater number of the stamps this was partially cleaned off with a sponge and a handstamp used. The figures "15" of the handstamp were from printer's type, and there are three known varieties, the colour of the surcharge this time being black. These 250 stamps were not enough to meet requirements, and to avoid a speculation which became evident, the postmaster refused to surcharge any more, but sold 152 25 c. stamps without surcharge for 15 c. each. All these stamps are excessively rare.

24 February, 1895. French stamps surcharged (a) in MS. in red.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
o.15 on 25 c., black on rose	—	—
o.15 on 1 fr., olive-green	—	—

(b) With handstamp in black.

15 on 25 c., black on rose	—	—
15 on 1 fr., olive-green	—	—

(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.

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

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By "THE SUB"

MR. CORFIELD sends the following cutting from an Indian paper:—

ALLAHABAD, 19 Feb.

A large number of new forms for telegraph message are now being printed in order that the changes recently notified may be made on the 1st April. The supply of postage stamps of higher values has also been arranged for consequent on the abolition of telegraph stamps.

It will be remembered we recently printed a letter from the above correspondent concerning telegraph reform.

School Competitions

I NOTICE in a report of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society, held at Cardiff, that a sub-committee was appointed "to organize a competition and to award prizes in the local public schools for the best collections amongst the scholars." This is a fine way to popularize our hobby. Nothing like "training the young idea"—the beginner of to-day is the specialist of to-morrow. This Society was also responsible for the recent exhibition at Cardiff, and is to be commended for the good work it is undertaking for Philately.

The "British Philatelist"

MESSRS. C. NISSEN & Co. send me No. 1 of the above. It is a little paper containing twelve pages and is to be issued monthly. The chief aim "is to publish every month really valuable and reliable information on British Postage, Telegraph, Fiscal and College Stamps, Post Cards and Envelopes," and judging from the experience and knowledge of its publishers in these sections this aim should be realized. The chief article deals with the line-engraved stamps of Great Britain, a hackneyed subject, but presented here in very readable and simple form. I wish the venture every success.

The Sectional Imperial Album

THIS new album had an enthusiastic reception when shown at the Exhibition the other week. A good number of the only section yet published (Great Britain) were sold, and orders were booked for other sections as soon as published. The binders, especially the better one, found many admirers. Altogether our publishers feel justified in the venture, for the general cry was, "Just the thing collectors have been waiting for."

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

Nos. 55 and 201.

Value £345.

North German Confederation, Alsace and Lorraine, and German Empire.

THESE are representative books, well filled with unused and used, and all stamps in picked condition. As with other European countries, the balance of the Mann-Castle and Breitfuss collections has been incorporated.

North German Confederation.—There is a good selection of the rouletted issues, the unused being mint, and in addition a nice lot of the *imperf.* varieties. In the *perf.* issue there are three copies of the 18 kr. used.

Alsace and Lorraine.—The rare postmarks of this group have been put into special approval books which can be sent to specialists on request, but there remains in the stock book a good assortment of used stamps of all values. Of the stamps with points of network downwards there is the best lot we have had for some time, and all the types of setting are well represented.

German Empire.—The early issues contain numerous stamps with sharp embossing, something to be looked for in this country. There are many also with uncommon postmarks.

In addition to the 3, 25, and 50 pf. *imperf.* of the 1889 issue, there is a pair of the 10 pf. in the same condition and two rare colour trials. Extra attention has been given to shades of the later issues.

Nos. 122, 198, and 199.

Value £523.

German Colonies and Samoa.

THESE are quite the best books we have ever had in this section, and they contain used specimens of most values, in many cases on pieces of the original. Much of the interest in these German Colonials is associated with used copies, and collectors will find many rare postmarks. Special attention has been paid to filling up the later issues, especially those on watermarked paper. Interesting pages contain stamps of the German Empire used abroad, arranged under the respective colonies.

China.—The two slopes of overprint are well represented, and there are a good many of the Foochow provisional.

Morocco includes a set of blocks of four of the first issue with "Morocco" only, an uncatalogued variety.

German S.W. Africa has a post card franked with a bisected 10 pf. used as 5 pf.

Kiutchou.—Good selection of the Tsingtau

provisionals, including several copies with double overprint.

Samoa.—A good lot, all the first issue being plated and bearing our guarantee stamp. There are several bisections of No. 15 postally used on piece of the entire.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901–June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—continued

Ceylon—continued

ON 29 May, 1903, the first value of a new series of postage stamps prepared for use in this colony was placed on sale at the General Post Office, Colombo. The new stamps had for the keynote of their design a profile portrait of His Majesty King Edward VII, who had ascended the throne of Great Britain rather more than two years previously, on the demise of his Royal Mother, Queen Victoria, surnamed "The Good." With the exceptions of the 2, 5, and 6 cents stamps, for which new plates had been prepared, the portrait of the new ruler had been adapted to the key plates in use for the stamps of Ceylon since 1886, with some slight elaborations of the groundwork. All values, with the exception of the 5 cents, bear the inscription CEYLON POSTAGE, being intended for postal use only, whilst the denomination mentioned is lettered both POSTAGE and REVENUE, and is thus available for fiscal purposes also. The rarities of this issue are the three high values of R. 2.25, R. 1.50, and 75 cents; of the latter only 100 sheets, or 12,000 stamps, were printed on the Single watermarked paper.



1903-5.

King's Head designs as above. Wmk. Crown CA (Single). Perf. 14. Values in second colours. Dates of issue given in brackets. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London.

- 2 cents, orange-brown (issued July 21st, 1903).
- 3 cents, blue-green (issued June 11th, 1903).
- 4 cents, yellow and ultramarine (issued May 29th, 1903).
- 5 cents, lilac (issued July 2nd, 1903).
- 6 cents, carmine (issued November 5th, 1903).
- 12 cents, sage-green and rosine (issued August 13th, 1903).
- 15 cents, blue (issued July 2nd, 1903).
- 25 cents, pale brown (issued August 11th, 1903).
- 30 cents, violet and green (issued May 29th, 1903).
- 75 cents, dull blue and orange (issued March 31st, 1905).
- 1 r. 50 cents, grey (issued April 12th, 1904).
- 2 r. 25 cents, brown and green (issued April 7th, 1904).

Shade.

30 cents, deep purple instead of violet and green.

The above stamps are printed and issued in sheets of the following sizes: for the values for which new plates had been prepared, 240 stamps to the sheet, arranged in four panes of sixty, each containing ten rows of six stamps. Denominations, 2, 5, and 6 cents.

The remaining values are printed in sheets containing 120 stamps only, and comprising only two panes, arranged side by side, each of sixty stamps, arranged in ten rows of six. The sheets have the usual marginal inscriptions, and plate numbers in all four corners

of sheet. Panes are surrounded by series of short disconnected lines facing the end of each vertical and horizontal row of stamps, and in the case of the bicoloured denominations two such series of lines, the inner in the colour of the body of the design, and the outer in that in which the value is inserted. There are also coloured curves printed at the corners of the panes.

This same series appeared printed upon paper having the Multiple Crown C A watermark during the course of 1904-5, the values printed on this paper being issued as fast as similar denominations having the Single watermark became obsolete, the first to be placed on sale being, as in the former issues, the 4 cents, which was first issued on 13 July, 1904. It will be observed that the 75 cents value was only current with the Single C A watermark for a little over two months in all, and is consequently somewhat scarce.

All values included in the original series have now been issued with the Multiple watermark.

1904-5.

Designs as before. Wmk. Multiple Crown C A. Perf. 14. Unsurfaced paper. Values in second colours.

2 cents, orange-brown (issued November 17th, 1904).

3 cents, green (issued November 17th, 1904).

4 cents, yellow and ultramarine (issued September 13th, 1904).

5 cents, lilac (issued November 29th, 1904).

6 cents, carmine (issued October 11th, 1904).

12 cents, sage-green and rosine (issued September 29th, 1904).

15 cents, blue (issued December 1st, 1904).

25 cents, pale brown (issued January 5th, 1905).

30 cents, violet and green (issued September 7th, 1905).

75 cents, dull blue and orange (issued May 25th, 1905).

1 r. 50 cents, grey (issued January 5th, 1905).

2 r. 25 cents, brown and green (issued December 22nd, 1904).

Sheet arrangement, etc., as before.

Shade.

75 cents, turquoise-blue instead of dull blue and orange.

The new chalk-surfaced paper being intended solely for use in connection with the printing of postage and revenue stamps, the 5 cents is the only value of the above series which has been issued printed upon this paper.

1905.

Design, watermark, perforation, etc., as before. Chalk surfaced paper.

5 cents, lilac (issued October 5th, 1905).

Shade.

Recent printings of this stamp on chalk-surfaced paper, from Plate II, have developed the following marked shade :-

5 cents, dark lilac instead of lilac.

(To be continued.)

Historical Philately

The Austro-Prussian Occupation of Schleswig-Holstein

By NORMAN THORNTON

ORIGINALLY part of the old German Empire, after this was dissolved, in 1814, the Duchy of Holstein, together with Lauenburg, came under the rule of Denmark. Schleswig first appears in history as an independent Duchy in the twelfth century, and commenced its connection with Denmark when Waldemar, Duke of Schleswig, overcame King Svend of Denmark, and joined his Duchy to the Danish Crown in 1448.

Thus upon the issue of postage stamps in Denmark in April, 1851, we find the two Duchies using these stamps as a part of the kingdom of Denmark.

Discontented, however, with a measure of joint administration imposed by Frederick VI, the two Duchies revolted in 1848, and their endeavour to achieve independence is recorded by the issue in 1851 of two stamps authorized by the revolutionary authorities.



These two stamps were manufactured by Messrs. H. W. Köbner and Lemkuhl of Altona, the values being 1 and 2 schilling, and the colours blue and rose respectively; the shades vary from deep to pale in each case. In 1851 a treaty of pacification was arranged, and the stamps of Denmark again came into use in the two Duchies. However, there was still trouble ahead, for on the death of Frederick VII of Denmark in November, 1863, the Duchies were claimed by Prince Frederick of Augustenberg, who

entered Kiel in December as Duke of Schleswig and Holstein. Further complications ensued, and the German Confederation, in the persons of Prussia and Austria, intervened to settle the matter; they invaded the Duchies in 1864, and after a short war forced terms upon Denmark. Peace was concluded at Vienna in October, Denmark agreeing to surrender the two Duchies to the allies. From the time the allies entered these two much-harassed States their postal administration became a veritable game of Box and Cox. It was first decided to issue separate stamps for each Duchy, and in 1864 the ball was set rolling by the issue in Holstein, on 1 March, of a stamp of 1½ schilling current, or 4 skillings rigsbank currency (4 S.R.M. = 4 skillings reichs mark, Danish).



II



III



IV

There are three types of the stamp, and the colour light blue. The appearance recalls that of the banished stamps of Denmark; there is an under network of background in grey, which allows a capital "P" to be seen left clear in the centre. [This is not clearly shown in our illustration.—Ed.] I have seen it suggested that this denoted "Preussen," but as the issue was made under the direction of the German Federal High Commissioners appointed by both Austria and Prussia, it is more likely that it signifies "Post."

This issue was not long-lived, and in April a notice was issued announcing an alteration.



V

In the new type it is noted that the lower inscription "4 S R M" gives place to "1½ S L M", that is 1½ skillings Lauenburger Mütze; the central numerals are larger, and the underprint is in pink.

Holstein being thus temporarily provided for, Schleswig had its turn, and was served

with two stamps, under the auspices of the Commissioners of Austria and Prussia. The reason for the double issue was that the first stamp, 4 skillings, was Danish currency, and being objected to, one in Hamburg currency was prepared, and superseded it almost immediately.



VI

The colours were: for the 4 sch., rose, and the 1½ sch., green.

However, this happy state of separate administration was not allowed to continue long, and in January, 1865, the "high civil Imperial and Royal authority of Austria and Prussia in the Duchies of Schleswig, Holstein, and Lauenburg" made known their pleasure to issue stamps for use in both States.



VII



VIII

The first to appear was ½ schilling, rose, destined for printed matter; this was followed by 1½ schilling, green, and 2 schilling, ultramarine, in Type VII, and 1½ schilling, lilac-mauve, and 4 schilling, bistre, in Type VIII.

The matter was now apparently satisfactorily settled, until disputes commenced between the allies, and the Convention of Gastein, of 14 August, 1865, again separated the two Duchies—Schleswig was allotted, with Lauenburg, to Prussia, Holstein to Austria, and the game began merrily again.

Schleswig on 1 November was provided with five values in the same type as the previous separate issue, except the 1½ schilling, which was in Type IX.



IX

- ½ sch., yellow-green.
- 1½ ,, lilac-mauve.
- 1½ ,, rose.
- 2 ,, ultramarine.
- 4 ,, bistre.

Holstein issued a corresponding set on the same day and with the same values and colours, but with the types here shown.



The 1/2 schilling, 1 1/2 schilling, and 4 schilling were in Type X, and the 1 1/2 schilling and 4 schilling were in Type XI.

The Schleswig series was printed in Berlin and rouletted about 1861, whilst the Holstein stamps were manufactured by Messrs. Köbner and Co. of Altona, and rouletted about 1868. But it was unlikely that such a position would last long. Holstein was too far from Austria and too near to Prussia not to prove a source of great temptation to the latter. A quarrel with Austria was inevitable, and war soon broke out. The Austrians were forced to abandon Holstein in June, 1866,

and the battle of Sadowa, 3 July, 1866, left the Prussians undisputed masters of the situation; both the Duchies were annexed to Prussia in 1866. Naturally the postal situation had now to be tinkered up again, but this time Prussian authorities were surprisingly moderate, the only alteration being in the type of the 1 1/2 schilling and 2 schilling stamps of Holstein to Type XII instead of Type XI shown above.



On 29 October, 1866, notice appeared authorizing the use of the stamps which had been issued for each State separately, or of those issued in common until the stock should be exhausted; and on 1 January, 1868, all stamps of these Duchies were entirely superseded by those of the North German Confederation.

Acrostic Competition

ACROSTIC COMPETITION.

THE correct solution of No. 4 Acrostic (14 March) is:—

E mm A
N ostru M
G eorg E
L ette R
A itutak I
N arda C
DyspepsiA

Three marks for correct answers are credited to: F. W. A., Algy, Argonaut, Beyond, Cadi, Crofter, J. R. H., W. T. B. H., A. Harvey, Jud, Mascot, A. Mackay, A. M. Marsh, Old Girl, Oudeis, C. V. O'Neil, A. B. Paterson, S. B. R., Reg, M.-S. C. S., A. St. J., Siwol, Taffy, Tertius, M. C. Tancock, Ubique, Upton, J. Walker, and Zimpa.

Two are credited to: Adv, Aei, Bar, Chicken, W. G. Cochrane, E. B. H., Hawk, T. F. G., Hiz, A. R. Hebblethwaite, F. A. J., Jaguar, Jap, Kappa, Kasaj, M. M., Mot, W. G. Mackie, H. Metcalf, G. Murray, Pen, Psi, O. R. R., Seabee, Selim, E. H. N. Salt, E. Schillizzi, H. A. Spowart, Tasman, Thistle, Timbre, and Paul Talagrand.

One mark: C. B., Birdie, Brigida, H. Bean, Carl, Cromlix, Captain Clarke, F. D., W. G., Late, Lotus, E. Lucas, J. C. Luiker, A. H. P., E. H. Shears, and Vox. These have two or three wrong.

And several with less than half correct.

Received late on Thursday, 19th.—Roy, A. Buttar, W. S. Jones, and others.

No. 3 Acrostic.—Greek (Canada) is credited with two.

I regret there are so few correct, and, though complimented on my ingenuity, I must confess it is a negligible quantity compared with that of so many this week in evading the simple definitions of lights. About half a dozen give "Ena" for the first word, but I cannot think that "many of this name are known," or that any stamp is catalogued bearing such a portrait other than that of the late Queen Emma of Honolulu or the Sandwich Islands. Though most are right with George, the two kings of Tonga were referred to. As to No. 5, 'tis best to say nothing, for one who sent a "second thought" says he had to kick himself for some reason, though probably the kick was no harder than the light. It is the first time that wrong words have been sent for every light; previously three or four have been the most. One says, "I ha'e ma doots," and so have I, as to Elua Kineta meaning more than "Two Cents." Emperor of Austria (likewise "E. of India") may be good as an omnibus word, but we are not Germanified enough yet for such "single words" as required by the general rule. This was not offered as a "pill to cure an earthquake," nor was it expected to produce one.

BEN.

Christopher Columbus

By "SEMICOLON"

OF all the celebrities who have been portrayed on postage stamps, none have been so universally honoured and none have had the incidents of their lives so fully illustrated as Christopher Columbus. I propose in this article to give a brief life of the explorer, illustrating it by the numerous pictorial stamps bearing on the subject.

Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of the New World, was born of poor parents in Genoa about the year 1436. Little is known of his early life owing to the reticence of his son Fernando, his biographer, who appears to have been ashamed of his father's humble origin. He was educated at the University of Pavia, and in his fifteenth year went to sea. He lived a roving life until, in the year 1470, his ship was wrecked off the coast of Portugal and he barely escaped to land. Soon after his arrival in the country he married, and from this time onward he devoted himself to the main object of his life—the discovery of a short route to Asia by sailing westward across the Atlantic Ocean. His father-in-law had served under Prince Henry the Navigator, a famous explorer of the time, and among his papers Columbus found much to strengthen his ideas on the subject. At this time also he made the acquaintance of Paulo Toscanelli, a learned geographer of Florence, who gave him much encouragement. On the Dominican Republic 20 c. stamp of 1899 Toscanelli is



shown writing to Columbus. There were many rumours of a land to the westward, and Columbus, who under-estimated the size of the earth, arrived at the conclusion that this must be a part of Asia, probably near to India. This idea he held till his death, and when he discovered the land he called the natives Indians and the islands the West Indies. To a bold sailor like Columbus the prospect of discovering new lands was an alluring one, so he at once set about getting the necessary assistance. He first applied to the State of Genoa, which refused his offer, and then to King John of Portugal. The latter was favourable to the project, but instead of appointing Columbus to command

an expedition he secretly sent a vessel to attempt the discovery. On hearing of this treacherous behaviour Columbus broke off the negotiations, and sent his brother Bartholomew to England to treat with Henry VII, a portrait of whom appears on the 60 c. of the "Cabot" issue of Newfoundland as the



patron of Cabot. He also was unable to help, so Columbus left Lisbon and went to Spain. After much trouble he obtained an audience of Ferdinand and Isabella, the reigning monarchs, and was referred by them to a council at Salamanca. Two stamps commemorate this council, the \$2 Salvador of 1894 and the Dominican Republic 1 p. of 1899, both of which show Columbus before the council. After much

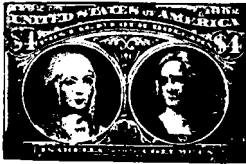


argument the project was declared to be impracticable, and Columbus started for France. On his way to the coast he stayed for the night at the monastery of La Rabida, near the town of Palos. The 30 c. of the United States "Columbian" series shows Columbus expounding his views to the



monks, and here he made the acquaintance of a former confessor of the Queen, who assisted him to obtain another audience with her. A view of this appears on the 5 c. of

the U.S.A. issue of 1893. Isabella, whose portrait appears on the \$4 of the same series, could do little to help him, and he



again left the Court. At the bridge of Pinós, some distance from the city of Granada, he was overtaken by a courier, who told him that the Queen had at last promised to provide the funds for the expedition. Some



historians state that she pledged her jewels for the purpose, but it is probable that she only offered to do so. The inscription on



the \$1 of the "Columbian" series certainly assumes that she did pledge them, but this may be inaccurate. Columbus returned to Court, and preparations were made for the voyage. The town of Palos was ordered to furnish two vessels, and a third was fitted out by private enterprise. Great difficulty was experienced in obtaining crews to man the vessels, as the dangers and uncertainties of the voyage were so great, but at last all was ready.

On 3 August, 1492, the expedition sailed



from Palos. The fleet consisted of the *Santa Maria* (the flagship), with a crew of fifty, the *Pinta*, with thirty, and the *Nina*,



with twenty-four. Views of the fleet appear on the 1892 issue of the Argentine Republic, and on the United States 4 c. of 1893. The



Santa Maria is shown alone on the 3 c. of the latter issue. The scene at the seaside on the day of the departure is depicted on the Salvador 10 p. of 1893.

At the very beginning of the voyage the *Pinta* broke her rudder and had to put in at the Canary Isles for repairs.

After much delay a fresh start was made and the fleet sailed to the west. The distance across the ocean was much greater than Columbus had anticipated, and during the latter part of the voyage he had great difficulty in preventing the men from returning to Spain; indeed, when land was sighted on 12 October the crew were openly mutinous. Several stamps are devoted to the portrayal of the "first sight of the New World." These are the issues of Honduras and Nicaragua for 1892, and the 1 c. of the United States "Columbian" series. The



Honduras stamp shows Rodriguez de Triana, the sailor who first sighted land, pointing it out to his companion at the imminent risk of falling overboard. The Nicaragua view, which is by far the most sensible of the

three, shows the crew rushing to the side of the ship at the first cry of "Land," and the land can only be faintly seen on the horizon, whereas on the Honduras stamp the land is so plainly visible that it must have been seen some time before it was first sighted according to the artist. The third stamp, that of the United States, shows Columbus's first sight of the New World. (The land was first seen from the *Nina*.) He is standing gazing at it, and few men can

have experienced such triumph as he felt at this moment.



(To be continued.)

Points for Beginners

By B. W. W.

Puzzling Stamps

WE are so used to having our postage stamps printed without any indication of the country's name on them that collectors do not notice it, believing that all the rest of the world must know the portrait of our late beloved Queen, which is the distinguishing and unchanged characteristic of the series for sixty-one years, so we have just as quietly acquiesced in the "King's Head" as an emblem of the British Empire. It is only when young collectors get a quantity of foreign stamps without the name of the country of origin that they begin to feel annoyed, forgetting that, except for our colonies, we have not thought it necessary to enlighten others.

As it would be a big affair to illustrate all those issues which do not bear the name of the country from which they come, we have prepared this list of words that are most prominent on certain of these regular postal issues, or the central design used (omitting local, commemorative, or Postage Due stamps and some rarities), by which means the beginner can pick out and group together those stamps of which he is doubtful, and he can then—by reference to an illustrated catalogue—make sure to which series the many similar stamps belong. The local stamps of Native States of India bearing native characters only are not given, as they cannot be clearly described, though being low-priced they often come before beginners in packets, but are not very interesting. There are others, too, of Egypt, Turkey, Korea, or Japan that are difficult to describe because of the type characters used, also those of Bulgaria, Servia, etc., which are in Greek or Russian letters. The denominations of value are often a guide, so a few of these are given. *Stamps and Stamp Collecting*, issued by our publishers, gives illustrations of many of these stamps.

ANNA is the equivalent now of one penny, there being sixteen to the rupee of India,

which is nominally of the value of two shillings, but actually of sixteen pence only. This value was used only for Indian States, but has been extended to other British places on the Indian Ocean, as Zanzibar, East Africa, etc.

Bull's head.—On the very rare types of Moldavia, and of Moldo-Wallachia, with posthorn below.

Chrysanthemum.—This is the most conspicuous emblem on the stamps of Japan, though many think of it merely as the representation of a parasol or umbrella with its sixteen divisions. In some forged stamps these divisions are different.

Colon is a little confusing, being the Spanish name for Columbus on stamps of Chili, usually spelled CHILE.

Comunicaciones is the principal word on some issues of Spain only.

Confed. Granadina is the early name for New Granada or United States of Colombia now.

Correio, also with final "s," appears on the early stamps of Portugal and her colonies, the latter of which have always the name given, as also for Brazil. The first ones (without a name) have the head of Queen Maria to left, of King Pedro V to right, and King Luis to left; the values are in reis.

Correas is the same form of word (for postage or Post Office) in Spain and colonies, and also is found on most stamps of Central and South America, where the same language is used. The denominations of value vary, however. Centavos is the most usual form in America. Dominican Republic stamps, first issues, had merely a shield of Arms with "Un Real" and Correos. "Cuartos" and "Reales" are used for Spain; "Real Plata" for Cuba and "Centimos" in similar types of Queen's Heads. For Philippines, the word Correos is combined with Franco and Interior, and "1854 y 55" with a badly drawn head of Queen;

and for Peru, "Porte Franco" is also used in early issues. Other stamps with Correos usually have name of country.

Crescent, with and without a Star, is the distinguishing design of Turkish stamps, and is used for watermark of the 1867 issue of Egypt. Also on stamps of Eastern Roumelia.

Deutsche, with or without final "s," stands for "German"—usually combined with "Reichspost" for Imperial Post—and preceded by NORD in North German Confederation.

DILIGENCIA. The inscription on first issue of Uruguay.

Dragons appear on early Japanese without English inscriptions or values.

Eagles with two heads, and "K. K. Post," are on earliest Austrian with Kreuzer value, and also with value only, later in oval form—the same types for Austrian Italy, or Levant ports have value in Centes. or Soldi (sld.). Bosnia has the eagle and figure of value only. Russia has retained the double-headed eagle from its first issue to the present time. Prussian eagle has one head only, as for first of German Empire; but Lubeck has two heads. Early Russian provisionals for Crete also have the two-headed type. On

(To be continued.)

Modena stamps is a mild form of eagle, with ESTENSI, or "of Este," the family name of Dukes of Modena; also first type of Bolivia.

EAA. as short for Ellas means Greece, and is so used on its early issues with head of Mercury to right. The full name of five letters with similar head was used from 1886, and the name appears also on Olympic Games and subsequent issues of various types.

EMP. OTTOMAN indicates the Ottoman Empire or Turkey; also on Roumelian stamps.

Esculope with figure of value and "Magyar Kir. Posta" was in use twenty years for stamps of Hungary. A similar device, but with name of country, was used for Argentina.

Escuelas is found on most stamps of Venezuela, the same stamps being used fiscally for benefit of schools.

Espana is fairly well known for Spain.

Figures only are found on first issues of Brazil, commonly called bull's-eyes, also italic figures, and plain numerals on small oblong forms, with machine-turned groundwork. Several issues of Postage Due stamps elsewhere have figures only as a general type.

Remarks at Random

By PAUL HOWARD

At the Bottom of the Drawer

A CURIOUS experience which sometimes befalls an applicant for stamps at a West Indian post office is that he may possibly receive stamps that are nominally obsolete. Thus 3d. Leewards with single watermark were supplied to a purchaser long after they were supposed to be exhausted, and 2½d. St. Kitts CA were handed to a collector who expected to receive multiples. In the same way 3d. St. Lucia were on sale at a time when they were believed to be out of stock. It would seem that postmasters occasionally place new supplies on the top of the old in the stamp drawer, and in course of time the new stamps work down to the old—which by that time may have increased in value in the eyes of the collector. The accidental appearance of whole sheets of some scarce variety, coming to light thus unexpectedly, may account for the sudden drop in price which some stamps have occasionally suffered.

One wonders what treasures may be lurking in the depths of the drawers in some of the colonial post offices. "Some mute in-

glorious singles there may lie." Stamp collecting in those parts thus acquires something of a sporting glamour: all one has to do is to buy, say, a 3d. stamp every day till a CA is handed over, and then secure the whole sheet.

The 12 c. Philippines, 1906

THIS should be a good stamp, since only 20,000 are said to have been issued. Bad copies are numerous: a heavy percentage have straight edges or are badly centred. When the number of these wasters, and the badly cancelled, are deducted, not many perfect copies should be left—possibly not 5000. America boasts that her collectors readily absorb an issue of 10,000, and they all collect Philippines over there.

German Colonies

THE lower values (up to 80 pf.) of the Ship type are worth looking out for, on account of the introduction of the lozenges watermark, which is steadily making headway among German colonies. The appearance of the watermark at once makes the unwatermarked stamps good property, for when once obsolete

this class of stamps quickly rises in value. Neither should the watermarked sets run for any considerable period, since a separate design for each colony is on the horizon. Thus the philatelic outlook here is doubly interesting, and all current issues should be a good investment.

Pigeon Post in the West Indies

PIGEONS now carry messages between Antigua and Montserrat. On the latter island there are large plantations of lime, and the growers are naturally anxious to have their shipments ready when the steamers arrive. A pigeon carries the news from Antigua that a steamer is on the way there, and will be due at Montserrat at such a date. This notice gives the growers warning. This has nothing to do with stamps, unless the idea of a pigeon post stamp should suggest itself to the authorities!

The Confusion of Tongues

MULTIPLES and chalkies have recently had to face a whirlwind of descriptions of themselves. Plain-surfaced, ordinary, first multiple, multi-chalky, the all-over watermark, etc., have been heard on all sides. One journal usually describes a multiple watermark as CACA. But all these titles may now be expected to disappear. In the new Catalogue "O" indicates ordinary paper, while "C" stands for chalky, these two simple letters solving the problem. They have the merit of brevity, and should become popular; other methods of describing the papers should now gradually fall into disuse.

Stamps and Hospitals

THE value of a million penny English King's Heads can be gathered from a current buying list, and the figures are interesting. One-tenth of a penny per hundred is offered, which works out at £4 3s. 4d. per million. Penny English are usually thrown away, but it seems they have a value after all. It is widely believed that a million stamps will secure a patient's admission into a hospital, or pay for a child's maintenance for a lengthy period in a Waifs' Home, but of course it depends on what the million stamps are. Not every dealer, one would think, would have the courage to put down £4 3s. 4d. for a million penny red English.

Cheap Stamps

IT is always a pleasure when attractive stamps become cheap. Egypt O.H.H.S. are delightfully within reach. The new and gorgeous Austrians should presently arrive at a cheap rate, and the pretty Tunis Parcel Post stamps (see the illustration of them in the Catalogue) are getting into circulation at a price that is very moderate. 12 c. Peru has come down to 1d., 10 c. Philippines,

1906, is only the same price. Bosnia, 1906, with actual postmarks thereon, are now available; 5 to 35 c. French, 1906, are attractive, and there is also the 20 c., olive, Postage Due to look out for, and the new 10 c., surcharged F.M. Guadeloupe, 1906, please the eye. On the page they show up big and gay, and are a bit of a change from the spectacled stamps of other French colonies. So, too, are Reunion, 1906, quaint stamps with a map of the island. Indo-Chine, 1904, have fascinated many a collector, and the issue of 1907 promises to be interesting. The Swiss Tell design should also be cheap. And what a halo is thrown upon the Roumanian page in one's album when the pictorials of 1906 are introduced! Talk about a dividing line! It is like exchanging grey dawn for noonday. Some people don't seem to care much about these, but copies that have genuinely been through the post should be acceptable enough.

All these—and there are others—are things to be on the look-out for, for half the joy of collecting is of an anticipatory nature. To take the catalogue and jot down the stamps one intends to "get," and then to live through two or three days of lively anticipation, is to add an appreciable percentage to the joy of living. Many a collector sits down to breakfast with a glad twinkle in his eye, occasioned by the letters that lie cosily alongside his plate, and he goes through the day's work far more cheerfully since he knows there are packets of stamps awaiting his inspection at nightfall. It is an agreeable change, too, to cease delving among older issues for a space, and to pay attention to later arrivals. The New Issue page in the stamp journal is a wonderful inspiration; editors are wise when they make it as complete as possible, and give it a prominent place. It inspires the reader as nothing else can do, it creates a light in his eye, and sometimes a catch in his breath; perhaps also it quickens his pulse, and maybe it sends him off to borrow half a crown from his grandfather. In this last venture let us hope that he is successful.

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.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Martial Ardour in Paris

IN our issue of 7 March we referred to a scandalous circular sent out by some person unknown in the name of the *Société française de Timbrologie*. Imputations of various kinds were cast upon many persons and upon certain societies. One dealer, mentioned in the circular, has signified his intention of tracking down the unknown author, and, having found him, of "inviting the gentleman to take a walk with me in the suburbs of Paris."

We imagine that the unknown will do his best to play Brer Rabbit, or else it will be a case of pistols for two and coffee for one. Well, whoever he is, he merits that some dire fate should overtake him.

Forgeries Selling by Trickery

SOME astute forgers are trying a new method of getting rid of their manufactures in France. A poor-looking woman has been paying visits to the houses of certain philatelists in and around Chatou, offering a packet of old letters, on which are old stamps of various countries. Her story runs that the letters belonged to her late father, who informed her that the stamps were of some value. She goes on to say that she has fallen on hard times, and that she would be pleased to sell the lot for fifty francs.

One gentleman, touched by her story, was going to pay what she asked, but, on examining the stamps, found a palpably forged copy of the Basle 1872-8, and also an extremely fine forged *tête-bêche* pair of the 1 franc, 1853, of France.

As soon as she saw that the game was up the woman left hurriedly, before the gentleman could send for the police.

We have heard that a woman has also been trying the same trick in Saint-Germain.

Postal System of Aitutaki, etc.

AITUTAKI, Niue, and Penrhyn really form part of the Cook Islands, although one generally imagines them to belong to New Zealand, owing to our familiarity with the overprinted postage stamps of that country.

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal* explains a point in the postal affairs of these islands that may not be known to many collectors

The postal department of New Zealand maintains postal agencies in Aitutaki, Niue, and Penrhyn. although these islands are far away in the Pacific Ocean. These agencies are directed from Auckland, and deal with all correspondence sent out of or to the islands. For internal correspondence only the stamps of the Cook Islands are used.

The numerous scattered islands of the

Pacific are served by small sailing vessels and a few steamers, but the mails are carried to New Zealand once a month only.

Petty Theft by a Sorting Clerk

A POST OFFICE sorter has just got into trouble in Munich. He was engaged in his duties when he noticed that a Bulgarian stamp was lightly affixed to a letter. He must have been a philatelist, as he detached it and placed it in his pocket. Unfortunately he was seen by a colleague, who at once reported the matter. The crime of tampering with the mails is a most serious one in Germany, and though only a single used postage stamp was the object in question, the sorter got three months' imprisonment.

A Moldavian Discovery

AN unknown Italian contemporary springs the following amazing story on a credulous public, if indeed it has anything but a private, and *very* select, circulation.

A Mr. Koumelfo is said to have discovered a unique Moldavian stamp in some old family papers. The stamp is carefully dated 1857 (so that there can be no mistake as to its hoary antiquity), and is very small, but is provided with the following inscription:—"Prince Nicolas Konaki Vogoride, Caimacan of the Principality of Moldavia—1857." By the way, the title "Caimacan" really means "Lieutenant," and was applied to the governor of a province. As far as I can discover in Moldavian history, the only Prince Vogoride was called Alexander, and was governor in 1879.

Well, to return to the wonderful find. The design consists of the traditional bull's head, above which is the royal crown. The stamp has no value expressed upon it; perhaps the author of its being was unable to find any postal tariff for that period.

Our contemporary goes on to say that Mr. Koumelfo—(is this a mistake, or the Roumanian for "comme il faut?")—that King Edward VII, who possesses the finest collection in the world [*sic*] has offered either £25,000 or £2500 for it! (Our contemporary says £25,000, and makes that equal to 100,000 francs; perhaps the rate of exchange has dropped in consequence of the momentous news towards the close of the fiscal year.)

The wonderful story concludes with only three words, pregnant with meaning:—

"Mr. Koumelfo hesitates!"

Now this is a really fine story, and is sure to go down well with American magazines; we shall find it dished up again soon from the wild and woolly West.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

British Levant.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (21.3.08) the 1½d. and 1s. stamps of Great Britain, on chalk-surfaced paper, have just been overprinted LEVANT.



LEVANT

Overprinted in black. Chalky paper.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1½d., purple and green	—	—
1s., green and scarlet	—	—

French P.O.'s in Morocco.—We learn from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (21.3.08) that the four low values of France have been overprinted for use in Morocco. Our contemporary does not give any information as to the type of surcharge, but we conclude that it is much the same as the remainder of the current set given in our Catalogue.



Overprinted for use in Morocco.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 centimo on 1 c., grey	—	—
2 centimos on 2 c., claret	—	—
3 " " 3 c., orange-red	—	—
4 " " 4 c., brown	—	—

Japanese P.O.'s in China.—The *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal* (14.3.08) chronicles a Japanese 6 sen stamp overprinted for use in China. Our contemporary is somewhat vague as regards overprint and perforation, but we believe the following particulars are correct.



37 支

Overprinted in black. Perf. 11½, 12, or 12½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
6 sen, maroon	—	—

Mauritius.—The following interesting paragraph is taken from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (21.3.08):—

"Mr. E. Mais writes: 'You may be interested in the fact that the 18 c. "Foreign Express Delivery" Mauritius does not pay for the Foreign Express. I sent a letter to myself from Port Louis to Natal with full postage and express stamp, and on arrival in Natal it was expressed to me and *bd. to pay* for Express. Being only a monthly service between those places, I cannot see where the Express service is used on the Mauritius side; therefore, why charge for *Foreign Express* when it has to be paid for the other end as well?'"

"It would be interesting to know exactly what service the 'Foreign Express' stamp of Mauritius does render."

New Zealand.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (14.3.08) chronicles another value, the 4d., with the new comb perforation.



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
4d., blue & yellow-brown on bluish	—	—

Nicaragua.—Our New York house continues to keep us well supplied with new provisionals from this terrible country. We now have to list the undermentioned varieties, all of which we have seen.



B
Dpto Zelaya.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
37 Type 37 handstamped with Z1, in black.	—	—

50 c., yellow

Value 100



Value 100

41 40 42

Type 40 overprinted as above in bright blue, reading downwards

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 c. on 50 c., orange (41)	0 4	—
10 c. on 50 c., " (42)	0 8	—

B

Dpto. Zelava
Z3

Type 40 overprinted with 41 and 42 in bright blue, reading downwards, and also with Z3 in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 c. on 2 c., red (41)	0 8	—
10 c. on 2 c., " (42)	1 3	—

Roumania.—Our New York house has shown us a copy of the 50 bani, of the 1900 issue, without watermark, perforated 13½.



Thin paper, tinted pink at back. No wmk. Perf. 13½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
419½50 bani, orange	—	—

St. Kitts-Nevis.—*Even's Weekly Stamp News* (14.3.08) chronicles the 6d. we referred to last week. Our contemporary states that it was issued on 5.2.08, and that 6240 were printed.



Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Ordinary paper.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

6d., black and violet

Straits Settlements.—The 3 c., lilac, on white paper, was expected, owing to information contained in a late number of the *Colonial Office*

Journal; it has now been issued at Penang (11.2.08), according to *Even's Weekly Stamp News* (14.3.08). The 3 c., rose, is to be expected before very long.



Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Ordinary paper.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

4 c., lilac (on white)

Switzerland.—Mr. E. A. Tucker has shown us a copy of the 20 c. on plain paper, perforated 11½ × 11, in which the shading at the top of the stamp, above the label containing the word *HELVETIA*, is composed of horizontal and vertical lines, crossing each other so as to form a network. Usually the lines of shading are horizontal only, so this stamp must have been retouched.

Major W. J. Lister shows us the 30 c. on granite paper, also perforated 11½ × 11. That makes three values belonging to this set, viz. the 25 c., 30 c., and 3 fr.



Plain, white paper. Perf. 11½ × 11.

Redrawn, crossed lines above word *HELVETIA*.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

211a | 20 c., orange

Granite paper. Perf. 11½ × 11.

220 | 30 c., deep brown

Trinidad.—In our issue of 17 August, 1907, we referred to a new shade of the 1s. that had been reported by the *Metropolitan Philatelist* (20.7.07); we did not chronicle it at the time, as we preferred to wait for further information.

Mr. A. D. Jenny has now shown us a copy of this stamp, the colour of the frame and figure being reddish brown, instead of black, and the tint of the paper being slightly more golden than before.



Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Chalky paper.

Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

126a | 1s., brown and blue on golden-yellow

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Correspondence

Newfoundland

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—Allow me to bring to your notice yet another error in the 1866 issue of Newfoundland, namely, the 13 cents, on which a topsail schooner is represented sailing with her headsheets to windward.

Yours truly,
H. G. JOBSON.

AMELIE LES BAINS,
7 March, 1908.

Twentieth Century Colonials

Malta

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR.—Replying to your correspondent Mr. S. Chapman, to whom I am greatly obliged for pointing out the error, I would say that it is the first figure that is incorrect (viz. 180,000). This should be 720,000, as the Postmaster himself in an official communication distinctly states that "3000 sheets of 2½d. stamps" were surcharged One Penny.

These stamps being printed in sheets of 240, would bring the total number of surcharged stamps to 720,000, thus leaving the other figures correct, viz. that 1000 sheets were overprinted daily, and there were 4000 errors. Further proof of the accuracy of this statement, if needed, is to be found in the present catalogue values of both the normal stamp and the error. A stamp of which only 1000 copies were known could not possibly be supplied for 4s. 6d. used or unused.

Nor an obsolete stamp of which only 180,000 copies were printed for 2d.!

I take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Bernstein and other correspondents for their kindly criticism of my work, especially for calling my attention to the various inaccuracies which have crept into the articles.

Should I subsequently decide to reissue the work in book form, I shall certainly see that those mistakes are corrected.

Very truly yours,
DOUGLAS B. ARMSTRONG.

Control Letters of Great Britain

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—In addition to the varieties mentioned in my letter of 22 February, the following also exist with continuous line:—

1d., red, Control D 5.
½d., green, Control D 4, in both dark and light green.

This, I believe, is the complete list.

Yours faithfully,
LANCE E. HALL.

17 March, 1908.

[Mr. H. Richardson, of Salisbury, says he has the following, which do not appear to have been mentioned before:—

½d., green, A, perf. horizontally.
1d., red, A " "
1d., red, C4 " "

—ED. G.S.W.]

Answers to Correspondents

A. G. ROSE (Ramsgate).—Thanks for cutting, but the reference appears to have been taken bodily from *G.S.W.* for 4 January of this year

L. G. (Cardiff).—The ½d., green, Great Britain (Queen) was to have been issued 17 April, 1900, "but an early issue took place at Penryn on 12 April and at other places before the 17th in consequence of the stock in vermilion having become exhausted." The bicoloured shilling was issued 11 Jul., following. A Post Office circular of April, 1900, announced that the issue of the

½d. stamp would cease on the exhaustion of the then stock in hand, and that no supplies would be sent out after 31 August following.

M. C. (Paignton).—You do not say what value your Transvaal stamp is supposed to be. In any case, it is impossible to answer your query without seeing the stamp.

G. T. WATTS (Southampton).—No doubt your Hong Kong stamp is No. 50. The Catalogue description is bad. The colour should be described as *orange-red*.

Philatelic Societies

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.
Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 1 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.
Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.
Annual Subscription: 6s.

THE fifteenth meeting of the session was held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, 3 March, when Mr. T. K. Skipwith gave a display of his stamps of Uganda which included the extremely rare type-written and type-set issues.

Some interesting varieties of lettering were pointed out by Mr. Skipwith, who is an acknowledged authority on

these curious stamps, and on the motion of the President (Mr. W. V. Morten), seconded by Mr. J. H. Thackrah, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Skipwith for the display.

Novelties shown were:—Mr. Moss, the rare 100 Provisional 10, 20, and 40 ticals values of Siam; Mr. P. M. Knight, 2½d. Transvaal, black and blue; ½d. Southern Nigeria, ½d., 1d., and 2½d. St. Lucia; Mr. E. Egly, 25 and 50 centesimi Italy, 3 c. brown, Switzerland, all being new issues. A design for a book-plate for the Society's Library Catalogue, with the Hlaik Prince statue for the centre, submitted by Miss Morten, was much admired.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 15
Whole No. 171

11 APRIL, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Consular Offices—continued

Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR first became known to the western world through the voyages of the Portuguese discoverers in the fifteenth century. After passing successively under Portuguese and Arab dominion it eventually became subject to the Imams of Muscat, and was for long one of the chief markets for the slave trade. In 1837 the court was removed from Muscat to Zanzibar. This was the first step towards the complete separation of the two countries which was finally completed in 1856, when the Zanzibar dominions became independent under the rule of a Sultan. A British consul was appointed in 1840, and from that date onward the influence of England steadily increased. France entered into relations with the Sultan of Zanzibar a short while after, but though doing a considerable trade never obtained a firm political hold of the country. Probably about this time the French post office was also established, but there appears to be no exact record in the philatelic journals. In 1886 Great Britain entered into a treaty of "friendship, commerce, and navigation," which secured to her rights of ex-territoriality and of holding British Courts of Justice, and the treatment of the most favoured nation in matters of commerce. Between that date and 1890 Germany made strenuous efforts to rival England's influence, but finally, by a treaty of 14 June, 1890, Germany agreed to a British protectorate over Zanzibar in exchange for the cession of Heligoland then held by England.

Formerly the Sultan's dominions extended over Zanzibar, Pemba, and a number of smaller islands, as well as over a large stretch of coast of East Africa running indefinitely inland. Since the cession of territory to Germany in 1890, and to Italy in 1904, they now only consist practically of the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba, together of an area of about 1000 square miles, with about 300,000 inhabitants. The city of Zanzibar is the largest in East Africa and possesses a mag-

nificent harbour. It is the great distributing centre for the trade of East Africa.

Philatelic History

The philatelic history of the French office in Zanzibar is interesting, even if the issues are not altogether free from a speculative taint. There must be something in the climate that causes so many provisionals and varieties of surcharge, for it will be remembered the English offices had quite, if not more than, their fair share of such luxuries.

Ordinary French stamps without distinguishing mark were used until 1894. With the commencement of that year the values most in use were overprinted in Indian currency. This was doubtless necessary in order to attract local custom, for the currency of Zanzibar was annas and rupees as in India, and the stamps of the English post offices, which at that time used the issues of the East Africa Company were all expressed in this money. The 5 c., 10 c., 25 c., 50 c., and 1 fr. were the first denominations overprinted, and in 1896 the other values in the following set were similarly treated.



1894-96. French stamps overprinted in red, blue, or black.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½ a. on 5 c., green	0	6	0	3
1 a. on 10 c., black on lilac	1	0	1	6
1½ a. on 15 c., blue	2	6	—	—
2 a. on 20 c., red on green.	1	3	2	0
2½ a. on 25 c., black on rose	0	9	0	9
3 a. on 30 c., cinnamon	2	0	2	0
4 a. on 40 c., red on yellow	2	0	2	0
5 a. on 50 c., rose	2	6	2	6
7½ a. on 75 c., brown on orange	—	—	—	—
10 a. on 1 fr., olive-green	—	—	5	0
50 a. on 5 fr., lilac	—	—	—	—

During 1894 the stock of French stamps of the above values ran short, and recourse was had to provisionals. Whether these were really necessary is a matter of opinion, but it is not unlikely to suppose that if stamp collectors had been non-existent the authorities would have managed very well without these much-disfigured labels. There were not a great many it is true, just enough to make them fairly scarce. That uncharged stamps answered very well is evident from a letter of a correspondent to the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* in 1895. This correspondent was asked to procure some of the overprinted stamps (not necessarily the provisionals), but the only class of stamps he could buy at the French offices were the ordinary stamps of France without any overprint. These provisionals not only had the values expressed both in French and local currency, but to make everything complete the name of the office was added. The overprints were set up in blocks of twenty-five; there are numerous minor varieties differing in spacing, lettering, etc., but mainly in the shape of the larger figures. For those who like to study settings a full description is given in the *Monthly Journal*, Vol. VIII. The numbers overprinted are given in brackets.



1894. *French stamps surcharged with value in Indian currency, and corresponding value in French currency, in black or red.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ a. and 5 on 1 c., black on <i>azure</i> (1200)	7 6	—
1 a. and 10 on 3 c., grey (1200)	7 6	—
$2\frac{1}{2}$ a. and 25 on 4 c., purple-brown on grey (1200)	10 0	—
5 a. and 50 on 20 c., red on <i>green</i> (1050)	15 0	—
10 a. and 1 fr. on 40 c., red on <i>yellow</i> (600)	60 0	—

The overprinting of the name on the above provisionals was evidently a happy inspiration, for in 1897 it was thought necessary to more clearly earmark the origin of Zanzibar stamps, and a complete set was put on sale similar in appearance to the first issue, but with ZANZIBAR added to the overprint. It will be remembered that the Moroccan and Levant offices managed to conduct their business without such identification. In 1902 the set was increased by overprinting the new 2 fr. stamp. There are two printings of this issue, one in which the word Zanzibar was added to stamps of 1894-6, the other with the whole overprint applied at one operation.

1/2
ANNA
ZANZIBAR

1897-1902. *French stamps overprinted in red, blue, or black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 5 c., green	0 3	—
1 a. on 10 c., black on <i>lilac</i>	0 6	—
$1\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 15 c., blue	0 6	—
2 a. on 20 c., red on <i>green</i>	1 0	—
$2\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	0 6	—
3 a. on 30 c., cinnamon	0 8	0 8
4 a. on 40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	1 0	—
5 a. on 50 c., carmine	1 0	—
$7\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 75 c., brown on <i>orange</i>	—	—
10 a. on 1 fr., olive-green	2 0	—
20 a. on 2 fr., brown on <i>azure</i>	4 0	—
50 a. on 5 fr., mauve	8 6	—

Once again there was a famine in the post office and more provisionals had to be made. Records have it that none of these were sold to the public or collectors, but were affixed in the post office to letters and packets on which the postage was paid in cash. This seems to be so, for these stamps only come along used and are rare at that. Surely some mark that the postage had been paid would have been sufficient without the trouble and expense of preparing and affixing an adhesive stamp. Be that as it may, these provisionals were made and used. Luckily for the authorities a few sheets of the 1894-6, without the ZANZIBAR addition, remained on hand, and these were all converted into $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas and 5 annas stamps. These sheets were surcharged with new figures of value, both for *annas* and *centimes*, and the word ZANZIBAR placed vertically downwards on the right side of the stamp, all in black. The famine was severe or the authorities were economical, for the margins of the sheets and the horizontal spaces between vertical panes all received similar overprints with the addition of the words "Poste-France" at top, and were utilized for franking correspondence. There are several varieties of type in the figures, and as the work was done at the same printing office that executed the contemporary provisionals for the English post office, it is not surprising that the same varieties occur on each. The illustration given is that of a used copy of one of the marginal pieces described above.



1897. Provisionals on stamps of 1894-6 issues.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
2½ and 25 on ½ a., green	—	—
2½ and 25 on 1 a., black on lilac	—	—
2½ and 25 on 1½ a., blue	—	—
5 and 50 on 3 a., cinnamon	—	—
5 and 50 on 4 a., red on yellow	—	—

In 1902 this office received the new stamps modified for use similarly to the other consular offices. The list requires no explanation.



1902. French stamps modified.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
½ a. on 5 c., green	0 2	—
1 a. on 10 (c.), carmine	0 3	—
1½ a. on 15 (c.), pale red	0 4	—
2 a. on 20 (c.), brown-purple	0 6	—
2½ a. on 25 (c.), blue	0 6	0 8
3 a. on 30 (c.), lilac	0 9	—
4 a. on 40 (c.), red and pale blue	1 0	—
5 a. on 50 (c.), brown & lavender	1 0	—
10 a. on 1 fr., lake & yellow-green	2 0	2 0
20 a. on 2 fr., dull purple and buff	4 0	—
50 a. on 5 fr., deep blue	—	—

The last issues of the French office, which was closed on 30 July, 1904, can safely be ignored. The stamps are transparently speculative, and may be regarded as farewell provisionals to clear out old stock. A reference to the Catalogue will give all information about their form, but as Major Evans puts it, "the French office at Zanzibar has disappeared in a blaze of philatelic fireworks, so to speak."

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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

Topical Notes

By "THE SUB"

Post Offices in Morocco

SEVERAL articles have recently appeared in *G.S.W.* concerning the above, and appear to have aroused much interest. Many correspondents have written touching upon various points, but chiefly as regards the date of establishment of the respective foreign services. Mr. D. B. Armstrong, who is contributing the excellent article on "Twentieth Century Colonials" in this paper, writes as follows:—

In the number of *G.S.W.* dated 21 March, I find some extremely interesting notes in "Answers to Correspondents" on the subject of dated postmarks on stamps of the British Morocco Agencies, and also that you desire an explanation of the date when these offices were first established. This information will be found in the current issue of the *United States Guide*, which contains an excellent list of the countries and post offices which comprise the Universal Postal Union, together with the date upon which each country was admitted. Here we find that the Morocco Agencies joined the Postal Union together with the parent office at Gibraltar on 22 February, 1888. As offices are not usually admitted to the Postal Union until they have been in existence for some little time, we may assume that these agencies were established at the latest towards the close of the preceding year, and can therefore definitely fix the date of

establishment as 1887 and not 1893, which is the date usually assigned. . . . If some one could furnish a list giving the exact date of the establishment of each individual office of the respective foreign postal services in Morocco, it would be of the greatest interest to me and I am sure to many other readers of the *Weekly*.

The information in the old journals on the latter point is very vague. There was a French office in Tangier as long ago as 1862, though it was only admitted to the Postal Union in 1879, but I cannot say when the Spanish or German offices were established or admitted to the Union. Perhaps some of my readers can oblige with the information required.

Postal Franchise for Women

THE following interesting cutting has been kindly sent me by a correspondent at Birkenhead, who is also pleased to compliment the Editor upon the great improvement in this paper. Many thanks! We do our best, but the "dog likes a pat now and then."

Of the many millions of women in the United States, there are only three who enjoy the postal privilege of franking their own letters. This distinguished trio consists of Mrs. Lucretia A. Grant, Mrs. Julia Garfield, and Mrs. McKinley, widows of the late Presidents Grant, Garfield, and McKinley. This is the exclusive

privilege granted to the widows of Presidents of the United States. Not only is all the mail matter sent by them carried free during their lives, but all postage packages addressed to them are allowed to go through the post without payment of any kind.—*Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury*, 18.3.08.

Stamp Thief Sentenced

ANOTHER northern correspondent sends the following account of a stamp thief being caught and punished :—

At the Salford (Manchester) Police Court, a man giving the name of Harry Dacre was sentenced to six months' hard labour for procuring two sums of money and foreign stamps by means of advertisements. He advertised stamps, and did not either return cash sent nor refund it. In other cases he received stamps on approval from firms which he never returned. Some difficulty was experienced by the police in bringing about the arrest, the prisoner having traded under various names. However, a description of his personage was the means of Detective-Sergeant Morris arresting him just as he was about to board a train in Manchester Victoria Station, where probably he was going to pastures new to continue his frauds. The Salford police are to be congratulated upon their capture.

Don't Imitate Stamps

ANOTHER picture of the law is supplied in the following cutting. The Inland Revenue authorities are very strict with regard to the use or imitation of postage stamps in advertisements.

Several gentlemen connected with the Alexandra Hall, New Brighton, were summoned recently for using an imitation of a postage stamp as an advertising device. The summons was taken out under the Post Office Protection Act, 1874, which provides that "no person shall make, or unless he shows lawful excuse, have in his possession, any die, plate, instrument, or material for making any fictitious stamp," and the penalty, on summary conviction, was a fine not exceeding £20.

A gentleman from the Solicitor's Department of the Inland Revenue, said that it came to the notice of the Inland Revenue that a very large number of post cards containing an advertisement of the Alexandra Hall, and bearing a very good representation indeed of a halfpenny postage stamp, were being distributed in Liverpool, Liscard, and New Brighton. They were not sent through the post, but were dropped into letter-boxes. The imitation was so good that he was quite confident that if the cards had gone into the post they would have passed through without detection. He went on to state that 2000 of the post cards, with the stamp in every case obliterated by an imitation postmark, had been distributed. The block from which the printing had been done had been returned to one of the defendants, who, when he was seen by the Inland Revenue officer, frankly stated the whole of the circumstances, and, being anxious to take the whole responsibility, gave the name of the printer somewhat reluctantly. There was no suggestion,

of course, of any fraudulent intent, but it was nevertheless an extremely foolish sort of advertising, for if by any mischance the block got into wrong hands serious consequences might ensue.

In the result the magistrates ordered the defendants to pay fines of 20s. each and costs, and to forfeit the blocks.—*Advertising World*, January, 1908.

"A Philatelic Bypath"

THE meaning of designs on postage stamps is always an interesting subject to philatelists, so I would call the attention of readers to an excellent article in this number under the above title. It is reprinted by permission from *Hobbies*, that popular penny weekly for amateurs. By the way, the editor informs me a new volume has just been started, and the paper at the same time has been very materially improved. It contains a variety of useful departments of interest to amateur workers, including fretwork, wood carving, bent iron work, photography, stencilling, curio collecting, gardening, etc. etc.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

No. 28. *Bavaria*. Value £340.

A NICE book including the balance of the Mann-Castle and Breitfuss Collections. The early issues are well represented by mint unused and fine used copies. In the first issue of the Arms type there are several of the rouletted (unofficial) stamps, and a good many of the 12 kr. and 18 kr. in fine unused condition. Throughout the book laid and ribbed papers have been carefully separated, and specialists in this class of stamp will find a fairly complete selection. There is a very fine copy of No. 88, unused, and particular attention has been paid to shading in the later issues.

No. 64. *Kingdom of Italy*. £220.

A useful book containing practically all varieties. In the embossed series there are many stamps with double heads, and of No. 21 there are two nice copies with numeral inverted. The varieties of the 1877 provisionals are represented by several unused and used copies, and there are a few of the Postage Due stamps with numerals inverted. For specialists there is a good selection of die proofs on card of the 1862 issue, together with other essays, all priced very moderately.

No. 202. Value £123.
Italian Colonies and Italian Post Offices Abroad.

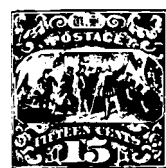
A fairly representative lot, though rather weak in the scarce varieties of the first issue of "Estero." There are, however, nice copies of the 1 c. and 2 c. in the altered types without overprint.

Christopher Columbus—continued

By "SEMICOLON"

ANOTHER series may also be intended to commemorate the discovery of America. This is the issue for St. Kitts-Nevis, the design for some of the values of which shows Columbus looking at the land through a telescope. This has caused much amusement, as the telescope was not used until more than a hundred years after his death.

On the next day the explorers landed and formally took possession of the island, which was named San Salvador, and now called Cat Island, one of the islands of the Bahamas group. We have only two views of the landing in our catalogues, one of which appears on two stamps,

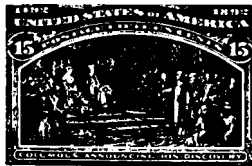


the United States 15 c. of 1869 and the 2 c. of the "Columbian" issue, the other being that on the Salvador issue of 1892. After leaving San Salvador, Columbus sailed southward and reached Cuba. From Cuba he sailed south-east and discovered Hayti, which was named Hispaniola. While coasting the island the *Santa Maria* was wrecked, but the crew escaped. Columbus then returned to Spain with the other two ships, leaving a garrison of forty men on the island. After a stormy voyage the vessels reached Portugal, where Columbus was received with honour by King John, and then proceeded to Spain, arriving at Palos seven and a half months after the departure from the same town. Columbus was received by the King and Queen at Barcelona with every honour,



and was made viceroy of all the lands which he had discovered. The United States 6 c. of 1893 shows the triumphal procession through the streets of Barcelona, and the

15 c. gives a view of Columbus announcing his discovery to the monarchs.



Preparations were made for another voyage, and this time there was no lack of support. On 25 September, 1493, Columbus set sail from Cadiz with a fleet of seventeen vessels with fifteen hundred men on board. After a favourable voyage the island of Dominica was discovered, and soon after



the fleet touched at Guadeloupe. On 19 November the island of Porto Rico was discovered, and the pictorial stamp issued for the island in 1893 shows a landing party going ashore. Soon after the fleet reached Hayti, only to find that the garrison had been dispersed by hostile Indians. One of the first acts of Columbus was to found a city as the capital of the newly discovered lands, which was called Isabella. The foundation



ceremony is shown on the Salvador 2 p. of 1893. His next step was to explore the interior of the island, and this done he sailed to Cuba, afterwards discovering Jamaica. On his return to Hayti he found that his brother Bartholomew had arrived from Spain, and as he himself was seriously ill at the time, he made him deputy-governor or "adelantado" of the island. During the whole of their stay in the island the brothers Christopher, Diego, and Bartholomew Columbus had to contend with the jealousy of the Spaniards, who looked upon them as foreigners, and the hostility of the natives. The natives were reduced to sub-

mission after some sharp fighting, but the enmity of the Spaniards was so great that in April, 1495, Columbus was superseded in the government by a commissioner appointed by the King and Queen. He returned to Spain to protest against this, and it was during this voyage that the incident depicted



on the \$5 Salvador of 1894 occurred. Columbus carried with him to Spain some Indian chiefs who had been taken prisoners during the revolt. The voyage was so protracted by adverse winds that the crew were in danger of starvation. They therefore asked Columbus to throw the Indians overboard, so that there should be fewer mouths to feed. Columbus, however, would not allow this, and managed to save the prisoners. On his arrival at the Court he was well

received, the feeling of his sovereigns against him, which was only temporary, being removed by the sight of the Indian prisoners loaded with golden ornaments who were presented by Columbus to them. The



10 c. of the U.S.A. Columbian series illustrates this event.

(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. 10d.

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

Twentieth Century Colonials

**A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901-June, 1907)**

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—continued

Ceylon—continued

Official Issues

THE stamps of this colony were first overprinted "On Service" for use upon official correspondence in 1895.

In all, six values of the King's Head series of Ceylon for 1903-4 were surcharged "On Service" for official use, three being issued in November, 1903, and three at intervals in the following year.

The stamps were overprinted in complete sheets at the Government Printing Office, Colombo, Ceylon, there being in all three printings as follows:—

- First. November, 1903.
- Second. March, 1904.
- Third. July, 1904.

As in the case of all other Official stamps, it was forbidden for them to be sold to the public, but despite this prohibition, whilst they were in use, unused complete sets could

be purchased of almost any of the small native dealers in Colombo, some of whom even went so far as to display them in the window. It was found impossible to prevent this leakage, and therefore, on 1 October, 1904, all Official stamps were by order of the Governor withdrawn from issue and returned to the Treasury, the remainders being burnt before a properly constituted Board about the middle of April, 1905.

An official notice with regard to the withdrawal of these stamps appeared in the *Ceylon Official Gazette*, No. 6005, dated 9 September, 1904, and instructions were subsequently given, by Circular No. 148, dated 16 September, 1904, to return to the Commissioner of Stamps, Colombo, on 1 October, all Official stamps then remaining in stock.

The following is a list of the various denominations of King's Head stamps surcharged for official purposes, together with the dates of issue.

1903-4.

Regular King's Head series of same date. Overprinted "On Service" in two lines in black across the centre of the stamp, at the Government Printing Office, Colombo, Ceylon. Wmk. Crown CA (Single). Perf. 14. Values in second colours. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

- 2 cents, orange-brown (issued January 4th, 1904).
- 3 " green (issued November 26th, 1903).
- 5 " lilac (issued November 26th, 1903).
- 15 " blue (issued November 26th, 1904).
- 25 " pale brown (issued July 18th, 1904).
- 30 " violet and green (issued March 14th, 1904).

The above issue contains no important varieties and only one instance of a misplaced surcharge, in which two sheets of 15 cent stamps received the overprint slightly lower on the stamp than the normal variety, owing to the work being done by a new man. It was intended to destroy the sheets in question, but by some mistake or other they were sent out from the printing office along with the sheets which had been correctly surcharged. This variety is, however, of very little importance, and is deserving of only passing mention.

Forgeries.

Many cleverly executed forgeries of Ceylon stamps surcharged "On Service" have

(To be continued.)

The Black Republics

By W. W.

TO many, and perhaps correctly, it is one of those strange coincidences that the two Negro Republics of Hayti and Liberia should both be in "hot water" at the same time. The threatening of the white population in the former—a repetition of history—has brought British and French warships to Port-au-Prince, and maybe by the time this appears in cold type "satisfaction" will have been given *à la Parisien*, or the island of Hispaniola will be in the throes of a great conflict. The murder of two Liverpool traders at the instance of several high Liberian officials has set the Foreign Office machinery into activity. Whatsoever our politics, we cannot allow British subjects to be removed with impunity. Both these Republics are chiefly composed of descendants of negroes who once were slaves in the West Indies and the United States, and owe their liberty entirely to Great Britain by the Act for the Abolition of Slavery.

It is always the case with those who have endured autocratic ruling for generations, that their emancipation never really eradi-

been circulated, and are calculated to deceive any but experts. These stamps should only be purchased of firms who are willing to give a guarantee with them and are of a sufficiently high standing to be capable of backing it if necessary. I reproduce the following description of some of these forgeries from the *Monthly Journal*, the particulars being furnished by its Colombo correspondent.

I must warn collectors and dealers against some forgeries of Ceylon "On Service" King's Head stamps which are now being widely circulated. There are two kinds:—

1st. With surcharge in different type and apparently handstamped. Can be easily detected.

2nd. A very dangerous forgery, as the same type has been used, and the only point of difference I could see is the distance between "On" and "Service". In the genuine this is 4 mm., and in the forgery it measures 4½ mm. to 5 mm. I have come across the 2 c., 3 c., and 25 c. with the forged surcharge. Used copies are post-marked "Colombo, September 1904."

Yours faithfully,

GEO. E. ANTHONSZ.

In addition, all stamps having the Multiple Crown and CA watermark and purporting to have been surcharged as above are forgeries, as when the last printing of "On Service" stamps was made in July, 1904, no stamps with the Multiple watermark had been issued.

cates what they have previously undergone. We cannot, in this country, really realize the true status of the colour question, like, for instance, those who live in the United States. A canary, having lived all its life in a cage, when suddenly freed does not know how to procure its own sustenance. Similarly with an emancipated nigger; he knows not the common laws of civilization, and therefore becomes a tyrant and his company is abhorred by his fellows. A short philatelic historiography of these two countries should prove opportune in anticipation of the turn of events.

Hayti

The greater and western portion of the island of Hispaniola, or as more commonly known, Domingo. Discovered by the one and only Christopher, it was the first Spanish colony in the "New World." Hispaniola literally means "branch of Spain," as one might use the term "Gibbonioli" to describe the "Phillipatic" Branch at 108 Broadway. In 1697 the portion of the island that is now Hayti was ceded by the Spaniards to France,

to which country the remaining portion was surrendered in 1795. It proved, however, a "white elephant," for after much fighting the great Napoleon withdrew the French forces, chiefly on account of the havoc played by malarial fever among the soldiers. The army having gone, the negro population, under Toussaint l'Ouverture, Dessalines, and Christophe, rose, and after a series of fearful massacres, expelled the white peoples and formed a Republic. An insurrection in 1820 resulted in the election of an Emperor, Soulouque, whose career was short, the Republic being soon afterwards re-established. The present President is General Nord Alexis, who was given that position in 1902, and, in common with other Haytian officials, is a cruel, ignorant, narrow-minded half-caste. His short presidency has been marked with more than one massacre, and probably the only fears he has are that the British or French may send warships to Hayti. A story is told of him shortly after he was made President that, were it not for its ghastly sequel, would be amusing. A Swiss was brought before him for high treason (?). General Nord asked him his nationality, and upon the reply, turned to one of the officials and said, "Has Switzerland a navy?" Being given the negative answer, he ordered, "Then cast this white devil over the rocks!" Similarly to its historical, Hayti's philatelic record is no white one (no pun meant!). From about 1858 to 1880 the British, French, and Germans had post offices established at Jacmel and Port-au-Prince, but in the latter year, when for a wonder peace reigned, with the aid of the French, Hayti entered the roll of stamp-issuing nations. It was first decided that the initial issue should embody the head of the President, but as it was thought that such might cause offence to the anti-presidential party and thus mean the too early journey to another world of those interested, the order was changed for what is generally known as the "Head of Liberty." This was really the profile of the head of the President's wife—the thin end of the wedge for inserting the presidential "kopf." The first issue is generally catalogued as being printed by lithograph, but this is incorrect. *These stamps were typographed upon paper which had been tinted by lithographic stones.* The second issue (1882) was printed from the same plates, but this time perforated. All values were stereotyped from a single die, the value being afterwards inserted in what is generally known as the key cavity. These stamps, perforated 14 and 16, are stated to be forgeries.

At the instance of a postal official a white printer copied the stamps, which were then offered to the Post Office at a much lower rate than was being paid to the Parisian

printers. Evidently this gentleman did not use enough "palm oil," for his offer was not accepted, though his production was not altogether fruitless—they being passed on to friendly postal employees, and sold over the counter in the usual way, and did full service. The designs of these "copies" differ from the originals in many ways, the chief being the arrangement of the cannon-balls. The 3 c. of 1887, bearing President Salomon's head, was surcharged 2 centimes in 1890, many varieties existing, as overlapping, inverted, and double surcharges, they having been overprinted by hand. A set of five values was printed by Messrs. Waterlow, of London, in 1891. The 3 c., grey, is believed to have been an error of colour due to artificial light. The stamps of this set may be found imperforate, but they were unfinished sheets stolen from Messrs. Waterlow's by one of their employees and sold by him in London. This last design was redrawn in order to better display the Cap of Liberty—the branches of the palm tree being drooped, and the flags smaller and more compact in the altered design. It is thought that all Haytian stamps perforated 13 were perforated by a machine belonging to the Government in Port-au-Prince, but no really authoritative data exist for that surmise. A modified design of the 1893 issue was engraved and printed by the French Bank Note Company in Paris in 1898, consisting of six values. However, the issue of the nursery-rhyme-named President Simon Sam's portrait superseded them, and only two values came into actual use, the 2 c. and 5 centimes; quantities of both values, together with the 1, 3, 7, and 20 centimes, managed to get out for philatelic sale.

"Simple Simon's" career was short, for in 1902 he and his Government were overthrown by General Nord Alexis, and the issues overprinted "Provisional Government, May, 1902," in abbreviation. On 21 December, 1902, Nord Alexis was made President, and in order to commemorate this election the 2 and 5 centimes values were surcharged "Nord Alexis, 21 Dec., 1902." Somehow these two stamps have not yet had the honour of being catalogued.

The year 1904 saw the birth of a finely engraved issue commemorating the century of negro rule, the French Government having been withdrawn in 1804. These stamps appear also with a fearfully designed overprint, made by means of a rubber stamp. This was occasioned by the theft of a large number of these stamps from the post office at St. Marc, in order to prevent the use of the stolen stamps. In the same year a set appeared bearing the head of Nord Alexis. This issue has been coming over in large quantities from Paris during the last year, and it is believed that they are being exten-

sively forged, since they differ in several points from those used in Hayti.

The chief differences are (1) the paper—being snow-white on the “French” stamps and (2) on the values 2 c., 5 c., 10 c. and 20 c. the shading does not come up to the head on the “French,” though the 1 c. and 50 c. white paper are not different from the Haytian in this respect. The price at which certain wholesale dealers in France are offering these sets leads one to naturally think, ‘*Vat’s de matter vid ’em ?*’

Through the long string of (or should one say endless?) massacres and alfresco battles among these liberated serfs, who, if good servants, are irresponsible masters, it has naturally come about that the native numismatic exchange has depreciated in value, and the necessity of providing some means for a “real” currency, made the authorities provide a separate basis of cash value when selling stamps for use on foreign correspondence, or a great loss would ensue in the periodical “clearing.” Thus we find the “Simon Sam” stamps of 1898–1900 overprinted, for postage on letters *outside* Hayti, in 1906. Later on in the year two separate sets made their appearance, one for interior and the other for exterior service.

To fully describe and write up Hayti, would of course be only a repetition of the philatelic history as laid down by contem-

poraries, and as such would contain very little more “meat” than one would find in an egg after abstracting the yolk; the foregoing short description of Haytian stamps may give a little enlightenment on facts little known generally.

The introduction of postage stamps into the island of Domingo caused many amusing incidents, occasioned by the little general knowledge possessed by the coloured folk. An old nigger servant had been commanded by his master to post a letter, but at the same time he was carefully instructed to buy a stamp at the post office, and affix it to the letter. He purchased the stamp, stuck it to the letter, *and then took it himself to the addressee!* History does not relate whether the receiver lived in the same town, or the other side of the island.

An old nigger lady, at the time of the Foreign Offices, went to post a letter. She evidently did not understand, or was even unaware of the adhesive matter on the back of the stamp, for *she placed it inside the letter*, which was a sheet of paper doubled, folded, and finally sealed with wax.

It is also said that many of the darkies were unaware that the postmark cancelled the service of the stamp, and that many carelessly soaked stamps off old letters, and fixed them on packets, thinking that they would still carry.

A Philatelic Bypath

BESIDES Cheops’ Pyramid, which has acquired a lawful right and title by over twelve years of undisputed possession of the ground to be considered as the philatelic symbol of Egypt, and other more modest emblems, like the envelope of Hungary, which the mere revolutions of time have elevated to a similar rank, there are to be seen in the album of every stamp collector national insignia of a different kind, broken planks drifted up from the wreck of systems of armoury, which, though unlike anything we know by that name, are yet as truly worthy of it as any that ever came out of the College in Queen Victoria Street. For the mere mechanic purposes of identification some knowledge of these is not without its value, and it needs not to be recommended to those collectors whose specimens are friends endeared by the memories of many evenings spent in company.

The fact that the two continents of Europe and Asia should both have been provided by nature with an insular excrescence, destined to be the home of a spirited and generous race, has been remarked as curious by many writers who have often extended the parallel between England and Japan into consider-

able detail, but few have noticed how much there is in common in the heraldry of the two realms. Before the great revolution, which caused the year 1868 to be marked in the Japanese calendar as a year of wonders, the islands were in the state and condition of England under the feudal system, with great nobles each a little king in his own domains, and almond-eyed Percies, for ever making war upon olive-complexioned Douglasses. These combats being conducted on primitive and hand-to-hand principles, it was found desirable to have some distinguishing badges for the respective chieftains and their followers, and so a regular system of family devices grew up. These are circular in form and consist of pictures of flowers, birds and animals, drawn with that delightful disregard of all the rules of the dull and weary science of perspective, which gives its character to the native art. The Mikado’s own house bore a golden chrysanthemum outlined in silver upon a crimson field, and this still appears on practically all the stamps of the country. It is particularly clearly seen in all its details on the 1 yen of 1892. Occasionally, as in some values of the 1876–83 issue the chrysanthemum is supplemented

by the Arms of the country, considered impersonally apart from its rulers, which are a plain red circle on a white ground. This is as good a piece of allusive heraldry as could be found anywhere, as the circular crimson disc represents the morning appearance of the solar orb, in allusion to the poetic Japanese name for the Empire, Nipon—the Land of the Rising Sun.

No philatelist will need to be presented to the Chinese Imperial Dragon, though the great mass of devices indicating official rank in that Empire, which revolve in duly regulated orbits round him as the central sun, awaits their exponent. The 1878 stamps show



the curiously composite creature to the best advantage, clearly exhibiting the five separate and distinct claws which he has on each foot. We remark this fact of his anatomy, because one of the few particulars concerning Chinese heraldry which we have been able to discover relates to it. Says an old writer: "By a standing law of the Empire no mandarin or nobleman, on pain of death, shall have any more than four claws to each foot of the dragon which he hath on his clothes or on his shield of Arms."



The eagle perched on a branch of cactus, and grasping a serpent, which appears on several of the stamps of Mexico, those of 1864 in particular, is a solitary survivor of an elaborate heraldry which flourished before the Spanish Conquest. The old inhabitants, being ignorant of the art of alphabetical writing, expended much ingenuity in working out a method of recording events in pictures. They were a pugnacious people, always at war with some one, and naturally they turned their pictorial writing to account in decorating their shields. Those, however, were only allowed to do so who had attained to the lowest of their military orders, which together constituted a sort of knighthood, advancement in which was gained by valour in battle. It appears

that their Arms were often what our heralds would call "Armes Parlantes," or speaking Arms, meaning that they gave a more or less conspicuous clue to the bearer's name. We unearthed one hero called Maxixcatl, who bore an eye charged on the palm of a human hand, and accompanied by the hieroglyph for water, the three words in the native language spelling out his name with tolerable exactitude. The eagle device was borne by the Emperor Montezuma himself. It contains an allusion to the legend concerning the foundation of his capital city of Mexico, which alleged that his people when seeking for a suitable spot came on a rock rising out of the marshes with a stem of cactus sprouting from it, on which was perched an eagle of abnormal size, devouring a serpent. The omen was held to be propitious, and the city was founded on the spot.

The Negus, or Emperor of Abyssinia, undeniably has a coat-of-arms of his own of some age; it is duly figured on his stamps, and is entered in the old books under Ethiopia, but whether this is the only heraldic shield in all Abyssinia, or whether the more prominent of the loving subjects of the Negus have them as well, we can in no way discover. On the stamps the Ethio-



pian lion is walking with his face turned to the spectator; he is what our fathers, when describing the similar beasts in the English shield, would have called a leopard. He carries a banner and, like many royal animals in Europe, wears a crown. The old writers present the Negus with a scroll, and a Latin motto meaning "Long live the Lion of the Tribe of Judah." It seems that the monarch's official pedigree is headed by the name of Solomon, but in these days when so many spreading family trees are found to be rooted in airy fancy, we may pause before believing in this one. Traces of the scroll seem to survive on the stamps, but the motto has vanished, unless an Ethiopian translation be concealed somewhere in the border.

Though Mahomet will not have the faithful making images of any kind, we do find in the East occasional figures which are to our purpose. Our old friend Saladin had an eagle for his personal device, and several of the early Sultans and other notables had bearings of their own. The modern Shahs of Persia display a lion armed with a sword with the sun behind him, a very striking

device which is capable, as on the earlier issues of the country, of being drawn with very good effect. An even better-known Mohammedan symbol is the crescent of Turkey, which has indeed come to be commonly regarded as the emblem of that religion. In point of fact it is the ensign of



the city of Constantinople, being originally derived from a very celebrated Temple of the Moon Goddess, which stood there in the old Greek times. When the Turks captured the place and made it the seat of their

Empire they adopted the crescent as its symbol, in which capacity it stands on most of their stamps, though not on all, as the odd jumble of lines usually described as the "Sign Manual of the Sultan" replaces it on the first and several later issues. An examination of this figure will enable one to disentangle five cardinal strokes, corresponding to the fingers of the human hand. An early Sultan, who was readier with the sword than the pen, was accustomed to sign his name by the primitive method of dipping his fingers in the ink and smearing them down the paper, leaving it to his scribes to fill in his name in common clerky letters. The idea struck his successors as dignified and worthy of preservation, and so their signatures still take the form of five strokes with Arabic characters wandering about among them.—*Hobbies*, 1 February, 1908.

Acrostic Competition

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

No. 6 (of series).

States with the largest populations known,
Complexions running from yellow to brown.

1. Can you see me? I am much afraid
This light's too clear, and not well laid;
On many foreign stamps you'll find it,
And two to eighty, but not one, will fit.
2. Both men and women claim the word,
Each claim is not at all absurd;
But be you either he or she,
Please don't put in before—you see?
3. Few men are this, more women are more,
If feet are of clay they fall to the floor.
4. Both gay and fragrant they are found,
Tho' long they're buried in the ground;
One there was that loved the water,
Now it brings them from many a quarter.

5. In London it is very small,
(This does seem paradoxical,)—
The Empire's is enough for all.

BEN.

Answers to be sent only on the printed forms, to reach us before or by the first delivery of Thursday, 16 April, marked outside "Acrostic, *G. S. W.*, 391 Strand, London." Letters from Europe should be posted by 18th, and from North America by 26 April.

Acrostic No. 3.—Three marks credited to Yankee (Boston).

No. 4. Three to F. E. W.; and one to Tea, both continental.

Hard U.S. Problems Made Easy 1869

By EUSTACE B. POWER

THE first bicoloured stamps of the United States made their appearance in 1869, and it is of this set that I propose to write to-day. Before doing so, it will be worth while as a matter of interest to quote the opinion of the Press of the time concerning this very pretty little issue. The *Herald* for September, 1869, says: "The present miserable experiments in blue, with a meaningless legend, are to be recalled, and something new, in red, is to be substituted. It is about time that some definite form and design of postage stamp should be adopted, so that people may know to a certainty what

mucilaged square of paper will carry a letter to its destination and what will not." The general public did not seem to take kindly to the humble little three center, for we find the following ode to it:—

You blasted, bawling, steaming critter,
Why take your place upon this letter?
Is it by high or low pressure you run
That you take the place of Washington?
Was not his work well done enough
That you're employed to blow and puff?
Or is your credit so much better
That you propose to take this letter?

Be all this as it may, there is no doubt that, without exception, the issue is one of the most fancied by collectors to-day, and the reversed centres add a particular éclat to the set. Mr. Scott tells me he once sold by mistake a fifteen cent inverted centre to a boy for a few cents, and the lad brought it back and wanted Mr. Scott to give him a *perfect* one for it. Mr. Scott did!!

The One Cent value

In a brownish yellow must be carefully looked into. First we find it grilled, sometimes with a double grille and often with a split grille, half one side of the stamp and half on the other. Those not grilled may be divided into (a) originals, very, very rare; (b) reissues of 1875 on hard white paper and white crackly gum; (c) reissue of 1880 on the American Bank Note Company's soft paper. This second reissue is always a darker, dirtier shade of brown than either the original or the first reissue. I have heard the 1875 or Centennial reissues called reprints—a misnomer, and one to be avoided. At the outbreak of the Civil War the Government, finding large quantities of stamps stolen or captured in the Southern States, demonetized all values heretofore in use. Thus, as the war was over by 1869, the original issue was never demonetized, and therefore the reissue cannot consistently be called a reprint. Both originals and reissues are good and available for postage if one cares to use them.

The Two Cent value

Requires but little attention; simply divide into (a) grilled; (b) original, no grille—rare; (c) reissue in 1875 on white paper. A word of warning is necessary about so-called unperforated varieties. The centre of the sheets was cut from top to bottom with a knife, leaving oftentimes a large margin and generally showing a vertical line of colour. Owing to the extra margin and in some cases the poor perforations, we are to-day sometimes offered what purports to be an imperf. copy; but, as far as I know, no imperf. *pairs* exist, and until one of these shows up I shall continue to doubt the imperf. variety.

The Three Cent

In pale, bright, grey and almost lilac blue. The common value, and therefore easily running to an immense shade variation. It is known as an original, without grille, and many specimens used are offered, about nine-tenths of which generally show either a few points of the grille or the dexterous handling of a good hot iron! We have the reissue in 1875 on white paper, and a scarcer stamp than people imagine. The cause is easy to locate; being so common as an original, the collectors did not invest in the Centennial reissue.

The Six Cent value

Very little notice is required to locate this denomination. We have (a) original, with grille, running to about two good shades; (b) reissue on white paper, no grille. The used originals, *well centred*, are worth all the 1s. 3d. we list them. Buy whilst you can.

The Ten Cent value

Just as easy as the six. (a) Original in two strong shades of orange (yellow would be better, I think), with grille; (b) reissue on white paper, no grille. Here again finely centred and lightly postmarked copies are cheap at 2s. 6d. Buy again.

The Twelve Cent value

The ship, I believe, is a copy of a menu card of the old *Arctic* of the White Star Line. (a) Originals in two shades of green; (b) reissue. The stamp is fairly common.

The Fifteen Cent value

The first postage stamp of the U.S. to be printed in two colours. The two types are easy to distinguish.



A



B

A. The "no diamond," so called from the fact that the three lines of shading running from the base of the foliate ornaments at each side to the little inlet under the "T" of POSTAGE and forming there a diamond, are not in evidence.

B. The lines and the diamonds are present.

The originals come (i) grilled, (ii) no grille (type A only), (iii) reissue (of type A only), and (iv) with the centre or medallion reversed. This mistake is quite natural in the first attempt at a two-colour variety. Many with engraving lines and varieties of the dots after U.S. are known; one can even in the common or B type find a distinct colon after U or S, generally the U.

The Twenty-four Cent value

With the exception of the ninety, this is the rarest of the set. The shades are almost identical; we find it (a) embossed, (b) original with brown gum without embossing, (c) reissue on white paper, and (d) with the medallion reversed.

The Thirty Cent value

To my mind a stamp with a washed-out look. The design is certainly handsome enough, and the public should have rejoiced in seeing the eagle about to scream. The normal colour is pale carmine and blue, but there is a very rare colour—a kind of première colour, I think it is—of a deep brownish carmine and a deep indigo blue. It's rare, there's no doubt about that; I've only seen two unused and one used copy in years; with its fine, deep, rich colour this stamp can easily be remembered after being once seen. So here we have (a) original in two smart contrasts, (b) original without grille (common), (c) reissue on white paper. The collectors of minor varieties of originals no grille can easily be supplied for years to come from the large block of originals found and marketed in New York some years ago. (d) Reversed centre. This is a corking rare stamp; it is hard to see till one looks close at it, and I offer this as partly the reason of its scarcity. It has been unnoticed by the older collector. An unused one was lately offered

at about £550. I believe I am right in saying four more are known, and I sold a used one for £100 last October to a discriminating collector here in New York.

The Ninety Cent value

A fine old stamp, and perhaps more used to illustrate old frontispieces to catalogues and price lists than any other. The *rara avis* of the old days. Years ago it was listed with the head inverted, but a careful boiling of the record copy found the head floating serenely away! The stamp shades but little. I think it is just as rare as an original as a reissue. I know I shall get in hot water if I say I think it is *rarer* as an original in good condition, but I do think so notwithstanding and nevertheless. We have (a) original, with grille; (b) original, no grille—a rare stamp; and (c) reissue. The carmine border holds its carmine very true. At the list price of 50s. it is not overpriced for a nice copy, and is a good old standard variety to have.

Specialism

By R. E. R. DALWIGK

ROUMANIA.—A country of large and varied interest, starting with the greatest rarities and eventually ending in the much-abused "Exhibition Commemoration" issue. Roumania has a large list of varieties, all of which (except the very recently issued stamps) are most intensely interesting and fine stamps. The very first stamps of Roumania, known as "Moldavians," are of very great rarity, the 81 paras being the stamp of the set, and having a sale value of about £220. The set of four sold not very long ago at auction realized (I think I am right in saying) £341. This at once shows that specialists in Roumania, unless they are rich, cannot expect to include the Moldavian set in their albums.

Coming to the regular issues of Roumania, we are first attracted by the singular brilliancy of the colouring. The bicoloured stamps are well blended, so that the appearance as regards colour is naturally pleasing. The designs of these early stamps show considerable ingenuity and good taste. Curiously enough Roumania, like Greece, has a set of Paris prints, which, however, do not possess nearly the same amount of interest as the Parisprints of Greece. The more recent issues are, to say the least of it, somewhat disappointing, and they contrast most unfavourably with the earlier stamps. The specialist can, however, be persuaded to overlook the recent stamps, as they are both common and cheap and worth almost nothing.

Russia, from the philatelist's point of view, is out of the common. Its stamps are manufactured in a small and quaint size which at once gives them a certain amount of interest. The stamps of Russia at present enjoy great popularity among the philatelic public, and rightly too, as they are good sound stamps in every way. Their attractiveness is not confined to size, as their designs are also of good workmanship, while the colouring on several specimens is also all that can be desired. Russia, too, is not encumbered with dozens of superfluous issues, but has a moderate number, in which are contained a few very fine stamps.

The present condition of Russia may terminate in anything, and it is not unlikely that at some future time we may have Russian stamps undergoing some queer changes, so as to harmonize with the rest of the country's restlessness. The stamps seem to have a good chance of some day becoming really rare, therefore those who are wise will be adding missing specimens to their collections. Specialists in Russian stamps will find that if they intend to include fiscal stamps, they are taking up anything but an easy job. To enumerate the hundreds of fiscals extant would take a long time, while to collect them would take considerably longer. Russia is a nice size by itself, and it seems a shame to make a good country into a bulky one simply for the sake of the fiscals.

Finland.—The early stamps are somewhat

rare and crude in design, the later issues being extremely like the Russian stamps, differing only in minor details as the addition of small balls in the four corners, etc. In classifying the early issues of Finland, the chief difficulty is to be met with in the various perforations or, to be correct, roulettes. These roulettes, on account of their extraordinary depths, give the stamps an odd sort of appearance. Like Russia, this is a nice

little country, and should go hand-in-hand with its mother country, whilst yet a third small-issuing country should be added to make the trio complete. I refer to *Poland*. Poland is the proud possessor of one whole variety to itself. Of course it must not be overlooked that this single stamp varies in shades to some considerable extent. If possible combine these three countries together, as the stamps look well side by side.

(To be continued.)

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Peru

A FOREIGN contemporary states definitely that the 2 soles of the latest issue has not been issued, although it finds a place in our Catalogue under number 190. As a matter of fact, I am told that this stamp was catalogued on the authority of *El Eco Postal* (15:9.07).

The numbers printed of this set, 182 to 189 in the Catalogue, are as follows:—

1 centavo	1,200,000
2 centavos	1,200,000
4 "	500,000
5 "	2,000,000
10 "	410,000
20 "	200,000
50 "	60,000
1 sol	30,000

Reduced Postage in France

FRANCE was a long while making up her mind to reduce the tariff for inland letters from 15 centimes to 10 centimes, but the necessary plunge was taken in April, 1906. It was estimated that the postal receipts in one year would be lowered by 40,000,000 francs (£1,600,000), and that increase in the number of letters forwarded would make up this deficit in not less than twenty-two years! The fates were propitious, however, and from April, 1906, to April, 1907, the receipts only dropped 23,000,000 francs, and for the postal year 1907-8 it is estimated that the receipts will not be much lower than those of 1904-5. This most happy result is not entirely due to any increase in the number of letters, but also to the tremendous vogue of the picture post card. No figures are available of the numbers transmitted, but I am sure they would show an astonishing total.—*Der Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung*.

The Engraver of the Dom Carlos Issue

IT is not very well known that the engraver of the French stamps, M. Mouchon, also engraved the Portuguese stamps bearing the head of Dom Carlos, who was so lately assassinated.

The eminent engraver writes the following letter to *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*:—

I engraved the head (but only the head) of the King of Portugal, father of Dom Carlos; the frames were engraved in the Mint at Lisbon. On the accession to the throne of Dom Carlos, I engraved his head and four frames, and later, in 1906, I engraved a new design of the King's head, and submitted designs only of the four frames, which were to be engraved in Lisbon.

As far as I know the new stamp has not yet appeared, nor do I expect it to do so now.

It is curious to note that some weeks before the Servian tragedy M. Mouchon had also engraved a new head of King Alexander for the postage stamps. Readers will perhaps remember that these stamps were actually used up, in the absence of any others, bearing the Arms of Servia as a surcharge over the Head of the King.

Forgeries Sold as Such

THERE has been an important case before the courts in Germany, and a portion of the sentence pronounced in Dresden is extremely interesting. It entirely knocks the bottom out of the contention of such manufacturers as Oneglia and Fournier, that they may lawfully sell their forgeries of stamps as being imitations. The judgment reads as follows:—

"Even though isolated copies of postage stamps might be bought for the purposes of study, and even though they be collected for that purpose, such forgeries were undoubtedly *really* manufactured in order to defraud philatelists, and *not* merely to supply a long-felt and pressing want; also that they were made in order that, sooner or later, they might be brought into circulation as genuine stamps, i.e. that money would be obtained by means of fraud."

Thus, in Germany at least, the law is clear at last. It is illegal to manufacture imitations, as the presumption is that they are manufactured primarily for the purpose of defrauding collectors.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.G.

Antigua.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (28, 3, 08) the 1s. has been issued on multiple-watermarked, chalk-surfaced paper.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.

1s., ultramarine and purple

British Guiana.—There has been an issue of an old stock of the 48 c., single watermark, according to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (28, 3, 08). The shade is *pale grey* instead of *grey*.



Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14. New shade.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.

187a/48 c., pale grey and brown-lilac

Corea.—A correspondent in Pyeng Yang writes that "on 20 February the Japanese Communications Department issued stamps of 5 and 10 yen, deep violet and deep green respectively."

We do not know if we are to understand from this that these stamps are intended solely for use in Corea, and whether they are ordinary Japanese stamps. The stamps both bear a portrait of the Empress Jingo.

Hayti.—Our correspondent in Port-au-Prince forwards us a supply of the provisional 1 c. on 5 c. and 2 c. on 50 c., similar to those described in our issues of 30 November and 21 December, except that the overprint is in *black*, instead of *red*. He was informed by the postmaster that they ran short of red ink, so had recourse to black. In the case of the 1 c. on 5 c., this makes a new variety, but the 2 c. on 50 c. is already catalogued under No. 162; this latest printing can be distinguished from the first by the overprint, which is rather more *brownish* than it was formerly.



Overprinted as above, in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c. on 5 c., deep blue	o 1	—

Variety. Double overprint.

1 c. on 5 c., deep blue	—	—
-------------------------	---	---

Iceland.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us another value, a 1 eyr. of the current double-headed set. The watermark and perforation are similar to the rest of the set. On all the other values of this set, except, of course, the "krona" values, the indication of value is expressed as so many "aur," that being the plural in the Danish language; the singular is "eyr," so the indication of value on the newly issued stamp reads "1 eyr."



Centre in first colour. Wmk. Crown, Type 2.

Perf. 12, 13.
 144a | 1 eyr, salmon and yellow-green o 1

Panama.—Mr. H. Pearson shows us a copy of the 2 c., black and carmine, showing a portrait of Fernandez de Cordoba, with the overprint CANAL ZONE omitted. We referred to this stamp in a note in the Catalogue, after No. 298, in which we stated: "It is reported that the 2 c. . . . has been seen used as Panama without the overprint . . . but it is doubtful if this value has yet been issued for use in Panama."

Of course this note is now obsolete.



As above, but with overprint CANAL ZONE omitted.
Perf. 12.

2 c., black and carmine

Paraguay.—Our agent in Asuncion sends us various new issues. There is a 1 c. postage stamp, similar in design to the current issue, but *greenish blue* in colour, instead of *vermilion*.

In the General Post Office at Asuncion two sheets of the lately issued 5 c. on 2 c., olive, have been found with the surcharge inverted.

Also the 5 c., Official stamp, has been overprinted **HABILITADO**, and authorized thus for general use. The most extraordinary thing about this last provisional is that we have the surcharged stamp in two quite different colours, a *deep, intense blue* and a *pale greenish blue*. In an unsurcharge condition we only know the stamp in the first colour, it being No. 263 in the Catalogue.



39

Habilitado
eo
5
CENTAVOS



Type 39. Colour changed. Perf. 11½, 12.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

1 c., pale greenish blue 0 1 —

Type 39. Surcharged, in black, with Type 41 inverted. Perf. 11½.

5 c. on 2 c., olive — — —



66

Habilitado



Type 66. Overprinted as above, in black. Perf. 11½, 12.
Unused. Used
s. d. s. d.

5 c., deep blue 0 2 —
5 c., pale greenish blue 0 2 —

Persia.—Apparently the higher values continuing on the new set chronicled in our issue of 22 February are not to be of the same design as those of the 1903-4 issue. Our correspondent in Teheran sends us two values of a new design, which we illustrate below. The stamps are fine specimens of *taille-douce* (line-engraving), and are produced in sheets of 100, composed of 10 horizontal rows of 10 stamps each. The perforating is done with a single-line machine, and gauges from 11 to 11½. The paper is wove, rather poor in quality, and without watermark.

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

A most interesting thing about these stamps is that the paper is punctuated with the letters CC in the margin. We have only once noticed this marking on other stamps, and that was the case in the last issue of Luxemburg. As the initials occur on each sheet of stamps, it is not likely that they are a papermaker's mark, but the mark of the printing office. We think it highly probable that these stamps were produced in the same office as those of Luxemburg, as the method of printing, the paper, and the perforating are identical in both cases.



Line-engraved. No wmk. Perf. 11, 11½.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

13 chabis, indigo-blue 0 7 —
26 ,, orange-brown 1 0 —

Sarawak.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (21.3.08) states that a new value, a 3 c., mauve, was issued on 1.2.08.



Wmk. Quatrefoil, Type 19. Perf. 14.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

3 c., mauve — — —

Sudan.—On the authority of *Appleton's Weekly, Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (28.3.08) lists a new high value, a 5 piastres, on the usual paper.



Wmk. Multiple Star and Crescent.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

5 piast., green and brown — — —

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 16
Whole No. 172

18 APRIL, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Consular Offices—continued

China

CHINA as a stamp-issuing country was dealt with in *G. S. W.*, No. 103, and at the same time details of its history, etc., were given. Previous, however, to its first issue of stamps in 1878, foreign post offices had been established in the chief and treaty ports, notably by Great Britain and France, and these foreign offices are still continued by France.

France had an office in Shanghai as long ago as 1862, which until 1894 used ordinary French stamps. Before dating obliterators were used the number allotted to this office was 5104 (large figures). An office was established at Tien-tsin in 1889, and one at Peking a little later, and possibly others, but these are the best-known. These three or more offices are under the direction of the French Foreign Office. Others with the name of the office overprinted on the stamps, and opened later, e.g. Canton, Hoi-Hao, are under the direction of the French Indo-China Government.

Peking has about 1,750,000 inhabitants, and is too well known as the capital city of China to need any description. Shanghai, with 650,000 inhabitants, and Tien-Tsin (750,000) are the two chief ports of China, more than half the total trade passing through the former.

Philatelic History

The first definite stamps for the French offices in China were issued in 1894, when the current stamps of France were overprinted with the word "Chine" in black or red. All the following were issued in this year, with the exception of the 2 fr., which was not put on sale till 1900.



1894-1900. French stamps overprinted in black or red.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c., green	0 3	0 3
10 c., black on lilac	0 3	0 9
15 c., blue	0 3	0 4
20 c., red on green	1 0	0 6
25 c., black on rose	0 5	0 1
30 c., cinnamon	0 9	—
40 c., red on yellow	1 0	—
50 c., carmine	1 6	1 6
75 c., brown on orange	—	—
1 fr., olive-green	1 9	—
2 fr., brown on azure	3 0	—
5 fr., lilac	7 6	7 6

In October of 1900 the 25 c. stamps ran short. They had been ordered from home, but the English mail boat, which arrived on 25 October, and by which the stock was expected, did not bring them. As a return mail was due out at once, the Consul-general at Shanghai authorized the surcharging of three thousand 1 fr. stamps. These would have lasted only a short time, but luckily the French boat, which came in shortly after, brought the stock needed, and so saved the situation.

Chine
25

25 October, 1900. Shanghai provisional.
Surcharged as above in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
25 c. on 1 fr., olive-green	—	—

On 20 April, 1901, the office at Peking ran out of stamps corresponding to the Chinese values of 2, 4, 6, and 16 cents, so the following provisionals were put on sale. The quantities are given in brackets, but *apropos* of the necessity for provisionals at all, it may be remarked that a telegraphic order to head-quarters at Shanghai brought along a supply of the missing values in four days. The first three are scarce.

16 Cents

20 April, 1901. *Surcharged as above in red.*
 Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

2 cents on 25 c., black on rose (900)	—	—
4 cents on 25 c., black on rose (600)	—	—
6 cents on 25 c., black on rose (900)	—	—
16 cents on 25 c., black on rose (2,400)	—	—

As mentioned above, other offices were opened under the direction of the Indo-China authorities, and were provided with stamps overprinted with the name of the office. Pending the preparation of such sets the following stamps were issued. Properly speaking they belong to a different group from that at present under notice, but, having the word "Chine" upon them, it is more convenient to deal with them here. As the Catalogue says, they were in use for a short time at the offices in Canton, Hoi-Hao, Mongtze, Tchongking, and Packhoi. The stamps were those of Indo-China, and the Chinese surcharge represents the value.

On the 1 to 4 c. it is indicated in *sapequis*. A *sapeque* corresponds to the English word *cash* (as in Shanghai), and is really the one-thousandth part of a *tael* of silver. On the 5 c. to 1 fr. the values are in *cents* (100 cents = 1 piastre, nominally 4s., but in reality nearer 2s.), whilst on the 5 fr. the value is 1 piastre. Similar stamps were reissued in 1904, with the word "Chine" slightly different. The reason for the reissue was that about this time it was decided that the offices should no longer be furnished with an ear-marked set, but that a general issue for all offices should be supplied. A worthy motive, but the postal officials in the East were not proof against the temptation of more issues, as will be seen later.



CHINE
 仙六

1902-4. *Stamps of Indo-China overprinted in black.*

1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	0	1	—
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	0	2	—
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	0	2	—
5 c., pale green	0	2	—
10 c., rose-red	0	3	—
15 c., grey	0	4	—
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	0	5	—
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	0	6	—
25 c., blue	—	—	—
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	0	8	—
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	3	0	—
50 c., carmine	—	—	—
50 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	1	0	—
75 c., brown on <i>orange</i>	1	4	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	2	6	—
5 fr., lilac on <i>pale lilac</i>	10	0	—

In 1902, similarly as for other Consular posts, the new stamps of France were modified for use here. The list speaks for itself, and the stamps were for use in offices under the direction of the Foreign Office.



1902. *French stamps modified.*

	Unused.	Used.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
5 c., green	0	1
10 (c.), carmine	—	—
15 ,, pale red	0	3
20 ,, brown-purple	0	3
25 ,, blue	0	4
30 ,, lilac	—	—
40 ,, red and pale blue	0	6
50 ,, brown and lavender	0	7
1 fr., lake and yellow-green	1	1
2 fr., dull purple and buff	2	2
5 fr., deep blue	5	3

The reissue of 1904, mentioned above, appears to have been a temporary measure, for when the Grasset type of Indo-China stamps appeared, the set was gradually overprinted similarly to the said reissue, and are still in use at offices not provided with a particular set. As a matter of fact the writer is of opinion that this issue is the only *bona-fide* one current for offices under Indo-China direction.



1904. *Stamps of Indo-China overprinted similarly to 1902-4 issue.*

	Unused.	Used.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1 c., olive-green	0	1
2 c., claret on <i>yellow</i>	0	1
5 c., deep green	0	2
10 c., rose	0	2
15 c., brown on <i>deep azure</i>	0	4
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	1	0
25 c., blue	1	6
40 c., black on <i>azure</i>	0	8
1 fr., pale olive-green	—	—
2 fr., brown on <i>yellow</i>	6	0
10 fr., red on <i>green</i>	35	0

Where foreign offices are established in various countries it has generally become necessary to sell the stamps in the currency of the locality. Hence it is not surprising that last year the French authorities, to obtain their fair share of custom and to avoid loss and trouble of exchange, found it necessary to surcharge their stamps with equivalent Chinese values. Hence the following issue for the offices under the direction of the Foreign Office, and these are at present the stamps in use.

2. CENTS

1907. Stamps of 1902 overprinted as above.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 cents on 5 c. green	—	—
4 " 10 (c.), carmine	—	—
6 " 15 (c.), pale red	—	—
8 " 20 (c.), brown-purple	—	—
10 " 25 (c.), blue	—	—
20 " 50 (c.), brown and lavender	—	—
40 cents on 1 fr., lake and yellow- green	—	—
2 pi. on 5 fr., deep blue and buff	—	—

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By "THE SUB"

"Me and Myn"

THERE has been an echo of Philately in the law courts lately. Probably most readers have noticed the dispute between two firms of publishers concerning the publication in book form of the above charming tale by Mr. S. R. Crockett. The story certainly appealed to most of the readers of *G. S. W.* when it appeared therein as a serial, and I am not surprised to find that in book form nearly eight thousand copies have been sold. Our publishers still have some bound copies of Vol. V (price 4s. 9d. post-free), containing the story, and for those who have not read it one of these volumes should be profitable, seeing that a full six shillings' worth of novel is included amongst other valuable and interesting matter.

Cleaning and "Faking" Stamps

THE authorities of late years seem more alive to the danger of the above practice. Last week at Enfield a stamp dealer, at one time well known in the City, was prosecuted by the Inland Revenue and convicted for having in his possession "instruments for making fictitious stamps and for fraudulently removing from a certain instrument an adhesive stamp." The method apparently was to collect cancelled stamps from City offices and to remove the cancellation marks with acid, thus rendering them apparently new. In this case fiscal stamps were dealt with, but a lot of cleaned postage stamps have emanated from this quarter, and it is to be hoped the conviction will have a salutary effect on the practice. The following extract from the *Daily Graphic* of 26 March is *apropos*, and it behoves collectors to buy

stamps, that lend themselves to such treatment, from responsible firms only.

In connection with recent and current Government prosecutions on certain charges of dispute "cleaning" and "faking," it is a fact not generally known that proceedings of this kind are never taken by the Board of Inland Revenue merely for the protection of collectors. Only when the allegations embrace charges of defrauding the home or some colonial or foreign Government will the authorities take action. Theoretically, in the present state of the law, it is not a criminal offence to defraud philatelists by means of faked, forged, or "cleaned" stamps, but in practice it generally happens that the faker, while aiming at the collector, has laid himself open to a charge of defrauding the revenue as well. For which fact the stamp collector is duly thankful, for otherwise his only chance of bringing a swindler to book is by means of a charge of "attempting to obtain money by false pretences"—a thing which is never particularly easy to prove.

The stamp "cleaner," the man who fraudulently removes a postmark from a postage stamp, or a bank mark or other "fiscal cancellation" from a revenue stamp, is a danger to the State as well as to the stamp-collecting community. Needless to say, the specimens usually operated upon are high values, and especially great is the danger in connection with revenue labels, which, being generally cancelled with a rubber stamp or with ordinary writing ink, are far more readily "cleaned" than those used for postal purposes. In many of the British colonies, as at home, stamps are issued for both "postage and revenue"; and in cases like Natal, British Central Africa, etc., where the face values range as high as £10, there is always the danger that the fraudulent stamp-cleaner will attempt to expunge a revenue cancellation by some delicate chemical process, and then either dispose of the stamp for re-use or introduce it via some shady channel to the

stamp market, where it will fetch a high price as an unused postage stamp! Sometimes the further step will be taken of supplying the cleaned stamp with a spurious postmark, possibly with a view to covering the traces of a faulty cleaning.

Dutch Philatelic Exhibition

I HAVE received a circular from the Secretary of the Dutch Philatelic Society, stating that the Society will celebrate its jubilee (25 years) in May, 1909, and to commemorate the fact it will organize an *International Philatelic Exhibition*, to be held at Amsterdam some time next year. Further particulars will be announced, but meanwhile an organizing committee has been formed, consisting of the following gentlemen: C. Wafelbakker, Chairman; Jhr. J. A. A. von Schmid, Hon. Treasurer; C. C. Altena; L. A. Beusar; A. W. Polman; G. J. Stork; M. Z. Booleman, Hon. Secretary.

"British Stamps used Abroad"

A FURTHER instalment of this interesting article is published this week. It deals with Hayti, a country very much in the public eye at the moment. Some of the information was contained in last week's article on "The Black Republics," but in order to preserve the continuity of the work the editor has not blue-pencilled it.

The "Monthly Journal"

FOR March contains the following articles:—

The Postal Issues of Denmark and the Danish Colonies, by L. Hanciau. The instalment deals with the competition for the Danish stamps of 1904, and the provisionals and issues from 1904 till the present time. A very readable and interesting account.

The Postage Stamps of Stettinland, by Bertram W. H. Poole, gives much useful and new information about these little-known stamps.

Salvador, the article by Joseph B. Leavy, is continued, and deals with the issues from 1902 to 1905.

As usual, the chronicle of New Issues (five and a half pages) is complete, and, unlike most chronicles, makes easy reading. Three pages of editorials by Major Evans complete a good number.

Description of New Stock Book arranged and priced during the last week

No. 37. *Norway*. Value £170.

This book contains the balance of the special European collections, and is fairly strong. The country is one that abounds in well-marked shades, and these have been carefully sorted. All the issues previous to 1883 are getting scarce, especially in unused condition, and the Catalogue prices hardly seem high enough.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—continued

China Expeditionary Force

THE appalling anti-foreign outbreak which occurred in China nearly eight years ago is too familiar to the minds of all living persons to call for a great deal of comment in these pages.

The dark days of that 1900 summer, when the fate of the gallant defenders of the Legations trembled in the balance, and all Europe waited awestruck and aghast for news of some description, good or ill, are too well remembered and of too recent occurrence to need much recalling.

The rising started with the murder of some foreign missionaries in the northern province of Shantung in May, 1900, and a few isolated attacks upon foreign officials connected with the various European and American commercial enterprises in that region. It spread with startling rapidity over the whole of Northern China, growing in strength every

hour that it was in existence, until neither the lives nor property of foreign residents were safe, and those who were unable to reach the coast, or make their way to towns where there were large foreign settlements, invariably lost their lives as well as all their belongings.

Native converts to Christianity were massacred by the hundred, railways torn up, telegraph wires pulled down, mines flooded, and the houses and buildings of all foreigners burnt to the ground, whilst the whole of the Chinese Empire was placed at the mercy of a mob of bloodthirsty fanatics, whose gospel was the extermination of the "foreign devil." When first commenced the outbreak was confined to the members of a native secret society, known as the I-ho Ch'uan or the Righteous Harmonious Fists, who had received the sobriquet "Boxers" from the foreigners resident in China.

This society was enormously powerful, and

its disciples were to be found in every town, village, and hamlet throughout the Celestial Empire, and numbered in its ranks were not a few of the highest officials of the Chinese Court, including those of royal blood, whilst it was common knowledge that the Dowager Empress herself was by no means unfavourably inclined towards the organization. The avowed object of this society was to drive all foreigners from China, and its apostles preached a sort of Chinese Monroe Doctrine.

Although it was well known that the sympathies of the Imperial Court lay with this body, the Chinese Government in the beginning disclaimed all connection with the rebels, and even went so far as to make burlesque attempts at suppressing it. When, however, the rebellion reached such gigantic proportions as to make its adherents all-powerful throughout the Celestial Empire, the Dowager Empress threw off the mask and declared for the Boxers; whilst acting under her orders, the regular troops of the Chinese army fought side by side with these fanatics and aided them in their horrible work of exterminating the foreigners.

In the capital, Peking, where the embassies of all the principal foreign Powers were located, the situation became graver day by day. The Chancellor of the Japanese Legation, Sugiyama San, was murdered in broad daylight by Chinese soldiers, and on 20 June, the German Minister, Baron von Kettler, was dragged from his horse and foully done to death in the streets of Peking, not a hundred yards from the Yamen, whence he was on his way to demand safe conduct for the foreign representatives to the coast.

Five days later the Legations were beset by savage hordes of Boxers, assisted by the riff-raff of the city, and also by regular Chinese soldiery. Few of the Legation buildings were capable of being defended, and the whole of the foreign colony therefore congregated in the British Embassy. Defended by a handful of marines, rushed up from the coast a few weeks before, when the first signs of trouble became apparent, the Legations sustained a severe and prolonged siege, lasting from 25 June to 14 August, 1900, being subjected during that period to a continual bombardment, the defenders being saved from annihilation solely by reason of their plucky defence.

The total force at the disposal of the defenders numbered slightly over five hundred of all nationalities, and as for a considerable time all communication with the outside world was cut off, and no intelligence whatsoever was obtainable regarding the fate of the garrison, it was at one time feared that the Legations had succumbed to the overwhelming forces which surrounded them, and that the whole of the brave defenders had been put to the sword.

In the meantime troops were hastily rushed to the scene of action by all of the Powers of Europe, as well as by Japan and the United States of America, who sent soldiers from her newly acquired insular possessions the Philippines, whilst the Empire of the Rising Sun furnished a complete army corps fully equipped as its contribution to the Allied Army, which following the bombardment and capture of the famous Taku Forts, at the mouth of the Pei-Ho River, by a combined fleet of foreign war-vessels on 17 June, 1900, gathered at Tien-tsin, prepared to hasten to the relief of their stricken compatriots in the Yellow City. This force—which was composed roughly as follows: 12,000 Japanese, 3000 Russians, 3000 British, 2800 Americans, and 1000 French—effected the relief of the besieged Legations at dawn on 14 August, 1900, after two sharp encounters with the enemy; the first troops to enter the city being the Sikhs of the Indian contingent, under General Gaslee of the Indian Army.

A previous attempt at raising the siege had been made on 10 June by a small column of seamen and marines recruited from the ships of the Allied Fleet, at that time anchored off the mouth of the Pei-Ho River, numbering but two thousand men all told, and commanded by Admiral Sir John Seymour, Commander-in-Chief on the British China Station, which, after arriving within forty miles of Peking, was repulsed by a greatly superior force of Chinese troops, with severe loss to the Allies, and was compelled to fall back on Tien-tsin, where it was closely invested by the enemy for several days until relieved by a stronger force hurried up from the coast.

The siege and relief of the Peking Legations will always loom large in the history of nations as one of the greatest sieges and most gallant defences of modern warfare.

The British contingent of the Allied Army consisted principally of native Indian troops, with one white regiment from Hong Kong, and the newly raised Chinese Regiment from Wei-Hai-Wei. Attached to the Indian division of this force were eighteen special Field Post Offices for dealing with the correspondence of the troops. Base offices were established at Hong Kong and Tien-tsin, and branch offices were to be found wherever troops were stationed.

The postage stamps supplied by these Field Post Offices consisted of eleven values of the 1882 series of Indian stamps bearing the portrait of Her Majesty the late Queen Victoria. These stamps were overprinted with the initials "C.E.F." in one line in black across the centre of the stamp, just below the Queen's profile, these letters signifying "China Expeditionary Force," the official designation of the contingent. It is not

usual for these Field Post Offices, which accompany every military expedition sent out of India, to mark the stamps used by them in any way that will distinguish them from those of the same denomination used in India in the ordinary course of events, excepting by the postmark; witness the recent campaigns in Tibet and Somaliland. In this case, however, it was found to be expedient to have the stamps surcharged, as owing to the difference in the exchange rate between India and China, it was decided to sell current Indian stamps at the Field Post Offices in China at a slight reduction upon their nominal face value, viz. 4 cents (Chinese) to the anna, instead of 4.165. Had these stamps borne no mark to distinguish them from those sold in India for their full face value, this would have allowed of their being purchased at the Field Post Offices in China, shipped back to India and resold at a profit; hence the necessity for the overprinting.

Owing to the fact that their use is confined to the military, and that about 1901 all British troops, with the exception of a couple of battalions of native infantry, were withdrawn from China, the numbers of these stamps used are extremely limited, and they are even scarcer used than unused. With the exception of the 1 anna denomination, the overprinted Queen's Head stamps first sent out in July, 1900, have been sufficient to meet all demands up to now, and there are still ample supplies on hand to last for

some time to come. The following table, culled from the *Philatelic Journal of India*, shows the total number of each denomination sent out to China between the dates of July, 1900, and January, 1905, also the numbers used and the numbers remaining on hand at that date.

Denomination.	No. received.	No. sold.	No. on hand.
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, carmine . .	331,520	247,659	83,861
$\frac{1}{2}$ " green . .	420,480	373,784	46,696
1 " plum . .	221,640	219,310	2,330
2 annas, blue . .	39,680	29,846	9,834
$2\frac{1}{2}$ " green . .	27,040	20,909	6,131
3 " orange . .	22,800	18,141	4,659
4 " olive . .	24,800	20,697	4,103
8 " mauve . .	19,720	16,697	3,023
12 " on red . .	14,666	13,777	889
1 rupee, green and carmine . .	17,640	15,191	2,449

All are of Queen's Head designs, and printed in sheets of 240, in two panes of 120, ten rows of twelve.

Of the original eighteen post offices in operation in 1900, I believe only three remain, and suppose these to be as follows: F.P.O. No. 1, Peking; F.P.O. No. 5, Club Road, Tien-tsin; and another of whose number and location I am uncertain. The cancellation used by these offices consists of the initials "F.P.O.," a serial number, and the date, contained within an oval, inside a circle composed of horizontal lines.

Stamps first issued July, 1900.

Currency: 4 cents = 1 anna; 16 annas = 1 rupee = 1s. 4d.

(To be continued.)

Acrostic Competition

THE correct solution of No. 5 Acrostic (28 March) is:—

M a J (or)
O trant O
N ylga U
T imbe R
H eave N
L am A
Y outhfu L

There are three spellings of third light recognized; for the sixth one, Lama is the usual spelling for the man, and llama for the animal.

For the last light some solvers have sent in an "unthought-of word," which I must admit is applicable, or there may be matured such a "yell" that my "youthful" vigour cannot stand, and the combination of both is a contingency not to be contemplated in any concatenation of circumstances!

Three marks for all correct solutions are credited to: Adv, Aei, Algy, Anona, F. W. A., Bar, Beyond, Birdie, H. Bean, Cadi, Carl, Chicken, Crofter, Cromlix, Capt. Clarke, Hawk, Hiz, J. R. H., W. T. B. H., A. Harvey,

Hex, Jaguar, Jap, F. A. J., W. G. Jones, Kappa, Kasaj, Late, J. C. Luker, Mascot, Mot, M. M., W. G. Mackie, A. Mackay, A. M. Marsh, H. Metcalf, G. Murray, E. B. H., Old Girl, Omega, Oudeis, C. V. O'Neil, Pen, A. H. P., S. B. R., Seabee, Siwol, M. S. C. S., E. Schilizzi, E. H. Shears, H. A. Spewart, Taffy, P. Talagrand, Ubique, Upton, Zimpa, Gingi, A. St. J., Tea, F. E. W., and one unsigned, believed to be Vox.

Two marks to: Argonaut, Brigida, A. M. Buttar, H. Chapman, W. G. Cochrane, T. F. G., S. H. Jr., A. R. Hebblethwaite, Jud, Lotus, Pharaoh, Psi, Reg, Roy, O. R. R., E. H. F. S., Tasman, Timbre, M. C. Tancock, and one unsigned, with illegible postmark: will the claimant say what word was sent for second light?

One mark credited to: Champion, F. D., W. Gardner, Thistle, and Tertius.

Others received with less than half correct.

For No. 3 Acrostic, two to Miss Keyser.

For No. 4 Acrostic, two to Greek.

Roy's explanation is accepted and full credit given for his last answer.

Christopher Columbus—continued

By "SEMICOLON"

ON 30 May, 1498, Columbus set out on his third voyage, and taking a more southerly course discovered Trinidad, which has commemorated the event on its



2d. stamp of 1898. While coasting the island the mainland of South America was first seen, and a view of the landing of the explorers



appears on the only stamp which Venezuela has devoted to Columbus, the 25 c. of 1893.



Grenada was next discovered, on 11 August, and two of the stamps of the island bear views of the flagship of Columbus, *La Concepcion*, one appearing on the 2d. stamp of 1898 and the other on the current set.

On his arrival at the settlement of Isabella, Columbus found his brother again in difficulties with the natives and rebellious Spaniards. After many months of disturbance he succeeded in quelling the revolt, but his enemies had been busy at the Court of Spain, and he was again superseded and sent home in chains by his successor. Public indignation was aroused by his arrival in fetters and he was



again well received at Court. Several stamps commemorate his return from this his third voyage. The \$2 United States of 1893 shows his return in chains, the 8 c.



depicts his reception by the Queen, and the \$3 shows him describing his voyage to the



Queen in private. The Salvador \$10 of 1894 is very similar to the second of these. Columbus was not restored to the governorship of the island after this, but remained for some time in Spain.

In May, 1502, he obtained permission to attempt the discovery of a strait which he supposed to exist somewhere in the Isthmus of Darien. He arrived on 15 June at Martinique, and proceeded to Hayti and thence to Cuba. From Cuba he steered for the mainland and reached the coast of Honduras on 17 August. Sailing southward, the fleet arrived early in October at Costa Rica, the "Rich Coast," so called from gold and silver mines afterwards discovered there. Columbus was forced to return to Jamaica in June, 1503, without discovering the strait for which he had been looking, and when he arrived there his ships were in such a bad condition that they sank in the harbour. Two of his followers, Diego Mendez and Bartholomew Fiesco, made an adventurous voyage to Hayti in an open boat to obtain help. This is commemorated on the Dominican Republic 1 c. of 1899, which is inscribed



"Voyage of Mendez and Fiesco from Jamaica to San Domingo." Columbus and his party remained on the island for nearly a year before a ship arrived to convey them to Hayti. After staying some time in the colony he sailed for Spain, where he arrived in November, 1504. During the remaining years of his life he was neglected by the Court, and on 20 May, 1506, he died at the age of seventy, not long after his patroness, Queen Isabella.

He was buried at Valladolid, but his remains were soon transferred to Seville. In 1536 they were taken to Hayti and interred in the cathedral of San Domingo, and on the cession of the island to France in 1795 his bones were removed in state to Havana in Cuba. In 1899 the Dominican Republic issued a series of stamps in aid of the funds for building a mausoleum for the remains of Columbus, and on the 2 p. of this set a view of this mausoleum is shown, so that it appears the relics again rest in the cathedral at San Domingo, after their many removals. On the 10 c. of the same series appears an allegorical representation of Spain guarding the remains of Columbus, suggesting that they are now in their final resting-place, which is to be hoped is the case. A picture of a former



sarcophagus of Columbus appears on the 5 c. of the same series.



We have many portraits of Columbus in our catalogues, most of which have been issued by Chili, nearly all the issues of which bear portraits of the explorer, the word

"Colon" on the stamps being the Spanish rendering of his name. The 100 c. Salvador of 1896 gives another portrait of Columbus, and the two highest values of the U.S.A. "Columbian" series repeat the portraits on the current Chilean stamps.



Many memorials have no doubt been erected to Columbus, but only three appear on stamps. One which appears on several



issues of Salvador stamps was erected at Genoa; another on the 1 p. Guatemala of 1902 shows Columbus standing on a globe;



and a third is shown on the 1 c. of the current issue for Cuba. A view of a "Columbus theatre" also appears on the 10 c. of the above-mentioned issue of Guatemala.

In conclusion, it can be said that for those who wish to form a collection which will be of interest to non-collectors as well as to themselves, no more interesting issues will be found than those which are devoted to perpetuating the memory of the deeds of Christopher Columbus.

Conveyance of Mails during the Siege of Paris, 1870-1

By W. WARD

DURING the Commune of 1870 the posts of the capital of the Second Empire were in a state of "non compos." The overthrow of Napoleon, the election of a Provisional Government, and finally, the attack on and investment of Paris, were hardly incidents to further commerce, and to a great extent the posts are the modern foundation of business, both home and trans-foreign, relationship.

However, towards the fall of the year 1870 the German, or, to be more correct, the Prussian Army—for it was after the Franco-Prussian war that Germany aspired to the honour of a first-class "Power"—attacked the French capital.

For many days during the early part of the siege English, Americans, and Russians were allowed the privilege of sending private letters to their friends. It is needless to remark that all letters were examined prior to their being forwarded to Versailles by both Republican and Prussian officials. This special permission was withdrawn in a very short time. Then began the difficulties of both sending and receiving news from the outer world. Among the chief personages who necessarily required such means were the British war correspondents, notably of the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Daily News*, the latter being the renowned Mr. Gibson Bowles. The only possible means that existed were by balloons and by pigeons. Of the former there were only four in the city. Towards the end of September these correspondents, realizing their professional engagements, formed themselves into a committee for a deputation to M. Jules Favre, requesting that means and facilities be provided for correspondence to England. After a little delay a decree was issued on 27 September, 1870, commanding the owners of the four above-mentioned balloons to "loan" them into the postal service of the Provisional Government of the Third Republic. M. Theiz was the Director of the Posts, with head-quarters in Rue J. J. Rousseau. This gentleman was condemned the following year, but escaped to England on 29 July, 1871. The mails up to the time mentioned (27 September, 1870) had accumulated at the Post Office, and as a correspondent wrote, "the ordinary letters of the last fortnight are now lying at the P.O. untouched, unless by a few enterprising and early worms. . . . I have forwarded letters by various 'peculiar' and

very desperate channels, but I fear greatly that they are more likely to end the journey in Berlin than in London." It is amusing to relate that about this time many complaints were made "that the postal service was not so regular as they had known it," and it was nigh a daily feature to see indignant old business gentlemen appealing and threatening at the office.

On the night of 29 September two balloons were to ascend and make a bid for clearing the Prussian lines. In filling one with gas it burst, so, like the "ten little nigger boys," then there was only one. The start was fixed for 3 a.m., a steady north-east wind blowing. The aeronaut or balloonist demanded at the last moment 2500 francs before he would start on his journey. He was offered 100 francs for every letter delivered in London. Whilst they were haggling and bargaining a soldier rushed up, exclaiming, "Le ballon est parti!" Alas! the news was too true; some one had cut the ropes, so that the first mail balloon was a dead failure. Two others remained, and it is interesting to note that both these successfully reached the coast. The principal business of a war correspondent was not to find news, but to discover a means of mailing it to his "paper." Hence they "pushed" the authorities for means.

Men were therefore employed in making further "air-ships." These were barracked at the Gare du Nord, the chief station of one of the most important European continental railways. The porters in their everlasting blue overalls had disappeared, and in their place were soldiers and postal officials and balloon workers. The balloons themselves were painted in red, black, and yellow stripes. Under false pretences, a war correspondent as an employee of the Post Office obtained permission to help at the dispatching of a balloon from the Gare du Nord, and wrote:—

"The balloon was being filled; surrounding it were three large sacks containing the mails, and also five shallow baskets containing about thirty homer pigeons. The 'nacelle,' or basket-car, was simply a flat square basket, the height of a man's waist, with room for two people to crouch, rather than stand or sit. The bags of mails were hung with the baskets of pigeons on the outside of the car. There was a heavy dark fog on at the time, and for some minutes the mighty gas-bag refused to move, but suddenly shot up, and disappeared in the mist."

Most of the balloons floated safely in the enemy's lines, or conveniently toppled the mails over Prussian outposts. These unsteerable air-ships were thought, however, fairly successful, for we find a decree issued on 30 November to the effect that the gas would be cut off from all buildings, whether public or private, and used for filling the balloons.

On 24 November two pigeons arrived from Orleans, bringing between them 1100 private letters and dispatches, one of which had only left Orleans on the previous day (23rd). Following these many birds arrived from Tours, as well as the former town. "Each bird carried from 500 to 600 telegrams [*sic*] and dispatches," writes the *News* correspondent, "and are arriving at the rate of three or four a day." The birds suffered big losses from hawks and the best marksmen of the Prussian army; indeed, it is recorded that the Germans imported hawks from Saxony to prey upon the carriers. The messages were tied to or round the base of the stem of the long and strong feathers of the bird's fan-like tail. Another method was to throw bottles into the Seine, but very few are known to have been recovered. A few papal priests in the earlier stages of the siege took letters through the Prussian lines

without discovery. As most of the communications were delivered and carried by private treaty stamps were not needed, though a few were carried on behalf of the Government by balloon, and are inscribed "Ballon-Post."

In the start of the new year, 1871, things were becoming to look very bad, and we find one writer bemoaning the scarcity of paper and ink. The Prussians began to bombard the city in such a manner as to utterly disregard the ordinary usages of war, ignoring the white and red cross flags, so that any attempt at outside communication was a sheer impossibility, and no further means to send or receive were used until the raising of the siege. Throughout this period the newspapers were published, chiefly containing extracts from German journals found on the wounded or captured enemy.

Apropos of the present Egyptian controversy, it is worthy of record that a rumour was current in Paris during the latter part of the siege that England was prepared to turn out against the Germans, in consideration of France releasing her hold upon Egypt. This was probably the invention of a French journalist, for shortly after it was said that the "perfidious Albion" had seized the "Land of the Pharaohs."

Points for Beginners

By B. W. W.

Puzzling Stamps—continued

FRANCO, with values in rappen or centesimi, on 1854 Swiss stamps. With **BOLLO**, meaning "Free stamp," on several of Italian States, as Neapolitan Provinces, Romagna, Roman States, Sardinia (imperf.), and Kingdom of Italy (perf.), and **DI STATO** in addition for Official stamps, but surcharged 2 c. for ordinary use. Other States have their names on. "Franco 1 Rl. Fte." is found over Queen's head for Philippines 1854-5.

FREIMARKE, meaning "free-stamp," is used on Prussian and Würtemberg stamps, and others with names as on Thurn and Taxis, etc.

Frimärke, another spelling of same word, also as F.R.M., on Denmark, with Rigsbank Schilling, or crown, sword, and sceptre, in centre, and same design with value in cents on Danish West Indies. On the first of Norway, with killing value.

G., or **G.W.**—Overprint on Cape stamps for Griqualand.

G.P.E., for Guadeloupe, on French Colonial issue.

GRANADA, or Granadina. Original name for what is now called Colombia.

Greek or Russian letters are used for Bulgaria, Crete, Montenegro, and Serbia stamps, as well as for those of Greece and Russia.

Helvetia.—The name for Switzerland.

H. H. Nawab, etc., on stamps of Bhopal.

H. I. only is used as for "Hawaiian Islands" on some issues.

H. R. Z. G. L., for Herzogthum, appears on stamps of Holstein, with F.R.M., etc.

India Port. is short for Portuguese Indies.

Inland.—This word only with 3 cents 3 is used on a Liberian issue.

Instrucion, on some Venezuela stamps (see also Escuelas).

IONIKON, in Greek characters, for Ionian Islands.

Jubile de l'Union Universelle is the chief inscription on large stamps issued in Switzerland in 1900 to commemorate twenty-five years of that Institution.

Keneta is Hawaiian for cents.

Keys, crossed, under the Pope's tiara, is the symbol for Papal or Roman States of the Church.

K. G. L., with F.R.M. (as above), on early Danish stamps.

K.K. Post Stempel.—On the first stamps of Austria, with kreuzer values, and for Austrian Italy (or Lombardo-Venetia), with value in centes.

KPHTH is the Greek form of spelling Crete.

Kr., or Kreuzer, is the only lettering (with figure) on some early Austrian issues, and on the first of Hungary, with Emperor's portrait on a white disc.

LIMA is used on stamps of Peru.

Lion.—This is the central device of some low values of Belgian stamps under "Postes," also of Bulgaria, with Greek lettering, and on a shield for early Finlands. With crown and carrying a flag, on Abyssinian stamps; with a sword, and sun beyond its back, on earliest issues of Persia. Also for other countries, but with other inscriptions.

Magyar.—On Hungarian stamps.

Mercury, head of, with winged helmet, looking to left, is the only design on some newspaper stamps of Austria. A similar head to right in a beaded circle is the characteristic stamp of Greece.

Montevideo.—This was the heading of Uruguay stamps for some years, followed by "Republica Oriental."

M.Q.E., overprint on French Colonial issue used in Martinique.

NEDERLAND is the official title of Holland, with IND. added for Dutch Indies.

NORGE.—The local spelling for Norway.

Nueva Grenada.—Early name for U.S. of Colombia.

OESTERR (EICH) is for Austria.

OTTOMAN EMP. stands for Turkey.

Oriental Republic.—Uruguay.

Para and *P.E.*, for Piastre, are the only Roman letters on first issue of Egypt, being the Turkish currency.

Pacchi Postali appears on Parcel Post stamps of Italy, which were surcharged with a new value for ordinary use.

Portraits only of rulers are shown (besides native word or characters) on stamps of Abyssinia, Hawaii, Persia, and Siam; also for Austria, Hungary, and Levant, and the first of Holland.

Postes, with value in centimes, on a curved network, is all that appears on provisionals for Alsace and Lorraine; also on several issues of Belgium and the earliest Luxemburgs.

Postmarke, with value only, is to be found on small square stamps of Brunswick.

Postzegel is the only inscription on first two issues of Holland. It is also on the top of early stamps of Transvaal, with Z. AFR. REPUBLIEK below.

Pyramid and *Sphinx*, without any inscription, appears on 1867 stamps of Egypt;

pyramid with star was the watermark for previous issue.

Queen, on throne, with "Two Pence," is all that is found on a Victoria stamp for 1852-4.

Rayon and *Rappen* are found on early Swiss issues.

REICHS-POST, meaning "Imperial Post," is the only inscription besides value on German stamps of 1889 to 1900; then changed to "Deutsches Reich" for German Empire.

R O., also Roumelie Orientale, are overprints on Turkish stamps for E. Roumelia; not to be confused with "Republica Oriental," one of the names for Uruguay.

Romagna is a State of Italy; Roman States are so too, but not inscribed on stamps, only the crossed keys device, and tiara; while ROMANA is the spelling for Roumania.

SEN, with figures, is the only lettering (except native) on early issues of Japan.

Ships of various kinds are found on many stamps, but usually with name as for British Guiana. There is one stamp of Liberia with "Thirty-two Cents" on, and ship in centre, with plough on foreground, bearing the word Liberia in tiny letters, not easily seen. The series of stamps for German colonies also have a ship for central design.

S.H., with Post and Schillinge, indicates Schleswig-Holstein on stamps of first issue.

Sic fortis Etruria crevit is the motto below the "Sydney Views" or first stamps of New South Wales, but the inscription round the circle is more easily read—"Sigillum Nov. Camb. Aust." meaning Seal of New South Wales.

Sld. or *Soldi.*—Used as denominational value on Austrian stamps current in what are now Italian provinces, and at other ports in the Mediterranean.

S.P.M. is overprinted for St. Pierre et Miquelon on French Colonial stamps.

S., for Selangor, and S.U. (with crescent and star) for Sungei Ujong, are overprints on Straits Settlements stamps—now merged in Malay States Federation.

Sverige stands for Sweden.

TAXY is the most prominent portion of a word on first provisional issue for Crete.

Tiger's head is the central device of early stamps of Afghanistan.

TOGA, as printed on later issues for Tonga, is not to be mistaken for Togoland, which is a German colonial possession on West Coast of Africa.

UKU LETA is the heading over one stamp of Honolulu or Hawaii.

Ultramar is the chief inscription on Spanish stamps of Cuba and Porto Rico, meaning "Beyond the Sea."

British Stamps used Abroad

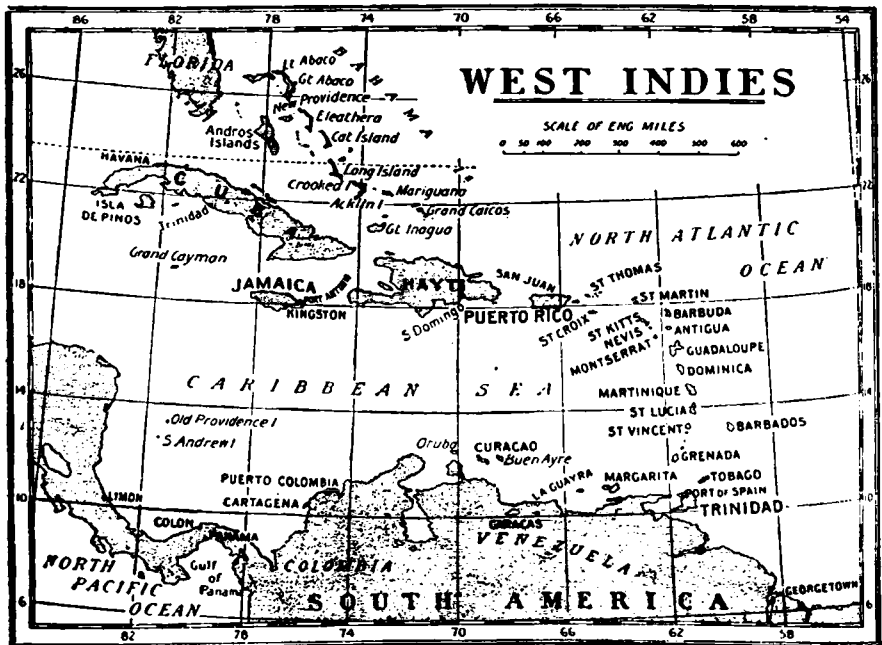
By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

Hayti

THE island, which is now divided into the two black Republics of Hayti and San Domingo, is one of the most fertile spots in the West Indies, and is rich even in gold and silver. It is controlled entirely by blacks, and the commercial prosperity it should enjoy is entirely absent owing to the racial incapacity of blacks and mulattoes for decent self-government. No spot is more beautiful nor has had a more

in October, 1804. The emperor was assassinated, and the island divided in 1806 into two republics. Since then their history has been one continuous round of revolutions and insurrections.

The bulk of the trade was with the United States of America, and there is no doubt that if the U.S.A. had not already a colour question of its own, it would have long since put an end to trouble there by annexation. The principal ports are Port-au-Prince and



miserable history of bloodshed, turmoil, and moral decay.

The island was first discovered and annexed by the Spaniards, who, after exterminating the natives already, in 1505 filled the place with African negro slaves. It was raided by French marauders and pirates, and was ceded to France in 1697. Further huge numbers of blacks were imported under the French rule, and at the end of the eighteenth century they revolted and exterminated the whites. An expedition was sent, but, after varying fortunes in the field, disease and climate, not to mention the political events in Europe, led to their withdrawal in 1803. An empire was proclaimed

Jacmel, both of which had British post offices between 1867 and 1881.

Port-au-Prince (originally L'Hôpital, and for brief periods named Port Henri and Port Républicain) is the capital, and is the seat of the bulk of the foreign trade. Originally beautifully planned and laid out by the French, it has been allowed to fall into a terrible state of decay and ruin, and its streets are in a state that is deplorable in the extreme. A British post office was established here in 1870, and remained open till 1881. Two types of obliterator were employed: one with the initial and figure in ordinary roman characters, the other in fancy type, the latter of which is the most

common. A dated postmark was struck on the letter, but never on the stamp. The obliterator was of the horizontal oval shape, and had the number E 53.

E 53

½d., plates 6, 10, 11, 13.
1d. ,, 167, 174.
1½d. ,, 3.
2d. ,, 15.
2½d. ,, 9.
3d. ,, 17.
4d. ,, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 17.
6d. ,, 15.
8d. ,, 1.
1s. ,, 4 spray, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 13 spray.
2s. ,, 1, blue and brown.
5s. ,, 1, 2.
1½d., Venetian red.

Jacmel, the town of next importance and the second port of the Republic of Hayti, enjoys a fair amount of the trade of the island and the largest part of that with Great Britain.

British stamps were used here from 1866 till middle of 1881. The obliterator employed was the small horizontal oval, and the date stamp was struck on the letter.



½d., plates 4, 5, 6, 12.
1d. ,, 137, 139, 157, 159, 160, 166, 171, 186, 192.
2d. ,, 14, 15.
1½d. ,, 3.
3d. ,, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18.
4d. ,, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 15, 16, 17, 17.
6d. ,, 11, 12, 13, 14.
8d. ,, 1.
9d. ,, 4 spray.
1s. ,, 4, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 13 spray.
2s. ,, blue-brown.
5s. ,, 1, 2.

The Dominican Republic

THE history of this, the eastern half of the Island of Hayti is intimately connected with that of its sister republic till February, 1844, when it finally separated itself and its independence was recognized. Its history is very similar; indeed, it may be said that when Hayti was quiet San Domingo was in revolution, and vice versa. It has two ports, San Domingo, the capital, and the oldest European settlement (1494) in the island, and Porto Plata, both of which had British post offices. The trade is insignificant, and

the stamps, bearing the postmarks C 86 and C 87, are very few and rare indeed.

The capital is poorly built, and its streets are only partially paved. Its houses are mainly of wood and thatched. It has a cathedral, and its chief claim to notoriety is that the bones of Christopher Columbus rested in it until about 1795, when they were removed to Europe. British stamps were used here from about 1871 till 1879, and the obliterator employed was the upright oval.

C 87

½d., plates 11, 13.
1d. ,, red, 171, 186, 190.
1½d. ,, 3.
2d. ,, 13.
4d. ,, 11, 15, red.
9d. ,, 4 spray.
1s. ,, 4 spray, 10, 12, 13.

Porto Plata is the seaport on the northern coast of the Dominican Republic. It is a cable station, but otherwise of small importance. British stamps were used here from 1871 till 1879, and the obliterator employed was the upright oval. A date stamp was impressed on the letter.



1d., plates 123, 130.
1½d. ,, 3.
2d. ,, 15.
2½d. ,, 14.
4d. ,, 14, 15, vermilion.
6d. ,, 15.
1s. ,, 4 spray, 7, 11, 12, 13, green.
2s. ,, 1 blue.

(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.

Portraits on Stamps

By BOSWELL JUNIOR

U.S.A. Confederate States—continued

THIS illustration of the one cent, orange, Confederate States, is an example of a stamp which was prepared for use but never issued.



John Caldwell Calhoun was born in Abbeville district, South Carolina, on 18 March, 1782. He was of Irish descent, and inherited deep religious convictions and a patriotic devotion to liberty and right.

After a course of private tuition he entered Yale. Then, at the close of his college career, he took up the study of law, and was admitted to the Bar in 1807. Four years afterwards he was elected to the House of Representatives. At this time war with Great Britain was imminent. He urged a declaration of war, and by the force of his eloquence he inspired his countrymen with patriotic enthusiasm.

In 1817 President Monroe called Calhoun to the War Department. His genius for organization had full scope in this new field. He introduced order and accountability in every branch of the service, and established a system that has survived, for the most part, to the present time. On the election of President Adams in 1824, Calhoun was elected Vice-President by a large majority, and was re-elected under General Jackson's Presidency in 1828. Four years later he resigned the Vice-Presidency, and was elected to the Senate. He came forward as the champion of his State, South Carolina, against the protective policy of the North. The South were fighting for free trade, the North, led by Daniel Webster, for protection. In 1832 the import duties were lowered, but not enough to satisfy the South. The tariff was refused by the Convention of South Carolina under Calhoun's leadership. His attitude was based on the doctrine that any State had a right in extreme cases to refuse to be bound by the action of the Central Government. Civil war was averted by Clay's compromise tariff, which provided that the import duties should be gradually reduced.

In 1844 Calhoun was called to fill a vacancy in the State department under President Tyler. The annexation of Texas became a burning question at this time. The people of Texas asked to be joined to the United States. All the ablest statesmen in the North were strongly opposed to its admission, lest incorporation should lead to a war with Mexico. Calhoun was strongly in favour of annexation, which was consummated in 1845.

He was equally strong in denouncing the war with Mexico, declaring that it was unnecessary. The result of the war was to free Texas from Mexican claims, and hand over New Mexico and California to the States for a payment of fifteen million dollars. California now claimed to be admitted as a State, and the question arose as to whether slavery was to be permitted in the newly-acquired territories. The Southern States were specially anxious that slavery should be permitted in California. The contest waxed hot. David Wilmot brought forward a motion providing that slavery should be excluded from all territories acquired by treaty. Calhoun opposed the motion, declaring that it would deprive the slave-holding States of their rights, and tend to subvert the Union. So fierce did the strife become that civil war was again feared, when Clay came forward as peacemaker. He proposed that the question should be left to the local governments. Calhoun made his last speech on the subject in March, 1850.

He died on 31 March, 1850, in Washington. John Stuart Mill gives us a fitting summary of his life:—"A man who has displayed powers as a speculative political thinker superior to any who has appeared in American politics since the authors of *The Federalist*."

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.

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.

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

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

French P.O.'s in Morocco.—In our issue of 4 April we chronicled four new stamps, of which we now give illustrations.



1
CENTIMO

It will be noticed that the surcharge is not on the French stamp, as might have been expected from the illustration shown when we chronicled them, but on the stamp with the word MAROC in the tablet at the bottom.

The 1 c. is surcharged in red, and the 2 c., 3 c., and 4 c. in black. We are now able to supply all four values, unused, at the rate of 1d. each.

Gibraltar.—Captain Brancker informs us that the £1 has been issued on multiple-watermarked paper, and from other sources we hear that it is on chalk-surfaced paper.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

£1, lilac and black on red

Italian P.O.'s in Crete.—Mr. J. W. Agar informs us that he has seen the current 5 centesimi of Italy with an inverted overprint LA CANEA. This variety should become rare, as our correspondent informs us that only about 200 copies were issued.



LA CANEA

With overprint inverted.
9765 c., green.

Nicaragua.—Mr. W. A. Roberts has shown us two stamps, Type 15 in the Catalogue, hand-stamped CABO as Type 28, but the overprint is in blue, instead of in magenta.



15 28

Handstamped in blue.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
535a 10 c., mauve (No. 202)	—	—
535b 15 c., u tramarine (No. 140)	—	—

Persia.—*Champion's Bulletin* (25.3.08) lists a new variety of an old surcharge. This will be No. 304a in the Catalogue, and the present 304a will be 304b.



294

Type 29a surcharged with Type 30 in black.

(a) KRA 5.



30

Unused. Used
s. d. s. d.

5 kr. on 50 kr., red

Trinidad.—The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* (21.2.08) noted the 4d. single watermark, on chalky paper. We thought this so unlikely that we did not chronicle it ourselves, but we now do so, chiefly in view of the following explanatory matter taken from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (28.3.08):—

“The Crown Agents have various stocks of papers in hand, some suitable for line-engraved stamps and some suitable for surface-printed stamps. The latter alone will take the chalk surface. There were also the two qualities of Crown CC paper. The surface-printing Crown CA paper is of different colours, white, blue, red, buff, etc. The white and red single Crown CA papers (and also all the other white single Crown CC and CA papers) are exhausted, but there is still a stock of the single Crown CA buff paper, on which the 4d. Trinidad is printed. The blue paper was only comparatively recently replaced with the multiple variety.”

"Mr. Tarrant writes: 'I do not remember seeing that you have chronicled the £1 Trinidad single C A on chalky paper. I had one sent to me early in June last year. My correspondent says that they were received about November, 1906, but not recognized at the time as the single C A, being on chalky paper.'

"As we have had the 5s. chalky on single C A paper, it is quite likely the £1 may also exist. Stock is issued in Trinidad in such an unbusiness-like way that one never knows what is in use there. The Postmaster-General appears to take pleasure in preventing dealers from getting supplies of new issues, and no information can ever be had. The Colonial Stamp Market has tried many times, but has never been able to get the 1s., lilac on yellow; a year ago the 1s., black, chalky, was on sale; now there is nothing but 1s., single wmk., at the G.P.O. again. We believe the 1s., lilac, has never been on sale there, yet it is known in good condition. The 4d., Plate I, also was issued after the 4d., Plate II. Perhaps the £1 single C A on chalky paper will appear again when the multiple is exhausted. At any

rate it seems to exist, and we chronicle it on the strength of Mr. Tarrant's letter."



Wmk. CA over Crown. Chalky paper. Perf. 14.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

£1, green and carmine —

Wmk. Crown CA. Chalky paper. Perf. 14.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

4d., green and blue on buff —

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Correspondence

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

Uruguay, etc.

SIR,—It is stated in your South American letter of 14 December, 1907, that "very good reprints of the 1 c. and 2 c. of 1882" Uruguays have been seen, Catalogue Nos. 141, 142. These so-called reprints are forgeries, and were made certainly before 1890. They are slightly smaller than the genuine ones, measuring $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. less on the diagonal. The shades are different, and each has a well-marked point of difference from the original. Also the 2 c. forgery is on plain paper, whereas the original is on ribbed paper, the ribbing being nearly always horizontal.

ARGENTINE.—Further on in the letter reference is made to an inverted "V" for "A," in the lettering of the 1888 issue. Here there is some

mistake in the year, as the 1888 issue is inscribed "Correos Argentinos."

CORRIENTES.—Here again I must differ from your correspondent. I have a number of these stamps, purchased as reprints, and which are undoubtedly such.

Perhaps your correspondent can throw some light on the origin of the Argentine 1899-1900 1 peso and 20 pesos with inverted centres. I have been informed that these stamps are printed on automatic machines, and that to produce the inverted centres it is necessary to stop the machine after receiving the first impression, take out the sheet, reverse it, and then go on as if nothing had happened. If this is so, can they be called errors? G.

2 April, 1908.

Answers to Correspondents

R. W. G. (Earl's Court).—Thanks for cutting. We refer to the subject in "Topical Notes."

F. G. (Belfast).—The supporters of the portrait on the Siam stamp are probably meant to be native children, and the circles on their heads to which you refer intended for the tuft of hair. The latter is a distinctive style of children's hairdressing adopted in the country.

M. X. (Waterford).—Your Mauritius is probably a marginal stamp. Sheets are often printed

out of centre, and some of these marginal stamps are on the portion of the paper without watermark. They are frequently to be met with in colonial issues, but are not of sufficient interest to catalogue.

A. H. P. (Clifton).—See last answer. In this case the margin has a watermarked inscription, NEW SOUTH WALES POSTAGE, and your stamp has been printed on that part containing "Es" of WALES.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 17
Whole No. 173

25 APRIL, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Consular Offices—*continued*

China—*continued*

IN addition to those at Shanghai, Tientsin and Peking, offices under the control of the French Foreign Office were opened, and probably are still in existence, at Foo-choo, Amoy, Pao-Ting, Chifu, and Hankow.

Foo-choo, or Fuchau, is an ancient city, and the capital of the rich tea-growing maritime province of Fukien. It is a treaty port situated at the mouth of the Min, and has a population of about 700,000.

Amoy is another treaty port, on the coast opposite Formosa, in the south-east of the same province, with a population of 100,000. A large trade in tea is carried on. Before the French Post Office was opened (by virtue of a decree dated 28 November, 1901) Amoy had enjoyed a good telegraphic service, also maintained by the French. The Post Office at Foo-choo was at first made a branch of that at Amoy. England, Germany, and Japan maintain offices at both places.

Offices were certainly in existence at Chifu and Hankow in 1900, as was probably that at Pao-Ting. In 1902 Hankow was raised in status, being then made an office with full powers. England, Germany, and Japan maintain offices at Hankow, and Russia and Germany at Chifu.

Chifu is a treaty port on one of the northern bays of the Shantung province. It has about 37,000 inhabitants, and exports a large quantity of silk. It is in quite the "foreign" region, being adjacent to Weihai-wei, and not far from Kiautchau.

Hankow is one of three towns, in the province of Hupe, enjoying a wonderful commercial situation, all being at the meeting-place of great waterways from all directions. The population is not far short of 1,000,000, and a large trade in black tea is carried on.

Pao-Ting is the administrative capital of Pechili, the province which contains Peking. It is a populous city, and is in direct communication with the Imperial capital.

All these offices use the French stamps overprinted "Chine." Before leaving this section, mention should be made of a provisional omitted from the list given last week.

On 4 July, 1903, the office at Shanghai ran out of 5 c. stamps, so 9000 of the current 15 c. were surcharged with a large figure "5." These provisionals were at once the means of speculation, and to-day are not easy to obtain.



5

4 JULY, 1903. Modified French stamp surcharged in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 on 15 (c.), pale red	3 0	4 6

Offices under control of the French Indo-China Government.

These offices can be distinguished from those of the previous section because the stamps used are those of Indo-China, and for particular offices bear the name of such office. Most of them have been opened for the accommodation of French employees engaged in development work in Southern China, but in cases where no Imperial office existed they have proved useful to the Chinese. The following circular, dated 12 June, 1901, advising the opening of the first of these offices, may be taken as an index of the character of all:—

The Consul for France has the honour to inform his colleagues, heads of mercantile firms, and all the residents of Shameen that a French post office established by virtue of the provisions of the Postal Union Convention of Berne will be opened to the public on the 15th of June at 10 a.m.

The office will be temporarily located in one of the buildings near the French bridge.

From the date above mentioned, Canton will be included in the Universal Postal Union.

Consequently the Canton Bureau is empowered to issue money orders for all parts of the world included in the Postal Union, and to receive and deliver parcels, and to deal generally with all postal matters.

CANTON, 12th June, 1901.

Canton, the chief port of Southern China has been dealt with in *G.S.W.*, No. 109.

Hoi-Hao is the port of Kwang-Chou, the capital of the island of Hainan, in the extreme south of China. It has a population of 15,000, and was opened to foreign traffic in 1876.

It was the second port to have a supply of special stamps, and in 1902 a full set was provided overprinted with the name in European and Chinese characters. This set can easily be distinguished from the next as the overprint is all in red, and the Chinese characters representing "Hoi-Hao" are the same for each value. Very few of the 15 c., blue, and the franc values were issued.



HOI HAO 州 瓊

1902. Stamps of Indo-China overprinted in red.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	0 2	0 2
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	0 2	—
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	0 2	0 2
5 c., pale green	0 3	0 2
10 c., black on <i>lilac</i>	0 6	—
15 c., blue on <i>quadrillé</i>	—	—
15 c., grey	0 6	0 6
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	2 6	—
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	1 0	0 9
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	4 0	—
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	4 6	—
50 c., carmine on <i>rose</i>	6 0	—
75 c., black on <i>orange</i>	8 6	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	—	—
5 fr., lilac on <i>pale lilac</i>	—	—

The value of the *tael*, the unit of currency, differing in varying parts of China, it was thought necessary in 1902 to express the local value on the stamps. Accordingly instructions were given to prepare sets with the *value* in Chinese characters in place of the name as before. Not only were sets to be issued for Canton and Hoi-Hao, but also for Mongtzé, Tchongking, Packhoi, and Yunnansen, for which places distinct offices were then to be opened. Pending these issues, as stated last week, a supply with "Chine" and value overprinted was distributed for general use in these offices, and it was not till about the middle of 1903

that the earmarked issues were put on sale. The overprinting was done by means of two blocks. The "Hoi-Hao" portion of that used for the first issue was utilized for the name, and the lower portions of the blocks used for the general issue were employed for marking the Chinese values. The whole overprint was in *black*. The 25 c. was to be the *blue* stamp of 1899, but some sheets of the old 25 c., *black on rose*, also were used up. The 50 c., *brown on azure*, was not issued till early in 1904.

1903-4. Overprinted similarly to last issue, in black. Chinese characters represent values.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	0 2	—
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	0 2	—
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	0 3	—
5 c., pale green	0 3	—
10 c., rose-red	0 4	—
15 c., grey	1 0	—
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	0 9	—
25 c., blue	0 6	—
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	2 0	—
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	1 6	—
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	2 0	—
50 c., carmine on <i>rose</i>	5 0	—
50 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	—	—
75 c. " <i>orange</i>	2 6	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	—	—
5 fr., lilac on <i>pale lilac</i>	—	—

In 1904 it was decided, quite properly, to do away with separate issues for each office, and as described in the last number, first a reissue of the 1902 general set was made, and then a more up-to-date one on the "Grasset" type was put into course. The latter is still in use, but in 1906 a wholesale distribution took place, and fresh sets for each office named above, and one more in addition, were put on the market. There is little doubt that these were quite unnecessary, and the whole matter was made a subject for inquiry by the home authorities. The Hanoi officials were whitewashed, however, and as they were within their rights in issuing these stamps, and the latter having done legitimate postal service, unfortunately the sets have to be catalogued. Collectors can please themselves about taking them, and it may be noted that the higher values are rare, the 75 c. particularly so. With the exception of 75 c. and 5 fr., all the stamps are of the Grasset type. The Chinese characters again represent the value. The only good thing that might be said in favour of these sets is that they were "up-to-date" not only as regards type of stamp, but also as regards spelling. It will be noticed the names of the ports are more "Chinese."

HOI-HAO

花銀八圓

1906. *Indo-China stamps overprinted in red on the 1 c., 4 c., 5 c., 35 c., 40 c., 75 c., and 2 fr., and in black on the other values.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., olive-green	0 6	—
2 c., claret on yellow	0 6	—
4 c., magenta on azure	0 6	—
5 c., deep green	0 6	—
10 c., rose	0 5	—
15 c., brown on azure	—	—
20 c., red on green	1 0	—
25 c., blue	0 10	—
30 c., brown on cream	1 0	—
35 c., black on yellow	1 0	—
40 c., " azure	1 0	—
50 c., brown	—	—
75 c., brown on orange	—	—
1 fr., pale olive-green	—	—
2 fr., brown on yellow	—	—
5 fr., lilac on pale lilac	—	—
10 fr., red on green	—	—

Kouang Tcheou Wan was the new office mentioned above. It is a free port on the bay of the same name at the end of the peninsula opposite the island of Hainan. The territory was leased for ninety-nine years from China in 1898, and increased in 1899 by the addition of the two islands commanding the entrance to the bay. The area is about 190 square miles, and the population about 150,000. Imports about £400,000, exports about £128,000 annually. The French have a railway *in posse* to run

through the territory with an extension to Kau-Chau in the north, in all about fifty miles in length.

There has been only one issue of stamps, and that of the doubtful nature described above.

Kouang
Tchéou-Wan
花銀八厘

1906. *Indo-China stamps overprinted as above in red or black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., olive-green	0 6	—
2 c., claret on yellow	0 6	—
4 c., magenta on azure	0 6	—
5 c., deep green	0 6	—
10 c., rose	0 5	—
15 c., brown on azure	—	—
20 c., red on green	1 0	—
25 c., blue	0 10	—
30 c., brown on cream	1 0	—
35 c., black on yellow	1 0	—
40 c., " azure	1 0	—
50 c., brown	—	—
75 c., brown on orange	—	—
1 fr., pale olive-green	—	—
2 fr., brown on yellow	—	—
5 fr., lilac on pale lilac	—	—
10 fr., red on green	—	—

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Holiday in Spain

I ALWAYS think that for those of us who live in this country, the most desirable months for holidays are February and March, when one is able to get away to a warmer country. On this occasion I decided upon a trip through Spain, and on 28 February left the Thames in one of the new steamers of the P. & O. Co. for Gibraltar for a five weeks' trip.

We left in a snowstorm and had rough weather across the Bay of Biscay, making us a few hours late, but luckily I never suffer from *mal de mer*.

At Gibraltar I met a few stamp people, and I am specially indebted to Captain Brancker, with whom I spent a very pleasant afternoon, and whose name my readers will remember as the author of a very amusing skit on collecting that appeared in *G.S.W.* some months ago.

The leading dealer there is Mr. Beanland, whom I had the pleasure of meeting. He has two of the best book shops in Gibraltar.

My next visit was to Algeciras, just across

the Bay, and rendered notorious by the important meeting of representatives of the Great Powers that assembled there some months ago.

There is nothing much to see in Algeciras, and I passed on to Granada, famous as the last stronghold of the Moors in Spain. There I spent some days examining the wonders of the Alhambra, Cartuja, Generalife, etc., and was lucky enough to be present at one of the special Carnivals, a gay and typical scene.

Seville was the next stop, and here there was much to see in addition to the famous cathedral containing the magnificent tomb of Columbus.

Leaving the sunny south with its grand tropical trees and fruits, I now went up north and had a day at Toledo, where the chief sights are the cathedral and the famous old sword manufactory.

Then Madrid, which struck me as being more like a small edition of Paris than a Spanish town. Here I stayed rather over a week as there was so much to see, the celebrated Prado, stated to be the finest collec-

tion of pictures in the world, accounting for a good deal of the time.

Although I was not on a business trip, I could not be in Madrid without calling on our old correspondent, M. Galvez, the leading dealer in Spain, and well known through the catalogue he publishes.

A visit to El Escorial took up one day, which was certainly not wasted, for the famous burial-place of Spanish Royalty was alone well worth a visit.

Burgos was the last Spanish town at which I stopped, and the accommodation there was the worst I met with in Spain.

From Burgos I went by the Sud Express direct to Paris, where I put in a few days calling on old friends, etc.

Spain, as far as I gathered, is fairly strong in small collectors, but there are very few important collections.

First and foremost is that of H.M. King Alfonso XIII, who, however, only collects Spain and her old-time colonies, and which is almost complete.

I had the pleasure of meeting several collectors and inspected their collections. In all cases I found that the Spanish stamps were collected in singles and in blocks, both used and unused, but I noticed that Spanish of 1850 to 1856 in fine *unused* condition are much more plentiful in this country than in Spain.

One gentleman had made a speciality of British Colonials, unused and mint, and had some really fine things to show me.

In a famous collection I saw the following interesting stamps, all of which I have examined most carefully and pass as genuine.

Spain, 1851.—Error 2 r., blue, in colour of 6 r.

I have long wanted to see this stamp, which I consider to be one of the first rarities. In this collection there is a vertical pair, printed in a rather pale blue; the upper stamp is lettered DOS REALES, the lower one SEIS REALES; the obliteration is in black, and is of the common type used on the early Spanish stamps.

For philatelic interest and rarity I think this pair of stamps is in the front rank; perhaps Mr. Ayer's pair of St. Louis, 20 c. and 5 c., might be classed with it, they are both almost invaluable.

Belgium.—In the first issue (July, 1849) I have seen two very interesting stamps, the 10 c. and the 20 c., both stamps having double figures in the upper corners and also double frame lines all round the stamp.

These stamps were printed from copper plates, and I think the design must have been produced from two mother dies, the first one showing the figure of the King, the inscriptions and the background, and the other the figures and compartment lines

between the stamps. In making both the plates of 10 c. and 20 c., at least one stamp on each sheet must have had the second die impressed twice. It would be interesting to find this variety in a pair with the normal.

Chili.—In our Catalogue under the number 21 we list a well-known error of wmk., the 10 c., blue, printed on the paper of the 20c.

I have now seen two more of these errors, which are both very clear and distinct.

5 c., bright rose, wmk. 1 (Type 5).

10 c., bright blue, wmk. tall 8 (Type 8).

This latter stamp is a bit of a puzzle as to how it could have occurred. The tall "5" wmk. was not used until 1865, whereas the 10 c. stamps were issued in 1862. Was there a printing of 10 c. stamps in 1865 or later?

A great Stamp Auction

ON 31 March and 1 April Messrs. Glendining & Co., Ltd., 7 Argyll Street, Regent Street, London, W., held a most successful sale of stamps—by far the largest of the present season. This sale consisted of a portion of the large Continental collection to which I drew attention in April. The late owner was a good client of our firm, and until quite lately purchased somewhat largely from us; but the bulk of his stamps came from Moens many years ago.

Messrs. Glendining & Co. determined to give collectors on the Continent an opportunity of buying at this sale, and by arrangement with agents in France they distributed 4600 catalogues in that country, and in like manner 2400 in Germany.

The result more than answered their expectations, and some thousands of bids were received.

The catalogue contained no less than four full pages of illustrations, but I would suggest that in future the lot number be put under each photograph, as that greatly facilitates reference.

The balance of this fine collection will be included in the April and May auction sales of the same firm.

I regret that I was not back from my holiday in time to see the lots after the catalogue was printed, or I should certainly have gone for some of the lots my co-directors failed to purchase.

The following are some of the chief lots and prices, but I can only give catalogue description for reason noted before:—

AUSTRIAN ITALY

30 c., brown, mint block of four, but two stamps slightly creased	£ s. d.
45 c., pale blue, brilliant unused copy with nearly full gum, wide margins	7 0 0
	4 12 6

BADEN		1853-60. 40 c., orange, mint block of four	5 0 0
1851.	Imperf., 3 kr., black on green, brilliant mint block of four	8 10 0	
BAVARIA		1870-3. 25 c., blue, superb mint horizontal <i>l'ête-bêche</i> pair	7 0 0
1849.	Imperf., 1 kr., grey-black, mint horizontal block of ten, two stamps very slightly stained	4 15 0	
1850-8.	9 kr., yellow-green, brilliant mint sheet of forty-five	3 15 0	
"	12 kr., red, choice mint sheet of forty-five; one stamp has small tear	6 0 0	
"	18 kr., orange-yellow, choice mint sheet of forty-five	7 5 0	
BERGEDORF		1 sch., black on white, on original, fine and scarce	4 5 0
1 sch., black on white, complete mint sheet of 180, showing one pane of forty stamps <i>l'ête-bêche</i>		21 0 0	
BRUNSWICK		1852. No wmk., imperf., 1 sgr., rose, nice unused copy with gum	12 10 0
1852.	2 sgr., blue, unused	4 10 0	
	3 sgr., vermilion, fine, unused	7 10 0	
DENMARK		1851. Imperf., 2 rbs., blue, brilliant mint horizontal pair	6 5 0
"	2 rbs., yellow-brown, superb mint horizontal pair	6 0 0	
FRANCE		1849-50. 10 c., yellow bistre, <i>l'ête-bêche</i> , pair on small piece	10 0 0
"	15 c., yellow-green, mint block of four, slight creasing, but a rare piece	11 10 0	
"	25 c., blue, horizontal <i>l'ête-bêche</i> pair; very fine on original	8 0 0	
"	40 c., orange, brilliant mint block of six	7 10 0	
"	1 fr., orange-brown, bright unused copy of this rare stamp, but slightly thinned	8 5 0	
"	1 fr., deep carmine-brown, superb mint horizontal pair	5 15 0	
"	1 fr., carmine, horizontal strip of three, one stamp <i>l'ête-bêche</i> ; one stamp has slight nick, otherwise fine	11 0 0	
1852.	Imperf., 25 c., blue, superb mint block of four, with wide side margins right side	6 5 0	
1853-60.	20 c., blue on azure, unused, and except for slight thinning, mint	5 15 0	
"	20 c., blue, variety on pale rose, unused and with wide margin at top, but slightly thinned	3 7 6	
"	25 c., dull blue, mint block of four with wide side margin	5 5 0	
1853-60.	40 c., orange, mint block of four	5 0 0	
"	80 c., rose, horizontal strip of three, one <i>l'ête-bêche</i>	8 0 0	
1870-3.	25 c., blue, superb mint horizontal <i>l'ête-bêche</i> pair	7 0 0	
1872-5.	10 c., bistre on rose, <i>se tenant</i> with 15 c., Gibbons' 134, choice unused copies with part gum, the 10 c. very slightly defective	8 15 0	
ROUMANIA		1858. Imperf., 54 par., blue on green, a fine copy	12 10 0
"	108 par., blue on pink, a fine unused copy, but with two ink spots on face and slight crease	21 0 0	
"	108 par., blue on pink	29 10 0	
Nov., 1858.	Bluish wove, 5 paras, black, good copy on small piece, but slightly creased	9 10 0	
"	80 paras, red, unused, but with minute thin spot	13 0 0	
"	80 paras, red, very fine horizontal pair on piece of original	6 10 0	
RUSSIA		1868-71. Vertically laid paper, 5 k., black and lilac, mint pair	14 0 0
RUSSIAN LEVANT		1865. 2k., brown and blue, Gibbons' 5, fine unused	8 5 0
	A horizontal pair of the same stamp, good copies with wide margins	12 5 0	
SARDINIA		1854. 20 c., blue, mint horizontal strip of five, one stamp without embossed head	4 10 0
SAXONY		1850. Imperf., 3 pf., pale red, choice unused	13 0 0
"	Imperf., 3 pf., brown-red, a fine vertical pair on original	10 0 0	
SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN		1850. Imperf., 1 sch. and 2 sch., on original	10 0 0
SPAIN		1850. 6 r., blue, superb block of four	5 15 0
"	10 r., blue-green, a very fine horizontal strip of three	11 0 0	
1851.	2 r., red, very fine unused	22 10 0	
"	6 r., deep blue, an exceptionally fine block of four	12 10 0	
1852.	12 c., dull lilac, mint horizontal pair	7 0 0	
"	2 r., pale red, superb mint	13 10 0	
1853.	2 r., vermilion, brilliant unused	8 10 0	
"	2 r., vermilion, horizontal pair	15 10 0	

<i>City of Madrid</i>	
1 c., bronze, superb mint horizontal pair	7 0 0
3 c., bronze, bright unused copy, very slightly repaired in top right corner, rare	6 10 0
1854. Thick bluish paper, 1 r., pale blue, Gibbons' 63 ^a , horizontal pair	28 0 0
SWEDEN	
1855. Thin paper, 3 sk., blue-green, bright unused	3 10 0
" 6 sk., grey-brown, fine unused	3 12 6
" 24 sk., vermilion, brilliant mint	8 0 0
SWITZERLAND	
<i>Zurich</i>	
March, 1843. Horizontal lines, 4 r., unused	20 0 0
" " Vertical lines, 4r., very fine on original	10 10 0
" " Another very fine copy on original	11 5 0
<i>Geneva</i>	
1849. 5 c., yellow-green, fine on original	6 5 0
Dec., 1849. 4 c., Gibbons' L1, brilliant unused, slightly cut into at top right corner	34 0 0
" " An exceptionally fine used copy of the same stamp on original	16 0 0
TUSCANY	
1851. 2 soldi, brick-red, brilliant horizontal pair	24 0 0
1860. 3 lire, yellow, brilliant unused	56 0 0
PUTTIALLA STATE	
1885. 2 a., blue, error Puttilla, Gibbons' 27, mint	7 10 0
LABUAN, BRUNEI	
1906. 1 c., error overprint in black	6 0 0
MAURITIUS	
May, 1848. Bluish paper, early state, id., vermilion, an exceptionally fine horizontal pair, with good margins and light cancellations on small piece	25 0 0
" " Id., vermilion, a very fine and brilliant copy with good margins, lightly cancelled	12 0 0
" " 2d., blue, brilliant copy lightly cancelled and with wide margins on three sides, slightly cut into at bottom	9 15 0
<i>Intermediate state</i> , id., red, brilliant copy with exceptionally fine margins on all sides, lightly cancelled	12 5 0

BRITISH HONDURAS

1899. Surcharge 12 mm., 50 c., grey mint block of four, on stamp showing the error Bevenue 23 0 0

TRINIDAD

1847. Lady McLeod, 2½d., deep blue, brilliant unused copy on original 14 0 0

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

1851. 13 c., blue, Gibbons' No. 4, good margins 55 0 0
 Interisland Postage, July, 1864.
 White laid paper, 2 c., fine unused horizontal pair, *tebeche* 6 0 0

NEW SOUTH WALES

1863-8. Perf. 11, 5s., purple, mint horizontal pair, variety imperf. between 4 15 0

An Apology

It is with considerable regret that I have to make the following matter public, but as the attacks on my firm have been public, so also must be the apology.

It will be remembered that some twelve months ago my firm ceased to employ Mr. E. J. Nankivell as editor of this paper, and thereupon, in conjunction with Messrs. Pitman & Sons, Ltd., Mr. Nankivell launched another weekly paper, to which I gave a warm welcome, and for which there is undoubtedly plenty of scope.

For some reason or other, Mr. Nankivell in his new paper, on several occasions, made remarks, not in the best taste, about our firm; these culminated in the issue dated 15 February, 1908, when he so far exceeded fair comment that we felt bound to consult our solicitor in order to prevent the recurrence of such remarks. We were advised that the remarks referred to were *undoubtedly libellous*; but we had no wish to enforce penalties, only to prevent such statements in future, and we have therefore accepted the following letter as final:—

12 March, 1908.

MY DEAR OLDFIELD,

I was extremely sorry to hear from you yesterday that my old friend, Mr. C. J. Phillips, construes some of my banter in *The Postage Stamp* into personal attacks upon himself and his firm.

Nothing could be further from my intention, for he and I are friends of many years, and, if only for selfish purposes, I should certainly do nothing which would put an end to our past kindly relations.

If in the chaff that I have indulged in there is anything that has given real offence, will you kindly assure my old friend that I heartily apologise for it, and, to clear up matters, will you also ask him to accept this letter as an undertaking on my part to give him, in the future, no cause of complaint on the score of personal attacks?

Sincerely yours,

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

No. 44. Value £1012.

Sicily and Tuscany.

I HAVE always been specially fond of the stamps of the Italian States, and still consider that in this country they do not receive the attention they deserve, although they sell remarkably well on the Continent and in America.

I have always been keen to buy fine Italian collections, and the present set of stock books we are making up consists of an amalgamation of our stock with the collections of Mr. W. W. Mann, Mr. M. P. Castle, Signor Barocci of Florence, and Signor Loli of Bologna.

In *Sicily* there are no less than *thirty-six* stamps showing retouches, but the general stock of these stamps has run low, and I wish to fill up many gaps.

The *Tuscany* are a truly grand lot, the best we have ever had in a stock book; there are about *twelve* 2 soldi, *five* 60 crazie, and *three* 3 lire.

Unused Tuscans are all *rare*, but we are always on the look-out for them, and in this one book there are no less than 242, mostly fine, and a good proportion with original gum.

Wanted to Purchase

Sicily.—All kinds, unused and used in singles, pairs, and blocks.

No. 59. Value £1445.

Oldenburg, Prussia, Saxony, and Schleswig-Holstein.

This is the best of our new stock books of German stamps. The *Oldenburg* are a truly

grand lot, the unused in *mint* condition being exceptionally strong. There are many old friends that we sold to the late Mr. R. Ehrenbach. We bought his Germans for £6000, and Mr. Castle had the first pick (a pretty big one). They then went with the other Europeans to Mr. W. W. Mann, and after some fourteen years found a temporary resting-place in our strong rooms.

In the 1861 issue of *Oldenburg* there are no less than nineteen fine stamps showing *defective transfers* caused when lithographing. These stamps are not appreciated at one-quarter of their true value. Those who are interested will find a capital article by Mr. Castle upon the subject in the *London Philatelist* of some twelve years ago.

The *Prussia* are also very strong in unused, especially in choice shades, strips, and blocks.

In *Saxony* there are seven of the 3 pf. first issue, and a fine unused error $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. on the paper of the 2 gr.

Schleswig-Holstein is very complete in all issues, used and unused. Among the rarer things I mention a fine 4 s.r.m. of 1864, rouletted, several stamps on letters bisected and used for half their value, and some stamps used in Bergedorf.

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.

Acrostic Competition

DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 7 (OF SERIES)

THIS recently started Society
Does not fill us up to satiety,
For many there are who need good books,
Who can't judge stamps alone by their looks.

1. Monthly or quarterly it may be,
This one is weekly as you can see.
2. If at the end a cap you place,
You'll be as nearly equalized
As H and I can make the race.
3. The principal thing some say for success,
Yet far from the principal, debtors confess.
4. "The river of oblivion rolls
Her watery labyrinth; whereof who drinks
Forgets both joy and grief, pleasure and pain."
5. His ware we seek—the donor's oft abused
Who gives it free—if bought, it may be used.

6. Over a spreading bread-fruit tree,
These isles *new* name does stand:
Look up your stamps to spell quite right
What I here state without a sight.
7. Not only implied but clear and succinct,
From doubt of all kind it is quite distinct.
8. As French or as English 'tis often read,
But in its place you may write instead.
9. Not to be touched—if not everything,
At least it is the whole of anything.
10. Most people call this colour red,
Though some are much inclined
To say it is a green or blue—
If they are colour-blind.

BEN.

Answers on the printed forms must be received before or by first delivery on Thursday, 30 April; or posted on the Continent by 2 May, or N. America by 10 May. They should be marked outside: "Acrostic, G. S. W.", addressed to 391 Strand, London.

The Black Republics

By W. W.

Liberia

THOUGH civilization is on a very much higher grade in Liberia than in Hayti, the white man is tabooed and only allowed to trade on the coast.

So little is generally known as to the founding of this negro republic that a few notes in that direction may be interesting.

In 1815 a coloured "pusson," named Paul Cuffee, conducted the first emigration party of freed slaves from the United States to the West Coast of Africa. Paul Cuffee was born at Bedford, Mass., in 1759, having an African father and a Red Indian mother. Throughout his life he strove to better the conditions of the coloured race in New England. On this pioneer expedition he was accompanied by forty people, and landed at Sierra Leone. Cuffee paid the whole of the expenses, some \$4000, but other than pointing out a prospective venue his movement gained little success, for he died in the following year, 1816. Just previous to his death he had already made arrangements for about 2000 further blacks to come out to Africa. About this time much agitation was afoot to find a home for the unrequired slaves. In December, 1816, the American Colonization Society was formed in Washington. Samuel Mills and Ebenezer Burgess were sent by the Society to the various English settlements on the West Coast of Africa to ascertain whether a suitable territory could be procured.

Sherbro, about 120 miles south from Sierra Leone, was fixed upon, and a colony of coloured folk ("coloured folk" is used advisedly, since all were not negroes) was established there under the guidance of John Kizzel, an escaped slave from South Carolina. In the succeeding years a further strip of coast-line was taken into the colony. By Act of Congress of 3 March, 1819, the United States President, James Monroe, was authorized to restore any Africans who had been brought into the States in violation of the existing laws—that was by "blackbirding" or "kidnapping." In 1820 it was made, by a further Act, a recognized "colony." It was chiefly due to President Monroe's activity that the Senate looked so favourably upon this emancipation of *any* slaves. The

capital, Monrovia, was named after James Monroe for his work in helping the scheme.

A negro clerk-in-orders, Rev. Samuel Bacon, was made the first United States Agent-General. For a second time disaster overcame the venture, for by 1821 the Agent-General and most of the emigrants were dead, due to a malignant fever arising from the marshy tracts surrounding the colony. A new expedition was sent out in that year to find a more eligible site, and settled upon that portion of the present Republic near to Cape Montserado, some 250 miles from Sierra Leone. The rejected tract is now a sort of neutral ground between Sierra Leone and Liberia. Many historians ignore the fact that the colony of Liberia founded in 1819 is quite different from the new colony of 1822 and the present Republic.

Naturally, the new arable lands were already occupied by aboriginals, but with the exception of a war against the tribes under the chiefs Dey and Gonrah, in most cases a peaceful settlement was arrived at. In the mentioned war, had the settlers not had firearms, it is a "hundred to one chance against" that the writer would ever have had occasion to record the existence of the present democracy.

An amusing story has been told of one of the chiefs during the reading of the laws and penalties that would come into force upon the amalgamation. The United States Agent-General had read that law relating to polygamy, and His Dusky Highness remarked, "No good law that, no good law for my countryman." Why not? they asked. "Me tell you. I got four wives—s'pose me keep Bana, she pretty, and send other three away—other man get them. No jolly good law that!"

In the early days of Liberia the settlers had much trouble with American, English, and Spanish slave-traders, who looked upon the colony as a special preserve for their benefit, being restocked as they diminished the supplies. However, a couple of ships of war were provided by the United States Government, and a stop was put to the "poaching."

On 4 January, 1826, the first printing press was received in the colony, being a gift of

the citizens of Boston, Mass. The printer who came out with the press was, however, almost immediately fatally attacked by malarial fever, and some time elapsed before another could be found, agriculture being the one and only pursuit known. The first regular line of packets was started to run between Liberia and the United States in this year, which is also memorable for the institution of a paper currency.

As our coloured friends became more advanced, they got what is commonly known as "swelled heads," and one fine morning a more than usually enlightened few awoke, and said they must be independent of the whites. So on 26 July, 1847, they presented to the world at large a declaration of independence, and called themselves the Republic of Liberia. They were recognized by Great Britain, France, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, Italy, Portugal, and their contemporary "black," Hayti. It was not for some time after that they were acknowledged by the United States. Just previous to this—in 1846, to wit—a line of mail service had been established by the Chesapeake and Liberia Trading Company. Letters were accepted on the boats, for which the sender was obliged to pay 25 cents. When the letter reached the States, the receiver had again to pay—this time the postage from the port to him. No stamps or postmarks were placed on the communications, but in most cases they were initialed by the receiving officer, to aid him in checking his receipts.

The first postal arrangements of the Interior came into the hands of David Moore, a one-time Mississippi slave, then the Treasurer of the Republic.

The initial issue of labels, to signify payment of postage, did not make its appearance until about 1859 or 1860. They were of very crude design printed from litho stones. The design itself was rather unique, for it is an improved (save the mark!) drawing of Britannia, to fall in with the requirements of republicanism, a Liberty-cap having been perched upon her head. By comparison with the old Britannia stamps of Trinidad, Mauritius, etc., it will be noticed that the spear, full-rigged schooner, shield, etc., are all similar to those shown upon the first Liberians. Three values only were issued. A 6 cents for a local rate, 12 cents for towns at a distance and the neighbouring British colony, Sierra Leone. The 24 cents was for letters to the States, but in a majority of cases the United States postal authorities surcharged them for extra postage. The weight for a communication was limited to a quarter of an ounce for a single rate.

The stamps were first sent out imperforate. Between most stamps is a thin line. This is

caused by the stone being divided up into squares large enough to receive the transfer from the matrix die, so that the stamps should be symmetrical and plumb with one another. These lines may have been drawn with the grease pencil, otherwise they would have been affected by the "coat" of solution. In portions the lines are broken. This is probably due to the lithographer having attempted to erase his guiding marks, after "setting" the "negatives": he was unsuccessful in entirely clearing them—hence their more or less completeness in the printing.

All Africans are superstitious; and the Liberians are no exception. When the stamps first appeared the negroes used them as a kind of mascot, calling them "gree-gree." They have various forms of "gree-gree" for different uses, but stamps were used as charms for protection against their aggressors, and to ensure wisdom. They thought that if a stamp would ensure the safety of a letter over great distances, and be a symbol of value, it was indeed worth carrying as a mascot. Travellers do not relate whether the wearers affixed the stamps to their person, or whether they were ever surcharged for not carrying enough postage in accordance with their weight.

In 1880 the Inland rates for postage were lowered, being 2 cents for local, and 6 cents for towns in the Republic. At the end of the same year the Interior rate was again dropped to 3 cents, at which it remained until quite recently. 1881 saw the "birth" of a new value, the 3 cents for Interior postage—a fearful picture combining the sun, a palm, a plough, and an egret. The postage to Freetown and the United States and other foreign countries was fixed at 8 cents and 16 cents respectively in 1882. Ten years later the U. P. U. rates came into operation. Starting with 1892, Liberia has seen that stamp collectors should have a rare quantity of "pictures" to put in their albums. The present President, Hon. A. Barclay, was the Postmaster-General from 1892 (4 Jan.) until his election to the higher post. What he does not know about stamp collectors and stamp collectors' pockets, I will wager is not worth knowing. He realized, I vouch, the weakness for triangular Capes, for in 1894 four varieties of three-cornereds made their appearance. The lady "*d la lounge*" was again similar to British stamps. The "motty" runs, "The love of Liberty brought us here," and could well be altered to "The love for Philately sends thee this."

One is surprised that a white woman occurs so often upon Liberian stamps, for the heads are certainly not those of African extract. Maybe this is due to the printers' designers not realizing the necessity of the "all black" denotation. Stamps overprinted "OS" are sold at the post offices contemporary with

the ordinary issues, and their alleged signification is not confined to official use. Maybe "OS" means "Overproduction Stamps." To make a still further variety, these stamps were resurcharged "Ordinary" in 1901; but as they were ordinary in the first instance, in the third they should have been over-

printed "Extraordinary." Stamp collectors, in my finding, are not militant beings, but if they ever did wish any one's eyesight harm, it must be the late Postmaster Barclay's.

Perhaps it is his method of retribution for the sins done to his ancestors, the slaves.

Bad Copies

By J. W. H. HESLOP

EVERY ONE who collects stamps knows what a heap of bad copies there are about. The other day I saw a South African stamp on a club sheet which looked as if it had been through the Boer war—its postmark was contemporaneous with that event. It had been doubled up, and had got slit along the crease, a corner had got torn off, and then—well, it might have been placed in a shell and fired from the Boer lines. There does not seem to be a Cripples' Home for stamps anywhere, otherwise it might have been an acceptable specimen in such an institution; its destiny was a club sheet, where it was valued at 9d.

Some collectors there are to whom three-fourths of a stamp is better than no stamp at all. I have seen the album of a man who collects on this principle; he says he has got the £1 British King, and he turns up the page proudly. But only about half the stamp is there—the other half may be doing duty in some other collection. But it satisfies him—it represents the stamp it is intended for, and it fills up a gap. And so on, all through his collection. Where he has got a perfect copy it is by chance, and he thinks no more of the perfect than the imperfect. He is a good customer, for he takes little pleasing. "Condition cranks!" he exclaims, in response to an apposite remark of mine. "What are they?" He really thought the expression had something to do with bicycles. I envy this man's mood; there must be something intensely restful in being freed from care as to condition, and in having no motive in rejecting the least shred or fragment of a stamp.

As a matter of fact, many beginners come a cropper on the point, especially where the beginner is a boy. The stamps themselves are the desired acquisition—their cleanliness may for the time being be lost sight of. So the nice new album is duly filled in with specimens that are not all first-rate. Most boys buy packets, and some packets form the last resting-place of such waste stamps as the trader cannot otherwise sell. Stamps that won't sell on sheets are often got rid of in the "200 different" packet. I know a

dealer who loyally destroys every bad copy; he loses a good deal that way, but he gains in another direction—his clean stamps have a reputation which spreads from buyer to buyer with wonderful results. This saves him a good deal of advertising. Anyhow, the majority of bad copies survive somewhere, and it is usually the beginner who gets them.

Now, the boy's first packet may in some instances be his first sight of stamps of any kind. He is quite a novice, unable to decide on so nice a point as condition. He takes his packet to represent stamps as they normally are. He has no criterion to go by, unless it be some heavily-marked 5d. English taken off a parcel. These things before him are stamps. He proceeds to sort and mount them in his album.

His collection grows, and his purchases are extended to other markets. Presently the conviction steals over him that there are stamps *and* stamps. This stage is his trial time. If he wishes to collect presentable copies all along the line, he will have to begin all over again. I knew a collector who really felt himself bound to follow up with the sort of stuff he had begun with; he refused perfect copies as tending to spoil the look of his album—they somehow upset the uniformity of the rough-and-tumble specimens he had already got. To introduce immaculate copies would be to "take the shine out of" the others. And a lady collector once refused a superb V.R.I. because "it wasn't dirty enough."

Perhaps, while we are on this point, some stamps really are too clean. Some of them are so beautifully prim as to suggest a postmark to order. A good ordinarily-used specimen should perhaps be moderately soiled; there is no doubt about the genuineness of either stamp or postmark in a fairly blackened copy. And since the majority of stamps one gets are of this order, there may be wisdom in rejecting the very immaculate. In this, as in other matters, the wisest course may lie midway between the two extremes.

But we are dealing now with the rough-and-tumble sorts, the ragged robins, the sorts that adorn the tops of the Continental

pages. When the boy grows older, the chances are he will want more perfect copies than those already there. At present they are the flotsam and jetsam of cheap packets; by and by he will want nicer copies. A collector in town recently bought a hundredweight of common Continentals, at so much per pound, in order to secure fine copies of common French, German, etc. He had a fine choice, as many as five thousand copies of certain kinds to select from, and the result was the glorification of the Continental part of his album. When he had made his selection he resold his bulky purchase for very nearly the same price he gave for it—it weighed but a few ounces less. Needless to say, he is an old hand; he has grown out of the day when mediocre copies would satisfy. "I want some common stamps to replace bad copies in my album"—it is the appeal of a collector who has reached man's estate and views his earlier efforts with some regret.

A beginner saves himself heaps of future trouble when he starts with clean copies at

the outset. Let him make a standard for himself, filling in the top rows with stamps that shall stand as model copies, and never accept any copy that falls below the model. The "model" may be "tolerably clean," "clean," or "exceptionally clean"—it is for him to fix the standard. The "clean" stamp is perhaps the most satisfactory; the collector who is satisfied only with immaculate copies will find it a severe task to maintain the standard.

One of the deadliest enemies to Philately is disgust—disgust for a page which is not what it should be. Perhaps the collector sees an album exhibited at some society meeting whose excellence throws his own into the shade, and he goes home to sigh over the shortcomings of his own volume. It is a pity when this feeling overtakes a man, but the preventative is to start with clean copies. Of these he will never be ashamed. If the stamps satisfy their possessor, they are a treasure that never loses its fascination, a delight that never palls.

Our South American Letter

MONTEVIDEO, 5 March, 1908.

I WAS much interested in Mr. Chas. J. Phillips' remarks in the issue of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* of 1 February, wherein he says that specialism is flourishing everywhere where stamps are collected, and from my own experience I can fully endorse his statements. For instance, here in South America I am absolutely certain that fully 60 per cent. of the local philatelists specialize in the country in which they happen to reside; the remainder collect in groups of countries like Argentine, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Brazil, or, if very ambitious, they take in the whole of the American continent. The collectors who go in for Europeans, Asiatics, and British Colonials are few in number; the last named, especially King's Heads, are decidedly unpopular on account of the great similarity of design. Many of the Uruguayans, especially the old issues and peso values, are very scarce and dear here, and readily sell for their full catalogue value, or above; and I have even heard of dealers having to send to Europe for a set of the "Diligencia" stamps to resell here at a handsome profit. In fact, this country has been more or less depleted of its most valuable stamps. The same remark applies to Argentine, Buenos Aires, Chili, and Brazil. I have been trying for months to get a set of the old Chilians at a reasonable discount, but the holders will not disgorge, and yet many collectors abroad tell me that South Americans are a drug in the market. Others have an exaggerated idea of the value of their British Colonial duplicates, and ask me to get them the most impossible South Americans in exchange for a few rubbishy Colonials.

The most sought-after Uruguayan stamp is the 25 c. Minerva of 1895 (S. G. 231), with inverted centre. The history of this stamp is very inter-

esting, and I can vouch for the accuracy of my statements, as I have received them first hand. There was only one pane of a hundred of these stamps, and by some inexplicable means they were all used by the Post Office officials for posting their "encomiendas" or parcels to the country districts. From there a few came back to the dealers mixed up with the common 1 c., 5 c., and 10 c., and such was the ignorance of the senders that many of them came in a most dilapidated condition, having been torn off the paper to which they had been affixed. One dealer received nineteen in one such lot, and he tells me that of that number fully one-third had been ruined; but nevertheless he stuck to them all and awaited developments. When the Post Office officials heard of the discovery there was much wailing and gnashing of teeth, for every one in the Post Office down to the very postmen collects stamps either for pleasure or for profit. As a tentative measure my dealer friend offered a superb copy for \$6, but there was such a rush for the stamps at this price that he promptly retired and raised the price to \$30, and sold all but five. He then asked \$50 per copy for the others, then \$70, and now he wants \$100. Only a few weeks ago I obtained a copy from him for a friend for \$70. A dealer in Buenos Aires has two copies, and he will not sell his for less than \$150. In Europe there cannot be many specimens, and I understand your publishers purchased a torn copy when the stamp was cheap, as they wanted it for their Catalogue. It must be borne in mind that the Uruguayan dollar has the same value in sterling as the American dollar (4s. 2d.).

There is one stamp which should be deleted from the catalogues, and that is the 5 c., green, with the surcharge "Provisorio 1883" printed in red. This is only a proof, but I find several

catalogues quote it. Since my last letter I have discovered that there is another minor variety of the 7 c. of 1907, where the word *REPUBLICA* reads *REPUBLIGA*. This occurs only once in the pane. The 2 c. of 1904 and the 5 c. of 1907 were withdrawn from circulation on the 27th ult., and the reissue of the 1900 set of the same values is still on sale to the public.

On the 1st inst. the Post Office reissued the 5 mils., orange, of 1900, and published a notice to the effect that the 5 mils. of 1905 would be withdrawn and demonetized on 1 June next. The expected new set from Waterlow has not yet arrived, but I expect the last forgery of stamps was so effectually squashed that the authorities can afford to take their time before issuing a new series, especially as they still have a large stock of the locally printed stamps on hand and the lithographic stones have been broken up.

I am often asked by friends abroad why so many of the Argentine peso values of the current issue are perforated with some kind of design. The newspapers here and in Argentina pay for their postage in bulk, and, of course, as the account amounts to a considerable sum, only the higher values are used, and they are mercilessly stamped by a punching machine to prevent their being used again for postage. Here in Uruguay the stamps are postmarked, so that there is nothing to distinguish them from those which have done legitimate postal duty. Others ask me why the "Officials" of 1900 and 1905 have a diamond-shaped perforation when in a used condition. This is done to prevent their being cleaned and used again, and no legitimately used "Official" should be without it. There are some people here who are up to all the tricks of the faking fraternity, many used stamps being cleaned and ironed; torn specimens receive new corners, and those which are badly thinned at the back are carefully affixed to ancient-looking paper which has the appearance of being an original cover. A friend of mine once purchased a fine lot of old "sols" on originals. The envelopes were all right, but the stamps themselves were cleverly executed forgeries, which had been manufactured in Hamburg. I should not be surprised to hear of a fine crop of the inverted Minervas turning up one of these days on original covers. So beware, my collector friends, as none of these stamps were used on envelopes.

Paraguay

Since writing you last, the following stamps of the 1904 series have appeared in new colours:—

1 c., light blue.

10 c., brown.

20 c., green.

1 peso, olive-grey and black.

The latest provisional is the 5 c. Official of 1904, surcharged "Habilitado," with a thick bar across the word "Official," and is now being used for general postage. This stamp exists in three colours—light blue, dark blue, and blue-green. The last shade, I am told, was only on sale for a few days in Asuncion, and should be scarce. The one in general use now is the dark

blue; the light blue, I understand, is unobtainable. Among a lot of unused sheets of the 5 c. on 2 c., green (1904), a friend came across two sheets of a hundred stamps each, with surcharge inverted; but I believe you have already chronicled this variety. However, I mention it in case it is unknown to you. Among the Official stamps the 1 peso is reported in lemon colour, and of the Officials (1904 type) are 10 c. and 20 c. violet. All the 1904 issue are engraved by the Cia Sud Americana de Billetes de Banco de Buenos Aires. Owing to these frequent changes some of these stamps should be scarce, unless, indeed, some of the German houses have cornered them. They generally buy up all they can come across for shipment to dealers in Germany. I remember seeing it erroneously stated in one of the English philatelic journals that the building on the peso values is used as the General Post Office. It is the old palace of Lopez, the Dictator of Paraguay, and is now occupied by various Government Departments, but not by the Post Office. This Department is lodged in quite a different building. Internal postage here costs only 5 centavos, while foreign costs 60 c. (twelve times as much), and until lately cost 75 c.

Venezuela

I have recently received the 5 c. carmine and 3 c. vermilion (Type 55) imperf. vertically or horizontally.

Falkland Islands

I see by the local papers that there has been a little mild excitement at home about this small group of islands, and that questions have been asked in Parliament as to the truth of the rumour that Argentine had laid claim to this colony. The facts of the matter are these, as per cutting from *El Dia* enclosed herewith. On receipt of the communication from the Italian Minister in Buenos Aires of the ratification of the Postal Convention held in Rome on behalf of the British Government, which included the *Islas Malvinas* or Falkland Islands, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Zeballos, requested the Italian Minister to inform his Government that as the *Islas Malvinas* belong to the Argentine it is not possible for the Argentine Government to take note of the aforementioned communication without protesting against the British Government's action in mentioning these possessions. The Argentine have always maintained that the Falklands belonged to them; hence above protest. The present foreign Minister has been getting into hot water all round lately, and he has been aptly named "Bismarck" by his political opponents. In a separate article enclosed with this letter* I send you a few notes about the Falklands which may prove of interest to your readers at the present moment. In conclusion, Mr. Editor, I must apologize for the length of this letter, though I have condensed it as much as possible. There are many interesting minor varieties of Uruguay and Argentina which I would like to chronicle, but perhaps few of your readers take more than a passing interest in poor, despised South America!

A. H. DAVIS.

* This will appear later on. As regards the claim of Argentine to these islands, see also article in *G.S.W.*, No. 150.—Ed. *G.S.W.*



New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

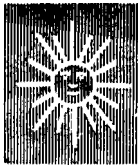
I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 381 Strand, London, W.C.

Argentine.—Mr. R. Shield sends us copies of two values of a new set; they are similar in design, both showing a portrait of San Martin, a celebrated general. They are surface-printed by the "Casa de Monedas," the Argentine equivalent for our Mint. The watermark is still "Large Sun," 6 mm. in diameter, Type 67 in the Catalogue, and the perforation gauges 13, 13½.

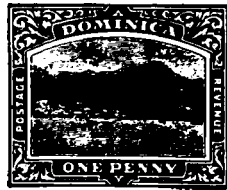
Our correspondent informs us that these stamps were issued in accordance with a decree dated 17 February, 1908; the remaining values from ½ cent. to 20 dollars will be issued as soon as they are printed.

As regards artistic merit the new stamps are failures, and the printing is not nearly so good as in the case of the last issue.



Wmk. Large Sun. Perf. 13, 13½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 c., chocolate	—	—
5 c., dull carmine	—	—



Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Chalky paper. Perf. 14.
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.
 6d., black and chestnut

Dutch Indies.—*Champion's Bulletin* (25.3.08) lists a new 22½ c. in two colours.



Perf. 12½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
22½ c., olive and brown	—	—

Curaçao.—We learn from *Champion's Bulletin* (25.3.08) that two new values, a 7½ c. and a 22½ c., have been issued.



a



b

Perf. 12½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
7½ c., grey (a)	—	—
22½ c., brown (b)	—	—

Mexico.—*Champion's Bulletin* (25.3.08) reports the issue of four values of Postage Dues. The design consists of a large figure of value on a white ground.

Postage Dues. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 c., blue	—	—
4 c. "	—	—
5 c. "	—	—
10 c. "	—	—

New Zealand.—*The London Philatelist* (27.3.08) chronicles the 2d., lake, of the 1898 issue, perforated 15 at the sides, but imperforate top and bottom. Our contemporary states that a portion of the next stamp was showing at the top, so that there is no doubt as to the stamp being really imperforate.

In arranging our stock we have discovered a new value, a 4s., belonging to the 1906 set of the Postal Fiscals. This stamp will come after No. 499 in the Catalogue.

Dominica.—*The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* chronicles the 6d. on multiple paper.



1898. No wmk. Perf. 15 vertically, imperf. horizontally.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.

2d., lake



Postal Fiscal. Wmk. NZ and Star. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.

4s., Venetian red

Persia.—We have received five high values, similar in design, etc., to the two stamps listed in our issue of 11 April. We think we then omitted to state that those stamps, as well as these, are printed in sheets of twenty-five, made up of five rows of five.



Line-engraved. No wmk. Perf. 11, 11½.

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
1 kr.,	vermillion	. . . . .	0 9
2 "	deep grey-green	. . . . .	1 6
3 "	light blue	. . . . .	2 0
4 "	yellow	. . . . .	3 0
5 "	deep grey-brown	. . . . .	3 6

Rio de Oro.—We are now able to give correct illustrations of the provisionals chronicled in our issue of 7 March.

1908	1907
2	10
Cens	Cens

The two illustrations above represent the 2 c. on 2 p., and the 10 c. on 50 c. and 75 c.



The above is a correct illustration of the overprint 15 c. on 25 c.; the one we gave when chronicling the stamp was unfortunately inaccurate.

Again, in our issue of 15 February we listed large green provisional, overprinted in black. We are now able to illustrate this, and at the same time we note that the stamp exists in two distinct shades of green, so we should be obliged if our readers would substitute the following corrected chronicle for that given previously.



Fiscal stamp, overprinted in carmine for postal use. Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c. on 50 c., yellow-green	. . . . .	— —
5 c. on 50 c., blue-green	. . . . .	— —

Salvador.—Mr. E. Schernikow has very kindly shown us the four lowest values of the current issue, with shield, overprinted, for use as Postage Dues, in black, "Deficiencia de—Franqueo"; the overprint reads up the stamp, and is in two lines.

In addition to these four values, *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News* (7.3.08) chronicles a 10 c. similarly overprinted, and the 1 c. with double overprint.

Mr. Schernikow also shows us the provisional 1 c. on 2 c., chronicled in our issue of 7 March, with the black obliterating dot of the overprint printed twice.

In the list of Official stamps given in our issue of 21 March, we inadvertently included a 12 c., black and violet; this should have been a 13 c., black and violet.



UN CENTAVO



102

Type 102, overprinted as above in black, with black obliterating dot printed twice.

1 c. on 2 c., black and red	— —
-----------------------------	-----------	-----

Deficiencia de franqueo

POSTAGE DUES. *Type 102, with shield, overprinted as above in black, reading upwards.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black and green	—	—
2 c. " red	—	—
3 c. " pale yellow	—	—
5 c. " indigo	—	—
10 c. " violet	—	—
<i>Variety. Surcharge double</i>		
1 c., black and green	—	—

South Australia.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (14.3.08), the 8d., thick POSTAGE, has been issued in quite another shade, it being now *dull pale blue* instead of *ultramarine*.



Wmk. Crown SA (close). Perf. 12.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

8d., dull pale blue

Surinam.—According to *Champion's Bulletin* (25.3.08), a 22½ c. has been issued in two colours.



Perf. 12½.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

22½ c., olive and brown

Tasmania.—We have received the 1s., watermark Crown over double-lined A, perforated 11. This will be No. 239 in the Catalogue.



Wmk. Crown over Δ. Perf. 11.
2391s., rose and green . . . 6 0 —

Turkey.—No less than twenty-two new stamps were issued about 22 March, but we refrained from chronicling them until we could obtain a full set from our correspondents.

As before, there are two sorts of postage stamps, a set of ten values, all of the same design, printed on white paper, and also four of these stamps are overprinted in carmine with a Turkish symbol, said to represent the letter "B." A note in the Catalogue after No. 186 explains that these stamps are sold to business firms at a reduction of 20 per cent from their face value. They may be used only for foreign correspondence, and are sold cheaper so as to compete with the various post offices of the European Powers.

Another set of six stamps is made for printed matter by overprinting the postage stamps in carmine with Turkish characters; and finally two values are printed on carmine paper, in a brownish black, always the same design being used.

All the stamps are on wove paper, and the perforation is rather rough, gauging from 12 to 13½.



Postage stamps. No wmk. Perf. 12 to 13½.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.

5 par., brown-ochre	—	—
10 " green	—	—
20 " rose-carmine	—	—
1 piás., ultramarine	—	—
2 " black	—	—
2½ " black-brown	—	—
5 " purple-slate	—	—
10 " dull red	—	—
25 " deep myrtle-green	—	—
50 " brown	—	—



Same type, overprinted as above in carmine, on the 20 par. in blue. Perf. 12 to 13½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 par., green	—	—
20 " rose-carmine	—	—
1 piás., ultramarine	—	—
2 " black	—	—



PRINTED MATTER. *Same type, overprinted as above in blue on 5 and 20 par., and in carmine on other values.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 par., brown-ochre	—	—
10 " green	—	—
20 " rose-carmine	—	—
1 piás., ultramarine	—	—
2 " black	—	—
5 " purple-slate	—	—

POSTAGE DUES. *Same type. Perf. 12 to 13½.*

1 piás., brownish black on carmine	—	—
2 " " "	—	—

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Philatelic Societies

Herts Philatelic Society

*President: Franz Reichenheim, Esq.
Hon. Secretary: H. A. Slade, Esq., Ninefields, St. Albans.
Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.
Annual Subscription, 6s.*

THE sixth general meeting was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, 17 March, 1908, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), T. H. Harvey, W. G. Cool, W. Archibald Boyes, R. Frenzel, A. H. L. Giles, W. T. Standen, I. E. Bradbury, Chas. Nissen, W. Simpson, W. H. Eastwood, E. Bounds, J. R. Laing, D. Thom-on-M. Weinberg, P. R. Stevens, W. Dewey Buncombe, E. W. Arnold, C. E. Fagan, A. G. Wane, W. Van Oppen, W. C. Gunner, C. H. Garnett, Percy Ashley, M. Z. Kuttner, W. E. Lincoln, Fred J. Melville, A. W. Hogg, Henry Wills, J. C. Sidebotham (Hon. Librarian), H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and three visitors (J. W. Campion, H. F. Johnson, and Edgar Nelson).

The Vice-President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 February, 1908, were read and signed as correct.

The following resolutions were proposed and duly carried:—

(a) That the Annual Meeting be held on Tuesday, 19 May, 1908, at 6.30 p.m., and that the Hon. Secretary make the necessary arrangements for proper accommodation, etc.

(b) That the Annual Dinner be held in May.

(c) That visitors be invited to the Dinner.

(d) That the President, the Vice-President, the Hon. Secretary, and Messrs. J. C. Sidebotham and J. R. Laing be appointed as a Dinner Committee, and that the proposal that ladies be invited be referred to them to act on their discretion.

Mr. Boyes was co-opted with Mr. Cool as Curator of the Forgeries Collection.

The Hon. Librarian reported several valuable donations of philatelic publications and literature received during last month.

Mr. Frenzel reported donations to the Fntire Collection from the President, Messrs O. Firth, W. Lane Joynt, M. G. Kuttner, and M. Weinberg.

A fine collection of forgeries was presented by Mr. A. G. Wane.

All these donations were duly acknowledged and an expression of the thanks of the Society was recorded on the minutes.

The Curators of the Society's collections brought the albums for the inspection of the members, and the contents were inspected and appreciated. Although members have been generous in sending duplicates, many blanks still remain to be filled up.

A general display of interesting stamps (not exceeding twenty-five in each case) was given by a great number of members and proved a great success. The collections were passed round and examined with much interest.

At the conclusion of the display an auction sale was conducted by Mr. Boyes, who in the absence of Mr. Hadlow proved a worthy wielder of the hammer. Mr. Nissen handed the lots round, and considerable keenness in bidding was displayed.

Lots were submitted by Messrs. Gilbert Biggs, Bounds, Wane, and Weinberg, and the total sales amounted to £7 5s. 6d. As an experiment the sale fulfilled all expectations, and it is hoped they will prove a great attraction to the meetings in future.

After a vote of thanks passed to the Chairman, a most interesting meeting terminated at 9 p.m.

Leicester Philatelic Society

*President: Dr. R. Milbourne West.
Hon. Sec.: P. V. Sansome, Tennyson Street, St. James' Road, Leicester.
Meetings: Winchester House, Wolford Place, Leicester.*

THE tenth meeting of the session of this Society was held on Wednesday, 1 April, at the head-quarters, Winchester House.

The chair was occupied by the President (Dr. R. Milbourne West), who was supported by a good gathering of members.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. P. V. Sansome) was called upon to read the minutes of the preceding meeting, which were duly signed as correct.

The thanks of the Society were passed to Messrs. Bright and Son, London, and to the Herts Philatelic Society for magazines received.

The programme of the evening consisted of a display and a lecture on "Paper."

A collection of Gibraltar and Morocco Agencies was shown by the President, who read a very interesting paper on the issues of these stamps, which was highly appreciated.

The collections of both were practically complete and mostly in mint condition.

A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to the President for so kindly placing the collections before the members.

The next item was a lecture on "Paper and its Manufacture." The popular Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Thomas B. Widdowson) had evidently given a lot of time to this subject, as was seen by the apparatus, photographs of machinery used, etc., he brought with him.

The various kinds of paper, especially that used in the manufacture of postage stamps, were exhaustively gone into.

Several questions were asked and quickly dealt with by Mr. Widdowson. Mr. J. Edwards proposed a hearty vote of thanks be accorded the President and Mr. Thomas B. Widdowson for their highly interesting and instructive papers. This was seconded by Mr. W. Gadsby and carried with acclamation.

The meeting terminated at 10.5 p.m.

As the next meeting will be the last of the session, the Hon. Secretary asks the members to turn up in full force.

Montreal Philatelic Association

*President: T. Van Guilder.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: E. W. Stanton.*

THE fifteenth annual meeting of this Society was held at the Society's new rooms at 211 Sherbrooke Street W., on Wednesday, 11 March, at 8.15 p.m., Mr. T. Van Guilder, President, in the chair. On the meeting, which was well attended, coming to order, the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. E. W. Stanton, read the minutes of the previous annual meeting, which were confirmed by the meeting. The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place, with the following results: President, Mr. T. Van Guilder; Vice-President, Mr. C. Goulden; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. E. W. Stanton; Director of Stamp Sales Department, Mr. O. Buillargeon; Librarian, Mr. McKie; Executive Committee, Messrs. Patterson, Hongenont, and O. Barwick.

The financial report, which was read by the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. E. W. Stanton, showed the Society was in a satisfactory condition. The committee which was appointed at the last regular meeting to obtain new rooms, then made its report, and was tendered the thanks of the Society for the success of its efforts. Mr. O. Barwick then gave a display of stamps from his Canadian and British Columbian colonial stamp collections.

The Canadians showed a superb variety of shades, particularly in the 1 cent, pink, first perf. issue, a whole page of a blank album being given up to shades of this variety. Mr. Barwick also showed the earlier imperf. issues, including the rare 13d., black, unused and used. The shades of the pre-jubilee issue were also very fine, all values being highly specialized. The British Colonials, especially the King's Heads single CA, were very fine, complete *mint* sets of all the single CA issues being shown, including the British East Africa set complete and all the rare Cyprus.

The meeting broke up at 10.30, after passing a vote of thanks to Mr. Barwick for the philatelic treat he had given them.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 18
Whole No. 174

2 MAY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Consular Offices—continued

China—continued

MONGTZE is a town with 12,000 inhabitants, in the province of Yunnan not far from the Tonquin frontier, and the seat of a good trade in metals and tea. A railway is in course of construction from Hanoi, the capital of Indo China, to Lao-Kai, the frontier town, and from thence through Mongtze to Yunnanfou, a distance of 275 miles on Chinese soil. A French post office was created 27 January, 1900, but until 1903 was treated as a sub-office of Lao-Kai, and the obliterator read "Lao-Kay A." A French consulate was established later, and in due course the post office received a supply similar to the 1903-4 issue of Hoi-Hao.

MONGTZE

仙二

1903-4. Stamps of Indo China overprinted in black.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	0 2	—
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	0 3	—
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	0 4	—
5 c., pale green	0 6	—
10 c., rose-red	0 6	—
15 c., grey	0 8	—
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	1 6	—
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	—	—
25 c., blue	1 9	—
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	2 0	—
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	4 0	—
50 c., carmine on <i>rose</i>	—	—
50 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	—	—
75 c., " <i>orange</i>	4 6	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	6 0	—
5 fr., lilac on <i>pale lilac</i>	15 0	—

The issue of 1906 has an altered spelling of the name. It is one of the whitewashed sets emanating from Hanoi.

Mong-tseu

花銀八厘

1906. Stamps of Indo China overprinted in red or black.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., olive-green	0 6	—
2 c., claret on <i>yellow</i>	0 6	—
4 c., magenta on <i>azure</i>	0 6	—
5 c., deep green	0 6	—
10 c., rose	0 5	—
15 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	—	—
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	1 0	—
25 c., blue	0 10	—
30 c., brown on <i>cream</i>	1 0	—
35 c., black on <i>yellow</i>	1 0	—
40 c., " <i>azure</i>	1 0	—
50 c., brown	—	—
75 c., brown on <i>orange</i>	—	—
1 fr., pale olive-green	—	—
2 fr., brown on <i>yellow</i>	—	—
5 fr., lilac on <i>pale lilac</i>	—	—
10 fr., red on <i>green</i>	—	—

Packhoi is a port on the Gulf of Tonquin, with about 30,000 people. It was opened for commerce in 1875, and is in close business relations with Nanning, an important town on the Yu-Kiang and the centre of the sugar-cane district. Packhoi exports a good deal of indigo, and would be a more important port if the harbour or approach could be bettered. At present cargo ships have to anchor half a mile from shore.

The philatelic history is almost identical with that of Mongtze, and the one description, with the exception of different names, would do for both.

PACKHOI

仙二

1903-4. Stamps of Indo China overprinted in black.

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	0 2	—
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	0 1	—
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	0 2	—
5 c., pale green	0 2	—
10 c., rose-red	0 3	—
15 c., grey	0 4	—
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	0 5	—
25 c., blue	0 8	—
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	1 9	—

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	1 0	—
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	2 6	—
50 c., carmine on <i>rose</i>	—	—
50 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	—	—
75 c. " <i>orange</i>	1 6	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	6 0	—
5 fr., lilac on <i>pale lilac</i>	15 0	—

PAK-HOI

花銀八厘

1906. *Stamps of Indo China overprinted in red or black.*

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., olive-green	0 6	—
2 c., claret on <i>yellow</i>	0 6	—
4 c., magenta on <i>azure</i>	0 6	—
5 c., deep green	0 6	—
10 c., rose	0 5	—
15 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	—	—
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	1 0	—
25 c., blue	0 10	—
30 c., brown on <i>cream</i>	1 0	—
35 c., black on <i>yellow</i>	1 0	—
40 c. " <i>azure</i>	1 0	—
50 c., brown	—	—
75 c., brown on <i>orange</i>	—	—
1 fr., pale olive-green	—	—
2 fr., brown on <i>yellow</i>	—	—
5 fr., lilac on <i>pale lilac</i>	—	—
10 fr., red on <i>green</i>	—	—

Tchong-King or Chung-King is a treaty port in Sechwan, with 125,000 inhabitants, situated at the junction of the Kialing and Yang-tse-Kiang rivers, and is the one outlet eastwards for the trade of the province. It was opened to foreigners in 1886. Previous to the authorized issue of stamps, some enterprising gentleman circulated sets purporting to be issued for the town. The name was overprinted on stamps already adorned with the word "Chine," but the stamps are entirely bogus. Otherwise much the same can be said for the philatelic history of this port as for that of the two previous offices.

TCHONGKING

四之五仙

1903-4. *Stamps of Indo China overprinted in black.*

1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	0 3	—
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	0 3	—
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	0 4	0 3
5 c., pale green	0 6	—
10 c., rose-red	0 6	—
15 c., grey	0 8	—
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	0 9	—
25 c., blue	2 0	—
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	2 0	—
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	2 0	—
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	2 6	—
50 c., carmine on <i>rose</i>	—	—
50 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	10 0	—
75 c. " <i>orange</i>	2 6	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	6 0	—
5 fr., lilac on <i>pale lilac</i>	15 0	—

Tch'ong
King

花銀八厘

1906. *Stamps of Indo China overprinted in red or black.*

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., olive-green	0 6	—
2 c., claret on <i>yellow</i>	0 6	—
4 c., magenta on <i>azure</i>	0 6	—
5 c., deep green	0 6	—
10 c., rose	0 5	—
15 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	—	—
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	1 0	—
25 c., blue	0 10	—
30 c., brown on <i>cream</i>	1 0	—
35 c., black on <i>yellow</i>	1 0	—
40 c. " <i>azure</i>	1 0	—
50 c., brown	—	—
75 c., brown on <i>orange</i>	—	—
1 fr., pale olive-green	—	—
2 fr., brown on <i>yellow</i>	—	—
5 fr., lilac on <i>pale lilac</i>	—	—
10 fr., red on <i>green</i>	—	—

Yunnansen or Yunnanfou.—A note in the Catalogue explains the terminals of these words. It may be stated here that Chinese towns are of three grades, and can generally be told by the endings of the names, though the terminals are not always used. *Foo* or *fou* is the highest grade; *chou* or *cheou* the next; and *hien* or *tsien* the lowest.

Yunnanfou is a walled town and the capital of the fertile province of Yunnan. It has 100,000 inhabitants, and situated on a lake near the middle, centralizes the trade of the province with Tonquin. The province is rich in minerals, produces opium and rice, manufactures silk, and is altogether a desirable possession. France has cast envious eyes upon the territory and is doing her best to monopolize the trade. The French post office was opened 15 February, 1900, as a branch of that at Lao-Kai, and used obliterations marked "Laokay B." Later it was attached to Mongtze with obliterator "Mongtze B," and it was not provided with a date stamp of its own till September, 1904.

The philatelic history is similar to that of the last office and needs no further comment.

YUNNANSEN

仙二

1902-4. *Stamps of Indo China overprinted in black.*

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	2 0	—
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	0 3	0 2
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	0 4	0 3
5 c., pale green	0 4	—

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
10 c., rose	0 6	—
15 c., grey	0 6	—
20 c., red on green	0 8	—
25 c., blue	0 9	—
30 c., cinnamon on drab	2 0	—
40 c., red on yellow	6 0	—
50 c., carmine on rose	15 0	—
50 c., brown on azure	10 0	—
75 c. " orange	4 0	—
1 fr., olive-green on toned	5 0	—
5 fr., lilac on pale lilac	15 0	—

Yunnan-Fou

花銀八厘

1906. *Stamps of Indo China overprinted in red or black.*

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 c., olive-green	0 6	—
2 c., claret on yellow	0 6	—
4 c., magenta on azure	0 6	—
5 c., deep green	0 6	—
10 c., rose	0 5	—
15 c., brown on azure	—	—
20 c., red on green	1 0	—
25 c., blue	0 10	—
30 c., brown on cream	1 0	—
35 c., black on yellow	1 0	—
40 c. " azure	1 0	—
50 c., brown	—	—
75 c., brown on orange	—	—
1 fr., pale olive-green	—	—
2 fr., brown on yellow	—	—
5 fr., lilac on pale lilac	—	—
10 fr., red on green	—	—

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

The Sectional Imperial Album

I S being very well received, and we have already had most favourable reports upon it from collectors who have bought the Great Britain section.

I have now the pleasure of announcing that the following sections are ready, prices for which will be found in our advertisement pages:—

Antigua,
Bahamas,
Barbados,
Bermuda,
Cayman Islands,
Dominica,
Grenada,
Jamaica.

Circulars, with full particulars, will be sent on application.

A Gem

IN a small parcel of old Australian stamps that we purchased recently, we had one of the finest things in New South Wales stamps that have passed through our hands for some years. A pair of 3d., green, Sydneys, unused, and with full gum, on *laid paper*; the stamps had large margins all round, and, needless to say, could have been sold ten times over.

New South Wales Handbook

THE handbook on the stamps of New South Wales that we are publishing for the Royal Philatelic Society is now being printed, and I trust it will be on sale this summer.

The book is being prepared by a commit-

tee of the R.P.S. in conjunction with Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, of Sydney, and will be one of the finest works that have ever appeared upon the stamps of any country.

The committee have been for some six years engaged in getting together photographs of the finest known copies of "Sydneys" and "The Laureated Issues," and it is intended, as far as possible, to prepare plates from unused specimens; where unused cannot be found, then the finest used copies have been photographed.

Collectors who have endeavoured to plate old New South Wales stamps by the aid of the plates given in *Oceania* (published in 1887) will appreciate the superb plates that are being prepared by the "photogravure" process. These plates are all produced by handwork, and are exceedingly expensive, but the results are far superior to anything we can produce by "autotype" or any other mechanical process.

I cannot, as yet, form any idea of the cost of this work, or the selling price. I only publish these particulars as I get so many inquiries.

Death of Mr. Norman C. Horwood

IT is with great regret that I have to announce the death of this well-known Melbourne collector, who passed away on 20 February last.

Mrs. Horwood requests that all claims for anything owing for stamps may be sent to Mr. C. B. Donne, 346 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

No. 68. Value £319.

Denmark.

A GOOD lot of the older issues, especially strong in fine unused, including rare shades and some fine blocks.

In the 1851 issue there are the three chief types of the 2 r.b.s., unused, a fine lot of the small square stamps with the private perforation, superb shades in the 1864-8 issues, and a fine lot of *errors* of stamps issued imperf., pairs of many values being shown, both unused and used.

Even advanced collectors should find some desirable things to add to their collections from this fine stock book.

Nos. 149, 150, and 203. 3 Vols. Value £1014.

Greece.

The older issues of this country seem to be ever increasing in popularity, and I find great difficulty in keeping our stock up to a respectable level. Luckily I have recently been able to purchase a nice collection of these old issues, mostly in blocks of four, and all mint.

These new stock books are three in number, and every issue is well represented, and the advanced collector is sure to find much to interest him, and those who have these books early will be able to purchase some superb shades which cannot be described. The middle and late issues are very complete and well worth inspection.

No. 204. Value £348.

Thurn and Taxis.

A moderately strong book only, the early and rarer issues unused being represented

by numerous singles and a few pairs and blocks.

In the used will be found many scarce varieties of postmarks.

Wanted to Purchase

Used. Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 17, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 37, 51, 52, 55, 56, 57, 62, 84.

Nos. 151, 152, and 191. 3 vols. Value £2467.

New Zealand

(including *Aitutaki, Niue, and Pouterhyn Islands*).

These new stock books are exceptionally complete, and contain a truly superb lot of the older issues which are now so much sought for.

We have combined in these books not only our general stock and the Breitfuss Collection, but also a *very fine specialized collection* of first-type New Zealand stamps, which we recently purchased.

In order to give collectors some idea of the strength of these books, I append a short list of a few items:—

1856.	1d., red on blue.	3 unused, 16 used.
"	2d., blue	" 2 " 33 "
"	1s., green	" 1 " 12 "
1856.	White paper; no wmk.; 1d.	5 unused.
"	"	" 2d. 16 "
"	"	" 6d. 7 "
"	"	" 1s. 2 "

The later issues are even stronger, especially in unused; in fact this is one of the best books of old New Zealand stamps that we have seen for many years, and collectors who want *fine copies* should make a point of seeing these books before they are too much picked over.

The later issues are fairly strong, but not so complete as we could wish.

Acrostic Competition

THE correct solution of No. 6 Acrostic (11 April) is:—

C entesim I
H uma N
I dolize D
N arciss I
A re A

Three marks are credited to Aei, Algy, Argonaut, F. W. A., Bar, Birdie, Cadi, Chicken, Crofter, Cromlix, H. Chapman, Capt. Clarke, F. D., Hawk, W. B. T. H., A. Harvey, Jap, Jud, Kappa, Kasaj, Late, J. C. Luker, Mascot, A. M. Marsh, H. Metcalf, Omega, Old Girl, Oudeis, C. V. O'Neil, Pen, Pharaoh, Roy, O. R. R., S. B. R., Seebee, E. Schilizzi, E. H. Shears, A. St. J., H. A. Spowart, Taffy, Tea, Timbre M. C. Tancock, Ubique, Upton, Vox, J. Walker, F. E. W., and Zimpa.

Two marks to Beyond, H. Bean, W. G. Cochrane, Hiz, A. R. Hebblethwaite, Jaguar,

F. A. J., M. M., A. Mackay, Psi, A. B. Pater-son, Reg, Siwol, Tasman, and Tertius.

One mark to J. R. H., Lotus, Mot, A. H. P., M. S. C. S., E. H. F. Salt, and Thistle.

Several others with three or more words wrong; Bude posting 16th too late.

For No. 4: Miss Keyser, two marks.

For No. 5: Greek (Canada), three marks; and two for J. Walker's unsigned one.

There are some ingenious words offered this time, but I think all will admit that they do not completely fit, as the correct words do. There can be no doubt, for instance, as to the "largest populations" known for States under one general government, which is not met with "Malay," etc.; and in the last light it will be seen that a double meaning attaches to the word, as "area" is the open space outside the basement rooms of London houses, apart from the relative area of London as compared with population.

BEN.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—continued

China Expeditionary Force—continued

THE first supply of 1 anna stamps overprinted for the use of the Indian Field Post Offices in China, and which originally consisted of the stamp of that denomination of the 1882 Queen's Head series of India, printed in plum, became exhausted after about three and a half years' use, and a further consignment of the same value, printed in carmine, which had been issued in India in 1900 in conformity with the requirements of the Universal Postal Union, was dispatched to China similarly overprinted, and was issued in February, 1904. The total number of copies overprinted was 29,720, but owing to the very small demand for these stamps, up to 3 January, 1905, only 7471 copies had been used.

27 February, 1904.

Contemporary Indian stamp of 1900. Design, head of Queen Victoria; wmk. Star; perf. 14; colour changed. Engraved and printed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in London, and surcharged with the initials "C.E.F." in small, thick sans-serif capitals, in one line, in black, at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta, in complete sheets of 240, two panes of 120, ten rows of twelve, with usual marginal lines, and space between the two panes perforated with series of large round holes.

1 anna, carmine (29,720).

The remaining 22,249 stamps of this design and value sufficed to meet the requirements of these offices until the summer of 1905, when the same denomination of the current King's Head series of India received a similar overprint and was issued in its stead. Of this stamp the first supply sent out (of which I regret I cannot give the exact figures) was completely sold out by February, 1907, and a further supply, amounting to about 16,000 stamps, had to be prepared and shipped to China some time in August, 1907.

July (?), 1905.

Regular King's Head design of India, 1902. Wmk. Star; perf. 14; unsurfaced paper. Engraved and printed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in London, and surcharged "C.E.F." in small, thick sans-serif capitals, in one line,

in black, across the centre of the stamp, at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta, in complete sheets of 240 stamps, composed of two panes of 120 in ten rows of twelve one above the other; continuous marginal lines, and gutters filled with decorative pillars.

1 anna, carmine.

For the remaining values up to and including 1 rupee Queen's Head, stamps of the designs of India, 1882, and similarly overprinted, are current.

As in the case of most issues of surcharged stamps, varieties of defective type, etc., occur, but are of such a minor character as to form an entirely negligible quantity, the most prominent being the so-called "O" for "C," which is occasioned merely by the movable type used for surcharging these stamps having received a too generous supply of ink. The remaining varieties are damaged letters pure and simple. It is probable that all future supplies of these stamps will be overprinted from electrotypes plates in the same manner as the Indian Convention State stamps, thus obviating all danger of errors, etc. These issues are listed in most catalogues under India, as the Field Post Offices by which they are in use form a branch of the Indian Postal Establishment. Philatelically, however, they constitute a distinct group, just as do the Indian stamps overprinted for use in East Africa, Zanzibar, Somaliland, Straits Settlements, etc.

Hong Kong

Hong Kong is an island off the south-east coast of China, lying at the mouth of the Canton River, and is one of a small group of islands named by the early Portuguese settlers "Ladrones," on account of the thieving propensities of their inhabitants. Together with a part of the adjacent mainland, the peninsula of Keulung, it forms the British Crown Colony of that name.

The island was ceded to Great Britain by the Chinese Government in January, 1841, as a result of what was at that time popularly known as the "Opium War," the concession being ratified by the Treaty of Nanking, 5 April, 1843. Keulung and what is known as the "New Territory" were annexed to

the colony by the Peking Convention of 1860, and a lease signed on 9 June, 1898, respectively.

It is an important naval and military station, and is strongly fortified. There are extensive dockyards and repairing shops on the island, which is the head-quarters of the British China Fleet, whilst between the island and the mainland lies the famous Victoria Harbour, a magnificent sheet of water, ten miles in extent, one of the largest and most beautiful in the world, providing a safe anchorage for many hundreds of vessels of all nationalities. Facing the harbour and the mainland, on the northern shore of the island, is situated the largest and only important town, and the capital of the colony, the city of Victoria, with its handsome rows of stately warehouses facing on to the harbour, and its winding streets stretching half-way up Victoria Peak, the chief mountain of Hong Kong, over 1800 feet high. Victoria is a free port, and a vast entrepôt for British manufactured commodities of every description. Although the colony itself produces nothing of any commercial value, its capital is one of the busiest cities in the Far East, and an enormous trade in imports and exports and shipping in general is carried on, therein lying the chief wealth of the colony. The principal articles of export are tea, silk, rice, ivory, betel and sandalwood, and cotton, whilst the imports comprise principally opium, woollens, oil, sugar, and machinery of all kinds. In the summer of 1906 the island was visited by a disastrous typhoon, during which many British and foreign ships in the harbour were driven ashore and wrecked, and which was attended by considerable loss to both life and property.

The Governor is appointed by the Crown, and there are also local legislative and executive councils to deal with local affairs.

A large garrison, composed of both British and native Indian troops, is maintained in the colony, and there is, in addition, a white volunteer force in Victoria.

The total area of the colony together with Keulung is 400 square miles, and the population was in 1905 466,800, of whom 360,000 were native Chinese. Most of the inhabitants live in or adjacent to Victoria, which has over 200,000 inhabitants. The majority of the white population lives in the picturesque suburbs of the city built on the slopes of Victoria Peak, several hundreds of feet above the harbour, and overlooking the Leemoo, as the strait between the island and the mainland at its narrowest point is called.

Hong Kong was admitted to the Universal Postal Union on 1 April, 1877.

Stamps first issued 1862.

Currency: 100 cents = 1 dollar = 2s. 4d.

In addition to the regular post offices on the island and on the peninsula of Keulung, branches of the Hong Kong post office are maintained in connection with the British consulates at all the principal treaty ports in the Chinese Empire, for the benefit of foreign residents in those towns. The reason for the existence of these agencies is that as China is not a member of the Universal Postal Union, her postage stamps have franking power only within her own borders; therefore if it were not for the presence of these offices, and similar ones belonging to all of the principal European Powers, persons residing in China and wishing to send communications to countries in the Postal Union would experience great difficulty in so doing, as the letters would have to be sent down by steamer to Hong Kong, together with the requisite amount for postage, and Hong Kong stamps would have to be affixed there at the post office, causing an endless amount of trouble and annoyance both to the persons sending the letters and to the postal authorities themselves, hence the reason for the establishment of these offices.

In connection with the upkeep of the Hong Kong branch offices in China, it is interesting to note the method employed in sending letters outside of China from towns where there are no foreign post offices. There, according to a correspondent of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, the letter has to be taken to the local office of the Imperial Chinese Posts, and have stamps amounting to the regular Postal Union rate on the letter affixed in stamps of the Chinese Empire. The Chinese postal authorities then forward the letter to Shanghai, or the nearest port at which there is a foreign post office of a Power which is a member of the Union. The letter is then turned over to this office by the Chinese Imperial Posts, and a second lot of stamps, this time of the nation to which the local postal agency belongs, are affixed, the cost of such stamps being borne by the Chinese postal authorities, and the letter is then forwarded by the foreign postal service to its destination. The stamps of foreign post offices in China when placed on letters side by side with regular Chinese stamps are obliterated with an oblong frame containing the letters "I.P.O.", signifying "Imperial Post Office." The cancellations usually employed on Hong Kong stamps used at the various treaty ports consist of a double circle having the date in the centre, and at the top between the two circles the name of the town, and at the bottom the initials "B.P.O." standing for "British Post Office." For fuller particulars regarding these offices and the cancellations employed by them, I would refer my readers to a special article on this subject by Mr. C. A. Howes, the

well-known Boston philatelist and authority upon Asiatic stamps, entitled "Cancellations on Hong Kong Postage Stamps," which appeared in Volume II of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*.

The following are the offices at present in operation: Amoy, Canton, Chefoo, Foochow,

Hankow, Hoihoa, Ningpo, Shanghai, Swatow, Tien-tsin. In addition there is a sub-office of the Hong Kong postal establishment on Lieou-Kung Island, in the harbour of Wei-hai-wei, Britain's naval station in the Gulf of Pe-chi-li.

(To be continued.)

My Life Story

The Autobiography of a Penny Black

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON

MOST things outlive their period of usefulness, when they are relegated to limbo, to lie forgotten by those whom they have most faithfully served; and at one time I thought this was my fate. For long I lay, apparently forgotten, in the dark recess of an old time-worn casket, and there I learned to whisper tearful Kismets. Certainly I had a faithful companion, and friendship brightens the darkest hours. An old faded envelope was my friend, and together we spent the silent watches of interminable days. I was strongly attached to him, and he to me; but I felt that there was a certain amount of coercion in our attachment. I could not love him, he was so old, while I was as bright and fresh as on the day I was born. He loved me though, and often addressed me; in fact, a faded rose in the same casket said that there was a perpetual address on his antiquated old face. He once said I was a lovely impression.

But my dark days are o'er, and now, though I am quite old in years, I am rejuvenated and feel possessed of perennial youth. Strange are the workings of Philately!

Yes, I am old—line-engraved, in fact; but still I am loved by youth. But perhaps, before I talk of my love, you would like to hear of my life.

My birth is somewhat shrouded in mystery. Rowland Hill is said to be my father; but I have never been able to discover the identity of my mother. It is said that I was born of a die; which is rather puzzling, unless it means my mother died at my birth—our birth, I should say, for 240 of us, all sisters, came into being at once. This must, I think, be the correct supposition, for I have been in black since life was first given me. Yes, 240 sisters! I had 239, and all as alike as two stamp mounts. We are all very regal. I have often been called a Queen, and I am sure Queen is printed in my very being. And I must of a surety be a Queen, for in my very, very early days I was given a Crown, though I *was* plain.

Had we not been marked with our respective names, we should quite have lost our individuality, we looked so alike. How well

I remember my sisters! There were Elsie, Essie, Effie, Jessie, Emmie, Encie, Geegé and others, whom I remember imperfectly. Poor Geegé, she was stripped of all that she held to in life, and succumbed to a cold through being left too long in a cold-water bath; but Geegé always complained of being hoarse. And poor scapegrace Jessie, she was always getting blamed for things she couldn't help. Her outlook was never right. She succumbed to a heavy obliteration. It made her face look so cross; she felt her beauty vanished, and quite went to pieces, feeling, however, that she had fulfilled her life's work. It is said that we had an elder sister Essay; but of this I have no proof.

We were a united family, quite cemented, though we did not show it on our faces; and we never knew pains (I have seen it spelt "panes"; but perhaps this is an error) as many of our younger relations have known, and only cruel circumstances cut us apart, when we drifted one by one into the world.

For a long time we lived in a big house London, quite peacefully, though, of course we had our little crosses. But one day we heard that we were to be sent away; but as we were not to be separated, this did not fill us with any forebodings. One of my sisters said that we were to be sent to Scotland, across the Border; but this left us with a margin of doubt, and ultimately we learned that our destination was to be Ireland. Effie, the arch coquette—it was impossible for her to be archer—expressed her regret at having to leave London before seeing Parliamentary Frank, about whom we had heard so much, alas! to his discredit.

But such delight throbbed within us, and we felt joyous at the thought of going into the world. These vanished, however, when we heard that we were to be imprisoned during our travels. On hearing the news our faces were as white as a sheet, and blinding tears of water mark to this day how genuinely we were impressed. But we had one consolation in our troubles; we were to do useful work; perhaps we should be

reformers, and reform is good for any system.

I often wondered what would be my particular vocation, and I spent hours in deep cogitation as to how I should adhere to the rules of a life I knew nothing about. A fear that I might violate the ethics of the unknown world before me led me to deeper thought, as I so wished to be perfect to the letter in my duties, and well posted.

For what seemed quite a long time, things looked black with us; we were so tightly imprisoned, that I feel one of my sisters spoke truly when she remarked, after we were liberated, that our imprisonment must for the time have stopped our circulation.

I shall never forget the joy at being liberated; but this was short-lived, for I was soon separated from my sisters, and placed in the hands of a big, broad-shouldered young man. I felt such fear at being all alone, and was wondering what would be my fate, when my owner lifted me quickly through space. I felt a cold moisture run down my back, after which I was placed on a big white envelope. I positively curled with fright, and then received a heavy blow on my face, followed by a feeling that I was dropping through space; my senses reeled, and everything was lost in darkness.

For what period I remained unconscious it is impossible to say; but I was brought round by being kissed by a pair of soft sweet lips. "My darling," said a cooing voice, and my heart swelled with pride and delight. But I knew it was not to me she addressed her endearing speech, for she cast me ruthlessly aside, and became engrossed with a letter. And how she blushed and smiled! To what transcendental heights of rapture she must have ascended was plainly seen in the depths of her eyes, and was surface-printed on her glowing cheeks.

In what a number of ways did I experience the fickleness of human nature. Here had I brought delight to a fair young girl, and she threw me on one side. But she returned to me and my envelope, and adorned us with a pink ribbon. Once more I felt the joy of

life returning, when catching a glimpse of my reflection in a mirror, I saw my smooth and eburnine face was striped with green. I had been defaced—my beauty obliterated, and I marked for life. A sickening dread possessed me, and I was glad to be placed in an old casket, hidden and unseen.

For years and years I lay in a state of torpor, feeling cheerless, mourning the while the tragedy of my life, feeling my pristine freshness cancelled for ever.

One cold and cheerless day, when the teardrops of louring clouds beat upon the window panes, and moaning winds rushed round the house, and all earth seemed wrapped in a sombre sleep, I was taken from my mausoleum and tenderly handled by shaking withered fingers. How lovingly I was treated, and kissed by bloodless lips! I felt a warm tear fall on me. A glad some young voice broke the sweet and yet sad silence. "Oh, grandmother! Are you looking in that old chest? May I see those old stamps you have often spoken about?" I was clutched eagerly by a pair of hot hands, and saw myself reflected in a pair of sea-blue eyes, sparkling and bright. "What a beauty!" spoke the gleeful voice. "And a green postmark! Oh, do give it to me, grandmother!" She brushed a tear from her dim eyes, saying, "Take it, my boy; but *don't* give it away."

I was removed from my old faded envelope, and taken away. I was sorry to lose my old friend; but he had visibly aged since I first knew him. Now I was loved by youth, and I felt that I could only be his.

In an album I met two of my sisters, looking still fresh and bright, and one of a younger branch of the family; but she looked quite worn. My lord often visited me, and frequently brought his friends. "Isn't she a beauty?" he said time after time; and repeatedly came the answer, "A perfect gem! I wish she were mine."

My past days have vanished like a troubled dream, leaving me rejoicing at the awakening.

Points for Beginners

By B. W. W.

Album Arrangement

AFTER writing last month on mounting and spacing of stamps in a new album, we were asked by a reader as to supplying sketch plans for the most efficient arrangement of stamps in a blank-leaf album; but as this is seldom thought of by beginners—and we wanted to get in the description of the stamps that puzzle

collectors at first—the letter was laid aside for a time. It is, however, virtually impossible to make any suggestions for such planning of spaces that will satisfy more than a few people, while a dozen pages might easily be filled with diagrams that nobody would make use of, so we must give up any idea of such a scheme.

In the early days, when postage stamps

were mostly made as nearly as possible like our own for size—four-fifths of an inch (or twenty millimetres) wide by about an inch deep—such planning of spaces was simple, as in cases where one full set or issue of a country's stamps totalled twelve you could space them out in two rows of six, or if there were thirteen in a set a nice break could be made in the monotony of equal squares by having seven in first row and six in the next. This plan was also followed with even numbers in total by placing seven in first and five in second line, thus leaving space at each end for a duplicate, as of an unused copy where all the rest were used, or vice versa, or to insert a slight difference in tint of some printings. Actual differences in colour tints, or positive changes of one value from red to blue and such-like, usually necessitated some change in other stamps to prevent confusion or to conform to the Postal Union rules, and so a new series of tints all through might form a second grouping, especially where a change from dark gum to light would seem to give a different tint to the surface of paper, as in many colonials. In the case of France, the later Empire grouping could be effectually varied because of the large oblong stamp of 5 francs, which might be placed in the centre of a row, or two spaces allowed for shades of colour, one at right and left of the smaller stamps in between. When we come to a series like the "Cabot" one of Newfoundland, with odd stamps of wide or oblong shape instead of usual upright rectangle, and not in a regular order, it will be seen that a fixed rule or general plan of grouping is difficult, and actually impossible in such a conglomeration of shapes and sizes as the recent issues of Peru, where neatness of design or spacing must give place largely to consecutive denominations for readiness of reference.

In the Imperial and some other albums where numbered spaces are given for nearly

every ordinary type catalogued, the planning is already done for you; and in the new series now being made of grouped colonies or foreign countries in special districts, on movable leaves, the middle-class beginner has a fine chance for effect as a rule, there being also a fair number of spaces left, on which duplicates or minor varieties can be filled in. It might be worth while for any one wishing to add to a collection and rearrange on blank pages to go to the auction-rooms, where many kinds of albums are often sold cheaply, containing one thousand or more good stamps, for a mere trifle, and so get an old Imperial, in which he will find plenty of suggestions for new grouping of pages with the aid of a catalogue.

Non-adhesives, Fiscals, etc.

The stamps cut out from British envelopes, post cards, and wrappers are now allowed to be used as adhesives, and the name "non-adhesive" has been given to them. It is scarcely necessary though for a beginner to consider these as desirable acquisitions, as what little interest attaches to them when so used is lost when separated from the cover to which they have been gummed; while the whole cover if kept may be considered as a branch of "entires" collecting—that is, entire envelopes and cards with impressed stamps as issued by the Post Office, now largely neglected. Many collectors, however, like to keep the cut envelope stamps of their own country either used or unused, and such could be placed at the end of the spaces for adhesives if there is a line or two to spare. There are also found in some old collections, and occasionally in cheap packets of stamps, some specimens of very pretty designs that are only used for fiscal purposes, which could be put in a line by themselves, but on no account mixed with the ordinary postal issues.

(To be continued.)

The Instructive Side of Stamp Collecting

By W. J. W.

AMONG the numerous readers of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* there are doubtless many who belong to the teaching profession. To them one of the great difficulties to contend with is to impress upon the scholars facts in geography and history in such a way that they will be remembered. "Facts are stubborn things," a writer has said, so teachers adopt various methods to make their lessons of such a nature as not to be easily forgotten by their pupils.

Of course, every child knows the current stamps of his own country; but when a letter arrives, bearing a foreign stamp, his curiosity is aroused. He wishes to know from what country it came, where that country is, whose portrait the stamp bears, etc. When a child asks questions in this manner, of his own free will, he probably remembers the answers, and so adds to his knowledge facts which, when told under other circumstances, he might soon forget.

Such being the case, why should not the child be encouraged to learn from stamps? In other words, why should he not form a collection? An exercise book, with spaces ruled for the stamps, would answer admirably for an album, as the names of the countries could be written or printed as headings, and the teacher would be able to arrange them in the order he pleased. What is there then to be learned from the stamps collected?

I. GEOGRAPHY. One of the first things the young collector will notice is, that many other stamps besides our own bear our sovereign's head. Is there not here a way open to teach him the British colonies and possessions? The situations of other countries will be noted, and an atlas would have to be in constant use. Some countries issue pictorial stamps bearing views, animals, birds, natives, etc., and these stamps in a collection would lead to a discussion of the physical features and productions. Attention could also be drawn to various postmarks and the principal towns noted.

II. HISTORY. Postage stamps, as a rule, illustrate only the later history of the country. However, with the British, or other possessions, a lesson may be woven round a stamp in such a way as to introduce the story of annexation and subsequent history. With the

stamps of the Transvaal Colony, for instance, we have in succession (1) First Republic, (2) First British Occupation, (3) Second Republic, (4) Second British Occupation. The stamps of most countries bear the portraits of the rulers or other notable persons, e.g. the current issues of the United States and Brazil. Some stamps, too, are issued to commemorate a past event. What will impress upon a scholar the period of the discovery of America, and the names connected with the discovery, better than a set of the U.S. Columbus issue? With most countries a change of constitution brings a new issue of postage stamps, and many surcharged stamps bear testimony to some great historical change.

III. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE. In addition to geography and history, a collector of postage stamps learns numerous other facts which would probably, under other circumstances, be learned with difficulty.

(1) The currency of other nations is studied, and foreign values are given their English equivalent.

(2) Official stamps lead to a study of the various departments of the State. Thus stamp collecting is a pleasant way of improving a person's knowledge, while at the same time it is a pastime and hobby.

Portraits on Stamps

By BOSWELL JUNIOR

United States of America—continued

THE 1 cent, green, of the 1907 series commemorating the tercentenary of the founding of Jamestown, presents to us the portrait of the adventurer John Smith. He was born in Willoughby, Lincolnshire, in January, 1579.



The parents were poor tenants of Lord Willoughby. Finding the learning of a trade an irksome and prosaic occupation, he ran away at the age of fifteen and served in the Netherlands. According to Smith's own account of his life and services, which must be taken *cum grano salis*, a series of remarkable adventures befell him. He fought against the Turks, became a captain, and performed daring exploits in Hungary and Transylvania. Left for dead on the field after engaging in many bloody fights, he fell into the enemy's hands, and was sent as a slave to Constantinople. He next appeared at the Sea of Azov, where his master, a prince, so ill-treated him that

he beat out the pacha's brains with a flail and escaped to a Russian garrison.

Smith returned to England about 1605, and persuaded Captain Bartholomew Gosnold to engage in the founding of a colony in Virginia. The expedition, consisting of three vessels and 105 men, set sail on 19 December, 1606. Before the fleet had been out six weeks, Smith was confined on suspicion of mutiny. The colonists landed in Chesapeake Bay and founded a settlement, which they called Jamestown. Soon afterwards Smith set out to discover the source of the James River, and made a league of friendship with Powhatan and other great Indian chiefs. Wingfield had been elected president of the colony, but he was accused of embezzling the stores and deposed. In fact, had it not been for the energy and resource displayed by Smith, the colony could hardly have existed. He procured food by trading with the Indians, and fortified Jamestown against their depredations. On one of his voyages up the James River, Smith was taken prisoner by Powhatan, who, after a six-weeks' captivity, sent him back to Jamestown. Legend

has it that Smith was rescued by the chief's daughter, Pocahontas, of whom an account follows.

On Smith's return to Jamestown he found the colony reduced to forty men, who would have returned to England had it not been for his entreaties and the arrival of Captain Nelson with 140 emigrants.

In September, 1608, Smith was elected president of the colony. He threw all his energies into the strengthening of the colony's defences, but it was of little use, for the settlers were far more eager to obtain riches than to build up a colony. Indian uprisings became rife, and insubordination among the settlers sprang up.

The company at home, which had financed the colony, became disgusted because no profits had accrued and no gold had been found. A new charter was granted, and the powers, that were previously reserved to the King, were transferred to the colony. Lord Delaware was made governor. In May, 1609, a fleet of nine ships set sail, of which seven vessels reached Jamestown, bringing a few gentlemen of means and a crowd of the riff-raff of London. Two vessels were wrecked on the Bermudas, which incident is said to have furnished the basis of Shakespeare's play *The Tempest*. Smith's deposition had been determined on, but, in face of the disorder that ensued, he held on to his authority and saved the colony from anarchy.

The exploring mania again took hold of Smith, and it was on one of his expeditions that he met with the accident that suddenly put an end to his career in Virginia. His powder-bag exploded on board the boat on which he was sleeping. He leapt into the river to quench the flames, and was almost drowned. He returned to London in the autumn of 1609. Some five years later Smith sailed on a private adventure to the coast of New England. He examined and made a map of a portion of the coast, and returned with 40,000 codfish to England. In 1615 he again set sail from Plymouth with the object of founding a small colony, but a storm compelled him to return. Later in the same year he made another attempt, but his ship was captured by a French man-of-war, and he was carried to La Rochelle. He escaped, and wrote an account of his voyages to New England.

The remainder of his life was devoted to obtaining the means to establish a colony in New England. He was promised twenty ships of sail, the title of admiral during his life, and half the profits of his enterprise to be divided between himself and his companions.

Nothing came of this project, except that he promptly assumed the title of "Admiral of New England," and stuck to it for the rest

of his life, which was spent in writing works which had for their main theme the glorification of himself. He died in London on 21 June, 1632, and was buried in St. Sepulchre's Church. His works include *A True Relation*, the first tract ever published relating to Jamestown; *A Map of Virginia*, *A Description of New England*, *The Generall Historie of Virginia, New England, and the Summer Isles*.

Pocahontas, the daughter of Powhatan, an Indian chief, was born about 1595. She



early developed a liking for white people, and at the age of twelve is said to have saved the life of John Smith by throwing herself over his prostrate body to shield him from execution.

Her subsequent intercessions with her father Powhatan saved Smith's life. In the so-called *Oxford Tract* (*The Proceedings of the English Colonies*) printed in 1612, it is related of Pocahontas that, "Very oft she came to our fort with what she could get for Captain Smith, that ever loved and used all the country well, but her especially he much respected, and she so well required it that when her father intended to have surprised him, she, by stealth in the dark night, came through the wild woods and told him of it. If he would, he might have married her." Pocahontas was at this time about fourteen years old, and she was often seen dancing and capering, much to the amusement of the colonists, among whom she was a general favourite. In 1612 she was taken prisoner by Captain Samuel Argall. During her captivity at Jamestown an attachment sprang up between her and a young widower, John Rolfe. Her baptism in the small village chapel in 1613 was followed by her marriage with Rolfe. Pocahontas' Indian name, Matoaka, was changed to Rebecca at her baptism. The marriage led to a peace of long duration between the Indians and the Jamestown settlers. In 1616 Mr. and Mrs. John Rolfe, with several Indians, set sail for England under the care of the governor, Sir Thomas Dale. On their arrival, "Lady Rebecca," as she was now called, was entertained by the Bishop of London, visited by Sir Walter Raleigh, and presented at the Court of King James. The King, though he received her graciously, found fault with her spouse for daring to marry "the daughter of an emperor" before obtaining the Royal consent. The "Lady Rebecca" appeared much in public, and was an object of so great interest to the public that "La Belle Sauvage" became a favourite name for taverns. As she was about to return to America she was attacked by small-pox, and

died at Gravesend on 21 March, 1617. Her remains were buried at Gravesend.

John Rolfe became Secretary and Recorder-General of Virginia. The only son of the marriage, Thomas, was educated by his

uncle, a London merchant. He followed his father to Virginia and became a wealthy tobacco planter. Through him many prominent Virginian families trace their descent from the Indian princess.

British Stamps used Abroad

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

St. Thomas C 51

ST. THOMAS, the principal island of the Danish West Indies, forming part of the Virgin Islands group, was discovered by Columbus in 1493, and was colonized by the Dutch before they departed to found New York. It has been held on several occasions by the British; but the Danish West India Company took possession in 1671, and the King of Denmark in 1754 took the management of the colony into his own hands, and some ten years later threw the port open to the vessels of the world. Favoured by the neutral position of the mother country, it became the commercial entrepôt of this part of the world. It has been picturesquely called the Crewe Junction of the West Indies. The abolition of slavery in 1848 killed the sugar-growing industry, which had flourished there, and the removal of the headquarters of the Royal Mail Steamship Company and other steam packets from thence to Barbados has been the cause of the further decline of the island. The imports in 1880 already were less than half what they had been in 1870, and year by year the business grows less. As the rendezvous of all steam packets frequenting this part of the world, and the market of the merchants of Venezuela, Porto Rico, Hayti, and San Domingo, the volume of its trade was enormous at the time with which we are now concerned, and the necessity of the British Post Office was such that probably more varieties are found used here than in any other place outside Europe. Consequently the stamps are comparatively common. They were used from the beginning of 1860 to the latter part of 1877, and both the early type of small oblong obliteration is found, as also the large upright oval and rounded date stamp.



- ½d., plates 5, 6, 8, 10.
 1d. ,, 72, 77, 84, 85, 90, 93, 94, 95, 96,
 97, 100, 101, 102, 106, 110, 112, 117,
 120, 121, 123, 124, 125, 127, 131, 137,
 138, 139, 140, 142, 144, 145, 146, 148,
 149, 150, 151, 154, 155, 156, 158, 159,
 160, 161, 163, 165, 166, 167, 169, 170,
 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178,
 179, 186, 197.
 1½d., plate 3.
 2d., plates 9, 13, 14.
 3d. ,, 4, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14,
 16, 17, 18, 19.
 4d., plates 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14,
 15, 15, 16, 17, 17.
 6d., plates 4, 5, 6, 6, 8, 9, 11, 11, 12, 12, 13,
 14, 15, 16, 17.
 8d., plate 1.
 9d., plates 1, 4, 4.
 10d., plate 1.
 1s., plates 4, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.
 2s. ,, blue, brown.
 5s. ,, 1, 2.

D 26

Is the office number allotted to the Spanish mail packet established in the Danish West Indies. The office was probably a travelling post office on the coasting packets round the islands, and the stamps used were few and among the rarest. The cancellation consists of the large upright oval, and has only been found on



- 1d., plate 98.
 6d. ,, 8.

(To be continued.)

THE BEST STAMP HINGES

We have 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.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

A Hint for Secretaries of Philatelic Societies!

IN the Luxemburg Philatelic Society it is the custom to ballot for certain stamps each meeting. The ballot is only taken among the members actually present, and at the January meeting a Mr. Wolff was the lucky winner. He was so delighted with his good luck that he said he should make a point of attending all meetings in future, although he had not been very diligent in the past!

Germany to Samoa via San Francisco

NEGOTIATIONS are being carried forward between the postal authorities of Germany and the United States to establish a postal service between Germany and the German colony of Samoa via New York and San Francisco. It is proposed to institute a monthly mail for letters only, and the time of transmission between Berlin and Apia will be reduced to about thirty days. At present the mails are carried via Suez and Sydney, the time occupied being fifty days.

Der Deutsche Philatelist.

The Surcharges of Rio de Oro

L'Echo de la Timbrologie gives an explanation of the why and wherefore of the numerous surcharges of this country chronicled in a recent issue of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*. It appears that the local demand for postage stamps is so extremely small that a very small stock is kept on hand. Should a speculator walk into the post office and demand three or four thousand copies of any one value, the supply is promptly exhausted and the officials at once rise to the occasion, and make a provisional "while you wait." I suppose that they are gentlemen of commercial instincts, and do not care to turn away good money. This is said to have happened twice already this year, with the usual results.

New Swiss Designs

SOMETHING is really going to be done to modify the designs of, or perhaps even replace, the new Swiss stamps. Mr. Eplattener, the designer of the new symbolical figure type (10 c., 12 c., etc.), has submitted six new designs to the Federal authorities. The designs are various as regards choice of subject: some are still a figure of Helvetia, and others consist partly of the Swiss arms.

Other designs have been submitted by Messrs. Benziger, of Einsiedeln. This firm will be remembered as being the printers of

the recently issued International Reply Coupons. Their designs were all for a large stamp, about the size of the Jamestown Exhibition stamps of the United States. Unfortunately this idea is no good, as in 1906 the Federal authorities decided that all stamps should in the future be surface-printed, the work to be done in the Federal Mint. Messrs. Benziger's designs were only suitable for reproduction by line-engraving.

The actual design selected for the new 10 c. consists of a seated figure of Helvetia, by Mr. Eplattener, with a background of solid colour.

Schweizer Briefmarken-Zeitung.

Automatic Machine for Stamps

To add to the fairly frequent inventions of the last few years of machines for distributing stamps automatically, there is yet another at work in a Parisian post office. The machine in use only distributes stamps of 10 centimes, which are placed in the machine in rolls of 500. A 10-centime piece is placed in a slot, and a lever depressed, when a single stamp is delivered from another slot. When the machine is empty, a bell rings to call an employé to refill it.

I should think that a machine of this description would be rather more trouble than it is worth. Stamps would have to be specially printed in rolls, and if it only held 500 it would probably suffer from chronic emptiness; in London, at least, the bell would not make a great difference. Post office employés are getting too accustomed to the telephone to take any notice of such a mundane occurrence as the ringing of a bell!

Abyssinia

Der Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung states that this country has at last been admitted to the International Postal Union. Letters can now be sent to any part of the world direct from Abyssinia, franked only with Abyssinian stamps. Up to the present time they were sent to the French Post Office on the frontier, at Dirre d'Adoua, and consequently had to be franked with French postage stamps in addition to any that might already be affixed to them. Sometimes the stamps of French Somali Coast, and lately those of Port Said, were used.

This event will be of enormous benefit to Abyssinia, as up to now the postage on a letter from Adis Abeba, an inland town, to England has been about *six shillings*! This

high tariff was not so unreasonable as it appears at first sight; several hundred miles of the journey was done on camel-back, which is not the cheapest form of transport.

Collection Stolen in Germany

A COLLECTION belonging to an army officer has been stolen in Berlin. It was composed chiefly of the stamps of Europe, Germany being practically complete, both used and unused. There were also some of the earlier issues of Victoria, Tasmania, and Transvaal, and also 253 of the 1903 provisionals of Portugal. Altogether the collection was valued at about £400. Anybody knowing anything further of this matter is requested to give information to the Berlin police.

Philatelisten-Zeitung.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Austria.—Herr Karl Ledermann very kindly sends information regarding a new issue of Postage Due stamps, which took place on 8 April. Herr Ledermann also sends us a specimen of the 1 heller, of which we give an illustration below.

The new issue consists of only nine values, as against twelve in the last issue; the 3, 5, and 40 heller are no longer issued, owing to last year's alteration in the postal tariff.

In size, method of printing, and paper these stamps are similar to the new Newspaper stamps described in our issue of 14 March. They are surface-printed on slightly chalk-surfaced paper; they are without watermark, and are perforated 12½ exactly.

Later.—Herr A. D. Jenny sends us a full set of these stamps, from which we see that, in addition to the three values mentioned above, the 12 and 15 heller have also been suppressed, and also that two new values, the 30 and 50 heller, are included in the set.



French Morocco

SOME cheerful idiot has been playing a nice trick on French philatelists. A number of French stamps have been seen in Réunion, *not* on original covers, bearing the inscription given below—

MAROC
GOUVERNEMENT
PROVISOIRE
1907

They purport to be stamps used by the French troops in Morocco, but as all are very illegibly postmarked, we may assume that some trickster has been collecting badly used French stamps and then overprinting them. They have, of course, no value whatever, as the note in the current Catalogue signifies.

POSTAGE DUES.	Perf. 12½.	
	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
1 h., rose-carmine	—	—
2 h. "	—	—
4 h. "	—	—
6 h. "	—	—
10 h. "	—	—
20 h. "	—	—
30 h. "	—	—
50 h. "	—	—
100 h. "	—	—

Ecuador.—In our issues of 18 January and 8 February we chronicled several values of the current set of postage stamps, bearing various control marks, most of which were impressed one on each block of four stamps.

We have been endeavouring to find out the reason, if any, for these controls, and we have now heard from our agents as follows:—

"The sale of the postage stamps and stamped paper, etc., has been handed over by the Government to the Education Board, and these 'countermarks' are the signs used by each province to distinguish its stamps, viz. to show that all made use of are legitimately issued by their respective province."

As this is the case we shall not recognize these "controls" in our Catalogue, as we do not think them of any philatelic interest.

Greece.—In rearranging our stock of this country we have discovered several stamps, perforated 11½, belonging to the 1879-94 issue. As other values of this set are described perforated

in the Catalogue, only by referring to their Catalogue numbers when imperforate, we will describe the new discoveries more fully.

20 lepta, deep carmine on *cream*; No. 130 in the Catalogue; Athens print, without figures at the back, 1882 issue.

30 lepta, black-brown on *cream* and on *buff*; Nos. 94 and 95; Athens print, without figures, 1876 issue.

40 lepta, pale violet and dull lake, both on *blue*; Nos. 74 and 78; Athens print, thin paper, with figures, 1870-7 issue.

60 lepta, deep green on *green*; No. 93; Paris print, without figures, 1876 issue.

80 lepta, carmine on *cream*; No. 48; Athens print, with figures, 1862-70 issue.

Among the Postage Dues we also found an unchronicled variety, a 10 lepta, with words of value in larger letters, perforated 10, 10½ x 12, 13.



1



52

Type 1. 1891. Perf. 11½.

		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
1574	20 l., No. 130	—	—
1584	30 l. " 94	—	—
1586	30 l. " 95	—	—
1587	40 l. " 74 (with figures)	—	—
1588	40 l. " 78 (with figures)	—	—
1614	60 l. " 93 (Paris print)	—	—
1616	80 l. " 48 (with figures)	—	—

Type 52. Words of value in larger letters.

Perf. 10, 10½ x 12, 13.

10 l., green and black. — — — — —

Italy.—We have seen the old 25 centesimi in a much deeper shade of blue than was the case formerly. It may have appeared in this shade just before it became obsolete, or it may have arisen from a particular printing at some earlier period.



Wmk. Crown. Perf. 14. New shade.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
25 c., deep blue	—	—

Mauritius.—Ewen's Weekly Stamp News (4.4.08) chronicles the 3 c. on multiple-watermarked, chalk-surfaced paper.

In our issue of 4 April we quoted a paragraph from our contemporary, dealing with the necessity, or otherwise, of the Foreign Express Delivery stamp. Dr. Kalckhoff explains the matter to our contemporary as follows:—

“Re Mauritius Express stamps, Natal has not joined the international convention regarding express letters. Therefore the express fee cannot be prepaid to that country, and the Mauritius stamp was valueless and ignored by the Natal Post Office. Mr. Mais should have addressed his letter to one of the express-letter convention countries.”



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper. Perf. 14. Unused. Used.

3 c., green and carmine on yellow — — — — —

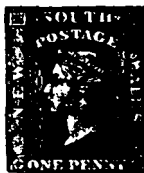
Mexico.—Mr. Basil Reed has shown us a copy of the 2 c., carmine, of the 1897 issue, water-marked Eagle and “R. M.” in Roman capitals, overprinted with the word OFICIAL in black. This stamp will be No. 640a in the next Catalogue.



1897. Overprinted OFICIAL in black. Wmk. Eagle and “R. M.” Perf. 12.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
640a|2 c., carmine	—	—

New South Wales.—The Australian Philatelist (2.3.08) lists a 1d., Diadem type, which is stated to be undoubtedly perf. 11½ x 12½. We have already chronicled a 2d. perforated thus under No. 148a in our Catalogue. This new 1d. will therefore immediately precede 148a.



Wmk. 1. Perf. compound of 11½, 12, and 12½, 13. 1d., scarlet



Norway.—Mr. H. Dethloff sends a new provisional, a 15 øre overprinted in black, on a 4 skilling stamp of the first issue. The overprint has been shown to us on two stamps of distinctly different shades of mauve. We have not yet had any information as to how many stamps have been thus overprinted, but they will be replaced before very long by one bearing a portrait of King Haakon VII.



30
ØRE

Nos. 39 and 40, surcharged as above in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
15 Øre on 4 sk., mauve	—	—
15 Øre on 4 sk., pale mauve	—	—

Salvador.—Our New York branch has shown us a provisional 1 c. on 5 c., similar to No. 574 in the Catalogue, but on the *ultramarine*, instead of the *blue* stamp.



1

Correspondence

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—Being a reader of your paper I take an interest in all you publish. Among your Philatelic Societies notices the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society reports are always very interesting to read. The Secretary only writes those matters which are of interest to non-members. In most other societies' reports quite a lot is said about people's collections and things which do not interest those who are not members of that club. Could you ask other secretaries to copy the Manchester Secretary and make your Societies page a more readable one? As it is at present I know most readers skip it.

I trust you will think my opinion worth bringing before societies' secretaries by printing in your smart book.

Yours truly,
A READER.

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

Post Offices in Morocco

DEAR SIR,—Although I do not profess to know much about the Morocco Agencies, I am perfectly sure that the date of establishment was

Overprinted, in black, with shield and surcharge.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
573a/r c. on 5 c., black & ultram. o 6 —

South Australia.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (11.4.08) chronicles a new 5d. on Crown and single-lined A paper; it is perforated by the comb machine gauging $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, and will come after No. 333 in the Catalogue.



Wmk. Crown over A, Type 29. Perf. $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
5d., brown-purple. — —

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.

before 1887, as I have seen the 1d., red, on entires from Mogador cancelled A26, thus proving that the British Post Office at Gibraltar had before 1880 a branch in Morocco. With all respect to the United States Guide quoted by you, I have the authority of a report printed by authority and presented to Parliament in 1887 (Bluebook, No. C 4050) for saying that Gibraltar joined the Postal Union six months after the original treaty came into force, viz. on 1 January, 1876.

It is to my mind doubtful whether the Morocco Agencies have ever formally entered the Union, they being merely sub-offices, first of Gibraltar then of Great Britain, and it would be interesting to know where the United States Guide got the date 22 February, 1888, from.

Yours truly,
I. J. BERNSTEIN.

9 ALBERT SQUARE, MANCHESTER,
11 April, 1908.

Answers to Correspondents

CURIOUS (Leeds).—We regret we cannot inform you if the stamps you inquire about will be issued on chalky paper.

A. K. (Calcutta).—In a specialized collection it is usual to take stamps both unused and used; the unused show the shades best, but very often

the used stamps with dated postmarks are invaluable for the purposes of fixing the dates of issues or the order in which certain shades appeared.

POSTMARK.—The postmark to which you refer is used for both postage and telegraph stamps.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 19
Whole No. 175

9 MAY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Colonies: General Issues

FROM 1859 to 1862 an issue of postage stamps was made for general use in the French Colonies. Before these dates most of the colonies merely indicated the postage paid, or to be paid, by figures inscribed on the covers of the letters. In 1850, however, some of the colonies—Martinique and Guadeloupe, and possibly the French possessions in India—were furnished with small stocks of stamps from home, and in 1856, at the time of the Chinese campaign, Cochin China also received a supply. In each case, of course, the stamps were those current at the time in France. It is said that such use can be determined by the obliterations, but the only sure way is when the stamp is on the original cover, and none but extreme specialists need trouble about these issues. Reunion and New Caledonia had issued stamps for local use, the former in 1852 and the latter in 1860, but except for these productions the "Eagle" type of 1859 may be considered the first issue for French Colonies.

It is needless to enumerate the colonies in existence at the time; the obliterations and issues mentioned later are probably sufficient guide, and full details of establishment are given when each particular colony is dealt with in this series of articles.

In 1858 an imperial decree decided that the colonies should be furnished with special stamps. Several essays were made and submitted to the minister, who on 17 June, 1858, chose the type adopted, and ordered the manufacture of stamps of 10 c. and 40 c., necessary respectively for local postage and the postage on letters to France.

The colonies only received the stamps by degrees. Martinique and Guadeloupe were the first to be supplied. New Caledonia only put the new stamps on sale in July, 1862, whilst Cochin China was not furnished with any till 1863.

The design adopted, which shows the imperial eagle surmounted by an imperial crown, was that of M. Barre, the engraver of the first French series, and the stamps

were printed in sheets of 360 at the printing establishment of the Mint. The expense of engraving and preparation of plates was charged to the colonies, proportionately to the extent of their postal service, and the stamps were sold to them at a uniform rate of 1 franc per thousand. A circular of 28 April, 1860, regulated the apportionment, the style of obliteration, etc. etc.

The 10 c. and 40 c. were issued in July, 1859. In the former value a curious variety occurs, two stamps in each sheet being placed sideways with top to the left.

On 28 March, 1862, it was decided to issue stamps of 1 c. and 5 c. for use on journals and printed matter, and the values duly appeared in May of the same year.

In October, 1865, the values 20 c. and 80 c. were issued, ostensibly to facilitate prepayment, but more to bring the colonies into line with the mother country. The shades of all except the 1 c. and 5 c. vary considerably.

When the "Eagle" type came into use special obliterating stamps seem to have been supplied to the various colonies. Most of these produced a diamond-shaped device of dots, with letters in the centre indicating the colony in which the mark was used. These were struck in *red*, *blue*, or *black*, and the letters indicating the different colonies were as follows:—

ASI = Assinie (Guinea).
CCH = Cochin China.
GAB = Gaboon.
GOR = Goree (Senegal).
GPE = Guadeloupe.
GNE = Guiana.
INDE = India.
MYE = Mayotte.
MQE = Martinique.
NCE = New Caledonia.
NSB = Nossi-Bé.
OCE = Tahiti (Oceania).
REN or R = Reunion.
SEN = Senegambia.
SNG = Senegal.
SPM = St. Pierre and Miquelon.

Date marks, with names of towns and of the colonies in which they are situated, are also to be found upon these stamps, and so are the date marks and the obliterating marks with an anchor in the centre used on board the French mail packets.



	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., bronze-green	0	5	0	4
5 c., yellow-green	0	8	0	4
10 c., bistre	1	0	0	2
20 c., blue	1	0	0	3
40 c., orange	0	9	0	3
80 c., carmine	1	6	2	0

The above stamps continued in use until after the fall of the Empire, but by a law of 24 August, 1871, they were suppressed. To replace them supplies of the 10 c., 20 c., and 40 c., made from the plates of the first French issue, were dispatched to the colonies and came into use in December, 1871. They were similar to the stamps used at home, and first issued October-December, 1870, but in order to keep them distinct they were supplied *imperf.* The *tête-bêche* varieties of the 10 c. and 20 c. also occur in the colonial issue. The 15 c. and 25 c. values, rendered also necessary by the new postal law mentioned above, were not sent out till October, 1872. These similarly were *imperf.* The 10 c., 20 c., and 25 c. are easily distinguishable from the corresponding values of the first issue of France in that the colours are brighter, the paper is a little thinner, the gum is white, and the impression not nearly so fine owing to the stamps being printed by a mechanical process instead of by hand-presses. Apart from being *imperf.* these stamps can be distinguished from the contemporary perforated issues of France by being in paler shades.



	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
10 c., bistre	15	0	—	—
15 c., "	8	0	—	—
20 c., blue	12	0	2	6
25 c., "	2	0	0	6
40 c., orange	4	0	1	0

In addition to the above values the colonies required stamps of 1 c., 5 c., 30 c., and 80 c., and pending the manufacture of these denominations in the "Ceres" design, makeshift supplies were sent of the "Empire" and "Laureated" types. There is some obscurity as to when these were sent to the colonies, but the earliest issue to the public seems to have been at Martinique in December, 1871. Perhaps the date of issue of the 30 c. and 80 c. might be safely given as December, 1871, and that of the 1 c. and 5 c. as January, 1872. They were in concurrent use with the 10 c., 20 c., and 40 c. of the "Ceres" type mentioned above, and the date, July, 1870, in the Catalogue is incorrect.

The 5 c. was of the "Empire" type of 1853, and for a long time was not recognized as a colonial stamp. There is no doubt, however, that a special printing was made, and though it resembles a 5 c. of the earlier issue it is easy to distinguish by being a *yellow-green* on a *yellowish green* paper, whereas all the 1853 issues are on a *bluish green* paper. The other values were of the "Laureated" type, and, apart from the shades, which are paler, can be at once distinguished from the 1862-70 issue by being *imperf.*



1871-2. Tinted paper. Imperf.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., bronze-green	3	0	1	6
5 c., yellow-green	—	—	15	0



30 c., bistre-brown	2	0	2	0
80 c., rose-carmine	25	0	6	0

As the other values in the "Ceres" type were duly sent to the colonies. The dates given in the following list are those when the stamps were first issued in the colonies. The shades vary slightly from the French supplies.

The 2 c. and 4 c. were in use but little

time, and this explains their rarity. It is believed that the 4 c. was only sent to Cochinchina.



1871-7. Tinted paper. Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., bronze-green (Oct. '73)	0 6	0 5
2 c., brown (Oct. '75)	. 20 0	20 0
4 c., grey (Oct. '76)	24 0	60 0
5 c., green (Oct. '72)	. 0 6	0 2



(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Smart Advertisements

Looking through a number of British and foreign stamp journals that have accumulated during my visit to Spain, I have been rather struck by the clever advertisements adopted by some of my confrères.

In some cases I see that Mr. A states that with every application for an approval sheet he will present stamps catalogued at 2s. 6d. or 5s.

In another case I note that Mr. B says he gives a pound stamp for nothing! and then goes on to state that any one buying 20s. worth of stamps from his own list will be presented with a stamp catalogued by Stanley Gibbons at 20s.

Now these and many other such advertisements are quite true, and contain no incorrect statements; but let us consider how they are understood by the young collector and beginner. Does he think he is going to get a stamp which Gibbons say they sell at a pound, or does he stop to ask himself, "What does this mean? Has Gibbons made an error in pricing the stamp, or has a lot come on the market and thus lowered the price?"

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 c., brown on rose (Oct. '76)	3 6	0 5
15 c., bistre (Jan. '77)	. 15 0	4 0
30 c., drab (Dec. '72)	. 2 6	—
80 c., rose (July '73)	. 10 0	3 0

There should be no difficulty in distinguishing similar stamps of the foregoing issues from those lithographed at Bordeaux. The Catalogue in its heading above No. 146 of France is not clear. The 1, 2, 4, and 5 c. are not Type 7 as mentioned there, but are of the type illustrating the 1871-7 issue above. Again, "Type 8 for the other values" is wrong; it should be "Type 1." Bearing these facts in mind, the following hints given in "Answers to Correspondents" (*G.S.W.*, No. 162) may be of use:—

The French 1870 1, 2, and 4 c. have the inscription *REPUB. FRANC.* much shorter than that of the French Colonies of 1871, and the last letter of this inscription is some distance from the edge of the stamp; in the Colonial stamp it nearly touches the margin. In the 10, 20, and 40 c. French 1870 the fillet of corn, etc., above the forehead of Ceres is flat and some distance from the circle of pearls; in the Colonial stamps the heads of corn stand up more and almost touch the pearls.

The latter event often happens. Take a case quite lately:—

In *G.S.W.*, 28 March last, we advertised as a "Special Bargain" Venezuela, 1900, 5 c., orange (Catalogue No. 277, price 20s.), at 9d. post free. A year ago this stamp was very rare, and I have paid 10s. and 12s. each for copies. Quite recently a large stock was sold by the Government of Venezuela, and now this stamp can be bought at a few pence each wholesale.

I mention this case only to warn young collectors not to pin their faith too much to any catalogue. Remember that parts of a catalogue are written months before it is published, and prices of stamps vary just as do those of shares on the Stock Exchange.

Curious Address

WE receive many letters with curious addresses in the course of a year, but the following, which arrived from Vienna in March last, is one of the most extraordinary we have met with.

MRS. STANLEY, GIBBONS, SPALDING,
PARKERS, AND CO.,
Booksellers and Philatelists.

Remembes of the International Philatelists and Postage-Stamps Collectors, Society, Lmtd.
London, E.C.

Strand 444.

I am quite at a loss to understand the mixture of names, businesses, and address which the sender has adopted.

The Fraenkel Library

THIS library of philatelic literature, which was one of the best in Germany, has been purchased by the Earl of Crawford, who has taken from it all the books, etc., missing from his own collection, and has most generously presented the balance of the library to the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

In the *Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society*, Mr. E. D. Bacon, who makes this important announcement, states that the collection occupied thirty-nine large cases, and that the donation to the Society is the most important and valuable that has ever been presented to that body.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

No. 51. Value £696.

Canada.

A VERY nice stock book, containing a recent important purchase which we have added to the general stock.

Among the rarer stamps in the book I mention four of the 6d., purple, *unused*,

including the *laid* paper, and the *very thick* paper; the 12d., used, three each of the 7½d., green, and 10d., blue, unused, and an exceptionally fine lot of stamps of the old pence issues on entire letters, and a choice lot of stamps bisected and used for half their value; the later issues are all strongly shown, and include a fine lot of shades in the unused.

Lastly, this book contains about seventy colour trials and proofs, some of them of considerable rarity.

Nos. 67 and 207. 2 Vols. Value £826.
Holland.

Two choice books of this popular country have just been finished, and they are exceptionally good in the old issues, unused, both in singles and blocks. The 1852 *imperf.* are a very choice lot, and contain many shades seldom found in stocks. The various types of the issues 1867-71 are very complete; the other issues are also fairly complete, and include several varieties that are not catalogued by us.

The Postage Due stamps are not so complete as the postage stamps proper, but they are a pretty good lot, and even advanced collectors will find it will repay them to inspect these new volumes.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—*continued*

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—*continued*

Hong Kong—*continued*

THE first postage stamps issued by this colony, which come within the scope of these articles, comprise the changes of colour which were made in six of the low values of the 1882-91 Queen's Head series of Hong Kong, between the years 1900 and 1902, in consequence of the depreciation in value of the Eastern dollar, which towards the end of last century fell in value to 1s. 8d. or thereabout. Thus, to make the equivalent of 1d. it took four cents instead of two as formerly, and for 2½d. ten cents were required where five only had been previously needed. In order, therefore, that the colours of the stamps should conform with those specified by the Postal Union authorities, those of several of the lower denominations of the current series of the colony had to be changed. In this manner

the colour of the two cents value was altered from red to green, as this stamp now only represented ½d. instead of 1d. as before, and the four cents was printed in carmine to be used in its place, and so on with the remaining values.

As the ten cents denomination had been issued in 1900 printed in ultramarine, the colour of the five cents, which had previously been printed in that hue, had to be changed, and consequently in July, 1901, this stamp made its appearance printed in yellow. The current stamp of the face value of thirty cents had always been printed in pale green, but as the colour of the two cents had been changed to green, it was deemed advisable, in order to avoid confusion, to have the thirty cents printed in brown, and this was accordingly done, the stamp being issued in this colour about October, 1901. Early in

the following year the twelve cents blue, which had formerly been printed upon paper having the old Crown CC watermark, was issued watermarked Crown CA.



1901-2.

Queen's Head designs of 1862. Wmk. Crown CA (single): perf. 14. Colours changed. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in London.

5 cents, yellow (issued July, 1901).
12 cents, blue (,, January, 1902).
30 cents, brown (,, October, 1901).

Printed and issued in sheets of 240 stamps arranged in four panes each containing sixty in ten rows of six. Sheets have control numbers and consignment letters in black printed in top right-hand corner, with continuous marginal lines and the usual inscriptions and plate numbers.

Shade.

At an early stage of its existence the twelve cents denomination with the Crown CA watermark developed the following distinct shade—

12 cents, pale blue instead of blue.

In the early part of 1903 the first values of a new series of fifteen stamps bearing the portrait of King Edward VII made their appearance. The stamps are all of one size and design, simple yet striking, and form an exceedingly handsome set, with their gay Oriental colouring. An excellent medallion portrait of His Majesty, surmounted by a diminutive Crown, is enclosed within an oblong ornamental frame of distinctly Chinese appearance, having at the top the inscription HONG KONG in English and the value in words in the same language at the foot, whilst at the left-hand side of the frame is the denomination of the stamp expressed in Chinese characters, and on the right, also in Chinese, the inscription "Hsiang Chiang," literally "Fragrant Streams," the native designation of the island of which the present English title is a corruption. It is interesting to observe that the design of the Hong Kong postage stamps was not changed from the time of the original issue in 1862 until the advent of the King's Head series, and even of that, the frame is merely an elaboration of the one used for all the preceding issues of the colony. The current stamps of Hong Kong are frequently come upon surcharged with the initials "S.D." or "S.O." in small thick block capitals, one on either

side of the frame near the foot of the stamp. This is done to make the stamps available for revenue as well as postal use, as without this surcharge the stamps are valid for postal purposes only. Overprinted with these letters, however, which signify "Stamp Duty" and "Stamp Office" respectively, they may be used for fiscal duties in addition. Stamps thus surcharged therefore really constitute a separate series of Postage and Revenue stamps as distinct from the regular unsurcharged series which are intended for postal service only. "S.O." was the overprint first applied to these stamps, but after a short time the authorities came to the conclusion that this designation was not a correct one, and it was therefore changed to "S.D." on all subsequent issues.

Commander W. C. Eaton, of the United States Navy, mentions a very interesting variety of these stamps in a letter to the editor of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*. This consists of a two cent stamp surcharged "S.O.", on which a vertical bar had been printed over the left curve of the "o", transforming it into a "D", thus making the surcharge correct. I append herewith a list of the regular King's Head series of Hong Kong, 1903.



1903.

King's Head designs as above. Wmk. Crown CA (single). Perf. 14. Medallion in second colour. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. in London. Dates of issue of each denomination given in brackets.

- 1 cent, brown and lilac (January, 1903).
- 2 cents, grey-green (issued July, 1903).
- 4 cents, lilac on red (issued July, 1903).
- 5 cents, brown-orange and dull green (issued July, 1903).
- 8 cents, mauve and grey-black (issued February 12, 1903).
- 10 cents, lilac and ultramarine on blue (issued July, 1903).
- 12 cents, marone and green on yellow (issued February 18, 1903).
- 20 cents, chestnut and grey-black (issued June, 1903).
- 30 cents, black and grey-green (issued May 21, 1903).
- 50 cents, magenta and grey-green (issued June, 1903).
- \$1, sage-green and lilac (issued June, 1903).
- \$2, vermilion and grey-black (issued July, 1903).
- \$3, blue and grey-black (issued July, 1903).
- \$5, blue-green and lilac (issued June, 1903).
- \$10, orange and grey-black on blue (issued July, 1903).

Printed in sheets of 240; four panes of sixty; ten rows of six. Panes surrounded by two rows of broken marginal lines, equal to the length or width of one stamp, and printed opposite the end of each vertical and horizontal row of stamps, with coloured curves at corners of panes, the outer in the colour of the frame and the inner of that in which the medallion is printed. Plate numbers in all four corners

of sheet, in white upon a solid circle of the same colour as the medallion. Marginal inscription, CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES in large open double-lined capitals, reading up on the left and down on the right-hand side of the sheets, and "Crown Agents" across the centre. Consignment number and control letter printed in black in right-hand top corner of sheet.

(To be continued.)

The Stamps of Crete

By D. C. G.

IT seems unnecessary to say much about the geography or history of Crete, as these are probably pretty well known.

Crete is a large island in the Mediterranean Sea south-east of Greece, and has had a chequered history from the earliest times until the present day.

Its stamps, with the exception of one or two "Revolutionary" issues, which may well be entirely ignored, are fairly straightforward and free from any element of speculation. Further, apart from one or two minor varieties, all its stamps may be obtained without very much difficulty. There are no long series of perforation varieties and but few errors of surcharge.

Although the earliest issues are rather crude in appearance, the later stamps are well designed and make a good display when mounted in a collection.

The stamps of Crete are of course quite recent, since the country had no stamps of its own until 1898.

In that year the island was occupied by the troops of four Powers—Great Britain, France, Russia, and Italy. The country was divided into four spheres of influence, one under the control of each of these Powers, previously to the establishment of Prince George of Greece as High Commissioner. The Prince was appointed to this post on 26 November, 1898, but did not arrive in the island to take up his duties till 9 December.

The sphere allotted to Great Britain was the district of Candia, one of the chief towns of this district being Heraclea.

There was an Austrian post office already established at this place, and most, if not

all, of the correspondence for places abroad passed through it, franked with the stamps for the Austrian post offices in the Levant.

But for the conveyance of inland letters a British post office was set up in 1898, which made use of a special stamp. This was the 20 paras, mauve, of a rough and primitive design. This stamp, however, manufactured on the spot, was only used provisionally pending the arrival from Athens of the next issue. Specimens of this stamp have always been rather difficult to obtain. Its scarcity is partly to be accounted for by the comparatively small number of specimens (3000) which composed the total issue. The chief reason, however, for its rarity lies in the fact that the stamp was partially "cornered."

Of the total issue of 3000, 1000 specimens were bought up by a British naval officer then in Crete, and 500 more by another individual.

A considerable number of the remaining 1500 stamps appear to have duly performed postal service to and from the post offices set up by the British in their sphere of occupation. This stamp was only in use from 25 November, 1898, till about 20 January, 1899, when the stamps which had been ordered from Athens reached the island and were duly issued. The obliterations found on this stamp are the town-name and date, and also another of a rather peculiar type. This postmark consists of a large circle which encloses a union jack flag floating from a mast-head with the word TEMENOS in block capitals below.*

The next issue consisted of two stamps, a 10 paras, blue, and 20 paras, green. These stamps are, of course, quite common unused, but are not so easily obtainable in a postally used condition. The design is not quite so crude as that of the first stamp, but at the same time it is not particularly artistic. The perforation of this issue gauges 11½, but the 10 paras stamp may be found partially and also wholly imperforate. The colours were soon altered to brown and red for the

* The full history of this stamp may be found in No. 7 of the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung*.



two respective values; these stamps also were perforated 11½, and in this issue also the 10 paras stamp exists entirely imperforate.

The less said the better about the stamps issued by the Russian authorities in their sphere of influence. It seems fairly certain that they only performed postal duty to a *very* limited extent, though they may be found easily enough postmarked to order; in fact, they seem to be commoner in such a condition than unused. The full list of these stamps will be found set out in the catalogues.

In 1903 a regular issue made its appearance. This was printed in England, by the well-known firm of Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, & Co., on unwatermarked paper, and perforated 14½. The designs are handsome and thoroughly typical of the country, most of them being taken from old coins, though one or two bear a portrait of Prince George, the High Commissioner.

The four lower values of 1, 5, 10, and 20 lepta were not surcharged, though the five higher values were issued overprinted with the word *PROSORINON* (provisional), in Greek characters, until 1 October, 1903, when they were withdrawn from circulation in this condition. Some of the stamps may be found imperforate, but in this state are probably proofs. This surcharge occurs struck both in red and in black, the red surcharge being considerably the scarcer on the 1, 2, and 5 drachma stamps.

The 50 lepta and 1 drachma are known with inverted surcharge, but seem to be very scarce in this condition.

In 1901 the 25 and 50 lepta and 1, 2, and 5 drachma stamps appeared in the same colours but unsurcharged; while shortly afterwards the 25 and 50 lepta stamps were issued unsurcharged but printed in new colours, namely orange and blue respectively, instead of red and lilac.

In 1902, during a temporary shortage of the 1 lepton value, the stamp of that denomination printed in olive-yellow for fiscal purposes was allowed to be used for postage. This stamp is rather scarce in a postally used condition, which is to be expected, since its postal use was authorized for a period of fourteen days only.

In the same year the 25 lepta stamp (one of the values most in demand) was issued with the surcharge struck in larger letters, generally in black, but sometimes in grey-black ink. A variety of this stamp has been chronicled with the first character of the surcharge inverted.

On 1st July, 1902, Crete entered the Postal Union.

In 1904 the 20 lepta, orange, was surcharged with two figures "5" in black, owing to the lack of stamps of this value. A somewhat scarce variety is this stamp with the "5" with a straight instead of a curved top.

In 1905 the current set appeared. The designs are for the most part entirely new, although in the case of this issue, as well as that of 1900, several of the stamps bear representations of old coins.

During last year two new stamps appeared which may or may not be the first specimens of a new set. These were a 25 lepta, being a portrait of the new High Commissioner (A. T. A. Zaimis), and a 1 drachma stamp depicting the landing of Prince George of Greece at Suda Bay in December, 1898.

The so-called "Revolutionary" issues of 1905 are of a very doubtful status. They appear to have been brought out under no justifiable authority and are perhaps best ignored.

A set of Postage Due stamps made its appearance in 1900, all the values of which were printed in red and similar in design. To avoid confusion between the 1 lepton and 1 drachma stamps, the latter was very soon surcharged with its face value in black.

Some Notes on the Stamps of British New Guinea

By R. ANTHROBUS

THE following notes on the stamps of British New Guinea may be of interest to collectors of Australasian stamps. No claim is made as to their being exhaustive, and in certain cases the conclusions drawn are purely conjectural.

Post offices were established in the territory as early as 1891, and the current Queensland stamps were used. The following values are known: ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s.; and used copies are

easily distinguishable by the very distinctive postmark—a barred oval in the centre of which are the letters B. N. G. The stamps are also to be found with the Port Moresby postmark. In the writer's opinion it seems a little questionable whether the high values were ever dispatched officially to New Guinea, although there may possibly have been a demand for them for fiscal purposes.

In 1901 the territory was deemed worthy of a special series, and accordingly values

were issued of a distinctive design, the central portion of which is a representation of the "lakatoi," a species of double canoe used by the natives for trading purposes. Seven



values were issued, the denominations being $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., 4d., 6d., 1s., and these were supplemented by the issue of a 2s. 6d. stamp in 1905.

There are several interesting points relating to these stamps which, up to the present, have not been recognized; and it is noteworthy that in the large collection which was shown at the recent Exhibition of the Junior Philatelic Society, no distinction was made as to the very notable differences in the printings, which will be found detailed below.

The difference in the thickness of paper upon which modern colonial stamps, from the office of Messrs. De La Rue & Co., have been printed, has been frequently remarked upon of late in the philatelic Press.

The thicker paper is used almost entirely for the manufacture of stamps printed by the steel or copper process, this process being that by which the British New Guinea stamps were prepared. The reason has been officially stated that the wetting necessary in printing by this process tries the thinner paper too much.

That the thick paper was used originally for printing by this process can be instanced by such stamps as the Commemorative $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. Grenada, and 2d. Trinidad. Then trials seem to have been made with the ordinary thinner paper, on which, for example, the Barbados Nelson Commemorative issue was printed. Finally, recourse was had again to the thicker paper, as in the multiple issue of the Barbados Nelsons and the recent permanent series for Brunei.

The New Guinea stamps were originally issued on the thick paper, and the first printing is easily distinguishable by this fact. Further, the gum is also thick, and has the appearance of being spread in layers. The Rosette watermark is found (according to the writer's experience) invariably sideways in this printing; that is to say, the greatest breadth lies horizontally.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., 4d., 6d., 1s. values on this paper are by far the commonest varieties, but the 2s. 6d. value is scarcer than the 2s. 6d. on the thinner paper described

below. Dealers' supplies of the lower values consist almost exclusively of this printing, as the stamps were naturally imported at the time of their issue. On the other hand, the two printings of the 2s. 6d. were probably dispatched at the same time or, at any rate, very closely together, as both varieties were obtainable from dealers' supplies.

It is on the whole improbable that there were more than two printings of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1s., and 2s. 6d. values, but of the other values there is good reason to suppose that intermediate supplies were received from Messrs. De La Rue.

The intermediate printings may be termed second printings, and are found on thick paper, which, however, is not so thick as that of the first printing; the gum is usually toned, no doubt owing to climatic influences, and the watermark is upright.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., and $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. values are distinguishable by shades, the colour of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. being especially marked, a dull milky blue as against a bright blue in the first printings. The 2d. value probably occurs in this printing, but the writer has not seen a copy, while the 6d. value can only be attested by a block of four, surcharged "Papua," Type 1.

The third printing is absolutely unmistakable, being on very thin paper through which the watermark, which is upright, shows transparently. All values occur, although the writer has only seen the 1d. and $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. values in the surcharged state. The shades of the values $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 2s. 6d. are also distinctive. It may be remarked that stamps of this printing are exceedingly rare unsurcharged, as they can have only been in use a very short time in this condition. Moreover, as far as is known, only one European dealer received a supply.

The $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. value of this printing surcharged "Papua," which is mentioned above, shows the watermark sideways. This may, perhaps, be counted as the exception to prove the rule, but conceivably there may have been a further printing of this value. Mention has been made in philatelic journals of a $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. dull blue, and if this is not the stamp already described under the intermediate printings it may belong properly to the third printing.

Summary.

First printings (thick paper, thick gum, wmk. sideways). $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d.

Second printings (thick paper, thinner than last, wmk. upright, gum often toned). $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., (?) $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., 6d.

Third printings (thin paper, wmk. upright). $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., (?) 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d.; wmk. sideways, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.

These stamps are printed in sheets of 30 (5 x 6), and although the margin is usually

clipped too close for the plate number to be seen, it is known that the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., and 2d. exist with plate numbers 1 and 2. It is probable that the first printings of all values are from Die I, and the third printings from Die II, although the dies are probably indistinguishable.

The colony was later incorporated in the Commonwealth of Australia, and the title was changed to the Territory of Papua. The stamps were accordingly overprinted "Papua" at the end of 1906 or early in 1907, and, as is universally known, were surcharged in two parcels with two types.

Papua.

Summary.

Surcharged "Papua," Type I.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d.	3rd printing
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 6d.	2nd "
4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d.	1st "

Papua.

Surcharged "Papua," Type II.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 4d., 6d.,	3rd printing
1s., 2s. 6d.	2nd "
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	

Other combinations may of course occur, but the writer has only come across those enumerated above.

There is a very minor variety which occurs in the setting of the second type of surcharge, the so-called inverted "d" on Nos. 10, 16, and 21 of the setting. On Nos. 16 and 21 this is certainly occasioned by a defective "p," that is, a "p" with one of the serifs shortened. No. 10 is far more distinctive, but the variety is such a small one that even a specialist would hardly allow for it catalogue rank. In copies of the 4d. and 6d. of this variety which are in the writer's possession, the stop after "Papua" is so faint as to have almost disappeared. In other values, however, notably the 1d., 2d., and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., the stop is much larger than on the other stamps of the sheet. As the numbers of these three values surcharged with the first overprint were considerable, it is reasonable to suppose that they were only surcharged with Type II after the 4d. and 6d. values. Consequently, it is possible that the defective stop was changed, and that a new stop was requisitioned in the setting of the surcharge.

Other distinguishable varieties found in this setting are on No. 17, raised "Pa," and on No. 19, dropped "P" and raised "a."

In June, 1907, two values ($\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 4d.) of a permanent type, inscribed PAPUA, appeared upon the exhaustion of the surcharged stock of these denominations. These stamps were printed in Melbourne, and both of the

Melbourne perforating machines, gauging $12\frac{1}{2}$ and 11 respectively, were utilized.



The designs of each value show marked differences. That of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value is badly executed, flaws occurring in the framework of several stamps on the sheet, and the centre portion of the design is heavy and indistinct. The 4d. value, on the other hand, is probably from a corrected plate, and as regards appearance is a far superior stamp. The chief point of difference lies in the size of the word PAPUA, which, in the 4d. value, stands out more prominently, although the lettering is shorter. The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. design will, no doubt, be found to be a provisional one, and the next supplies should be expected in the redrawn type.

In conclusion, attention is called to the interest of collecting postmarked copies of these stamps. The postmarks are most distinctive, and certainly no collection could be called complete without a representative lot of stamps in used condition.

THE IMPERIAL ALBUM

Tenth Edition.

Size of pages, $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ 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.,
39, Strand, London, W.C.

British Stamps used Abroad

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

Cuba

THE largest and richest of the West Indian Islands, was, until declared an independent Republic under the suzerainty of the United States of America on 10 December, 1898, the most important colony of Spain. The formal transfer of government from the U.S.A. to Cuban authority took place in December, 1902. It was discovered by Columbus in 1492 on his first voyage, and colonized by him and his son Diego Columbus for Spain. A British expedition landed here in 1741 and again in 1762. Great Britain being at war with Spain, Lord Albemarle seized and held Cuba until it was restored to Spain by the Treaty of Paris in 1763. It has been governed by Captains-general sent over from Spain with unlimited and most absolute authority—some of whom have upheld their office in a most honourable manner and aided in the progress of the island. Others, again, having misused their powers simply for the purpose of acquiring fortunes, have led to the existence of a deadly hatred between the Spanish officials and the Creoles, which manifested itself in frequent risings dating back to 1829.

Several insurrections were engineered from the U.S.A., where great sympathy had long been shown for the Cubans and resulted in difficult and delicate diplomatic pourparlers. It was suggested that the United States should purchase the island in 1846 for one million dollars, but the proposal was rejected by Spain.

In 1854 the offer was again renewed, but the amount this time increased to thirty millions. The Spanish Premier is reported to have declared in the Cortes that the sale of the island would be tantamount to the sale of Spanish honour! The millions of money and the thousands of lives the attempts to subdue the various and continuous insurrections between then and 1902 have cost will probably never be known.

In January, 1896, the United States Government at length gave expression to popular sentiment, and called upon Spain to recognize the Cubans as belligerents (and not to treat them simply as rebels), to terminate the war by granting local government. In March of that year the U.S.A. officially recognized the Cuban insurgents as belligerents, and requested the Spanish Government to recognize the independence of Cuba. This interference was much resented by Spain, and the continued agitation, the recognition by the U.S.A. of the independent

Republic of Cuba in the year 1897, created such a tense, strained feeling, that when on 15 February, 1898, the U.S. cruiser *Maine* was destroyed by an explosion in Havana harbour—how caused will probably never be known—war was inevitable. Two courts of inquiry into the cause of the disaster were held, one by the Spaniards and one by the Americans; the first reported that the explosion occurred inside the ship, the latter that it was caused by a mine from without.

The President of the United States, in a message to Congress, demanded that an end be put to the fighting and a stable government established. The Spanish declared such a message incompatible with the rights of Spain. Diplomatic relations were broken off and war declared. The result was the defeat of Spain and the declaration of the independence of Cuba and the cession of Porto Rico and the Philippines to the U.S.A.

Cuba is a long and narrow island, and lies between Jamaica and the mainland of North America. It possesses a number of excellent harbours, but only two, Havana and Santiago de Cuba, possessed British Post Offices. The exports consist of sugar, tobacco, and cigars, for which the island is renowned.

British stamps were used here from 1867 to 1877. The trade with Great Britain, however, was of small account, and the stamps used were few and are consequently rare.

C 58. Havana

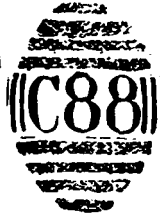
The capital of the island, is a splendid city, founded by Velasquez in 1519. It is one of the most important commercial cities of the West Indies, situated on a most capacious and beautiful harbour. Its reputation for its cigars is world-wide. British stamps were used here from 1867 till 1877. The large upright oval was used alone, and also in conjunction with the date stamp obliterator.

The main business being with the U.S.A., the stamps are scarce.



- ½d., plate 12.
 3d., „ 19.
 4d. plates 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 vermilion.
 6d. plate 16.
 8d., orange.
 10d., plate 1.
 1s. plates 4, 4 spray, 7, 10, 12, 13.
 2s., blue.
 5s. plates 1, .

The obliterator employed was the large upright oval (C 88), and also a date stamp.



C 88. Santiago de Cuba

Second largest city of the island, was, previous to the American occupation, a town of mean, filthy, and unhealthy streets; it has, however, been materially improved, and bids fair to become an important town. It was founded by Velasquez in 1514. Its trade is largely with the United States, and the British stamps which were used there during the years 1871-7 are few and exceedingly scarce.

- 1d., plates 105, 106, 109, 123.
 2d., „ 9, 14.
 4d., „ 9, 10, 12, 14, 15 vermilion.
 6d., „ 8.
 10d., plate 1 dark.
 1s., plates 4 spray, 9, 10, 12, 13.
 2s., blue.

(To be continued.)

The Stamp Parliament

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

OFFICIAL Report of the Proceedings of the Stamp Parliament at its first sitting at the Junior Philatelic Society's meeting at 3 Bedford Street, Strand, on Saturday, 4 April, 1908.

THE SPEAKER . . . FRED J. MELVILLE.
 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS . . . HERBERT F. JOHNSON.

FRONT MINISTERIAL BENCH (L.).

PRIME MINISTER AND CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER:
 THE RT. HON. E. M. GILBERT LODGE.

HOME SECRETARY:

THE RT. HON. A. J. SEFI.

FIRST LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY:

THE RT. HON. BASIL REED.

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

THE RT. HON. S. R. TURNER.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL:

THE RT. HON. C. L. HARTE-LOVELACE.

FRONT OPPOSITION BENCH (U.).

LEADER (Member for St. Helena):
 THE RT. HON. H. H. HARLAND.

Member for the Ionian Islands:

THE RT. HON. OWEN FEARNLEY, K.N.

Member for Trinidad:

THE HON. E. GIBBONS.

Member for the Cayman Islands:

THE HON. D. S. DARKIN.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 8.20.

Questions

Mr. OWEN FEARNLEY asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if the Estimates for the Exhibition had been exceeded and if the Revenue had been in due proportion to the expenditure.

Mr. GILBERT LODGE: I have to inform the hon. member that the Estimates for the Exhibition have been quite satisfactory, and that there will be a good balance on the right side. (Cheers.)

Mr. GIBBONS asked the Prime Minister if it would be possible this session to introduce legislation for the regulation and control of the surcharging of stamps by British Colonial Administrations.

Mr. LODGE: His Majesty's Government regret that they cannot see their way at present to interfere with Colonial Administrations in this matter.

Mr. H. H. HARLAND asked the Home Secretary if steps have been taken to punish the culprits who have

defamed the characters of the President and Secretary of the great Imperial Stamp Exhibition of 1908, by scurrilous and scandalous portraits in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*.

Mr. A. J. SEFI regretted that it had not been possible to bring the culprits to book, but that His Majesty's Government intended to prosecute the matter with its characteristic thoroughness.

Mr. D. S. DARKIN asked the Postmaster-General if he could inform the House what steps had been taken in the matter of the Cayman Islands scandal.

Mr. C. L. HARTE-LOVLACK said that the matter had received the attention of his colleagues, but that as the instigator of the stamps appears to have been a lady they were prepared to let the matter pass.

Mr. HOLLAND asked the Prime Minister if it would not be possible for the J.P.S. to have a stamp journal of its own.

Mr. LODGE said that the Government had already decided to issue a J.P.S. Journal, and that the first number might be expected next month. It would be a twopenny magazine, but would be included without charge to members and post free in the annual subscription to the Society. (Prolonged cheers.)

Compulsory Stamp Collecting in Schools

THE PRIME MINISTER: Mr. Speaker,—Sir, I rise to move the second reading of the Bill, intitled "An Act to make Stamp Collecting Compulsory in Elementary Schools." It commences: "Be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that Stamp Collecting shall be introduced into the regular curriculum of the elementary schools under the control of His Majesty's Board of Education."

THE PRIME MINISTER in a long and able speech claimed that it would be an educational influence of the utmost importance, and the knowledge of the stamps of the British Colonies in particular would give the children the pride of Empire which they had already endeavoured to instil by the provision for the maintenance of the Union Jack at all the schools.

A vigorous debate followed.

Mr. H. H. HARLAND asked the mover of the Bill to state where the money was to come from, and if it would be necessary to increase local taxation.

Mr. LODGE: The occasion was one for which he felt confident this House would vote a substantial grant to the Education Authorities, and that the collections should in all cases remain the property of the schools.

Mr. ARMSTRONG: What does the right hon. gentleman propose to do to the teachers who are now employed in the schools who know nothing about stamps?

Mr. LODGE: They would be given time to prepare the subject. There would be no need to throw a large body of workers out of employment. As soon as this Bill became law the subject would be added to the scheme of preparation in vogue at our pupil-teachers' training centres.

Mr. DAKKIN asked if the Government proposed to provide albums for the children to put the stamps in.

Mr. LODGE: The idea is to provide something very simple in the way of an exercise book with a stiff cover, a sample of which could be seen on the table in this House.

Mr. HOLLAND asked if the children might not be allowed to keep the stamps, as children were already a nuisance bothering one for stamps for their books.

Mr. SEFI: They won't be satisfied with the stamps they have at school when they leave. The child on leaving school leaves his slate and his blackboard; he will leave his stamp book. The stamp books will be collected after each lesson, and handed out in the ordinary way of lesson books.

Mr. LOVELACE: May I point out, as the objections of the members of the Opposition are many and various, that with the increase of stamp collecting which this measure will bring about every collector will want to buy so many stamps, and no doubt unused stamps, and those of the British and British Colonial Governments, I, as Postmaster-General, can assure this House that instead of being a drain on the Exchequer it will greatly increase the Revenue, and we shall thus be able to remit some of the present heavy taxation on beer.

Mr. DAKKIN asked if the scholars must provide their own mounts.

Mr. REED: It is not so intended; as the stamps would not be of the highly valuable kind they had arranged with the Postmaster-General to save sufficient stamp-edges to go round. He might also state that the Lords of the Admiralty have decided that naval candidates who are stamp collectors shall not hereafter be required to pass the usual examinations in geography and modern history.

Mr. ARMSTRONG begged to move that a "Post Office" Mauritius be offered annually for competition amongst the scholars.

Mr. LODGE: I am afraid, Sir, that that would come under the Lotteries Act.

Mr. DAKKIN asked that the Government proposed to do in the event of any stamp collection being lost or having disappeared from any other means, possibly theft.

Mr. SEFI stated that every stamp will have a small mark on the back. Should any be offered for sale they would at once be recognized as Government property. Any one who deals in such stamps will be criminally prosecuted.

Mr. DAKKIN: May I ask how you intend to deal with a scholar who unintentionally or wilfully tears stamps?

Mr. SEFI: It depends if the scholar wilfully tears them. (Ironical cheers.)

Mr. ARMSTRONG asked if all the used stamps received at Government offices would be saved and distributed amongst the schools.

Mr. LODGE: The answer is in the affirmative.

Mr. DAKKIN asked if the School Board would form a collection of forgeries for comparison.

Mr. SEFI: As Home Secretary I should see that all persons convicted of forgery should hand their forgeries to the School Board to form the basis of a collection of forgeries.

Mr. HARLAND asked if the Prime Minister will include in his Bill a measure for dealing with stamp forgers and also the stamp fakers.

The SPEAKER ruled the question out of order.

Mr. HOLLAND asked if it is proposed to continue the study of Philately at the Evening Continuation Schools.

Mr. SEFI: I may say certainly. In the higher schools we shall have highly qualified teachers to teach specialism.

Mr. HOLLAND: May I ask if this is to be as a hobby or as a science? (Laughter.)

Mr. SEFI: As Philately. The hon. member may take that as he likes.

Mr. DAKKIN asked if it would be possible to borrow for the school laboratories quantities of benzine.

Mr. SEFI: It will not be necessary. We shall provide watermark detectors.

Mr. LODGE here interposed a remark to the effect that questions were not necessarily limited to members of the Opposition, and that they would welcome any from the supporters of the Government.

Mr. DAKKIN: What about millimetre measures?

Mr. LOVELACE: They are already provided in the exercise books, along with the multiplication tables.

Mr. HOLLAND asked if price lists and catalogues were to be provided, and, if so, whose.

Mr. LODGE: Priced catalogues were not needed; the

stamps would be studied for their merit and artistic qualities and not for market values.

Mr. ARMSTRONG asked if it would be possible to enlist Mr. Melville's services to deliver his lectures at the schools?

Mr. REED: It is the intention of the Government to ask Mr. Melville to become Chief Lecturer at a salary of £10,000 a year.

The SPEAKER: And the pension?

Mr. REED: That would work out at about two-thirds of the salary.

Mr. DAKKIN asked if Mr. Melville would have the appointment of his under-staff.

Mr. LODGE: That's greed! He wants a position.

Mr. REED: May I point out to the hon. member for the Cayman Islands, that if he were to seek a post under the Government he would have to seek re-election, and I have very grave doubts as to whether he would be re-elected.

Mr. ARMSTRONG asked what handbook would be used.

Mr. LODGE: The A B C of Stamp Collecting.

Mr. DAKKIN asked if it is proposed to hang on the walls enlarged engravings of the chief designs used in the British Colonies.

Mr. SEFI: That is a question which we can hardly enter into now. It must be left to the sub-committee in whose hands such details will be left.

Mr. GRAHAM asked if it is proposed to introduce the measures into public schools and private schools as well as elementary schools.

Mr. LODGE: We cannot interfere. They will probably follow our lead.

Mr. DAKKIN asked if it were proposed to hold examinations on stamp collecting, and if the Universities would be compelled to take up the subject.

Mr. REED: As stamp collecting would be in the regular curriculum of the schools, it would also be in the usual course examinations. We have no power to compel the Universities to take stamp collecting as one of their branches.

Mr. HOLLAND asked if local stamps were to be included.

Mr. LOVELACE: Local stamps are of more philatelic interest and value than Cayman Islands and many other King's Heads.

Mr. HOLLAND: Russian locals?

Mr. LOVELACE: Yes, sir, certainly. It will aid them to learn foreign languages.

Mr. REED: I should like to say that the only Welsh and Choctaw I ever learnt I got from stamps.

Mr. DAKKIN: Will the study of postmarks be included?

Mr. SEFI: No.

Mr. LODGE: I should like to state, with reference to my right hon. friend's remarks on locals, we should arrive at locals by graduated steps.

Mr. HOLLAND: Will differences of engraving, *taille-douce*, etc., be dinned into the poor children's heads?

Mr. LODGE: What is tie juice?

Mr. HOLLAND: If the Prime Minister is so ignorant, I pity the children.

Mr. LODGE: I know nothing of tie juice.

A VOICE: May I ask if that is a new drink? (Cries of "Order.")

Mr. DAKKIN: How are you going to provide old issues of British Colonials?

Mr. SEFI: We shall not. The commoner the stamps the better.

Mr. LOVELACE: As Postmaster-General, I have made up my mind to introduce all the chief varieties of watermarks and perforations into our English stamps, so that the children may have an opportunity to become thoroughly familiar with them.

Mr. MASON: Is it proposed to license all advanced collectors?

Mr. LODGE: Yes, and we propose that the owner's name shall be distinctly stated on the collar. Mr. Speaker, sir, I now propose to bring in the guillotine. I move that the second reading of the Bill be now passed.

The SPEAKER: All those in favour say "Aye," to the contrary "No." I think the "Ayes" have it. (Opposition cries of "No, sir.")

A division was then taken, resulting in a complete defeat of the Government, who are thus obliged to appeal to the country.

The first Stamp Parliament was such a complete success that it is proposed to give the Unionists an opportunity before this season closes. A Cabinet is now being formed, and an announcement of the next sitting will be made in due course. Visitors will be welcomed.

Acrostic Competition

AS this number will be on sale on the sixty-eighth anniversary of the introduction of our penny postage stamps, there should not be any hesitation as to the following subject; but don't go bothering this week about the sticky adhesives, but try the real original entire for a change. True, the stamps were made to stick, and they have done so, while the first entire needed some whacks [Wretched spelling.—E.D.] to make them secure, but they should not be neglected as they have been; and this will serve as a reminder, the headlight's being kindly sent by a subscriber.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC

NO. 8 (OF SERIES)

Science and Art
Were not kept apart;
The painter's design,
With fineness of line,
Helps good Rowland Hill,
His scheme to fulfil. C. C. T.

1. Don't move in a maze or say it's in me,
Because I say that this is mine,
'Tis but a little one—no malice is meant—
But to pay out more I decline.
2. This word stands for strength, the whole word
through,
Some stamps say so, can you name one or
two?

3. Roman for sixty minus five would do;
But some insist upon a simple word,
So insert two vowels, and one outside,
There we will—(ahem!), and go for a ride.
4. I'm sure it's good coin, and yet, it sounds
funny,
A lack of these does not mean lack of money.
[More bad spelling.—E.D.]
5. If one be given, that man will take
As many more as five and forty make,
Was said in olden times to illustrate
The excess of some—but what was it
That he would take? One letter tells it all.
6. Go faster, please go faster,
Says my Italian music master.
7. The sun and air combine to give it birth,
From Heaven it falls and so revives the earth.
8. The same as you our grammar did say
In days of . . . but we now want more,
Like—or—shall we say the total's four?

BEN.

Answers on the printed forms must be received before or by first delivery on Thursday, 14 May, or posted on the Continent by 16 May, or North America by 24 May. They should be marked outside "Acrostic. G.S.W.," addressed to 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Varieties of the "Sower" type of France

SPECIALISTS in the modern issues of France are busily engaged in unearthing small varieties in the stamps of the latest "Sower" type. The printing is none of the best, and consequently many minor defects in the impression are to be found. Such things are not collected by the serious philatelist, and a contemporary, *La Revue Française des Collectionneurs*, describes some of these varieties in very amusing terms.

Of the 5 c., green, there are two varieties: one in which the "Sower" has apparently been presented with a hip pocket (perhaps the authorities are introducing dress reform for ladies, at least I believe that ladies are not allowed pockets in this the twentieth century!); then another variety has been seen with defective inking at the bottom, so that the "Sower" seems to be walking on a cloud.

In the 10 c., vermilion, there are three varieties: one with the "s" of POSTES omitted, owing to over-inking of the plate; another with the "c" (standing for CENTIMES) is lacking, for the same reason; thirdly, the

"Sower" appears to be holding a candle in her right hand.

In the 20 c. there are three varieties, all of which are due to the plate having been over-inked.

(i) REPUBLICTE.

(ii) REPUBLIQUE.

(iii) RANÇAISE ("F" omitted).

Telegrams "Undertaken" in Brazil!

IN Rio de Janeiro it would seem that the Brazilian Government has not only a monopoly of postal business, but also conducts an Undertakers' Department. The Department of Posts has just decided to entrust the delivery of telegrams to the Funeral Department. I have not heard if telegrams are to be delivered within the city by a hearse; one would expect black-edged envelopes handed in by black-robed mutes. If telegrams were conveyed to their last resting-place in London in this manner, I fancy that the public would soon be clamouring for a motor-driven hearse, provided perhaps with the latest pattern of taximeter.—*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*.

New Japanese Stamps

A WEEK or two I chronicled new 5 and 10 yen stamps, under Corea, in "New Issues"; I now learn from *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* that these two stamps are really Japanese postage stamps. They both bear a portrait of the Empress Jingô-Kôgô, who was Regent from 201 to 269, in the place of her son Ojin. She waged war victoriously in Corea, and, according to an old legend, the God Sumiyoshi acted as pilot for her on the sea: a great storm arose, so he caused gigantic fishes to surround the boat, and so to prevent it sinking! Jingô-Kôgô was over a hundred years old when she died. [I thought this was a fish story, now I'm sure!—ED. G.S.W.]

There is a Japanese inscription above the head of the Empress, which reads from *right to left*: DAI NIHON TEIKOKU YUBIN, "Posts of the Empire of Japan."

Servian "Wholesale List"

THE Servian Department of Posts and Telegraphs is entering into active competition with the wholesale stamp dealers. I have been shown a circular addressed to our publishers, in which various stamps are offered

in lots of 100 sets at prices varying from 30 per cent to 90 per cent of the face value. The circular carefully states that not less than 100 sets will be sold to any one applicant, and that cash must be sent in advance.

The following list shows the actual quantity of stamps offered for sale:—

1898. <i>Catalogue No. 127.</i>	
405,000	1 para.
1901-3 <i>Issue. Catalogue Nos. 158 to 167.</i>	
405,000 each	5 p. to 50 p.
100,000	1 dinar.
5000 each	3 and 5 dinars.
1903-4 <i>Issue.</i>	
40,000	1 p. (No. 189).
40,000 each	5 p. to 1 dinar.
85,000 ,,	3 and 5 dinars.
1904 <i>Issue. Catalogue Nos. 191 to 198.</i>	
203,000 each	5 p. to 50 p.
73,000 ,,	1, 3, 5 dinars.

It is highly probable that many of the above will soon be offered to collectors at prices considerably below those in our Catalogue. We hope nobody will be foolish enough to buy these things, even at apparently bargain prices.

Finland Letter

HELSINGFORS, 7 April, 1908

RATHER a long time has passed since my last letter. The hopes of the Finns with regard to a new issue of postage stamps in Finnish currency and in *varize* types have not been fulfilled. It looks much more as if the present Russian type would remain still for some time in use. The intention of the local postal officials to reduce the inland letter rate from 20 pen. to 15 pen. has not been able to be realized yet, in consequence of its dependence upon the Russian Ministry of the Interior.

The Helsingfors Stamp Collectors' Society has been busy at work in issuing a new, enlarged, and improved edition of the Catalogue of Finland's stamps. The Catalogue has just been printed, and is different from its predecessors in several respects. The paper is fine; the shape is smaller; the illustrations are in the text and copied accurately from originals. The varieties of perforations show up clearly against the black background. Therefore every collector can fix the perforation of his stamps by the aid of the Catalogue.

The size of every issue of stamps is given according to official documents, and this will certainly interest every collector. Striking are the small issues which exist of some of the rarer stamps.

The rarest of the Finland stamps, in case one wishes to fix the rarity according to the size of the printed issue, are:—

1885, 10 marks	7,500 stamps.
,, 5 ,,	10,000 ,,
1891, 3½ roubles	10,000 ,,

1901, 10 marks, Type I	13,500 stamps.
1891, 7 roubles	15,000 ,,
1889, 10 marks	35,000 ,,
,, 5 ,,	45,000 ,,

On the other hand, the quantity of stamps which appear far more seldom on the market is considerably bigger; thus:—

1856, 5 kop., small full stop	70,000 stamps.
1858, 5 ,, large ,,	about 90,000 ,,
1867, 1 mark, brown	80,000 ,,

The differences in the provisional issue of 1901 and the final issue of 1902 are mentioned accurately in the new Catalogue.

The appearance of the 5 kop., of 1858, with large full stop in the posthorns, on vertically laid paper is now proved, since a *tête-à-tête* pair of this stamp has been found on a piece of letter. There is therefore no longer any doubt that this variety must be mentioned in the catalogue as a postage stamp. In the new edition of the Finland Catalogue this stamp is to be found under "No. 1 B. A."

Since 1906 a new perforating machine, driven by electricity, has been introduced. The stamps are now perforated 14 in both directions.

Until 1908 all the postage stamps were printed from clichés made by H. Berthold, of Berlin. From 1908 the 10 pf. and 20 pf. are being printed from new clichés made by Lilius von Hertzberg in Helsingfors.

Faithfully yours,
M. VON HERTZEN, Lieut.-Colonel.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

French Guinea.—According to *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (15.4.03), the remaining seven values of the regular set of Postage Dues have been issued, in addition to the 20 c. already catalogued.



Name in red; on 10 c. and 30 c. in blue. Perf. 13½ X 14.
Unused. Used
s. d. s. d.

5 c., green on <i>toned</i>	—	—
10 c., <i>marone</i>	—	—
15 c., blue on <i>bluish</i>	—	—
30 c., red on <i>cream</i>	—	—
50 c., violet	—	—
60 c., black on <i>buff</i>	—	—
1 fr. " <i>flesh</i>	—	—

Haiti.—Our New York house sends us two more provisionals of this country—the 10 c. of the Nord Alexis issue having been overprinted 1 c., and the 20 c., 2 c., both in *black*.



Nord Alexis issue, overprinted in black.

1 c. on 10 c., orange-brown	o	1	—
2 c. on 20 c., orange	o	1	—

Italy.—In our issue of 7 March we chronicled three stamps which we believed to be new Postage Dues. They were—2 c., pale olive-green; 3 c., brown; 6 c., blue-green. *Der Deutsche Philatelist* (20.4.03) states, on unimpeachable authority, that these stamps do not represent an amount to be paid by the receiver of a letter, but that they are fiscal stamps made for official use between post offices. We do not quite understand their nature, but they are certainly not postage stamps, and will not be included in our Catalogue.

Natal.—We have received a copy of the £1 10s. value on multiple, surfaced paper, and also with the two colours changed. The medalion head is now *orange*, instead of *green*, and the rest of the design is *lilac*, instead of *violet*.



Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper. Perf. 14.
Unused. Used
s. d. s. d.

£1 10s., orange and lilac

Nicaragua.—Our New York house sends us more provisionals for the Department of Zelaya—a 10 c. on the 20 c. Waterlow print, and a 15 c. on the 1 c. American print. We list as follows:—



37



40

Vale 100

B

Dpto. Zelaya

Vale 100

41

23

42

Type 37, American print, overprinted with Type 23, in red, and also as Type 41, in black, reading up.

15 c. on 1 c., green	o	8	—
----------------------	---	---	---

Type 40, Waterlow print, overprinted in black with Type 23, and Types 41 and 42, reading down.

10 c. on 20 c., claret (41)	o	6	—
10 c. on 20 c., " (42)	o	9	—

Paraguay.—Our agent in Villa Rica sends us a 30 c. of the current set, in *bluish purple*, instead of in *grey*; there seems to be no end to the colour changes in this country. He also sends us a provisional 5 c. postage stamp, formed by overprinting the 30 c. Official stamp, which

was chronicled in our issue of 22 February, with a black surcharge similar to the illustration given below, except that there are three bars under CENTAVOS, instead of two.

But this 30 c. Official should have been described as *blue-slate*, not *grey*.



39



66

Type 39. Change of colour. Perf. 11½, 12.
Unused. Used.

30 c., bluish purple 0 5 —

Type 66, overprinted in black, as Type 41, but with three bars below CENTAVOS. Perf. 11½, 12.

5 c. on 30 c., blue-slate 0 2 —

Habilitado
en
5
CENTAVOS

South Australia.—According to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* (18.4.08), an authentic copy of the 1s., deep brown, of the 1867-70 issue, has been seen perforated 12½. Up to the present only three values—the 1d., 4d., and 6d.—were known in this perforation.



1867-70. Wmk. Large Star. (✓) Perf. 12½.
87a) 1s., deep brown — —

Turks and Caicos Islands.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (18.4.08) reports having received quite a new value, a 3d., brown on yellow; it is on multiple-watermarked, unsurfaced paper. This stamp was expected owing to a notice in the last number of the *Colonial Office Journal*, and is particularly worthy of mention, as it is the first time a coloured paper has been used for printing stamps by the copper-plate process.

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.



Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Ordinary paper. Perf. 14.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
3d., brown on yellow — —

Zanzibar.—We take the following interesting paragraphs from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (18.4.08):—

“Under date of 12.2.08 the Postmaster, Zanzibar, writes us that a new issue of stamps was expected to be put into circulation about 3.08. The values were to be 3, 6, 12, 15, 25, 50 cents, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 rupees.

“The reality would, however, seem to be much more magnificent, the face value of the complete set being well over £30. It is in the *Madrid Filatelico* (31.3.08/41) that we first find the full description.

Adhesives. Four different designs. Wmk. Quatrefoils multiple.

- 3 cents, green.
- 6 „ carmine.
- 12 „ violet.
- 15 „ light blue.
- 25 „ dark brown.
- 50 „ dark green.
- 1 rupee, yellow-green.
- 2 rupees, violet.
- 3 „ yellow-brown.
- 4 „ carmine.
- 5 „ blue.
- 10 „ brown and green.
- 20 „ green and black.
- 30 „ dark brown and black.
- 40 „ vermilion and black.
- 50 „ lilac and black.
- 100 „ blue and black.
- 500 „ grey and brown.

“The face value of the highest value is about £13 10s.

“The cental issue was of course only to be expected and is a consequence of the similar change of currency in the East Africa Protectorate, but it is difficult to understand why a new set of rupee values was required. From the fact the Postmaster mentioned nothing higher than 5 rupees to us, it may turn out that the values above 5 rupees are only fiscals. The fact remains, however, that ‘specimen’ copies have been circulated by the Postal Union as postage stamps.

“It is noticeable that the values 1 and 75 cents which were at first omitted from the East Africa set are also omitted from the Zanzibar set. We should not be surprised to find them added before long.

“Zanzibar having now followed the example of East Africa and altered its currency from annas to cents, it would not surprise us very much if Somaliland, which is also on the East Coast, followed suit.”

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 20
Whole No. 176

16 MAY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Colonies: General Issues

THE next issue for the colonies was in the "Peace and Commerce" type of 1876, but similarly to foregoing issues *imperf.* instead of *perf.* There seems to have been no formal document authorizing such stamps as "Colonial," but doubtless they were issued as a matter of course on the exhaustion of old supplies.

Judging from used specimens, the order of issue seems to have been the following:—

20 c., 40 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 25 c., 1 fr., 10 c., 75 c., 1 c., 15 c. in 1877, and the 30 c. and 35 c. in 1878.



1877-8. Tinted paper.	Imperf.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., green	2 0	—
2 c. "	1 0	1 0
4 c. "	1 0	1 0
5 c. "	2 0	0 2
10 c. "	8 0	8 0
15 c., grey	20 0	16 0
20 c., brown	2 6	0 3
25 c., blue	2 6	—
30 c., cinnamon	2 6	2 6
35 c., black on orange	2 6	2 6
40 c., red on yellow	1 0	1 0
75 c., rose-carmine	5 0	—
1 fr., olive-green	2 6	1 6

Similarly, when the colours were changed in 1877 and 1879, supplies were dispatched in due course to the colonies. The order seems to have been as follows:—

4 c., 15 c., 1 c., and 2 c. in 1878; 10 c. and 25 c., black on red, in 1879; 20 c. and 25 c., ochre on yellow, in 1880.

1878-80. As last, but colours changed.

	Unused.		Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	
1 c., black on azure	1 0	1 0	
2 c., brown on buff	1 3	1 6	
4 c., purple-brown on grey	2 6	2 6	
10 c., black on lilac	6 0	4 0	
15 c., blue on pale blue	2 6	1 3	
20 c., red on green	4 0	1 0	
25 c., black on red	40 0	—	
25 c., ochre on yellow	10 0	3 0	

For twenty years no trouble had been taken by the home authorities to provide the colonies with suitable stamps. Though the benefits of perforation had been enjoyed by the mother country all this time, "anything will do" seemed the motto for the colonies, and every time a stamp was needed the aid of the scissors had to be requisitioned. At last, in 1880, but only after much complaint and repeated requests from the persons interested, it was decided to extend the convenience of perforation to the stamps of the colonies. For this, however, it was necessary to create a new type, and a few artists were invited to submit designs. That of M. Alphonse Dubois, a well-known engraver of medals and coins, was chosen.

The design, known as the "Commerce" type, shows a seated female figure, with the right hand resting on an anchor, and the left hand holding a tricolour flag and an olive branch. At the feet of the lady several barrels and a bale of goods are depicted, evidently cargo for the ship in the middle distance, whilst to the left a cornucopia, shedding some class of fruit or vegetable, typifies the "plenty" to be derived from "colonial commerce." Altogether, a happy and well-drawn design, and one that has been well brought out in the engraving, also effected by M. Dubois. There were thirteen values, the numerals of which were engraved separately for each denomination. A trial was made of movable figures for this

purpose, but it was not a success. The stamps were printed at the Government establishment, and the make-up and perforation were similar to those of the contemporary stamps of France. The stamps were issued in May, 1881, but there was a change of colour for the 25 c. in May, 1886, the value then being printed in *black* on *rose* to correspond with the French stamp altered in April of the same year.



1881-86. *Perf.* 14 x 13½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i> . . .	0	1	0	1
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i> . . .	0	3	0	1
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i> . . .	0	2	0	2
5 c., green on <i>greenish</i> . . .	0	2	0	1
10 c., black on <i>lilac</i> . . .	0	3	0	1
15 c., blue on <i>bluish</i> . . .	0	4	0	1
20 c., red on <i>green</i> . . .	0	6	0	2
25 c., ochre on <i>yellow</i> . . .	0	6	0	3
25 c., black on <i>rose</i> . . .	0	5	0	1
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i> . . .	1	0	0	8
35 c., black on <i>yellow</i> . . .	5	0	4	0
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i> . . .	1	0	0	8
75 c., carmine on <i>rose</i> . . .	2	6	2	0
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i> . . .	2	0	0	9

The above were the last stamps issued having currency in all the colonies, but a reference to the "tablet" type, issued in 1892, is necessary to complete an article on French colonial stamps.

The differences in exchange of French money in various parts of the world had led to a traffic in colonial stamps; in some cases it meant a serious loss to revenue. For instance, stamps worth 1000 francs in Saigon were worth 1200 to 1300 francs in Reunion. It was easy—in fact, it was continually done—to export stamps from Indo-China, etc., and sell them elsewhere to better advantage. Again, another scandal had arisen with respect to speculative provisionals. It often happened that certain values ran out of stock from various causes—the small quantities ordered by the local authorities, the slowness of deliveries from home, loss of vessels bringing supplies, the unexpected arrival of troops, etc.—and provisionals had to be created, but it was not infrequent that the scarcity and consequent provisionals were brought about by direct connivance of the colonial postal authorities.

Anyway, a circular, dated 15 February, 1890, was sent by the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies to all the colonial Governments, pointing out the speculation that existed, and stating that it was proposed

to provide each colony with a special set of postage stamps, similarly to the system adopted by Great Britain. The circular went on to say that the least costly way was the provision of stamps of a uniform design with a label, left blank, in which the name of any particular colony could be inserted at a second printing. The cost of preparation was to be about £800, but the colonial Governments were invited to remember that stamp collectors could be relied on to provide a good source of revenue.

The idea was unanimously approved, and the new stamps were at once put into preparation. The design is known as the "Navigation and Commerce" type, and was drawn and engraved by M. Mouchon. The stamps were manufactured at the Government factory at Paris, the make-up of the sheets and perforation being the same as those of the previous issue.

According to the official declaration the design typified "Navigation and Commerce carrying the French colours across the seas."



As will be seen from the design, two female figures are seated on the prow of a boat. On the one side is "Navigation," holding a rudder in her right hand, whilst the left hand supports the French tricolour. On the other side is "Commerce," also supporting the flag, and holding in her left hand a cornucopia, at the top of which is a *caduceus*. In front of the boat are two paddles, between which, and supported by two dolphins, is a label containing the value. The name of the colony in the label below was inserted at a second printing, either in *red* or in *blue*.

The stamps, thirteen values in each series, were issued in November, 1892, and were supplied to the following eighteen colonies: Martinique, Guadeloupe and Dependencies, Guiana, St. Pierre and Miquelon, Senegal and Dependencies, Ivory Coast, French Guinea, Golfe de Benin, French Congo, Obock, Mayotte, Anjouan, Diego Suarez and Dependencies, Reunion Indian Establishments, Indo-China, New Caledonia and Dependencies, and Oceanic Establishments.

The stamps inscribed SENEGAL ET DEPENDANCES were for use in Senegal and French Sudan. These were replaced in 1894 by separate sets for each place.

"French Congo" was the name given on 3 April, 1891, to the united territories of Gaboon and Congo.

"Indo-China" stamps were for use in Cochinchina, Cambodia, and Annam and Tonquin.

The "Golfe de Benin" stamps were not issued till early in 1893, and in the next year the name was changed to "Benin" simply.

"Diego Suarez and Dependencies" stamps were for use in Diego Suarez, Nossi-Bé, and Ste. Marie de Madagascar, but in 1894 they were superseded by separate sets for each of these places. In 1896 these latter were in turn superseded by a set inscribed MADAGASCAR ET DEPENDANCES.

Stamps of the old type were to be available for postage as before, until the stocks were exhausted, but the new stamps were only valid for postage on letters from the colony of issue.

The circular of February, 1890, had been

published in the newspapers, and as a result a great increase took place in the speculation arising from differences of exchange. To prevent this, the Colonial Minister advised the various Governments that, pending the supply of the new stamps, the old ones remaining should be overprinted with the name of the colony. This explains the reason of issue of the various overprinted stamps without any alteration of value. An official document published in Guadeloupe, dated 5 August, 1891, leaves no doubt that these much-maligned issues were by order of the supreme authorities.

Postage Due stamps similar to those in use in France, but *imperf.*, were supplied to the colonies, and are still in use in the colonies not provided with a special set.

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

£5000 asked for a Stamp

A FEW days ago a gentleman came into our shop and stated he had the rarest stamp in the world for sale, in fact so rare that he would not trust the stamp out of his hands, but asked to see one of the directors personally.

On examination the stamp turned out to be a Mauritius 1858 (9d.) magenta, overprinted EIGHT PENCE in a circle—a well-known fake which I remember was offered on the market over twenty years ago.

I am afraid the owner did not believe us when this was explained to him, but I am afraid it will be a long time before he secures even 5000 farthings for his stamp.

Fiji Islands

I SHOULD be greatly obliged if my readers would examine any stamps they have of Fiji, the issue of October, 1874, "V.R." overprinted in Gothic or Roman type, and tell me if they have any 1d., 3d., or 6d. dated before 10 November, 1874; if so, I should be much obliged by their sending such stamps to me for inspection.

I am very anxious to purchase any of these stamps not in my collection, and can pay good prices for any stamps Nos. 20 to 58 in our current Catalogue.

The "Monthly Journal"

FOR 30 April contains the following articles:—

Queensland—Varieties of the Stamps of 1887-97, by J. Bornefeld.

Salvador—Issue of 1905-6 and the Postage Due Stamps, by J. B. Leavy.

Montenegro—Provisional Issues of 1905-6, by Charles J. Phillips.

And a very interesting editorial by Major E. B. Evans on *Speculative Issues*. These, with five pages of New Issues and Notes and News, make up an interesting number.

The "Monthly Journal" to be merged in "G.S.W."

I REPRODUCE the following from the last number of the *M.J.*:—

It is with considerable regret that I have to announce that from June 30th next the *Monthly Journal* will cease to exist.

About three years ago I formed the opinion that a paper published only twelve times a year did not afford sufficient publicity for the purposes of our business, and I thereupon started *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, and I am glad to say with excellent results. *G.S.W.* is now well established, and has already a circulation some three times as great as the *M.J.*, and as it appears once a week, we are able to bring our specialities under the notice of our readers much more promptly and frequently than we could with a monthly paper only.

One of the great objects of the *M.J.* was to collect together a really complete list of all New Issues and Discoveries, but this we are now able to do in our own office in our *Weekly*, and it is useless expense to keep up two papers when one will fully answer all our purposes.

The great *raison d'être* of the *M.J.* has been the publishing of really original articles by the leading philatelic writers of the day, and during

nearly eighteen years, under the editorship of Major E. B. Evans, it has obtained, I think I may say, the leading position in philatelic journalism.

I now propose to include all the old features of the *M. J.* in *G. S. W.*, in the following manner: One number of the *Weekly* in each month will be devoted to original scientific articles, and the usual features will all be omitted, with the exception of the lists of New Issues. I am very glad to announce that the invaluable services of our friend Major Evans will be retained, and each month he will be responsible for this special number of the *Weekly*, the other numbers being edited in our office as usual. I also propose, shortly, to enlarge the *Weekly*, and I intend to do all in my power to make it the most valuable stamp paper published for either the collector or the dealer.

After June 30th all unexpired subscriptions to the *M. J.* will be transferred to *G. S. W.*, and a card will be sent to each subscriber stating up to what date he is booked for the *Weekly*. It is with real regret that I shall see the end of the *Monthly Journal*. I founded the paper one month after I purchased the business of Mr. Stanley Gibbons, and for a few months edited it myself, until I was lucky enough to meet Major Evans and persuade him to take on this onerous work. I sincerely trust that my readers will find our *Weekly* paper of even more use than the *Monthly* has been to them.

Manchester Exhibition, 1909

THE Manchester Junior Philatelic Society will hold an Exhibition early next year (1909) on the same lines as the London 1908, i.e. free to the public.

Farthest North P.O.

SO much having been said of late about the most extreme Southern Post Office in King Edward VII Land, it may be interesting to know that the most Northern is also a British office. This is on Heishel Island off Greenland, and is under the Canadian Government. The nearest receiving and forwarding office is 2000 miles distant. The only inhabitants, other than the missionaries, are Eskimo. The sun shines for two months in the year, but the lunar sphere provides light for most of the time. "What chances . . ." there are for a few provisions.

The Cuban Republic

NEXT February the American Government withdraws from the island of Cuba, and the Republican Government will have full powers. A negro (more or less), Pino Guerra will be the Commander-in-Chief of the Cuban forces, which will consist of some 10,000 troops. Our philatelic Old Moore again predicts plenty of work for the New Issue department.

Provisionals at Doncaster

OWING to some error on the part of an entering clerk at the head post office at

Doncaster, the supplies of ½d. and 1d. stamps became exhausted, and the authorities were obliged to resort to the "Post Paid" obliterations, which are generally used when quantities of circulars, letters, etc., are posted. Needless to say, with this device, no stamps were surcharged. To have a shortage of stamps in the British Post Office is a serious offence. So the clerk in instance is in for a "jacketing." Would it were the same in regard to our colonies!

British Mourning Stamp

NEW YORK *Sun* of 14 March has published, on the authority of a cable, that "*the British Postmaster-General is about to issue a Mourning Stamp.*" Thus a little joke from a great man becomes a reality. Evidently the British M.P. can never speak with levity, but must be known as a dry-as-dust politician.

Death of Monsieur J. B. Moens

IT is with great regret that I have to announce the death of our great confrère M. Moens, who died at Brussels on 29 April last after a long and painful illness.

M. Jean Baptiste Philippe Constant Moens was born at Tournai on 27 May, 1833, and was thus in his seventy-fifth year.

In the last number of *Le Timbre-Poste*, issued in December, 1900, M. Moens stated that he founded his stamp business in 1852, when he would be nineteen years of age.

On 15 February, 1863, he commenced to publish *Le Timbre-Poste*, which appeared without a break until 1900, in which year M. Moens sold his stock and retired from business.

M. Moens was the first dealer to commence the regular importing of current unused stamps; he was never in a hurry to sell them, and preferred to keep them to ripen. I can safely say that had it not been for the "Moens" stock, the collection of unused stamps of issues prior to, say, 1875 would be almost impossible.

In addition to his stamp business, M. Moens made a great speciality of his Philatelic Publications. First and foremost was his Priced Catalogue, of which the first edition appeared in January, 1862, and which ran through many editions, and was for nearly forty years a sheet-anchor to collectors.

M. Moens also published a great number of handbooks upon the stamps of various countries, and a large number of albums, etc.

Outside his stamp business M. Moens was a man of considerable position, and at various times had the following distinctions conferred upon him: Sous-Lieutenant Honoraire au Régiment des Chasseurs Éclaireurs de Bruxelles; Ancien Conseiller Communal d'Ixelles; Président Honoraire du Comité de Charité du Haut-Ixelles; Décoré de la Croix Commémorative du Règne de sa

Majesté Léopold II; Chevalier de l'Ordre Royal d'Isabelle d'Espagne; Officier de l'Ordre du Libérateur du Vénézuéla; Officier de l'Ordre Hospitalier de la Croix-Rouge de Genève; Décoré de l'Étoile du Mérite de Roumanie.

"Moens" has been such a household word

amongst stamp collectors that I think we shall all be pleased to have some particulars of his business, and I have made arrangements with his lifelong collaborator, M. Hanciau, who has kindly prepared me *A History of the House of Moens*, which will shortly appear in this magazine.

Twentieth Century Colonials

**A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901-June, 1907)**

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—continued

Hong Kong—continued

THIS series was one of the first to be issued with the Multiple Crown CA watermark, the first values to appear being the 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 20c., 30c., 50 c., \$1, and \$2 in October, 1904. From the series with the Multiple watermark and the following issue upon chalk-surfaced paper, the 1 cent denomination, which had been first introduced in the King's Head series of 1903, was omitted, either because there was not found to be a sufficient demand for a stamp of this value, or else an enormous supply, enough to last for several years, had been printed upon single-watermarked paper. This latter would seem to be the most likely explanation, as the colonial authorities would scarcely be likely to issue a new stamp without first being sure that such was in demand.



1904-5.

Designs as before. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Unsurfaced paper. Perf. 14. Medallion in second colour. Dates of issue of each value given in brackets. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London.

- 2 cents, grey-green (issued October 4th, 1904).
- 4 cents, lilac on red (issued October 4th, 1904).
- 5 cents, brown-orange and dull green (issued October 4th, 1904).
- 10 cents, lilac and ultramarine on blue (issued March, 1905).
- 20 cents, chestnut and grey-black (issued October 4th, 1904).

- 30 cents, black and grey-green (issued October 4th, 1904).
- 50 cents, magenta and grey-green (issued October 4th, 1904).
- \$1, sage-green and lilac (issued October 4th, 1904).
- \$2, vermilion and grey-black (issued October 4th, 1904).
- \$10, orange and grey-black on blue (issued May, 1905).

Sheet arrangement as before, excepting the 4, 5, and 30 cents values, which, though printed like the remainder in sheets of 240, are divided up into separate panes of 60 stamps before being shipped to the colony, and are so issued in order that they may be the more easily handled. These panes bear control letters and consignment numbers in black in the top right-hand corner, just like the larger sheets, but have the plate number in only one, instead of all four corners. Marginal lines as before.

Eleven values have so far been issued upon the new chalk-surfaced paper as follows. It is somewhat strange that the stamps of this colony should have been printed upon this paper, as without the "S.D." overprint they are not available for revenue as well as postal use, and the number of stamps thus surcharged must necessarily be extremely small compared with those issued in their normal state.

1905-7.

Designs, watermark, and perforation as before. Chalk-surfaced paper. Medallion in second colour. Dates of issue given in brackets. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London.

- 2 cents, grey-green (issued November 6th, 1906).
- 4 cents, lilac on red (issued November 6th, 1906).

- 5 cents, brown-orange and grey-green (issued December, 1906).
 8 cents, mauve and grey-black (issued February 9th, 1907).
 12 cents, marone and green on yellow (issued December, 1906).
 20 cents, chestnut and grey-black (issued January 28th, 1907).
 50 cents, magenta and grey-green (issued May 8th, 1907).
 \$1, sage-green and lilac (issued May 8th, 1905).
 \$2, vermilion and grey-black (issued October, 1905).
 \$3, blue and grey-black (issued August, 1905).
 \$5, blue-green and lilac (issued August, 1905).

Sheet arrangement same as for previous issue.

In compliance with the ordinances of the Rome Convention of the Postal Union, the 4 and 10 cents values were issued in May, 1907, printed in vermilion and blue respectively upon white paper, instead of in lilac upon dyed papers of those colours. Owing to the abandonment of these dyed papers by the British postal authorities, it is likely that several of the other values of the above series will in the near future be issued printed upon plain white paper, instead of on the coloured papers upon which they are now issued.

May, 1907.

Designs as before. Printed all in one colour. Unsurfaced paper. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

- 4 cents, vermilion.
 10 ,, ultramarine.

Shades.

In chronicling the 10 cents denomination printed all in one colour, in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, Mr. Frank Phillips notes that in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' consignment of this stamp the six bottom rows of the pane grow lighter and lighter in shade, this distinction being constant on all sheets received by that firm. I therefore chronicle the following three varieties of shade:—

- 10 cents, pale ultramarine instead of ultramarine.
 10 ,, light ultramarine instead of ultramarine.
 10 ,, bright ultramarine instead of ultramarine.

The 10 cents denomination, referred to above, is printed in sheets of 240 stamps, composed of four panes of 60 as in the preceding issues. The 4 cents, however, comes in sheets of 60 only, or one single pane, being so divided before leaving England in order to facilitate handling. Sheets bear serial number and consignment letter in top right-hand corner in colour.

Postal Fiscals.

Prior to the issue of the King's Head series, the highest denomination postage stamp obtainable in Hong Kong, or at the

branch offices at the Treaty Ports, was that of \$1. When, therefore, stamps of a higher value were required, Revenue stamps of the requisite denominations were supplied and were allowed to pass through the post in payment of postal dues. According to Commander Eaton any one asking for a complete set of stamps at the Hong Kong Post Office and its branches, before the appearance of the King's Head series, would receive amongst them the \$2 and \$3 fiscal stamps. With effect from the appearance of the King's Head stamps, however, fiscal stamps were no longer accepted in payment of postal dues. Early in 1902 the \$3 fiscal stamp inscribed STAMP DUTY made its appearance in a new shade, and perforated 14 instead of 15½ by 15 as formerly, and was available for postal use. The design of the stamp shows a medallion portrait of the late Queen Victoria, surmounted by a crown contained in an oblong frame with ornamental border composed of triangular designs, inscribed at the top HONG KONG, and at the bottom of the frame STAMP DUTY, and within the frame and below the medallion the value in words in English in one straight line, and in figures at the top on either side of the medallion. The value of the stamp is expressed in Chinese characters immediately beneath the Arabic numerals, whilst the characters representing "Hong Kong" are to be found just above the value in words.

February, 1902.

Postal Fiscal. Queen's Head design as above. Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 14. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. in London.

\$3, reddish mauve.

Forgeries

A forged copy of the current 20 cents stamps of Hong Kong was used on a registered parcel posted at the British Post Office in Shanghai in February, 1905. The stamp was lithographed upon unwatermarked paper, and was perforated about 11. Although by no means a perfect reproduction, it was a sufficiently close copy to deceive the postal authorities, and passed through their hands all unsuspected. The chief difference by which this forgery might be distinguished from the original was in the shading of the face, of which the lines are very broken and irregular, especially those indicating the hair and beard. There are also several minor defects in the frame, but on the whole the imitation is well calculated to deceive any but an expert, without very close examination. I know of only one copy of this forgery, which is, I believe, in the possession of Mr. W. C. Ginn, by whom I understand it was first detected. I have not heard of any of the other values being counterfeited.

(To be continued.)

Points for Beginners

By B. W. W.

Exchange or Sale of Duplicates

SOME energetic beginners have been asking as to the disposal of their duplicates, and one of them even as to his first collection, the notes as to "condition, etc." having upset his ideas as to the value of these stamps he had been accumulating. This is a rather ticklish task to give advice on, for any one looking at the catalogue sees that so many stamps are priced at one penny, so many at twopence, and so on, which make a pretty good show in the total. But the owners of these stamps often forget, and do not like to be reminded, that they began with a packet of 500 stamps which cost them only 5s. at most, though, if priced singly at only a penny each, these would work out as 40s. worth. Is it reasonable then to suppose that the whole lot may fetch half that amount, or say one pound sterling?

If inquirers would put themselves in the place of possible buyers, they would have to admit that others can buy at the same cheap rate, and are therefore unlikely to pay more just because the stamps are mounted in an album, which they will have the trouble of taking out to transfer to a new book. The dealer, too, who has sold the packet at first cannot be expected to buy them back, as he has hundreds of similar packets on hand, and bought most of the stamps wholesale for possibly 1s. per 1000, and had to pay assistants to sort them out and arrange for sale, to say nothing of shop rent or advertising.

Then, as to exchanging, which is the simplest method of doing this? We can suggest only that of personal acquaintances who may be glad to have a few of yours and to give corresponding value in stamps that you want. For the class of stamps referred to, it is of no use making up sheets or advertising to send on approval at 50 or 60 per cent below catalogue, nor is it likely to be of advantage to join a stamp club. If you have been able to spend a few pounds on big packets or remains of old collections of other people's, then there is a reasonable chance of getting a fair price for the duplicates on hand if they are in good condition, but never more than half catalogue, and it is only the experienced and thinking collectors that can judge of the chances of getting that price, because of the rule above stated as to original purchases by large buyers. Some twenty years ago, I was in the habit of buying mixed stamps of particular countries to obtain a variety of shades of each value, at prices between 6d. and 1s. 6d. per 100. Many of the remains of those lots, now stowed away

and almost forgotten, will probably fetch 3d. to 1s. each, as they became obsolete very soon after purchase, but others may be as cheap now as then in wholesale lots.

Watermarks and Perforations

A few words as to these should be of interest even to the youngest collector, as it is from the study of these, with details as to designs, paper, etc., that the mere collector advances to the philatelist, and understands the reasons for some of the great variations in value of what may seem at first sight common stamps. There is always the chance of coming across some of the scarce watermarks or perforations in odd lots bought at an auction or some out-of-the-way place, though the beginner need not trouble to buy them specially. From the very first the English postal authorities saw the possibility of loss through forgery or imitation of the simple black stamps they were preparing for public use in May, 1840, and so they had a special paper made with a small design about quarter of a square inch in size, supposed to represent a Crown, impressed in the paper pulp during its manufacture into sheets. The pressure of the wire patterns makes the paper thinner, and so the design shows as a semi-transparency when held up to a strong light; but after the stamp design has been printed on in coloured ink the strong lines of the engraving may come across the wiremark (usually called watermark now), and make it difficult of recognition to a novice. Very often the pattern shows better on the back if wetted, or, in obstinate cases, it may be seen more plainly by being soaked in benzine, especially if laid on a black or dark surface. The benzine does not affect the printing injuriously, which water may in some cases in these days of chalky papers and fugitive inks.

This Crown pattern was changed slightly about 1853, and again soon after to a larger device more like one's idea of the shape of a crown, which has since gone through two other outlines. The first halfpenny stamp was a small oblong, half the size of the other values, and had for its special watermark "half penny" in script letters across every three stamps, so that only three or four of the letters appear on each stamp. For some higher values various patterns were made, such as V R for the first embossed sixpenny stamp, three varieties of a Garter and Buckle, a Spray of Rose, an Orb with Cross, and a very small pattern composed of four "Emblems," one near each corner of the stamp,

supposed to represent the rose, shamrock, and histle of the three main divisions of the United Kingdom. There are also three forms of Anchors. Various sizes of five or six pointed Stars were used for India and most of the issues of the smaller colonies, settling down of late into a Crown over C C for Crown Colonies, the letters being subsequently changed to CA for Crown Agents. The larger possessions had various devices, but none at all for the stamps of Canada.

The study of perforations is not a very engrossing one, unless it be so to the very advanced philatelists, because for all practical purposes it has been simplified into a question of measurements, not by a two-foot rule, but by printed or engraved gauges, to give the number of half-circles in the space of two centimetres or twenty millimetres. Among some of the early collectors in this country the fixing of such a space was looked upon as being simply a French fad, and consequently thoroughly un-English—why not make the testing gauge to a British inch? The method of measuring these perforations was introduced by a noted French philatelist, known to fame as Dr.

Legrand, but the basis of it was the width of a particular stamp, which being originally made in this country, was therefore English. It may—in fact it *must*—have been accidental or unintentional that our first penny stamp was the width it is, being about four-fifths of an inch, but the French adopted exactly the same size nine years later, which turned out to be exactly two centimetres in width, or the fiftieth part of the French metre, which is a little over our British yard measure. In this way the English stamp fixed the standard; but the reader may not know that it was not until 1852 that the method of separating stamps by perforating them with small holes was perfected by Mr. Henry Archer for use by steam machinery. The number of holes at first was sixteen to the width of a stamp, but was changed to fourteen shortly after; and as these perforated stamps had both the Small and the Large Crown watermark, it is easy to see that the relative rarity of the combinations affects the prices asked for particular specimens, unused copies varying between 4s. and £8 each.

(To be continued.)

“Be United, United, United”

The Stamps of the German States, 1849-1870

By J. CORNER-SPOKES

AMONG the most historical of a philatelist's treasures are those which tell of the gradual union of the great “Fatherland.” These stamps come under just twenty headings in our albums, and are of very great interest, though by a large number they seem to be looked upon with scorn. However, the day of the despised European is fast approaching, as witness the rapidity with which the great “Mann” Collection was dispersed; and those who now invest, even to a small extent, in the stamps of the German States, used or unused, will without doubt reap the benefit very soon.

But to pass on to the stamps themselves. They are all obsolete, with one solitary exception. This is **Bavaria**, which led the way by the introduction of prepayment by means of stamps in 1849, a year when several other European Powers copied the example set by Great Britain, and through thick and thin Bavaria has stuck to her stamps, and to-day holds a record which cannot be beaten in the whole world of never, from that day to this, having issued a single adhesive postage stamp beyond what was absolutely necessary, and, moreover, never a surcharge.

This example was followed in 1850 by four more States—**Hanover, Prussia, Saxony,**

and **Schleswig-Holstein**, one of these, Prussia, forming another excellent example of a junior's country. There are but five small sets of cheap stamps, but if he looks about carefully he can find shades which catalogue up to a good figure. Saxony is a moderately cheap country on the whole, but there are several scarce stamps which rather spoil it from a beginner's point of view. Much the same may be said of Hanover, though for a small outlay it is possible to make a good show in one's collection. Schleswig-Holstein is hardly suitable for any but an experienced philatelist.

1851 brought the appearance of two new States—**Baden and Wurtemberg**. The former is another ideal country for the beginner, that is if he omits the one rarity, 9 kr. of 1851, printed in error on green paper, of which, by the way, a friend has recently shown me a most dangerous fake made from the 6 kr. with portions of the centre cut out and carefully replaced; the only test was boiling water (rather risky when £100 is at stake), which brought to light lines where the stamp had been meddled with; but the stamp had been so carefully faked, and placed under such strong pressure, that though this “trial by hot water”—such

a favourite among judges of former days—revealed the secret, the sections remained fast together. Wurtemberg is likewise a fine country, although there are a few stamps which are rather hard to get.

In 1852 Brunswick, Oldenburg, and Thurn and Taxis opened their accounts with philatelists. The first of these is another of the same class as Saxony and Hanover; the second, Oldenburg, is a most difficult country, and a particular favourite among the "Great Moguls"; while Thurn and Taxis numbers among the finest countries in the world, or at any rate in Europe. They were issued under a postal monopoly held by the princes of Thurn and Taxis, and comprise the northern and southern districts, over which this monopoly extended, the former having their values expressed in silbergroschen, the latter in kreuzer.

1855-9 brought Bremen, Hamburg, and Mecklenburg-Schwerin—all excellent countries for the specialist, but beyond the average beginner. Hamburg is the easiest of these if cut down, but there are so many pitfalls in the way of forgeries, reprints, and forged postmarks that care should be taken to purchase from reliable firms only.

Lubeck and Bergedorf appeared in 1859 and 1861 respectively. The former is a moderately good country for beginners if watermark varieties and the error of lettering are omitted; but Bergedorf, though small, is not easy.

The year 1864 saw two separations; the first was that of the Mecklenburgs, which caused an issue for Mecklenburg-Strelitz; while the second was between Schleswig and Holstein, each now issuing separate stamps; all of which, except Schleswig, are rather beyond the junior.

In 1868 a number of the States in the northern part of Germany amalgamated their postal service under the title of the North German Confederation. Its issues are not of great beauty, but that is not a matter of great importance, since they are a most interesting and inexpensive series, consisting of two sets, one rouletted, the other perforated.

In 1870 all the States of this group, with the exceptions of Wurtemberg (which only ceased in 1901) and Bavaria (which still stands alone as a relic of past glory with its separate stamps), all became united as the German Empire, commencing a new heading under which come some most interesting stamps. These do not, however, come within the scope of this article, which is but a brief review of the stamps of those States which are now united in the formation of the great and prosperous empire of Kaiser Wilhelm II.

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.

Acrostic Competition

THE correct solution of No. 7 Acrostic (25 April) is:—

P	eriodica	L
H	and	I (cap)
I	nteres	T
L	eth	E
A	dvice	R
T	og	A
E	xplici	T
L	ie	U
I	ntege	R
C	armin	E

Three marks are credited to Aei, Algy, Argonaut, F. W. A., Bar, Beyond, Birdie, Cadi, Chicken, Capt. Clarke, W. G. Cochran, Hawk, J. R. H., W. T. B., H. A. Harvey, Jaguar, F. A. J., Kappa, Kasaj, Lotus, J. C. Luker, Mascot, M. M., A. Mackay, A. M. Marsh, H. Metcalf, Old Girl, Oudeis, C. V. O'Neil, Pen, Pharaoh, Psi, A. H. P., A. B. Paterson, S. B. R., Roy, Seabee, Siwol, M. S. C. S., H. A. Spowart, A. St. John, Tasman, Tea, Taffy, M. C. Tancock, Ubique, Upton, Vox, and J. Walker.

Two marks to Adv, Brigida, Carl, Crofter, H. Chapman, F. D., T. F. G., Hiz, Jap, Mot, E. F. H. S., E. Schilizzi, E. H. Shears, Tertius, Thistle, Timbre, P. Talagrand, and Zimpa.

One mark to Anona, Cromlix, W. F. Godwin, Jud, G. Murray, and O. R. R.

For No. 6: Gingi, three marks.

Notes.—There is a greater percentage of correct answers, and "exact" has been admitted as fairly fitting for No. 7, though not so precise as "explicit." Cerise is also accepted as a red (though to a collector the word carmine should be better known as a stamp colour), as also another word for another light; but we cannot agree to two distinct words like "Philatelic Journal" for the first simple *single* word that is our general rule. If a good dictionary is consulted it will be found that some words sent, which seem plausible, do not fit correctly.

BEN.

On Postmarks

By D. C. G.

IT is curious that much less attention is paid to varieties and types of postmark by English than by Continental collectors.

With the exception of the postmarks on the stamps of Great Britain itself, few English collectors appear to take any heed of the varieties of postmark which may be found on the stamps of many countries.

No special collection of almost any of the earlier stamp-issuing countries is really complete unless it contains stamps showing the typical varieties of postmark which exist on that country's stamps.

It may perhaps be conceded that the collection of unused stamps of a country is a higher form of collecting than the gathering together of the same stamps in used condition. At the same time, in the majority of cases used stamps are considerably cheaper than the corresponding stamps unused, and while a collection of a country's stamps in unused condition may soon run into hundreds of pounds, the same stamps in used condition may cost only the same number of pence. This fact, of course, appeals to the average collector who can spend only a limited amount per annum upon his stamp collection.

Further, used stamps have an interest all their own. While a used stamp with a clear light postmark, which leaves untouched the centre of the design, is of course to be preferred to a heavily obliterated specimen, the postmark itself is of interest very often quite apart from the stamp.

In many countries in the beginning of their postal history the officials responsible for the working of the post office spent a great deal of care and thought over the cancellation of the stamps of their country.

It is known that with regard to the stamps of our own country the postal officials made numerous experiments in their endeavour to find the most suitable and effective form of cancellation. Their attention was directed not only to the actual shape of the postmark, but to the ink in which it was to be impressed and to the colour of that ink.

The earliest obliteration on the penny black stamp was the red Maltese Cross. It was soon found, however, that the postmark impressed in the red ink could be cleaned off more or less perfectly, and so black ink was tried instead.

The black ink, however, as might have been foreseen, did not show up well on the black stamp, and so the colour of the stamp was changed to red.

It was found convenient that the date should be shown in the postmark on the stamp itself, and so the "duplex" postmark was introduced, which consisted of a number surrounded by bars adjacent to a circular postmark containing the name of the place and the date. At the present time, with few exceptions, all modern postmarks contain the name of the place of posting and the date.

A postmark may of course be of interest, either intrinsically or simply because it shows that the stamp on which it appears was used for some special purpose.

Under the last head comes the class of stamps which have recently attained a considerable vogue, namely, "British stamps used abroad." Apart from the postmark the stamps have no special interest, being the ordinary British stamps current at the time.

The best plan in a short paper like the present seems to be briefly to point out the countries on whose stamps the most interesting postmarks appear, and to give a few details about each.

The postmarks of our country, as already mentioned, are collected by specialists in the stamps of Great Britain, and are pretty well known, and quotations for them are to be found in some dealers' lists.

The Maltese Cross exists in several distinct varieties, and is found impressed in red, black, and blue. It is also said to exist in green and white, and this is possible, although probably such a colour is only due to the discoloration of the black or red ink.

The Maltese Cross is also found with the Nos. 1 to 12 in its centre.

There are also numerous types to be found of all the later postmarks of Great Britain down to the machine bar cancellation which has been brought into use during the last few years, not only in London, but in many of the larger towns of Great Britain.

Among the British Colonies there may be found not a few interesting varieties of cancellation. The triangular Cape of Good Hope stamps are usually found obliterated with a postmark composed of an arrangement of black bars in the form of a triangle with a square space in the middle and with the letters "C G H" in the three corners. Another type of postmark is similar in form, but without the letters "C G H" in the corners. Occasionally the triangular stamps may be found obliterated with a circular postmark containing the name of the place and date of posting. A later type of obliteration consisted of a large upright oval with from

twelve to eighteen bars across it horizontally, with a centre square containing the numbers of the different post offices.

Again, a not uninteresting series of obliterations occurs on the stamps of Hong Kong. The following are the most prominent types. The commonest type on the earlier stamps is the "B 62" postmark. This at first appeared as an oval, measuring outside approximately 17×22 mm., the number being about 6 mm. in height. Later this postmark was altered in size, measuring approximately 18×21 mm. outside, with the number nearly 7 mm. high. A third type is of practically the same dimensions, but the letter and figures are thicker and not so well formed, the "2" having a very flat top.

The next type of postmark was similar, but (probably by mistake) read "62 B". It is larger in size, measuring approximately 21×26 mm. outside. A later type of cancellation is similar to the last, but reads "B 62" and not "62 B".

A further series of cancellations existing on Hong Kong stamps consists of a letter and a number within bars. The letter and number vary, each combination of letters and numbers representing a different treaty port.

Later postmarks contain the name of the place of posting and the date.

A postmark to look out for on Hong Kong stamps is that of Wei-hai-wei, impressed in violet ink.

For fuller details as to the postmarks of Hong Kong the reader may well turn to the interesting article in Vol. II of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*.

Another colony upon whose stamps a variety of interesting cancellations appears (particularly upon the first issue of 1854) is India.

On this issue the following prominent varieties of postmark appear:—

A diamond-shaped grille composed of black dots.

A rhomboid-shaped grille made up of lines, both with and without a number in the centre.

A variety of this type of postmark is similar, but has also the letter "C" (Calcutta) above the number.

Another prominent type of obliteration consists of five octagons within one another with the letter "B" (Bombay) above a numeral or numerals in the centre. It should be noted that occasionally the first type of postmark mentioned above may be found impressed in red or in blue.

On the later issues of India also some rather curious postmarks occur, e.g. a number within a square which is in turn within a circle, or a large letter within bars, etc.

It is worthy of note that the stamps of

India may be found with the postmark of Aden, Berbera (Somaliland), various places in British East Africa, Zanzibar (previous to the surcharged stamps), Lhasa (during the war with Thibet), and other Asiatic towns outside India.

The Indian Native States stamps not infrequently have curious cancellations, which sometimes very much deface the stamp.

The "Sydney View" stamps of New South Wales are found with the "Butterfly" postmark of Victoria, and are interesting in that condition, although it is extremely doubtful that these stamps were really used provisionally in Victoria.

The postmarks of New Zealand and Tasmania are mainly of use as helping to fix the respective dates of use of the earlier issues of the two colonies. It is remarkable how rarely early New Zealand stamps have the date upon them, and the circumstance is to be accounted for by the fact that the date was usually only impressed upon the letter, and not on the stamp itself.

Various forms of cancellation are to be found on the stamps of the Niger Coast. A small circular dated postmark is perhaps the commonest; another type is a circle containing the name of the place and the date with lines so arranged as to form a square round the circle.

A rather scarce postmark which exists on the British stamps surcharged "Oil Rivers," and, presumably, also on some of the later issues of the Niger Coast, is a postmark consisting of two concentric circles with the name of the place—e.g. Benin—across the centre. This was almost if not quite invariably impressed in red ink, and appears to have been used only upon articles dispatched by parcel post.

It is perhaps worthy of mention that the Queen's Head issue of Northern Nigeria was at first often cancelled in pen and ink, as but few of the inland towns were supplied with regular obliterators until some time after the stamps had been put into use.

The earliest obliteration used in Sarawak consisted of the letter "S" within a diamond-shaped grille of black bars, somewhat similar in appearance to one type of the early Indian postmarks. All the later stamps, however, are cancelled with an ordinary circular obliteration.

The stamps of Seychelles were at first obliterated with a postmark consisting of a letter and a number. This obliteration often rather defaces the stamp; but it would appear that this type of postmark was never used for the obliteration of the stamps of the colony "to order" in sheets. Consequently this postmark is conclusive as to the stamp which bears it having genuinely passed the post.

Specialism

By R. E. R. DALWICK

(Continued from page 238.)

SERVIA.—This is not a country I should advise a beginner to take up, as the early stamps are forged to a great extent, and there are, at least, two quite dangerous counterfeits on the market. I do not want to put intending specialists off this country for this reason, as all genuine originals can be purchased from good firms; but I am inclined to think that these stamps are never likely to show any advance in rarity to their present position. The Viennese and Servian prints of Issue I are exceptions to this rule, but I should think the *only* exceptions.

Spain.—This country is very popular among collectors of the more wealthy class, as it boasts among its earliest issues several stamps of comparative and a few of great rarity. The execution of the various heads on these primitive stamps is certainly most ludicrous, the faces reminding one most forcibly of early Dutch art. In spite of these odd "caricatures" the stamps themselves are attractive, and possess many good and interesting qualities. The 3 cuartos, bronze, and the 2 reales, red, of the early issues, are rare stamps and much sought after by specialists. Going ahead, taking the various issues in chronological order, it is to be noted that the designs and portraits on the stamps gradually begin to take the shape and form of human beings. Early Spanish stamps are not flattering to their rulers. There are a good number of issues of Spain, and a great variety of stamps when all shades, perms., etc. are included in a collection. The issues, however, although numerous, are fairly straightforward, which doubtless has secured for Spain so many keen and hard-working philatelists. A good large collection can be amassed with very small outlay, if the collector can rest content with the thought that he lacks all the rare-bits. Like most countries at present, Spain does not want to be behindhand in a commemorative issue, so we are introduced to a queer set of "Quixote Commemorative" stamps. Good luck to the 10 peseta!

Sweden, like its near neighbour Norway, is full of interest. The first lot of stamps have a quaint appearance, although in reality they consist of only a coat-of-arms with a kind of netted background. Several of these stamps in mint condition are rare and require hard searching out, whilst even a few are fairly rare in the used state. Sweden possesses hardly any minor varieties, and must in this respect appeal to those collec-

tors who revolt at the hundred and one minor varieties which are included in an up-to-date catalogue. The next lot of stamps have numerals in the centre, which in turn are superseded by stamps bearing a portrait of their King. The designs, although very plain, are not ugly, as they show skill in execution. The portrait series is an exceedingly handsome set, produced in good strong colours, which run into a small collection of shades. The chief difficulty in searching out Swedish stamps is to find well-centred specimens, several of which are very hard to obtain. The rich specialist will find many good and scarce stamps among the early issues, while his poorer friends can get nearly every stamp in a used condition at quite a small outlay.

Switzerland.—This is a genuinely good country in every respect, although the beginner cannot hope to get hold of many of the Local Town postage stamps, which appeared in various towns, prior to the regular stamps of Switzerland proper. The greater majority of the stamps of Basle, Geneva, Zurich, etc., are very rare and seldom met with. Perhaps the most popular of these early stamps is the "Double Geneva"—which if complete is worth, used, about £50. This, however, is not by any means the only high-priced stamp of Switzerland, as both the 4 rappen of Zurich and the 4 centimes Geneva of 1849 are very rare. When we come to the stamps issued between 1854 and 1862, we first note two prints, manufactured respectively at Munich and Berne. On further examination we find seven distinct colours in the silk thread which passes through the back of every stamp belonging to this issue. To collect a representative lot of these "silk-threads" is no easy matter, as they all vary in price. None of these stamps are particularly hard to obtain used, but several are very rarely seen in unused condition. Perhaps the stamps with the blue silk thread may be considered to be the best—at least in used condition. After 1862 the same type of design is used, although altered considerably in detail and possessing no silk threads. Instead of silk threads there was next instituted a series of perforated stamps with impressed watermark. The remaining issues have no special interest, apart from the fact that they are printed on, in some cases, wove, and in others granite paper. The Jubilee Commemoration stamps are curious productions of art (?). Some of the Unpaid Letter stamps are good unused.

Turkey is a large and complicated country, although by no means very expensive in most issues. This certainly is no country for the beginner to attempt, as the Turkish characters and symbols on these stamps are very hard to understand. It is much more profitable—in the long run—for the specialist to start at least with a country which bears nothing more complicated in the way of writing or inscriptions than plain English or, at the worst, numerals in intelligible shape. Turkey must have the pull over most countries, as I am sure there are fewer specialists in Turkish stamps than in other countries, simply on account of the un-

intelligible writing which appears on these stamps. As regards shades, Turkey is well supplied, in fact, so well supplied that one may almost say Turkey has the greatest number of shades of any country in Europe! About complicated countries of this description little is known, and so the specialist has to gain knowledge by his own experience. Several well-known specialists make a point of collecting such countries, as Turkey, Afghanistan, Nepal, Japan, etc., because there is not that great competition so noticeable among very popular countries. To many collecting it is true joy to be "far from the madding crowd."

(To be continued.)

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

The Labrador Company

THE following letter has been received by *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* :—

I have the honour to enclose you a set of three unused stamps that have just been issued by "The Labrador Company," of American origin: they are intended to frank letters and parcels both to and from Labrador.

The said Company have received a Charter from the Governments of the United States and Newfoundland to develop the country, on the condition that a postal service to various parts of Labrador is kept in operation during the navigable season.

Therefore the Company has issued postage stamps of 3 cents, 25 cents, and 1 dollar; the latter value is intended for use only on parcels and registered matter, and will only be made use of by the postal officials of the Company.

Our contemporary goes on to state the stamps are absolutely hideous, and are badly printed in very unsuitable colours: the 5 c. portrays a seal; the 25 c., an Esquimaux; and the \$1 bears a faint resemblance to a map.

Later on we hope to be able to give further particulars about this "Company," but its chief object appears to be exploitation of collectors. We hope that none of our readers will be tempted to buy this bogus rubbish.

Brown Gum and White Gum

AN ingenious explanation of the *raison d'être* of brown and white gum on the 3 c., crimson, first issue, of Danish West Indies is put forward by *Le Journal des Philatelistes*.

It is said that the first consignment of stamps sent by the Home Government to the authorities of St. Thomas was considerably damaged by sea-water, the sheets being all stuck together on arrival. They were

therefore carefully soaked in water, but this proceeding removed all the gum, so there was nothing for it but to regum them locally. Two chemists of Ste. Croix, Messrs. Rüse and F. Benzon, were entrusted with this task; but the former made use of a perfectly pure gum, while the latter used a somewhat inferior preparation. This is said to be the real reason why two shades of gum exist on this stamp!

Imperf. Swiss 25 c.

ACCORDING to several foreign contemporaries, a certain engraver of Geneva has placed on the market a quantity of the 25 centimes with large figures in an *imperf. forate* condition. These stamps are absolutely unauthorized, and were made from a plate that had been submitted to the Swiss Government, but which had been refused. Proceedings are being taken in Switzerland against the author of this fraud, and meanwhile I would caution my readers against these stamps.

Attempted Suicide of a Collector

A CERTAIN small shopkeeper of Buda-Pesth named Raab has just endeavoured to commit suicide by hanging himself in his own doorway by means of a hook and some rope; luckily his sorry condition, six inches from the floor, was noticed by his daughter, who immediately cut him down before it was too late. Raab wrote a letter before making the attempt, explaining the reason for his action.

It appears that the good man was well provided with olive branches—as a matter of fact there were thirteen of them; what an unlucky number!—he was an enthusiastic collector of postage stamps (as also of olive branches), and apparently made a speciality of Switzerland, for there was a certain stamp

that he had desired for many years. He had even gone so far as to ask the price of a well-known firm of dealers in Leipzig, and he had been told that it was 480 marks (£24). For four long years Raab stinted himself of food and tobacco (but not beer!), and although his olive branches continued to grow in numbers they were mere twigs as regards size. At last he managed to save the necessary amount, which he promptly forwarded to Leipzig. Alas for his short-lived joy, he received back *not* the coveted

stamp, but a communication to the effect that it had appreciated in value and now cost 750 marks (£37. 10s.)! Poor man! This last straw was too great, and as it did not break his back, he did his best to break his neck! Without a word he crept about his daily task until Saturday afternoon; then he sent his wife and thirteen children out for their weekly libation, and tried to make away with himself. He is now in durance vile, but his numerous family are rejoicing to hear that he has given up collecting.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 381 Strand, London, W.C.

Costa Rica.—*Champion's Bulletin* (25.4.08) chronicles the whole of the 1907 issue, overprinted for official use, with the word OFICIAL. We only illustrate four values; the remaining illustrations will be found in the Addendum to our .908 Catalogue.

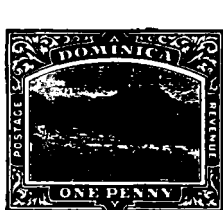


OFICIAL

OFFICIAL STAMPS. Overprinted as above, in black. Unused. Used.

	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., indigo and chestnut-brown	—	—
2 c., black and yellow-green	—	—
4 c., indigo & carmine-red on toned	—	—
5 c., " orange-buff	—	—
10 c., black and blue	—	—
20 c., slate and olive	—	—
25 c., myrtle and lavender	—	—
50 c., indigo-blue & reddish lilac	—	—
1 col., black and sienna	—	—
2 ,, myrtle and claret	—	—

Dominica.—Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen informs us that he has just received the three higher values on multiple-watermarked, chalk-surfaced paper.



9

10

Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Chalky paper. Perf. 14. Unused. Used.

	s. d.	s. d.
2s., black and purple (9)	—	—
2s. 6d., grey-green and maize (9)	—	—
5s., black and brown (10)	—	—

French P.O.'s in Levant.—Under Nos. T 30 and T 31 in our Catalogue we chronicle a 25 c. and a 50 c., without surcharge, both for use in the French offices of Abyssinia. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. now inform us that, in addition to these two values, they have the 1 fr., similarly unsurcharged.

Our correspondents also refer to a note on page 285 of this paper re postage in Abyssinia. They tell us that they cannot believe the statement that letters from Adis-Ababa to England have hitherto cost *six shillings*. They say that the proper rate is 2 guerches (about 5d.) for the inland postage, and in addition 25 centimes for the overseas postage.



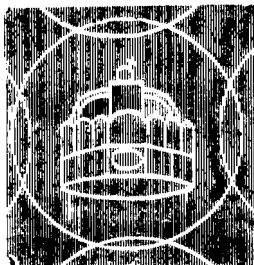
Without surcharge.

Unused. Used.

1 fr., lake and yellow-green

Hungary.—In our Catalogue we list the Postage Due set of Hungary (Nos. 301 to 309), but we do not state that these stamps have the watermark Type 6, which we illustrate below. Mr. W. T. Wilson now shows us 5 and 50 filler, watermark Type 9, with the same perforation, 11½, 12, as before.

Also, in the Addendum to the Catalogue, we chronicle three values—the 6, 10, and 20 filler, perforated 15; these should be described as having the watermark Type 9; Mr. Wilson adds to these latter two more values, the 2 and 12 filler.



6



31



9

POSTAGE DUES. Type 21. Figures in the centre, in black. Wmk. Type 6. Perf. 11½, 12

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 f., green	—	—
50 f., "	—	—

Note.—Cancel Nos. 313, 314, and 316 in the Addendum to the Catalogue, and substitute as follows:—

As above, but wmk. Type 9. Perf. 15.

2 f., green	—	—
6 f., "	—	—
10 f., "	—	—
12 f., "	—	—
20 f., "	—	—

Japan.—In our issue of 11 April we referred to a 5 yen and a 10 yen stamp under the heading of Corea, as a correspondent led us to believe that these two stamps were issued solely for use in Corea. In last week's issue, under "Foreign Notes," the stamps were referred to at greater length, but as we have not yet formally chronicled them, we now do so.

Portrait of Empress Jingō. Perf. 12.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 yen, green	—	—
10 " deep lilac	—	—

Paraguay.—Our agent in Paraguay continues to keep us well supplied with provisionals; we have just received no less than four Official

stamps, all overprinted as illustrated below for use as postage stamps. The curious part about this business is that the stamps used for overprinting have never been issued for use without the overprint, at least in the colours in which they now appear! Could any reader give us any explanation of this curious state of affairs?



Habilitado
en
5
CENTAVOS

Official stamps, overprinted in black for postal use. Perf. 11½, 12.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c. on 10 c., bistre	0 2	—
5 c. on 30 c., blue	0 2	—
5 c. on 60 c., chestnut	0 2	—
5 c. on 60 c., chocolate	0 2	—

Queensland.—In our issue of 7 March we referred to a new issue of postage stamps, of which we have now received specimens.

It appears that Queensland are having a new design of the Crown and single-lined A watermark; the Crown is altogether rounder, and is quite separate from the "A." This new watermark must not be confused with the Crown and single-lined A of the Australian Commonwealth and New South Wales. Unfortunately, in the Catalogue, as Type 29, we illustrate the latter watermark, instead of the former, the new one. To remove all doubt we would make it quite clear that in every Queensland stamp described as being watermarked Crown and single-lined A, the new watermark illustrated below is intended; this remark applies equally to the four high values—2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and £1, chronicle; in the Catalogue as Nos. 229, 230, and 231, and also in our issue of 14 March; all these four stamps have the new watermark, Crown and single-lined A, twice sideways.

The perforating of the new issue is also worthy of comment; it is done by a comb-machine, gauging exactly 13, which is apparently always started on the left-hand side of the sheet; it is worked across the sheet vertically from left to right, so that the left-hand margin is unperforated, while the right-hand margin shows horizontal lines of perforation. The top and bottom margins are perforated to within a quarter of an inch of the edge in each case.

Referring again to the four high values, three of which are catalogued under the numbers above, we are now able to state that the perforating was the work of a single-line machine, gauging from 12½ to 13.

The sheets of the new issue are still composed of 120 stamps, twelve horizontal rows of ten, and they bear a serial number, in black, in the bottom right-hand corner. By the way, the margins of the sheet are unwatermarked; a single line of the watermark shows right round the sheet, and ought to correspond with the outside lines of perforation.

It is probable that a 6d. green also exists as the set chronic ed below, but we have not seen a copy yet, so we do not list it.



Wmk. Crown and single-lined A. Perf. 13 (comb-machine).

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., deep yellow-green	0 1	—
1d., vermilion	0 2	—
1d., ultramarine	0 3	—
4d., yellow	—	—

N.B.—The prices quoted above are those at which the stamps may be had from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Correspondence

A Great Rarity

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

SIR,—In reply to "F. W. A.'s" letter in No. 168, I perhaps should have added the word "vertical." The type of the lower five stamps next the margin shifted to the left, not to the right. This is clear, as it had to be readjusted to the right, so that the "One" should come on the stamp, printed over the "cent" already there. "F. W. A.'s" copy may be the one issued in the second printing that I quote as having been lost sight of. If, on the other hand, "F. W. A.'s" copy has only the word "cent" where the "One" should be, and a space after it where the "cent" should be, then this is a copy not yet known, where the fault was not discovered by the native compositor or those who checked the issue. There should then be at least four more like "F. W. A.'s."

I should be very interested to hear if "F. W. A.'s" copy has the type readjusted or not.

Yours truly,

R. E. JAMES.

21 April.

British New Guinea

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—Since writing my notes on the stamps of British New Guinea, I have seen blocks of the 2½d., 1s., and 2s. 6d. stamps with the second Papuan overprint, which form additions to my list. The blocks, I understand, came over in a recent consignment of Messrs. Ewen's, the 1s. and 2s. 6d. belonging to the first printing. Add, therefore, "surcharged 'Papua,' Type II, 1s., 2s. 6d., first printing." The 2½d. comes on thin paper in two shades—one a deep blue, the other ultramarine; but as the paper in both instances is identical and the wmk. sideways, in my opinion both shades belong to the same printing. In my notes I placed this variety, provisionally, under the third printing.

I wrote in January last to New Guinea for information as to the dates when stamps were received from London, but have not yet heard in answer to my letter.

Yours truly,

R. ANTHROBUS.

4 May.

Answers to Correspondents

H. P. E. (Kensington).—(1) Your Cyprus 6 p. is a very clever forgery. (2 and 3) These are Cyprus fiscals; they were never authorized to be used as postage stamps, and therefore are not catalogued. No doubt some were postmarked by favour. (4) These are printer's proofs. We have some scores in our reference collection, which you can see at 391 Strand when you are next passing this way. (5 and 6) Very distinct blueing on face, not so marked at back; interesting to a specialist, but not marked enough to catalogue. (7 and 8) Both postmarks are blue. (9) We do not value stamps, but refer you to our publishers' Catalogue for their selling price. (10) The watermark is Crown and N S W.

H. T. L. S. (Bexhill).—The Indian stamps you mention are referred to in a foot-note in our 1908

Catalogue, Part I, p. 104. They are for fiscal purposes only. Kindly note that we do not publish *The Captain*, and that Mr. Nankivell is not connected with our firm.

R. J. R. (Reading).—The set of Turkey stamps you inquire about is chronicled in *G. S. W.* for 25 April last.

A. C. J. (Brighton?).—Many thanks for note about Tonga. You are quite right, and we will make necessary alteration in next edition of the Catalogue.

E. E. (Seaford).—The Indian stamp you mention is postmarked; there is no surcharge similar to that you sketch. The 1d. British, with letter "U" joined at top, is probably due to over-inking. It is not worth noting.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 21
Whole No. 177

23 MAY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Congo, including Gaboon and Middle Congo



FRENCH CONGO in Equatorial Africa extends along the Atlantic coast between the German colony of Cameroon and the territories of the Congo Free State, with the exception of the Spanish territory near the Muni River, and to a vast extent inland.

The foundation of French Congo dates back to the French settlements on the Gaboon River about 1838, while its immense territorial development is due to the patient

exploration and enlightened administration of Savorgnan de Brazza since 1875.

As can be gathered from some of the names, e.g. Cape Lopez, Fernand Vaz, etc., the first European visitors were the Portuguese, who had settlements on the Gaboon (Portuguese "Gabao" or "Cabin") as early as the sixteenth century. The French established themselves in the district to provide a refitting station for the fleet engaged in the suppression of the slave trade.

In 1849 the captain of the *Bouet Willaumez* founded Libreville as a home for some freed slaves, hence its name. A Roman Catholic mission was quickly established and proved an efficient factor in the work of French civilization.

Explorations of Paul du Chaillu, Serval, and Genayer from 1850 to 1867 gave fuller knowledge of the Gaboon basin; Marche Compiègne and Bally continued the work which, from 1875 onwards, Brazza pushed almost to the Congo basin.

Since 1890 continued explorations have extended the colony to the north-east as far as the Chad basin, where it forms continuous territory with the French sphere in Central Sudan, and it is continuous further east with the Anglo-Egyptian condominium. In 1889 the name of the colony was changed from Gaboon to French Congo.

Its area is about three and a quarter times that of France, or about 680,000 square miles, and it contains a population of about fifteen millions of negro and other races.

By decree of 15 February, 1906, French Congo is divided into four administrations, of which three are colonies and one a territory. The colonies are Gabon (Gaboon), capital Libreville; Moyen Congo (Middle Congo), capital Brazzaville; and Ubangi-Shari, capital Fort-de-Possel. The Chad district is administered as a territory, but possibly will soon be formed into a separate colony. All three colonies have financial and administrative autonomy, but with the Chad territory are under a Commissioner-General of the Congo. There is a general budget for the whole Congo as well as separate budgets for the colonies, but the revenue, derived mainly from customs duties, is much below the expenditure, and in 1907 French Congo cost the mother country some £13,000.

The forests contain valuable woods, and rubber is collected, whilst Europeans successfully grow coffee, vanilla, and cocoa. The mineral resources include gold, copper, and iron; but the trade of the colony is undeveloped, mainly through want of means of communication.

Libreville has always been a burden on the French administration, the trade of the Gaboon having been captured by English and other foreign traders whose factories are at Glass, near by.

Loango, an historic seaport, the capital of the old Congo empire, is the natural outlet for the whole trade of Moyen Congo. It has safe and easy landing facilities, and when the projected railway to Brazzaville is built, should be an important trade centre.

The people—mere remnants of conquered tribes—are but poor material for successful colonizing, and they are besides oppressed by the Fans or Pahouins, a robber tribe.

By reason of the latter the Ba-Kalai or Bakalois people, formerly skilled hunters, copper and iron workers, have been reduced to about 100,000. They rely now mainly on trade, and are the chief brokers and middlemen between foreign factories and inland producers.

Philatelic History

The philatelic history follows the geographical expansion. The first stamps used were those issued for the French Colonies generally, and before 1892, with the exception of provisionals, they can only be distinguished by the obliteration (see article recently in *G. S. W.* on general issues of French Colonies). From 1886 to 1889 various provisionals were created, which are listed under Gaboon. In 1891 and 1892 further provisionals appeared overprinted "Congo français," and at the end of 1892 the series in the "Navigation and Commerce" type inscribed CONGO FRANCAIS was issued.

Until 1904 the stamps used in the colony were all designated French Congo, but in this year Gaboon was re-created a separate colony and given a distinct set of stamps. In 1907 a set was issued for Middle Congo (Moyen Congo), so that at the present time three issues of stamps are current in French Congo, those inscribed with the generic name presumably being used for Oubangi-Shari colony and the Chad territory. Before long possibly this set will give way to two specially inscribed similarly to the sets issued for the component parts of French West Africa.

Taking the issues in chronological order, the first to be dealt with are those of

Gaboon

By reason of a shortage of several values, the Governor, by a decree dated 31 July, 1886, authorized the issue of several provisionals. The stamps surcharged were those of the colonial "Commerce" type, and the quantities of each are given in brackets. In addition to the new value the stamps were overprinted with the letters "G A B" surrounded by dots. The position of the figures and word varies for each value.



Aug., 1886. *Commerce type surcharged in black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 on 20 c., red on green (900)	25 0	25 0
10 on 20 c. " " (900)	25 0	—
25 on 20 c. " " (10,500)	4 0	—
50 on 15 c., blue . . (300)	—	—
75 on 15 c. " . . (300)	60 0	60 0

Until 1888 there was no occasion for more provisionals; but towards the end of this year and the commencement of 1889 two boats, the *Brave* and the *Violette*, bringing supplies of postage stamps, were lost, and in December the colony had no stamps in ordinary demand on hand except the 5 c. A decree of 28 December, 1888, authorized the conversion of 4000 stamps of 5 c. into 25 c. These stamps were not sold to the public, and were used exclusively for foreign postage. Letters for inland delivery were marked with figures to denote the postage paid.

In February, 1889, these 4000 stamps were exhausted and Governor Ballay, by decree of 7 February, ordered the creation of 1000 stamps of 25 c. from the 75 c., and 1200 of 15 c. from the 1 fr. These, similarly to the last lot, were only affixed to letters by the postal authorities.

Again, in accordance with a decree of 8 March, 1889, 800 stamps of 10 c. were surcharged "15" and 400 of the same value "25."



December, 1888-March, 1889. *Commerce type surcharged in black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
15 on 10 c., black on lilac .	—	—
15 on 1 fr., olive-green .	—	—
25 on 5 c., green .	15 0	15 0
25 on 10 c., black on lilac .	—	50 0
25 on 75 c., carmine .	—	—

Still no further supplies were received from home, and by the end of March, 1889, the stocks of postage stamps of all values were quite exhausted. Recourse was then had to Postage Due stamps, and the provisionals on these were authorized by decrees, 27 March, 16 April, and 1 May.

The total quantities of each value are given in brackets.



March May, 1889. *Colonial Postage Due stamps surcharged in black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
15 on 5 c., black (1500) .	12 0	15 0
15 on 30 c. " (250) .	—	—
25 on 20 c. " (4200) .	7 6	7 6

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

The Sectional Imperial Album

FIFTEEN sections of this new Album are now ready, the latest ones being—

Section 14. St. Kitts-Nevis, 4 pages, price 5d., post free.

Section 15. St. Lucia, 12 pages, price 8d., post free.

For full advertisements see page 6 of cover.

Boom in the Stamp Album Trade

THERE has certainly been a largely increased demand for stamp albums during the past six months, and some of our friends in the wholesale trade tell us that the inquiries for picture post-card albums are much decreased, and that a greatly increased demand exists for stamp albums.

This is borne out by our own sales. Early in the year we had to issue a new edition of

the oblong "Improved" Album; we have just finished printing a large edition of "Strand" albums, which will be on sale in about two weeks, and we are now printing a new edition of 25,000 of the "Improved." No. o. Two other albums are nearly sold out, and have to be reissued for the autumn, and it seems to me that this great demand for stamp albums is a remarkably good sign of vitality in the stamp business.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

No. 50. *Newfoundland, Value £1490. New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and British Columbia.*

A VERY fine book, especially strong in the early "pence" issues of each country, and also strong in blocks of four of choice stamps.

The following are worthy of note amongst the rarities:—

Newfoundland.

1857. In the *carmine-vermilion, unused*, the 2d., 6d., and 1s., this latter a grand stamp, large margins and full original gum. These three stamps are of almost equal rarity in equal condition.

In this issue there are some good bisections, including two half 8d.'s on letters and a superb half 1s. used for 6d.

In the *orange-vermilion* I note in unused two each of the 4d. and 6d., and two of the 1s. used.

British Columbia.

1861. 2½d., *imperf.*, a superb block of four, with side margin and inscription, also a single with margins.

1865. *Imperf.*, 5 c., rose, two with large margins, one being used on original envelope.

1865. *Perf.* Blocks of four of the 5 c. and 10 c.

1867. A nice lot in both *perfs.*, including a mint block of four of the rare \$1, *perf.* 14, but which has not yet been met with *used*.

New Brunswick.

An exceptionally fine lot of bisected stamps, mostly on original letters, amongst these being half a 1s. and half a 3d. used together to make up the 7½d. rate. This is one of the rarest recognized bisections in the North American group.

Amongst the ordinary stamps is a fine *unused* 1s. and good used shades.

The celebrated "Connell" is also here, and also three *imperf.* proofs in brown.

Nova Scotia.

A fine lot of the "pence" issue, including six of the 6d., green, and the 1s., rose-colour, all *unused*. Here there are also about a dozen bisections, mostly on whole letters.

In each country in this fine stock book there is a good lot of interesting die proofs, proofs and essays which are priced very moderately.

No. 82. Value £232.

Prince Edward Island.

A small book of a rather neglected country, but one I find very interesting, and well worthy of study in the shades, perforations, and numerous small plate varieties.

The 1861 issue, *perf.* 9, is well represented by twenty-five of the 2d., eleven of the 3d., and ten of the 6d.

The later issues very complete, many stamps *imperf.*, part *perf.*, in pairs and on letters. A feature is the bisections, including the following rarities:—

2d. and half of 2d. used as 3d. on whole letter.

3d. and half of 3d. used as 4½d.

Half of 4d. used as 2d. on letter.

Half of 9d., marked on stamp "4½d." in red and PAID in brown, used as 4½d., and very rare.

Half of 6 c. used as 3 c.

Half of 12 c. used as 6 c.

Nos. 79 and 208.

Value £524.

Luxemburg (2 vols.).

This country was formerly in one stock book, but with the amalgamation of the Mann-Castle and Breiffuss collections with our own stock, we have been able to fill two of the smaller stock books.

This is a fine lot of an interesting country, and one which is much collected on the Continent. Every issue is well represented. In the rare *unused* stamps of 1852 there are nine of the 10 c., black, and fifteen of the 1 sgr., in various colours.

The later issues are well represented, in many cases with fine blocks in mint condition.

The Official and S.P. stamps are well shown, and include a number of errors, etc.

Recent Purchases

DURING the past two weeks we have purchased quite a number of specialized collections, of some of which I will give a short account. The first one was a very fine collection, formed by a high official in Egypt, of

Egypt, Sudan, and Suez Canal.

The three countries were highly specialized; for instance, in Egypt, first issue, there were sets *unused* in shades, then sets showing various obliterations, then blocks of four and six, then *imperf.* sets with the wmk., including some used on parts of letters, then a number of pairs *imperf.* between, some of these being used. In the later issues there were *sheets* of many values.

In the "Unpaid" there was a sheet of 100 stamps of the 1884 5 piast. printed in error on the paper of the 2 piast. and having an inscription "2 piastre" in the upper margin.

In Suez there was an original and extremely rare set of the four values postally used.

The Sudan were a grand lot. The 1897 issue included full sheets of sixty each of all values up to the 10 piastre. The gem of the collection was a sheet of sixty of the rare 5 mils., rose, with *inverted overprint* (Cat. No. 9a).

Greece.

A very choice little collection, all *unused*, and including a very fine lot in blocks of four. This is being remounted in a separate stock book, as there is not room for the stamps in our new set of Greek stock books.

Sarawak.

A choice collection, including some whole sheets, among them being the 5 c., brown on yellow, of 1869.

Haiti.

A choice collection of the early issues, including a number of blocks of scarce values.

Niger Coast Protectorate.

A fine collection, especially strong in the provisionals of 1893, including rare colours

in the various overprints of the halfpennies, the 5s., 10s., etc. The issues of November, 1893, and May, 1894, are very strong both in shades and blocks of four.

Seychelles.

A specialized collection, a large number of rare blocks, and nearly all the errors in inverted and double surcharges, etc.

Special selections of these countries can be sent to advanced collectors.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—*continued*

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—*continued*

British Empire in India

INDIA is by far the largest and most important of all the British possessions. It comprises chiefly a large peninsula, lying in the extreme south of the Asiatic continent, together with several adjacent and quasi-independent native States and some small groups of islands in the Indian Ocean; whilst under the control of the Indian Government are Aden, Perim, and Socotra, and protectorates over the Bahrein Islands and various of the tribes dwelling on the shores of the Persian Gulf. The neighbouring self-governing States of Nepal, Bhutan, and Afghanistan are also under the political influence of the Indian Government.

The total area of British India, inclusive of the Native Protected States, but exclusive of Aden and the other protectorates, is said to be 1,766,642 square miles, with a population of over 294,361,056, one of the densest in the world.

From the earliest times there has always been a considerable trade carried on between India and the various commercial nations of Europe; consequently it was the aim of all early navigators to discover an ocean route to the East, by means of which this trade might be opened up and further extended, which previous to the discovery of this route had to be conducted by means of caravans. The honour of discovering this sea route belongs to Vasco da Gama, a Portuguese adventurer, who in 1498, having rounded the Cape of Good Hope, crossed the Indian Ocean, and arrived before Calicut, on the western coast of the Indian peninsula, on 20 May of that year.

From that time on until 1602, the Portu-

guese enjoyed a complete monopoly of Indian trade, and factories were established by them all along the Malabar and Malacca coasts, and also in Ceylon and the Maldivé Islands. At the commencement of the seventeenth century, however, there was formed in Holland an organization known as the Dutch East India Company, which set to work to gradually drive the Portuguese from all their holdings in the East, and finally succeeded in obtaining for a time entire control of the Indian trade. About the same time a similar company was formed in London, under the patronage of Queen Elizabeth, known as "The Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading to the East Indies," or, for short, the London East India Company. As might be expected there was the keenest rivalry between the two companies, and for a long time the Englishmen were unable to obtain a footing in the East. At last, weary of repeated attempts to capture the Dutch settlements, they turned their attention to the few towns remaining in the hands of the Portuguese, and in 1612 captured, after a brilliant naval engagement with a Portuguese squadron, the important town of Surat, on the Gulf of Cambay. Once a start had been made, the East India Company grew more and more powerful as time went on. Fort St. George was established in 1639 on the spot where the city of Madras now stands, and in 1668 the island of Bombay, which Charles II had received as a part of the dowry upon his marriage to Katherine Braganza of Portugal, was transferred to the Company by the "Merry Monarch" in return for an annual payment of £10.

In the following year Bombay was adopted in place of Surat as the head-quarters of the Company in India. Calcutta was founded upon the banks of the Hooghly in 1690, under the title of Fort William. In the course of time a rival French company sprang up, and between them and the English the Dutch were completely outmatched, and succeeded in doing but little trade. During the war between England and France, in 1774, the English and French East India Companies came into violent contact, Madras being taken by the French leader, Dupliex, in 1746. Five years later this defeat was retrieved by Clive's gallant defence of Arcot, and by the victory of Plassey in 1757, when the French adherent, the Nawab of Bengal, was completely routed by a small English force, and the tragedy of the Black Hole of Calcutta, for which this potentate was responsible, avenged. The complete discomfiture of the French company was accomplished by General Sir Eyre Coote's brilliant victory at Wandewash in 1760, and the capture of the French head-quarters at Pondicherry in the following year.

Since that time the history of India has been one of conquest, town after town and State upon State falling before the victorious British forces, only to be after a short time peacefully incorporated in the vast Indian Empire; until now the whole of the peninsula and the greater part of the surrounding country is either directly or indirectly under British rule, and the nations which were formerly our bitterest enemies are now to be numbered among the most loyal and contented subjects of the British Crown.

The country continued to be administered by the Honourable East India Company, which, under Royal Warrant, was privileged to exercise sovereign control within its dominions, until the year 1858, when as a result of the Great Sepoy Mutiny, the ghastly particulars of which are too familiar to call for repetition here, the control of the Company's territories was assumed by the British Crown; and on 1 January, 1877, Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India at a great durbar in Delhi.

The Government of India is now administered almost entirely by British officials appointed by the Crown, at the head of whom is the Viceroy, who is the official representative of the British Sovereign in India. Several of the native princes, however, exercise sovereign rights within their own territories and with certain limitations.

The system is almost entirely a military one, the Government of India maintaining a large native army, commanded by British officers, amounting to nearly 200,000 men, whilst a force of white troops of the regular British Army, 75,000 strong, is maintained in India.

Uprisings of the more turbulent and warlike of the native hill-tribes are frequent, and scarcely a year passes but the country is engaged in some small campaign or punitive expedition on the North-West Frontier. The last really serious revolt in that quarter occurred in 1897, when almost all the border tribes joined in a holy war against the Feringhees, and the British garrison in Chitral was besieged for several weeks. Over sixty thousand troops, British and native, were required to suppress this outbreak. In addition to several small campaigns in India itself, including the recent Tibet expedition, the native troops of the Indian Army have rendered signal service to the Empire in the recent troubles in Somaliland and China.

Owing to the very large population, which is dependent mainly upon the rice and wheat crops for its existence, famines are frequent and the plague common. In 1900 there was one of the worst famines which the country has ever known, affecting an area having a total population of over eighty-five millions of people, six millions of these being for a considerable time in receipt of daily relief. Much had been and is, however, being done by the British Government towards alleviating both of these evils.

India is a country of vast natural resources, agriculture forming the staple occupation of its teeming millions. It produces, amongst others too numerous to mention, rice, cotton, wheat, maize, tea, tobacco, opium, jute, and timber. Rare metals and precious stones are found in abundance, and a considerable quantity of coal and iron is worked. Amongst the numerous articles of native manufacture for which India is famed is an endless variety of fine textiles, including silks, muslins, shawls, rugs, etc.; whilst jewellery of every description and of the finest workmanship and design is turned out by the native jewellers.

The principal articles of export are rice, jute, tea, coffee, spices, indigo, opium, skins and hides, and cotton in large quantities. The imports consist almost entirely of manufactured articles and come principally from the United Kingdom.

For administrative purposes India is divided into four vast provinces, each under the control of a Lieutenant-Governor, composed as follows: Bengal, United Provinces, Bombay Presidency, and Burma.

The seat of government is Calcutta, a handsome city of 1,106,738 inhabitants, situated upon the banks of the river Hooghly. Other important cities are Madras, Bombay, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Cawnpore, Karachi, and Peshawar; and Rangoon, the capital of Burma.

Currency: 12 pies = 1 anna; 16 annas = 1 rupee = 1s. 4d.

British India entered the Postal Union on 1 July, 1876. Stamps first issued in 1851.

Following the death of Her Majesty Queen Victoria in January, 1901, a new series of postage stamps bearing the portrait of the new Emperor was ordered from England, it being originally proposed to issue the first values of these new stamps on 1 January, 1902. Messrs. De La Rue & Co., the printers, however, being at that time engaged in producing numerous other King's Head issues for almost all of the British possessions, were unable to have the stamps ready for delivery by that date, and the issue had therefore to be postponed. The series contained in all fourteen values ranging from 3 pies to 5 rupees; the Emperor's portrait being adapted to the frames of the old Queen's Head series, which had been in use since 1882. The frame of the 6 annas value is the same as that of the same denomination of the old Queen's Head series, which had been prepared for use, but never put into circulation on account of the large stock of that value of the 1876 series inscribed EAST INDIA POSTAGE, which had lasted right up to the time of the issue of the new stamps. The rupee values are large square stamps of the design adopted for these denominations in 1892. It will be noticed that on the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas values the positions of the words INDIA POSTAGE and the value have been reversed from those occupied on the Queen's Head series. The stamps, though no doubt eminently serviceable, can by no stretch of imagination be called handsome, and form in fact one of the least attractive series in use throughout the British Empire to-day. The three low values were finally issued on 9 August, 1902, in celebration of the coronation of Edward VII as King of England and Emperor of India.

The remaining values appeared at intervals during the same year and 1903, the

last to be issued being the three large rupee stamps late in that year.

On the occasion of a grand durbar held in Delhi on 1 January, 1903, in celebration of the King's coronation, five thousand copies of the *Indian Postal Guide* were sold, each containing a complete set of current Indian stamps, comprising such values of the King's Head series as had been issued up to that time, the remaining denominations being represented by the old Queen's Head types. These stamps bore a special obliteration, comprising a circle, in which were enclosed the words "Coronation Durbar—Central—Head—Office," reading round the edge of the circle, and "Delhi—1 Ja 03—12 Noon" across the centre in three lines, the whole postmark being in black. These stamps, though interesting as postal souvenirs, have, however, no real philatelic value, and are not necessary for the completion of a collection of Twentieth Century Colonial stamps.

1902-3.

King's Head designs. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Centres in second colour. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. in London.

- 3 pies, grey (issued August 9, 1903).
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (issued August 9, 1903).
- 1 anna, carmine (issued August 9, 1903).
- 2 annas, purple (issued May 13, 1903).
- $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas, ultramarine (issued June, 1903).
- 3 annas, orange-brown (issued October, 1903).
- 4 annas, olive-green (issued April 20, 1903).
- 6 annas, bistre (issued August 6, 1903).
- 8 annas, magenta (issued May 20, 1903).
- 12 annas, purple on red (issued November, 1903).
- 1 rupee, carmine and green (issued November, 1903).
- 2 rupees, yellow-brown and carmine (issued December, 1903).
- 3 rupees, green and brown (issued December, 1903).
- 5 rupees, violet and ultramarine (issued December, 1903).

(To be continued.)

On Postmarks

By D. C. G.

(Continued from page 315.)

HAVING thus briefly reviewed some of the most interesting British colonies as regards their postmarks, it now remains to treat in a similar way of some of the obliterations of the stamps of foreign countries.

As is not unnatural, many of the most interesting postmarks of the European countries are to be found on the earlier stamps rather than on the more recent issues.

Austria and Austrian Italy, perhaps, provide as large a number of distinct types and

varieties of cancellation as any other country. Town-names may be found on the early issues in every variety and setting of type, each place apparently providing its own obliterating stamp in the form it thought best.

The types of postmark which may be found on French stamps are very numerous.

The earliest postmark generally found on the first issue is a grille of interlacing lines, although by no means an uncommon type is a diamond-shaped grille composed of black dots with a number in the centre, which is the usual postmark on the next issue. On the third issue is found not only the last-

mentioned postmark, but also an ordinary circular postmark with town-name and date.

Another type of cancellation which occurs on the stamps of the first issue occasionally, and not infrequently on the immediately subsequent sets, is made up of a continuous belt of large square dots, apparently impressed by a rotatory obliterator, which very much defaces the stamps as a rule. Later on, a similar postmark was used, the dots of which are much smaller and finer.

Another postmark in use at this period is a star made up of large dots, containing a number.

On the earlier perforated stamps the usual postmark is circular, until 1870, when the Bordeaux issue came into use.

On the Bordeaux issue a very large variety of postmarks occur, which are fully enumerated in Vol. VII, No. 144, of the *Monthly Journal*.

Another typical obliteration to be found on many of the earlier French stamps is the postmark consisting of an anchor surrounded by dots, used by the "Messageries Maritimes Co."

A less important variety which is found on "ship letters" sent from France to Italy consists of the words "Via di Mare" in capital letters on the stamp.

Another group of stamps on which some interesting postmarks occur is that of the German States.

Various types of cancellation are found on the early stamps of Bavaria. The commonest is a number within a circle with short black lines radiating from it. A scarcer postmark consists of a semicircle with "Bahnpost" (Railway post) at the top and town-name and date within it.

Another postmark is similar, but has the town-name at the top and the date at the bottom and centre.

A third type consists of the word "Postablage" in capitals with the town-name in upright italic type below, and no date.

A fourth type is a number within a circle, in turn surrounded by two concentric circles of dashes.

A comparatively scarce obliteration on the early square stamps is the plain circular postmark with town-name and date.

The stamps of Hanover are obliterated as a rule either with the town-name in capital letters, with a large circular postmark with the town-name, and the date in a smaller inner circle, or else with an ordinary circular cancellation; all these obliterations are generally impressed in blue.

The stamps of Oldenburg also are often cancelled merely with the town-name in capital letters. Several other types of postmark exist, however, e.g. town-name and day of month and month in figures within a rectangular oblong, either short and broad

or else long and narrow. It is to be noted that Oldenburg postmarks are almost invariably impressed in blue.

Many interesting postmarks exist on the stamps of Saxony. The commonest type on the first 3 pfennig stamp and the second issue consists of a number within a small circle which is surrounded by another circle, the space between the two circles being filled up by interlacing lines. A considerably scarcer obliteration is the town-name and date in a circle. A still scarcer postmark consists of the town-name and date within a long rectangular oblong.

The commonest type of cancellation on the third and fourth issues is the first type mentioned. A circular postmark with town-name and date (of different type from that found on the first issue) is by no means uncommon impressed in black, though it is somewhat scarce impressed in blue.

Various types of obliteration, circular and rectangular, exist on the last issue.

The stamps of Thurn and Taxis are usually cancelled with a number within circles, though, before this type came into use, other forms of postmark were employed, e.g. town-name between two circles with the date in the centre (1852), and town-name and date in large capitals and figures (1853).

A good many different forms of postmark may be met with on the first issue of Wurtemberg.

One form consists of a diamond-shaped grille of parallel lines; another of the town-name and date in capital letters and large figures; another of the town-name with two circles outside it and one circle inside it and the date in the middle. Other types of a somewhat similar character were introduced a few years later.

These postmarks were at first usually impressed in blue, occasionally in red, but later on generally in black.

The stamps of Alsace and Lorraine, though very uninteresting in appearance, have long been esteemed highly on the Continent on account of their postmarks. By the town-name and dates the gradual advance of the German Army upon Paris in the Franco-German War of 1870 may be traced stage by stage. Specially scarce obliterations are those of the French towns near Paris itself.

Only two main types of postmark occur on the early stamps of Holland. The first and earliest type is a semicircle with the town-name along the top and the date in the centre and the word "Franco" beneath. A variety of this type which was introduced later is similar, but has the year omitted, only figures representing the day of the month and the month of use being inserted.

Possibly the figures representing the year were accidentally omitted; although if this was the case it is not easy to account for

the frequency with which this postmark occurs.

In the year 1861, however, the second main type of obliteration was introduced, which is simply the word **FRANCO** in capital letters surrounded by a frame. A date stamp was reserved for use on the envelope alone. This is perhaps the commonest postmark on the first issue, and is the only postmark which is found on the second set of stamps.

The circular type of postmark may very occasionally be found impressed in red instead of in black, and sometimes the **FRANCO** type of postmark may be found struck both in black and in red on the same stamp in the case of the first two issues. The explanation of this is that this postmark was properly struck in red on un-stamped official correspondence, and in error was occasionally struck in red on ordinary stamped letters. To correct this mistake the postal clerk postmarked the stamp in black also. The **FRANCO** postmark may sometimes be found impressed in blue ink.

The postmarks on the later issues of this country do not present many points of interest.

A comparatively scarce obliteration, however, on the first stamps which bore the Queen's head consists of a number (usually "5," the number of the Amsterdam post office) surrounded by dots. This was only used for a very short time on these stamps previously to the adoption of the ordinary circular date stamp.

Another interesting group of stamps from the point of view of the obliterations to be found on them, apart from the interest attaching to the stamps themselves, is that of the Italian States.

The usual postmark on the stamps of Naples is the word "Annullato" (cancelled). There are three distinct varieties of this obliteration.

The commonest is the word **ANNULLATO** in capital letters within a double frame.

(To be continued.)

A second type is the same word struck in large italic lettering in a curve.

A third type is similar, but struck in capital letters, in the two latter cases without any frame.

A considerably scarcer obliteration is a large circle with the town-name and date within it.

Stamps to look out for are those of Naples with the frame postmark of Sicily impressed upon them, and those of Sicily with the first type of postmark of Naples on them.

The only postmark regularly found on the stamps of Sicily is the well-known ornamental frame, which was supposed to be so placed as to cover only the edge of the stamp and leave the sacred effigy of King Ferdinand II undefaced. Needless to say, the postal clerks were not always careful to adjust the frame exactly, so that this postmark often was struck awry right upon the King's face!

The earliest type of postmark which was used in the Roman States was a circular date stamp. During the year 1856, however, a diamond-shaped grille with straight lines across it was generally used to cancel the stamps, and the date was struck on the letter at the place of delivery.

Another type of postmark which was used for some time, especially by the smaller post offices, consists of the town-name struck across the stamp in large capital letters.

A class of stamps much sought for by Italian specialists is that of the issues of Italy obliterated with the postmark of San Marino, previously to the introduction of separate stamps for that State in 1877. Fairly good forgeries of this postmark exist.

An interesting series of postmarks may be found on the stamps of Sardinia. These stamps may be found cancelled with the names of various places in Italy, since these stamps were brought into use gradually throughout Italy contemporaneously with the accession of the various States into the then new kingdom of Italy.

Notes of a Provincial Junior Triangular Capes

By YOKEL

I AM sure we were all proud when as youngsters we possessed our first triangular Cape.

When we show our collections to friends they invariably ask if we have any triangular stamps, and the display of a dozen or so makes them imagine that we possess a fortune.

The triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope were printed from plates engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co.,

and were—as are all their productions—real works of art, and a collection of well-picked copies of these stamps makes a fine display.

The stamps—unlike those of Ceylon—were printed well apart, and no great difficulty is found in obtaining specimens with a certain amount of margin all round.

The postmark is usually in the shape of a triangle formed of parallel lines, with the letters "C G H" in the respective corners, and as the lines were not heavy it forms an

attractive cancellation, especially if evenly placed on the stamps. I am very fond of pairs and blocks of imperf. stamps, and several of these stamps are not especially difficult to obtain in this state.

There is one trouble to be faced when collecting these stamps, and that is to find stamps with perfect corners. Many copies are found with a corner or corners very badly creased, and the uncommon shape of these stamps is undoubtedly responsible for their gradual despoliation.

Care should be taken, when mounting these stamps, to do so on the left-hand side, and not at the top or apex, as is often carelessly done.

May I mention here a practice some collectors have of taking their fingers and lifting up a stamp to see the back or watermark? Now if this is often done to a collection of triangular Capes, I am sure their value will depreciate rapidly. Beware, therefore, of the stamp "lifter," and if he will persist be sure to give him a pair of tweezers.

Many articles have been written describing the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, and I will simply give my experience as to the difficulty of obtaining the various stamps. I will remark here that opinions as to the relative rarity of stamps cannot be formed from the numbers issued.

It seems obvious to me that the 1d. values, which were used principally for local postage, would be more liable to destruction after use than those stamps which were used on letters, etc., to other countries. How many stamps that were used on newspapers have been saved, and how many local letters are destroyed directly after they are read? On the other hand, a much larger proportion of letters whose destination is at a distance are generally of more interest and value, and consequently were usually filed for reference, together with their cover. It will therefore be readily understood that to find the actual relative rarity of any stamps we must not only study the numbers printed or issued, but also consider the purpose for which they were used and the probability as to their destruction.

The triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope may be divided into three classes: (1) those printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co.; (2) those printed locally and commonly known as "woodblocks"; (3) those printed by Messrs. De La Rue from the original plates handed over by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co.

The first stamps were issued in 1853, and were of two values, viz. 1d., red, and 4d., blue, and were printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. The 1d., red., may in a more or less degree claim relationship to the 1d., red, Great Britain, of the same date

as regards colour. It is found on blued paper in various shades, and with the paper ranging from a decided bluish tint to nearly white, and it is doubtful to my mind if No. 3 in the Catalogue should not really be left out and a footnote placed under the first issue explaining that the stamps have the paper more or less blued, caused by action between the colouring matter and the paper. Some of these stamps are found with what are known as "ivory heads"—or may we say "ivory figures" for these stamps?

These stamps on blued paper are not really difficult to obtain in fine condition, either in singles, pairs, or blocks. The 1d. value is found in a large range of shades, of which a deep brick-red shade and a lake-red shade are good, and the latter is worth double the amount of the normal shade.

We now come to the issue on white paper. The 1d. value is found in shades ranging from rose to rose-red. Up to the present I have never had cause to alter my arrangement, which places all the brick-red shades with the blue-paper section.

The 1d., rose, is not by any means easy to obtain in fine condition, especially in pairs and blocks, and is really more difficult to obtain in fine condition than No. 1. This stamp is often found oxidized, and is difficult to obtain with what I may call a "mint surface."

The 4d., blue, Nos. 5 and 6, are not easy to obtain in blocks, especially No. 6. These stamps are found with a good range of shade. I have a page composed of twenty-five single specimens, many of which show portions of three other stamps, and it is wonderful what a bold effect a large margin does give to these stamps. The effect is entirely spoiled if the stamp has only large margins on two sides. No. 8, lilac, and No. 9, slate-lilac, are the extremes of the various shades of the 6d. value, between which a perfect range may be found. None of these stamps are easy to obtain in really fine condition, but the 6d., lilac, is perhaps the more difficult, as the colour is so delicate. The collector should have no hesitation in buying superb copies of the lilac shades at full catalogue rates, as this stamp is usually the weak spot in a collection of Capes. The 6d., grey-lilac and slate-lilac, are more readily found, although they are really rarer than the lilac shade. There is a fine deep shade of the slate-lilac, which is a really scarce stamp. The 6d., slate-lilac, is sometimes found, the paper slightly blued. This variety is perhaps a little more difficult to obtain than the normal variety. Pairs of all these shades are really scarce, and blocks are extremely rare.

No. 10, 1s., yellow-green, is a comparatively easy stamp to obtain in fine condition, and pairs are not extremely hard to find. There are two shades, of which a dark yellow-green is the better.

No. 11, 1s., dark green, is really twice as rare as the yellow-green in fine condition, and pairs are uncommon. There are several fine shades of this stamp, which are very handsome.

Some of these stamps may be found rouletted, but should be left alone by the ordinary collector.

Many articles have been written on the woodblock issue, and I am not qualified to give an opinion on these stamps.

We now come to the stamps printed by De La Rue and Co., and I may say at once that considerable difficulty is found in obtaining fine specimens of all these stamps. I am, of course, referring to used copies.

The 1d. value is found in two shades, carmine-red and brown-red, the former of which is extremely hard to find in fine used condition, and is really cheap at catalogue quotation. The brown-red shade, however, is much easier to obtain, although pairs are very hard to find.

The carmine-red is an extremely rich colour, and with large margins and even postmark this is an extremely handsome stamp and repays one for the trouble one has to find it. The two main shades of the 4d. I should describe as slate-blue and steel-blue. The latter is not easy to find, and pairs are very uncommon. It is also found showing the appearance of the plate being worn.

The 6d., mauve, is very hard to find, and cannot be bought in really fine condition under catalogue. There is an extremely rare shade of this stamp, which may be described as lilac-blue. Pairs of this and the following stamp, 1s., emerald, are extremely rare used.

The 1s., emerald, is not uncommon in ordinary condition, but fine copies of a good colour will require hunting for. This concludes the triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, which I have found a very interesting study.

The stamps are finely engraved, of a bold and handsome design, and as they can be obtained with large margins and a good range of shades, a collection of picked copies forms one of the most attractive portions of a collection.

As an investment they may be compared to Consols, as they always possess a certain market value.

It may perhaps be interesting if I give some of the prices for these stamps in some S.G. Catalogues that I have by me.

	1885	1895	1897	1902	1908
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d., on blue	1 0	2 6	3 6	6 0	12 0
4d. ,,	1 6	2 0	2 6	4 0	5 0
1d., rose on white	1 0	2 0	4 0	4 6	7 6
4d., blue ,,	0 4	1 0	1 6	2 0	2 6
6d., lilac	1 0	4 0	5 0	7 6	12 6
6d., slate-grey	1 6	7 6	5 0	20 0	25 0
1s., yellow-green	2 0	12 6	15 0	17 6	15 0
1s., dark green	2 0	15 0	20 0	20 0	20 0
1d., carmine	1 0	2 0	5 0	15 0	17 6
4d., slate	0 4	3 0	5 0	7 6	7 6
6d., mauve	1 6	5 0	10 0	20 0	25 0
1s., emerald	2 6	17 6	20 0	25 0	30 0

Acrostic Competition

DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 9 (OF SERIES)

'Twas in the merry month of May
Now eight and sixty years away,
That these appeared upon the scene
With portrait of a much-loved Queen,
Which was unchanged unto the last,
Though frames most numerous were passed.

1. Rather doubtful and near to traps—
How shall I catch the little dear?
As half a person with most of chaps
Will quickly make the whole so clear.
2. This on good stamps is an outrage,
But has been very much the rage,
Putting collectors in a rage—
Best say no more, 'twill you enrage.
3. So glorious and mighty and free,
It rises high, though deeper it must be;
It's yellow and black, red, white, and blue,
To say nothing of green or other hue.
4. There's Me and Myn, and Tom and Ciss,
With Jack and Jill, and Bill and Sue,
What d'ye think of them? You see all this
Is bluff—for there's the word before you.

5. Small enough to go in the pocket,
In fact is sometimes worn as locket;
So strong in power o'er twenty miles to act,
And check the largest ships, or them attract.
But for this doubled light so fickle,
(You'd hardly give it credence),
A tiny indefinite article
Must have the precedence.

6. The last one, and more than one, is here,
So put them all out and have no fear.

BEN.

Correct solutions received for No. 5 from Miss Keyser (India), and for No. 6 from Greek (Canada); three marks credited to each.

Answers on the printed forms must be received before or by first post on Thursday, 28 May, or be posted on the Continent by 30 May, or North America to 9 June. They should be marked outside "Acrostic, G.S.W.," addressed to 391 Strand, London.

Ships on Stamps

By H. G. JOBSON

IN the representation of ships on their postage stamps, the British colonies are much more prolific than the rest of the world, perhaps because so many of the countries which together form Greater Britain owe their very existence to the daring of our bold navigators.

As an example of this, let us take the 10 cents, 1897 issue, of Newfoundland.



This shows Cabot's ship, the *Matthew*, leaving the Avon. John Cabot was a Venetian by birth, who resided at Bristol as a merchant. He obtained permission from King Henry VII to sail

for Cathay by a more northern course than Columbus. He made the American coast in the latitude of Newfoundland on 24 June, 1497. After exploring the coast for nine hundred miles, he returned to Bristol, where he was received in high honour. Thrifty Henry gave him £10 to celebrate his discovery!! On Newfoundland stamps also appear two topsail schooners, such as are



used on the Banks, the first one (on the 13 c., 1866) sailing with her head-sheets to windward. A Nile gunboat, like those



which aided Kitchener in 1898, is pictured on the Sudan Postage Dues.

British New Guinea shows a pirogue, and North Borneo the piratical prahu, which



was the terror of merchant-men in those seas seventy years ago.

A xebec and a galley flying the flag of the Knights of St. John appear on the 4d.



and 5d. of the 1899 issue of Malta, and in the view of the harbour of Valetta on the



4d., brown, is a battleship of the now obsolete *Collingwood* type. This, by the way, is the only warship that appears on



the stamps of any British colony except Sudan. A brig of the time of Queen



Elizabeth comes from Barbados, and full-rigged ships from Turks and Caicos and British Guiana.



Grenada's stamps show *La Concepcion*, Columbus' flagship when he discovered the island. New Zealand adds to our



list the *Te Aruwa* canoe, in which the first Maori colonists are supposed to have come to New Zealand from, so their tradition goes, Hawaki or Savii, which are probably either the Sandwich or Navigator Islands. There is much evidence to strengthen this view besides the fact of the two languages being identical, for with the trade wind a large canoe could cover the distance of three thousand miles in a month.



Tonga and New Brunswick with a cutter-rigged yacht and a mail steamer complete our British Colony collection.



On the stamps of the U.S.A. we find a number of ships, ranging from the un-decked caravel *Nina* to the modern ocean liner and lake steamer. On the 3 c., green, 1893, we have Columbus' flagship on his first voyage, the *Santa Maria*, and on the 4 c. his whole fleet, consisting of the *Santa Maria*, and the *Pinta* and *Nina* (baby), both caravels. On the U.S. fiscals is the ill-fated *Maine*, blown up in Havana harbour 15 February, 1898. She was commanded by Captain Sigsbee, who was the last to leave the vessel as she went down. All the men forward of the funnels, with a few exceptions, perished in the blast of flame which followed the explosion. One man was hurled out of his bunk into the sea, the explosion opening the deck above him, and was picked up uninjured. A picture of the



Colombian cruiser *Cartagena* is printed on



the 5 c., blue, 1903, of that country. The German Emperor's yacht *Hohenzollern* is shown on the German Colonies issue of 1900.



Ancient ships have only a single representation on postage stamps, namely on the current franc stamp of Tunis. This represents a Carthaginian galley under full sail. It was from one of these ships wrecked on the Italian coast that, at the commencement of the first Punic War, Rome took the model of her ships, the rowers being trained on scaffolds erected on land.



An ocean steamer of a rather antiquated type appears on the 20 c., black and green, 1895 stamp of Uruguay.



A small view in the centre of the 24 c., 1894, of China contains a junk at the mouth

of a river tossing on very regularly spaced billows.



F. The Vasco da Gama commemoratives of Portugal recall the voyages of that intrepid navigator round the Cape to India. He left the Tagus with four ships on 8 June, 1497, and sighted the Malabar coast on 19 May of the following year. After many adventures, being once kidnapped by the Rajah of Calicut, Da Gama set sail for home with

a rich cargo in November, 1498. While crossing the Indian Ocean he lost many of his crew from scurvy, which broke out from lack of fresh provisions, but, luckily as he was short-handed, he encountered no storms at the Cape, which he rounded successfully, and arrived at Portugal late in 1499, with only two ships left out of the four with which he originally sailed.



A full-rigged ship and a native canoe from New Caledonia complete our list.

British Stamps used Abroad

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

Porto Rico

FORMERLY one of the Spanish West Indies, was ceded to the United States of America after the war of 1898, and in 1900 civil government was conferred. It is situated about seventy miles to the east of Hayti, and is slightly less in area than our colony of Jamaica. It is extremely fertile, and exports a large quantity of sugar, coffee, tobacco, fruit, etc. It was discovered by Columbus in 1493 and colonized by Ponce de Leon in 1510. Unlike the neighbouring island of Cuba, it has suffered hardly at all from internal dissension, the only uprising having been suppressed in 1823. It is rich in the number of good harbours, no fewer than six being of sufficient importance to boast of British Post Offices. Of these naturally the capital, Porto Rico (or San Juan) was the most important, and a fairly large variety and quantity of stamps were used. The other towns, Arroyo (F 83), Aguadillo (F 84), Mayaguez (F 85), Ponce (F 88), Naguabo (582), had considerably less trade, and the stamps are of some considerable rarity.

C 61. Porto Rico

(Formerly San Juan Bautista de Puerto Rico) is situated on a small island on the north coast, and is connected with the main island by bridges and a fortified causeway. It has an excellent harbour, and is the capital of the island and the seat of government. Its streets are straight if narrow, and the sanitary conditions have improved greatly since the American occupation. The main part of the trade of the whole island is done

through Porto Rico, and British stamps were issued already in 1867. The obliterator employed was the narrow horizontal oblong, and later on the larger upright oval, together with a round date.



The British Post Office was closed in 1877.

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1d. | 14 L. C. |
| ½d. | plate 10. |
| 1d. | plates 81, 84, 90, 107, 130, 140, 146, 149, 156, 160, 172, 173, 175, 182, 186. |
| 1½d. | 1, 3. |
| 2d. | 9, 14. |
| 3d. | 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18. |
| 4d. | 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 15. |
| 6d. | 5, 6, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12 grey, 13, 14, 15. |
| 9d. | 4 emblems, 4 spray. |
| 10d. | plate 1. |
| 1s. | plates 4 emblems, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13. |
| 2s. | plate 1, blue. |
| 5s. | 1. |

F 88. Ponce

The second largest city in the island, has a most spacious harbour, and enjoys a fair share of the export trade of the island. British stamps were used here from 1873 till 1877, and the large upright oval was employed. A date stamp was also used.

The postmark can be readily distinguished from E 88 by the difference in the number of the bars, etc.



- 1d., plates 121, 123, 146, 148, 156, 158, 167, 171, 174, 187.
- 2d. " 14.
- 3d. " 17, 18, 19, 20 sp.
- 4d. " 12, 13, 14, 15 vermilion, 16, 17 cr.
- 6d. " 11, 1, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17 sp.
- 10d. " 1.
- 1s. " 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13.

F 85. Mayaguez

The port of next importance, is clean, lighted by gas, has a street railway, telegraphs, etc., and is a fairly busy commercial centre. British stamps were used here from 1873 till 1877, and the large upright oval is



(To be continued.)

found sometimes used in conjunction with a date stamp.

- ½d., plates 4, 5, 11.
- 1d. " 149, 154, 156, 171, 174, 176, 178, 182, 185.
- 1½d. " 1, 3.
- 2d. " 13, 14.
- 3d. " 7, 9, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19.
- 4d. " 12, 13, 14, 15 vermilion.
- 6d. " 11, 11, 12 grey, 13, 15.
- 9d., plate 4 sp.
- 10d. " 1.
- 1s., plates 4 sp., 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.
- 2s., plate 1, blue.
- 5s. " 2.

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.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Portuguese Colonial Currency

THE currency of some of the Portuguese colonies is not very clear to the uninitiated. Few people could say off-hand what an *avo*, *tanga*, or *pataca* are worth in standard Portuguese money. I have been shown an official money table published by the Portuguese Post Office for the use of colonial postmasters. Below I give the equivalents of some of the values in both Portuguese and English currencies.

MACAO.

100 avos = 1 pataca.

Macau. Avos.	Portugal. Reis.	England. s. d.
1 ...	6.4 ...	0 0.34
5 ...	32 ...	0 2
10 ...	64 ...	0 3.6
20 ...	128 ...	0 7
40 ...	256 ...	1 2
50 ...	320 ...	1 5
100 ...	640 ...	2 11

TIMOR.

100 avos = 1 pataca.

Timor. Avos.	Portugal. Reis.	England. s. d.
1 ...	5.4 ...	0 0.3
5 ...	27 ...	0 1
10 ...	54 ...	0 3
30 ...	162 ...	0 9
50 ...	270 ...	1 2.7
100 ...	540 ...	2 5

PORTUGUESE INDIA.

192 reis = 16 tangas = 1 rupee.

Portug. India.	Portugal. Reis.	England. s. d.
2½ reis ...	5 ...	0 0.3
4½ " ...	9 ...	0 0.5
9 " ...	19 ...	0 1
1 tanga ...	25 ...	0 1.5
5 tangas ...	125 ...	0 7
12 " ...	300 ...	1 4
1 rupee ...	400 ...	1 9.6
2 rupees ...	800 ...	3 7

Hayti Surcharges

A VERY funny reason is given by *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for the numerous surcharged provisionals that have been issued lately.

The Director of the Haytian Posts has not got enough money for the new issue. Months ago a brand-new set was ordered from a well-known American firm, and they have already been printed and packed all ready for shipping to Hayti. But that firm of printers is very hard-hearted. They refuse to forward the stamps until they have been paid for them, and really the precaution seems just as well, as the Director of Posts is quite unable to raise the money! In view of this situation it appears to me that he is doing his level best to make philatelists buy enough provisionals to pay for his new issue!

Foreign Post Offices in the Levant

LAST week matters had almost reached an *impasse* between the Sultan of Turkey and the Italian Government. Italy wished to establish five post offices for the postal service of Italian subjects resident in Turkey; but the Porte objected, as was only natural, seeing that the mails carried in this way are so much loss to the Ottoman Posts.

According to *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* officers of the Post Office were already engaged in organizing post offices in Constantinople, Smyrna, Salonica, Jerusalem, and Valona, but they were seriously interfered with by order of the Sultan.

Diplomatic relations became very strained, and Italy was on the point of dispatching warships up the Bosphorus, when the Sultan gave way, as usual.

These offices will be opened in due course. I wonder if we shall see the old surcharge ESTERO, or whether there will be *five* new surcharged sets? Let us hope not.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 381 Strand, London, W.C.

Japanese P.O.'s in Corea.—Several of our contemporaries chronicle a 6 sen stamp of Japan overprinted for use in Corea. In our issue of 4 April we chronicled a similar stamp on the authority of the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* (14.3.08), but overprinted for use in China. The two surcharges in Japanese characters are somewhat similar, so it may be that our contemporary has mistaken one for the other. Nevertheless it is more probable that this stamp, which was only issued towards the end of last year, would be overprinted simultaneously for use in both China and Corea.



Overprinted in black. Perf. 11½, 12 or 12½.
6 sen, marone.

New Zealand.—We have been shown a copy of the £1, rose, postal fiscal, No. 474 in the Catalogue, overprinted with the word OFFICIAL in black. This stamp will form the completion of the Official set listed as Nos. 643 to 649b.

Forged Port Said Stamps

Le Timbre-Poste gives warning that a quantity of forged 25 c. on 10 c. (No. E123 of our Catalogue) are being offered for sale on the Continent. They are unused and used, also with double and inverted surcharge. The forgery is very well executed, but the tail of "Q" is generally missing or imperfectly formed.

The original overprint was done a sheet at a time from a proper plate, and in nearly every case the overprint was placed so low down on the stamp that a portion was visible on the stamp immediately below. This is never the case in the forgery, which was done from a single copper die, the overprint being well in the centre of the stamp. Of course, this test would not apply to the top row of genuine stamps, but it can generally be relied upon.

The used forgery is not so dangerous, as the obliteration may easily be distinguished from the original.



OFFICIAL STAMP. Postal fiscal, overprinted vertically in black. Perf. 12½, 13.
649d) £1, rose.

Persia.—Our agents forward us three more high values similar to those listed in our issue of 25 April. They are printed by the *taille-douce* process, as before.



Line-engraved. No wmk. Perf. 11, 11½.
10 kr., pink.
20 ,, black.
30 ,, blackish purple.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 22
Whole No. 178

30 MAY, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Congo—continued

Gaboon—continued

BY 18 May no more stamps at all were left, and a mail was due out from Libreville on the 20th. In all haste the Governor ordered the preparation of some local provisionals. The stamps—1000 of 15 c. and 1500 of 25 c.—were type-set and printed in sheets of ten on coloured paper. As a control mark a handstamp "G A B" was affixed by the postmaster.



18 May, 1889. Type-set. Imperf.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
15 c., black on pink	30	0	30	0
25 c., " green	20	0	20	0

The above were the last provisionals and practically the last stamps issued under the old regime of Gaboon, for shortly after the name was changed to French Congo. True, a fresh supply of "Commerce" type arrived from France in a month or two, but though some of the stamps may have been used while the colony was still named Gaboon, the majority were used up when the territory was called French Congo. Before leaving Gaboon, it would be as well to list the stamps issued when it was re-created a separate colony. In August, 1904, a full set of the current values in the "tablet" type was supplied, to be supplemented by the 35 c. in 1906.



1904-6. "Navigation and Commerce."
Perf. 14 x 13½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	0	1	—	—
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	0	1	—	—
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	0	1	—	—
5 c., yellow-green	0	1	—	—
10 c., rose-red	0	2	—	—
15 c., grey	0	3	—	—
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	—	—	0	3
25 c., blue	0	4	0	3
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	0	5	—	—
35 c., black on <i>yellow</i>	0	6	—	—
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	0	6	—	—
50 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	0	8	—	—
75 c., brown on <i>orange</i>	1	0	—	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	—	—	—	—
2 fr., violet on <i>lilac</i>	—	—	—	—
5 fr., lilac on <i>pale lilac</i>	—	—	—	—

French Congo: Philatelic History

The philatelic history of French Congo is a continuation of that of Gaboon. A supply of the general issue for the French Colonies duly reached Libreville in 1889, and sufficed without incident until the spring of 1891. Then the common trouble of French colonial post offices was again in evidence—a shortage of the values most in demand and the inevitable remedy of surcharging.

A decree signed by M. de Brazza 24 March, 1891, authorized the making of 1500 5 c. stamps from the 15 c. value. These 1500 stamps were exhausted in a month, and a further 2000 were surcharged on 22 April. To avoid speculation the provisionals were not sold directly to the public, and the supply lasted till September. Then by a decree 2 Sept., 1891, 3000 stamps of 1 c. were surcharged 5 c. At first the surcharging was in *red*, but after 100 stamps had been thus treated the impression was found to be so imperfect that the printing was stopped, the type reset, and the rest of the surcharging done in *black*. This accounts for the rarity of the *red* surcharges; the resetting can at once be distinguished by means of the distance between the figure "5" and the letter "c"—in the *red* it is 4 mm., in the *black* 1 mm. These were all soon sold out, and on 4

December, 1891, 2000 stamps of 25 c. were transformed into 5 c. In all instances the decrees stated that the stamps would only be sold for an immediate franking of correspondence by postal officials. In addition to the value the words "Congo français" were surcharged horizontally.



March-Sept., 1891. *Commerce type surcharged in black or red (R).*

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
5 c. on 1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	6 0	5 0
5 c. on 1 c. " " (R)	—	—
5 c. on 15 c., blue	—	6 0
5 c. on 25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	3 6	3 6

Apparently the home authorities thought the colony had better wait for further supplies till the new "tablet" type was ready, for in spite of repeated requests no more stamps were sent from France until the appearance of this issue. Thus for nearly a year French Congo had to provide makeshift supplies of the 5 c., 10 c., and 15 c. values.

Five decrees are known between 29 February, 1892, and 20 September, 1892, authorizing in all the following provisionals.

1200	5 c. on 20 c.
7500	5 c. on 25 c.
6000	10 c. on 25 c.
1000	10 c. on 40 c.
9500	15 c. on 25 c.

The surcharging took several forms—vertical reading up or down, horizontal, etc.—and some issues are to be distinguished by "Congo" being set up with a capital "O" after "C." Specialists divide the issues rather differently than as arranged in the Catalogue, but for general collectors two broad divisions can well suffice:—

(A) Similar to provisionals listed above but vertical surcharge. These stamps generally have no stop after "c" of value.

(B) Similar surcharge horizontal or vertical but with "Congo" thus.

All the surcharges are in black.

Feb.-Sept., 1892. *Commerce type surcharged in black.*

A. *As March-Sept., 1891, provisionals, but vertically.*

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
5 c. on 25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	—	10 0
10 c. on 25 c. " "	6 0	6 0
15 c. on 25 c. " "	10 0	7 6



B. "Congo" for "Congo," horizontally or vertically.

5 c. on 20 c. red on <i>green</i>	—	25 0
5 c. on 25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	10 0	8 0
10 c. on 25 c. " "	10 0	10 0
10 c. on 40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	—	—
15 c. on 25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	—	10 0

The postage stamps did not last out the need for provisionals, and recourse was had, as in the case of Gaboon issues, to Postage Due stamps. A decree of 8 September, 1892, authorized the conversion of 2750 stamps of 1 fr. into postage stamps of 10 c., and these were surcharged in black, and on 20 November, 1892, 2500 Postage Due stamps of 5 c., 2400 of 20 c., and 2200 of 30 c. were transformed into postage stamps of 5 c. by a red surcharge.



Sept.-Nov., 1892. *Postage Due stamps surcharged in black or red.*

	Unused. s. d.	Used. s. d.
5 c. on 5 c., black	10 0	10 0
5 c. on 20 c. " "	7 6	7 6
5 c. on 30 c. " "	6 0	6 0
10 c. on 1 fr., brown	8 0	5 0

A fact not mentioned in the Catalogue should be noted here, viz. that the word "Timbres" is in the plural on the 10 c. and in the singular, "Timbre," on the other values.

These were the last of the provisionals, for early in 1893 the "tablet" type was put on sale.

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Stamp Collectors' Bureau

THE Postal Administration of Austria has just taken a somewhat unusual step, which will doubtless be much appreciated by philatelists. It has opened at Vienna a special bureau for the benefit of stamp collectors, where amateurs or professional dealers may obtain specimens of every type of stamp, post card, etc., in use in Austria, the Levant, and the Isle of Crete, either new or obliterated, as desired, and at the ruling price of the day. On the principle that "every little helps," the project might be recommended to our own Postmaster-General as an additional source of revenue.—*Globe*, 16 April, 1908.

Transvaal

THE following extracts from "Government Notice No. 328 of 1908," may prove of interest to collectors:—

DISCONTINUANCE OF THE USE OF POSTAGE AND REVENUE STAMPS AND STAMPED POSTAL MATERIAL OF THE LATE SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC OVERPRINTED V.R.I. AND E.R.I.

It is hereby notified for general information that, under and by virtue of the powers conferred by Law 18 of 1898, the Government have decided that, on the 31st December, 1908, the use of Postage and Revenue Stamps and Stamped Postal Material of the late South African Republic overprinted V.R.I. and E.R.I. shall be discontinued, and the said Stamps and Stamped Material withdrawn from circulation. From and after that date all Postage and Revenue Stamps and Stamped Postal Material of the late South African Republic overprinted V.R.I. and E.R.I. will be regarded as valueless for the purposes for which they were intended and under no circumstances will they be accepted by the Postmaster-General or other Government official unless for purposes of exchange for Stamps or Stamped Material of the current issue as hereinafter provided.

2. Holders of such Postage Stamps, Revenue Stamps or Stamped Material as are in this Notice dealt with may apply to the Postmaster-General, Johannesburg, for their holdings to be exchanged for similar Stamps or Stamped Material of the current issue; provided that no such applications will be entertained unless lodged with the Postmaster-General before the 30th day of June, 1909.

3. Forms for making application may be obtained from any Post Office or Postal Agency throughout the Colony or direct from the Postmaster-General, General Post Office, Johannesburg. The overprinted Stamps or Stamped Material which it is desired to exchange must in every case accompany the application form, otherwise the application will not be dealt with.

4. On receipt of the application forms and

enclosures the Postmaster-General will issue a provisional receipt to the applicant. The Postmaster-General will thereafter cause the application to be examined, and if he be satisfied that the Stamps and Stamped Material are genuine and were lawfully acquired by the applicant, he will cause stamps and material of current issue and equivalent face value to be issued to the applicant. For the purpose of satisfying himself that Stamps and Stamped Material offered for exchange in terms hereof were lawfully acquired, the Postmaster-General may require applicants to furnish such evidence as, in the circumstances, may seem to him to be necessary.

5. Finally, it is notified for general information that the Government have reason to believe that a considerable quantity of counterfeit Stamps and Stamped Material purporting to be genuine issues of the late South African Republic, and to be genuinely overprinted V.R.I. and E.R.I., is in circulation. In the course of the investigation that in terms hereof will precede all exchanges of South African Republic overprinted Stamps or Stamped Material for Stamps or Stamped Material of current issue a special examination will be conducted with a view to the detection of overprinted Stamps or Material of illegal manufacture. In this connection the attention of all concerned is invited to section *ninety-four* of Law 18 of 1898, which admits of a sentence of imprisonment with *hard labour for a period not exceeding seven years* being passed upon any person found guilty of offences against the law in regard to the manufacture, use, and uttering of Stamps or Stamped Material.

JAMES R. LEISK,
Secretary to the Treasury.

THE TREASURY, PRETORIA,
31st March, 1908.

I draw special attention to Section 5. This is a most welcome document, and I think it will be news to many people that the Transvaal authorities have the power to inflict imprisonment for seven years with hard labour on any one proved guilty of manufacturing, using, or uttering any stamps or overprints of a forged character.

American Stamps

BUSY men are frequently pestered by persons who wish to settle some trifling dispute. Recently two clubmen were arguing about the stamp output of the United States, and, to settle the matter, wrote to the Postmaster-General. The Third Assistant, in a courteous reply, says: "For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, the value of 'stamped stock' issued to postmasters was \$173,006,476.27. This consisted of 9,331,919,055 pieces of stamped paper and 17,686,800 stamp books. The value of the postal cards for the year was \$8,232,119.90, and of the postage stamps

£125,310,349. Among the large accounts were: Stamped envelopes £27,654,983.42, and wrappers £579,883.25."—*Globe*, 29 April, 1908.

Monthly Journal

I HAVE received a great many letters in reference to the amalgamation of this paper with *G.S.W.* A correspondent, whose letter I print below, seems to voice the sentiments of a good many other readers:—

DEAR SIRs.—I notice with regret in the last issue of the *Monthly Journal* that this grand old periodical is going to stop running after June next. Well, the saying goes that all good things come to an end, but I am very glad to see it will not be quite so in this case. For a grand magazine like this, with all the excellent articles it contains, to vanish altogether, would, I think, be a great misfortune to philatelists who like to read a good sound book on what is, to me at any rate, the grandest hobby in the world, and I am sure the philatelic world will, like myself, be pleased that the book is going to be practically incorporated in *G.S.W.* once a month. This to me is an admirable plan, and one, I am sure, which will bring a host of new readers of *G.S.W.*, and also, I hope, a good many clients to yourselves. For a philatelist (whether he be a Great Mogul or not) to be able to look forward to a book like this once a week will be a luxury, and the price too is within every one's grasp. Personally I would rather go without the daily paper once a week than forego my *Stamp Weekly*. If the wish of one who, although not a Great Mogul, yet is as enthusiastic as one, is of any use, I wish you the greatest success in your new venture, and

hope it will be the means of bringing thousands of new readers to *G.S.W.* You can rely on my doing all in my power to get as many as I can.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

No. 170. *Corea and Crete*. Value £137. TWO good selling little groups, for which there seems to be a constant demand, especially amongst younger collectors.

The stamps of Corea are all obsolete; they are interesting, and now that one knows the forgeries, they form a safe little group to collect.

Crete is also interesting. The stamps were issued first for the British and Russians to use in their spheres of influence; then there came the quaint native-made stamps issued by the Revolutionary Government; and, at last, the beautiful stamps issued by the Permanent Government, these latter being amongst the finest works of art ever produced as stamps.

Nos. 10 and 26. *Bosnia* (2 vols.). Value £560.

Two really fine books; very strong in the early issues, and showing a wonderful range of shades, perforations, and types. The later issues are also very complete even in rare varieties of perforation.

Every collector of these stamps will be sure to find something of use to him in these fine books, which are certainly the best we have ever made up of this country.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901–June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—continued

British Empire in India—continued

ALL denominations of the above series up to and including 1 rupee are printed in sheets of 240 stamps, comprising two panes of 120, one above the other, and each containing ten rows of twelve. The first three values issued, viz. 3 pies, $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 anna, had continuous marginal lines round the panes, but the remaining stamps have series of short broken lines opposite the end of each vertical and horizontal row of stamps in the prevailing fashion of almost all current British Colonial stamps, whilst the rupee value has one inner continuous line in red and an outer broken line in green

like the other stamps. All except the 1 rupee have a series of decorative blocks or pillars printed on the margin separating the two frames which compose the sheet, which on the sheets of rupee stamps has a series of holes punched through it in place of the blocks mentioned above.

The three highest values are printed in sheets containing ninety-six stamps grouped in eight panes of twelve, in three rows of four. The margins between the panes are, as in the other values, filled with decorative blocks, but I have no particulars as to the marginal lines, which, however, I should imagine would be broken and rounded at corners

of the panes, there being two of these lines, one in the colour of the stamp, and the other in that in which the centre is printed.

There are no marginal inscriptions, but the values up to 1 rupee have the words STAR PAPER STAR watermarked across the centre margin of the sheet on which the decorative pillars are printed.

Shades.

Owing to the enormous population using them, frequent printings of the low-value stamps of India are necessary; and although these are made as large as possible in order that the supplies may last for a considerable time, fresh ones are always having to be made. It is extremely difficult when a considerable time elapses between each printing to mix the ink always of the exact shade originally used; and thus almost every printing shows some slight difference in this respect from the one preceding it. This is especially the case with regard to the current Indian stamps, and I append a list of the more prominent of these shades. According to the *Philatelic Journal of India*, the 2 annas in the reddish lilac shade is very hard to obtain.

- 3 pies, blue-grey instead of grey.
- 3 pies, greenish grey instead of grey.
- 3 pies, slate instead of grey.
- 2 annas, mauve instead of purple.
- 2 annas, reddish lilac instead of mauve.
- 2½ annas, deep ultramarine instead of ultramarine.
- 2½ annas, bright ultramarine instead of ultramarine.
- 8 annas, dull purple instead of magenta.
- 8 annas, aniline mauve instead of purple.
- 8 annas, bluish purple instead of purple.

Early in 1904 the Indian Post Office ran short of 3 pies stamps, and in order to meet this deficiency until the arrival of a fresh stock which had been ordered from England by telegram, 100,000 sheets, or 24,000,000 copies, of the ½ anna value were overprinted "¼" in large, thick, black numerals covering almost the whole of the stamp, similar to the provisional of the same denomination issued in 1898, the stamps thus surcharged being first placed on sale at Calcutta on 1 February, 1905. The shortage of this particular denomination is accounted for by the fact that the native Indians like to get as much as possible for their money, and consequently a native, when posting a letter upon which the fee amounts to, say, 1 anna, will almost invariably use four of the 3 pies stamps in preference to a single stamp of the requisite denomination, thus accounting for the very large numbers of these stamps which are sold. The following is a copy of the official circular relative to the issue of this provisional, and is taken from the *Philatelic Journal of India* :—

In consequence of the abnormal sales of ¼ anna postage stamps which have lately taken place, the stocks of the stamp in the three Central Depôts at Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras are nearly exhausted, and as fresh supplies are not expected from England until April next, it has been decided, as a temporary measure, to have a quantity of ¼ anna postage stamps surcharged with the lower value in order to meet the continuing heavy demand for ¼ anna stamps. As in 1898, when this denomination of postage stamps was first introduced, the surcharge will consist of a large, bold fraction, as shown in the margin, printed in black ink on each surcharged stamp.

These surcharged stamps will be issued in the usual way from treasuries in compliance with requisitions of postmasters and other stamp vendors for ¼ anna postage stamps, and when used by the public in payment of postage, etc., they should, of course, be recognized to the extent of the surcharged value.

1 February, 1905.

Provisional issue. Design, watermark, perforation, paper, etc., as before. Overprinted "¼" in large, thick numerals in complete sheets at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta, in three lines, in black.

¼ on ½ anna, pea-green (24,000,000).

Late in the following year the ½ anna and 1 anna stamps of the current King's Head Indian series were issued with their inscriptions changed from plain POSTAGE to POSTAGE & REVENUE, in order that these values might be available for fiscal use also. It is unlikely, however, that further values will be added to this unified series.

Prior to the issue of these unified stamps, it had been a common practice in India to penmark unused stamps affixed to letters before giving them to native servants to post, as petty larceny has been developed amongst the native peons to the point of a fine art, and unused postage stamps constitute one of the many inconsiderable trifles which have for them an irresistible attraction. If, however, the stamps are in any way marked or defaced they will leave them severely alone, as such stamps are not redeemable at the post offices. In order therefore to pave the way for the introduction of these combined postage and revenue stamps, the subjoined official notice was issued by the Indian postal authorities on 1 April, 1905, prohibiting the penmarking of stamps prior to their being posted, as in the case of these particular stamps it could not be told whether the stamps had not first been fiscally used and afterwards used for postage also, if such bore pen cancellations.

OFFICIAL NOTICE.

It has been decided, with the sanction of the State, to introduce one anna and half anna unified stamps for postal and revenue purposes.

1
4

Designs for these stamps are at present being prepared, but considerable time will necessarily elapse before the new stamps will be available for sale to the public. The Government of India are, however, of opinion that the introduction of a reform which they have reason to believe will prove acceptable to all classes of the community should not be delayed solely on this account, and they have therefore decided that, with effect from 1 October, 1905, the one anna and half anna postage stamps at present in use may be utilized either for postal purposes or for the payment of stamp duty in all cases in which one anna adhesive stamps are required under the provisions of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899. With effect from that date, the sale of the present receipt stamps to the public will cease, but these stamps may be used without limit as regards time in the payment of all dues for the discharge of which receipt stamps can now be legally employed. In order to permit of the introduction of this scheme, it is necessary that the prohibition which has existed for many years past against defacement by the public of postage stamps affixed to letters and postal articles should be strictly enforced.

The Government of India have given this question their careful consideration, and they are satisfied that no serious inconvenience will be experienced owing to the enforcement of the order.

Instructions will, therefore, be issued to the effect that from 1 October penmarked stamps, or stamps bearing on their faces dates or initials or writings of any kind, will not be accepted by the Post Office in payment of postage.

The first of the new stamps to be issued was the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna in October, 1906, this being followed by the 1 anna in December of the same year.

1906.

Designs, watermark, perforation, paper, etc., as before. Inscribed POSTAGE & REVENUE instead of POSTAGE merely. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (issued October, 1906).

1 anna, carmine (issued December 16th, 1906).

Sheet arrangement as before.

Forgery

Specimens of the " $\frac{1}{4}$ " anna Provisional, referred to above, and purporting to have the surcharge inverted, have found their way on to the market quite recently. The *Philatelic Journal of India* informs us, however, that no such variety can genuinely exist, and all such stamps are therefore fraudulent.

(To be continued.)

Acrostic Competition

THE correct solution of Acrostic No. 8 (9 May) is :—

M in E
U nio N
L ea V(e)
R upe E
E l L
A llegr O
DewdroP
Y or E

Three marks are accredited to: Argonaut, Birdie, Cadi, W. G. Cochrane, Hiz, A. Harvey, Jaguar, Kasaj, Mascot, Mot, A. M. Marsh, H. Metcalf, Pen, S. B. K., E. H. F. S., A. St. J., and M. C. Tancock.

Two marks to: Aei (unsigned, but recognized), Algy, F. W. A., Bar, Carl, Chicken, Crofter, H. Chapman, Captain Clarke, T. F. G., Hawk, Horsa, J. R. H., W. T. B. H., Jap, Jud, F. A. J., Kappa, Lotus, J. C. Luker, G. Murray, Old Girl, Oudeis, C. V. O'Neil, A. H. P., A. B. Paterson, Reg, Roy, O. R. R., Seabee, Siwol, M. S. C. S., E. H. Shears, H. A. Spowart, E. Schilizzi, Taffy, Tasman, M. M., Tea, Tertius, Timbre, P. Talagrand, Ubique, Vox, and Zimpa.

One mark for: Adv, Anona, Beyond, Bridgida, W. Gardner, W. F. Godwin, A. Mackay, Omega, Psi, Thistle, and J. Walker.

For Acrostic No. 7.—Three marks to F. E. W.

For No. 6.—Two marks to Miss Keyser.

Notes.—Several solvers have sent in "Mine" for No. 1 Light, but it cannot be accepted as fitting at all in the face of second and fourth lines, which last was not a menace. This minute *mine* of mine has made me muse without a motive, for neither a magpie nor a manœuvre, mistake, muddle, millième or millimetre will measure it correctly. Though not mighty, it is not a microscopic mite or a performing one that I keep, and if not actually monetary, or metalline, it is not far from it, as a single letter might fix it. As to No. 7 there must be some clear definition that fits, for there are cough-drops, to say nothing of ears and tears. I have recognized Accelerando in a few cases. Curiously our near neighbour Belgium's rather common stamps were mentioned by two only in connection with No. 2, but that does not affect any solution. I am sorry there are so many failures this week, having no idea that any light was either a teaser, a tickler, or a twister, yet only two of the words were invariably right, and "mine" was correct for the majority, but not of itself able to secure the sender a first place. BEN.

The Genus Homo in Philately

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

"MAN; what is man?" quoth the Psalmist, and the question has been echoed by scientific thinkers ever since. The zoologists tell us that man belongs to the genus *homo* of the order Primates, and he is most closely related to the anthropoid apes—the gorilla, orang-outang, chimpanzee, and gibbon. However, he is not classed in the family Simiidae with the man-like apes, but is accorded a separate family to himself—Hominidae. The distinguishing features which account for this zoological distinction are his erect position and terrestrial habitat, his greater brain development, and his very highly developed social instincts.

As to the origin of man, who shall say? Scientists are practically agreed on the broad principle that there was a common prototype



of man and the anthropoid apes, but beyond that they can tell us little. On this point there can be no reasonable doubt, and it is highly probable that this common ancestor was a form related to the living gibbons. Some authorities assume that the cradle of mankind lay in South-eastern Asia or Malaysia, and strong evidence in support of this contention is afforded by the discovery of human remains (a skull, femur, and two molars) in 1892 by Dr. E. Dubois in certain Pliocene beds in Eastern Java. The skull of *Pithecanthropus erectus*, as this fossil man has been named, shows a cranial capacity about midway between the highest living ape—the gorilla—and the lowest living man. The distinctly human femur shows that this Pliocene ancestor could walk erect, and abundant proofs are now available to demonstrate that his immediate successor, Pleistocene man, had already ranged over all the habitable globe from the Indo-Malaysian centre of dispersion.

On the stamps of the world we find portraits of rulers, presidents, and other celebrities, representing many of the leading living races of mankind, and it has occurred to me that a few notes regarding their chief characteristics may not be void of interest,

and may add new attractions to the stamps in one's collection.

To start with, there has been much discussion among the learned as to whether or not all the races of mankind are to be regarded as forming one species. That there are differences in colour due to the degree of pigmentation of the skin, the type of hair, etc., is obvious; in fact, one expert has recognized no fewer than thirty-four shades of colour in the human skin, but it is sufficient for our purpose to point out that these are all variants of white, yellow, brown, and black. The chief types of hair are the straight (e.g. that of the Chinese), the wavy (common in Europeans), the frizzy (Australians), and the woolly (as in negroes). Students of ethnology—that branch of anthropology which treats of the several divisions of mankind in detail—are now practically unanimous in accepting Sir Henry Flower's four groups (Ethiopic or Negro, Mongolic, American, and Caucasian) as fundamental, and to consider these not as four distinct species, but as four clearly defined varieties of a single species of the genus *homo*. Of these four main varieties there are numerous subforms, one writer naming more than three hundred types in the Negro division alone!

In the following notes, however, I shall refer only to those races of which representative members are shown on postage stamps. As we are going to make personal remarks, it will perhaps be as well to commence with ourselves.

The inhabitants of the British Isles are of mixed ancestry, and can best be classified under the general name of Anglo-Saxons. They belong to the Caucasian division of mankind, and are a Low German branch of the Teutonic stock of the Aryan family with a faint Celtic strain derived from the primitive Britons. Much learned controversy



has been expended as to whether the Celtic or the Teutonic element predominates in their composition. But where so many elements are present, as in the ancestry of the typical modern Briton, it is hardly surprising to find that even the leading anthropological authorities differ as to which particular strain pre-

dominates. It is generally agreed that when Julius Cæsar landed in Britain he found a population of Celtic origin and speech, who were supposed to have crossed from Belgic Gaul and to have absorbed a pre-existing race. The Romans themselves did not mix with the Britons apparently, but accounted themselves a superior race, somewhat analogous to the manner in which the English in Egypt and India do not intermarry with the natives. From the ninth to the eleventh century the constant incursions of the Norsemen and Danes and the recurring hordes of Angles, Saxons, and Jutes infused the Scandinavian and Teutonic elements. The Norman Conquest added another layer of Celtic, Latin, and Teutonic stock, and since then Flemings settled from time to time, and refugees from Holland, France, etc., all intermingled in this land of freedom. He would thus indeed be a bold student who would attempt to resolve



the physical and mental characteristics of the Englishman into their original racial elements. Indeed, this amalgam of races has resulted in the evolution of a type which now has marked characteristics of its own. Typical members of our race are illustrated by His Majesty King Edward VII, whose portrait adorns so many of the stamps of the British Empire, and the Prince and Princess of Wales, whose presentments appear on the current 4 c. and 5 c. stamps of Newfoundland.

(To be continued.)

The Postal System and Stamps of Morocco

By OTTO ROMMEL, *Doctor of Law.* Translated by FRANK PHILLIPS

Introduction

AT the present time Morocco is a centre of interest both from a political and a philatelic standpoint. Nobody can say with certainty what the future of this territory will be; whether it will continue to be self-governing, or whether it will be divided amongst the Great Powers; in the end, it may even become the prey of a single one of the Powers.

Over and over again it has been noticed that a country's historical happenings are portrayed graphically on its postage stamps. The development of the postal system of Morocco is especially interesting, as light is thrown upon various political conditions, which in perhaps no other country have been so complex and so peculiar.

In Morocco there is not only a State postal system, but a number of native posts, and also many other systems under the direction of Europeans. In nearly all the larger towns British, French, German, and Spanish post offices are established, all of which compete with each other, and with the native Government and private posts.

My article is to treat solely of the various foreign post offices established in Morocco. However, a preliminary chapter deals with the postal service in general, so that we may better understand the local conditions governing it.

Preliminary

Although Morocco lies at the gate of Europe, from which it is only separated by the Straits of Gibraltar, this large country has remained practically uncivilized. Nowadays we are accustomed to find the railway and the telegraph in the remotest corners of the earth, but they are not to be seen in Morocco. No roads are to be found, not even the most primitive; the rivers are all without bridges, so that the ox-cart is impracticable. The only means of communication consists in horses or mules, or more frequently in walking. Rivers have to be crossed at fords, or simply by swimming. All these things are due solely to the extraordinary fanaticism by which the Mohammedans of Morocco have been cut off from communication with the outer world during centuries. At the time of the Moorish raids on Southern Spain, about the tenth century after Christ, there doubtlessly existed a high degree of culture, as is shown by various marvellous buildings that time has not completely destroyed. But since they were driven back out of Europe they have gone steadily backwards, and now the signs of their glorious past are very few and far between.

The Hebrew race have always occupied a curious position with regard to the Moors. They were not treated as "strangers," with

whom intercourse was forbidden, so the Jews were allowed to live anywhere they pleased, although no "stranger" might take up his habitation in the land. However, they were never accepted as natives, but, as is the case all over the world, they acted as intermediaries for trade, and were, in fact, the only link connecting the inhabitants of Morocco with the outside world.

Under these conditions no great need of a postal system was felt; the few necessary letters were forwarded by mule-drivers or caravans, which even to-day are still the only means of forwarding goods.

Later on professional couriers came into existence. They were called "Rekass," or "Rakass," or more correctly "R'Kars."

In each town there is a head-man called an "Amin," who himself is usually an old runner, and whose duty it is to see that a sufficient number of runners are always on hand. The Amin is personally responsible for all letters and money received by him. For pressing letters the Jewish merchants made use of special runners, who were obtainable at greatly increased rates.

For a considerable period the various Customs Houses of Morocco had carried on a correspondence amongst themselves, which gradually caused the inauguration of a service of Government messengers from one port to another. By virtue of a certain decree of Sultan Muley Hassan's, about forty or fifty years ago, commanding that these messengers should also carry private letters, the postal system of Morocco began to develop. Thus we notice that the postal officials of Morocco actually belonged to the Customs service, and up to the present time they have to be sworn into that branch of the service. Post offices run on these lines are to be found in all the larger towns of the country, but they deal only with letters, and owing to their inability to compete with the foreign postal services, their work becomes smaller every year. All important official communications, as well as important private letters, are already forwarded solely by the foreign post offices. The tariff for letters forwarded by the Government post has for a very long time been fixed at only 8 centimos, which must be paid in cash: there are no stamps available for this service. However, in 1893, for a short period, letters were hand-stamped in water-colours with an octagonal figure containing the following inscription in three lines: EL MAHUTH(A)—BILLAH—(name of town). The name of the town was in the middle, and according as it was masculine or feminine the second word of the first line was MAHUTH or MAHUTHA. Translated the inscription reads: "Town preserved by God"—"Tetuan," for example. This impression is known in the following colours: blue, violet, grey, black, brick-red, blood-red,

violet, lilac-rose, and in many shades. It may hardly be termed a frank, although it denoted payment of the postage; it was only in use for a short time, after which it was withdrawn as unnecessary.

It was in the nineteenth century that, greatly against the wishes of the Government of Morocco, permission was obtained to open to foreigners a number of towns on the coasts of the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea. European ships voyaged from one coast town to another, opening up relations between them, and also between these towns and the whole world. Soon the necessity was felt in Tangiers for means of obtaining French, Spanish, and British stamps, so that letters might be forwarded to Europe.

Finally, the inland towns of Fez and Marrakesch were opened to foreign trade. In Fez, one of the capitals, the Powers of Europe established military agencies in the Cherif's court, much against the will of the native Government, while at Tangier for some time past diplomatic agents had been in residence.

Up to this time the European shipping between the ports, together with the regular service established from the ports to inland towns, both by the Government of Morocco and by private enterprise, had sufficed not only for the ordinary means of communication, but also for the correspondence accruing by means of the influx of foreign trade. It is true that letters were somewhat slow in arriving, but then they were fairly sure of getting there. Robbery from the post office messengers was almost non-existent, as extremely severe penalties were entailed thereby, and only letters were carried which did not attract the attention of thieves.

But this state of affairs did not satisfy the ambitions of the European Powers. It is a known fact that political influence often follows in natural sequence to the extension of the means of communication. What the Powers wanted to do was to get the means of communication into their own hands, rightly thinking that political power would naturally follow.

(To be continued.)

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.

On Postmarks

By D. C. G.

BEFORE leaving the stamps of the Italian States, mention must be made of some of the fairly numerous distinct types of postmark found on the stamps of Tuscany.

One of the earlier postmarks consists of a large circle containing the letters "P D" at the top with the date in the centre and the town-name at the bottom. Another type is a series of five parallel lines set wide apart. A similar postmark is a series of five parallel lines set close together.

A different type of obliteration consists of the letters "P D" either with or without a frame round them.

Yet another type of postmark is the town-name between two large circles with the date in the centre.

A further type consists of the town-name within a kind of scroll with the date in a circle above it.

This last type, as well as the "P D" type, may occasionally be found impressed in red ink.

A decidedly scarce postmark is the letters "S^A F^A" within a circle. The explanation of this postmark is to be found in a note by Dr. E. Diena, in Vol. IX, No. 101, p. 158 of *The London Philatelist*: "This obliteration was used by the Società della Strada Ferrata Leopolda, a Railway Company, which, according to a convention dated September 5th, 1855, had the right to convey letters on its own lines, an authorization which was withdrawn by a notification dated April 4th, 1860."

The commonest type of postmark on the last issue of Tuscany is a circular date mark of slightly varying form.

The earliest type of postmark used on the stamps of Luxemburg consists of three concentric circles with a round stop in the centre.

This postmark, however, was soon superseded by an obliteration made up of a grille of eight parallel lines, which is the most general type of postmark.

The stamps of the first issue may also be found cancelled with a circular date mark, which regularly occurs in varying forms on the later issues of this country.

The first stamp of Norway occurs obliterated with one of three types of postmark. The most usual cancellation is a circular grille of twelve parallel lines. A second type consists of a number within three concentric circles, which is the usual postmark of the second issue. A third type is the town-name in thick capital letters and the date within a circle.

The postmarks on the earlier Spanish

stamps are a not uninteresting series. The first two issues are usually obliterated with a design somewhat like a four-leaved trefoil with a straight line projecting from each side. A scarcer postmark is a kind of lattice; while another type is a circular dated cancellation. These postmarks occur in black, red, and blue. The commonest obliteration on the immediately subsequent issues consists of an oval filled up by six parallel lines impressed in black or in blue, though circular date marks are not infrequently met with. A rather curious postmark found on the later imperforate stamps consists of two concentric circles with four lines joining the two circles at equal intervals. In each of the four compartments thus formed a number is repeated, and the same number is also inserted in larger type in the centre. The numbers apparently varied with the different post offices. With the advent of the perforated stamps the interest excited by the postmarks diminishes, as ordinary circular date marks of slightly varying character become the rule. However, an interesting study may be made of the various issues of Spain used in the Canary Islands with the corresponding obliteration.

The earlier stamps of Switzerland provide an exceedingly interesting and somewhat numerous series of postmarks.

The early Cantonal stamps each had their own particular type of obliteration, which in some cases continued to be used upon the first Federal issues.

The following are the chief varieties of postmark to be found on the first Federal issues: the Zürich Cross, in black; the town-name, in black or in blue; the letters "PP," in large capitals, in black or (rarely) in red; "PD," in black and in blue; the grille of the Confederation, in black and in blue.

On the issue of 1854 also some of the above postmarks may be found, e.g. the grille, in black and in blue.

Another type which occasionally occurs on this issue, besides circular date marks of varying form, is the town-name below the Swiss Cross, with lines radiating from it, surrounded by an oval. On the later issues the usual form of obliteration is a circular postmark of ordinary shape and design.

(To be continued.)

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.

Notes from our Approval Department

By W. H. ANDREWS

THE following question is constantly being asked by numerous of our customers, viz. :—

"Is the hobby of stamp collecting increasing in popularity year by year or decreasing?"

One often hears people who are not stamp collectors remark: "You never hear much about stamp collecting now, the *craze* is dying out." I have often had this remark passed to me, mostly by people in small out-of-the-way villages. No greater mistake was ever made than to call "stamp collecting" a *craze*.

When one firm alone has been in existence over fifty years dealing entirely in stamps, and each year its turnover has increased, it follows of necessity that the business cannot be called a *craze*. A *craze* is something which merely takes hold of people temporarily, e.g. diablo and ping-pong. No, stamp collecting is a hobby, and more than this, is *the Hobby*.

The only people who can rightly answer the above question are the stamp dealers themselves.

When one compares the number of letters we ourselves receive each day with the number received daily, say, even five years ago, there can be no doubt whatever remaining in our minds that the hobby is daily gaining in popularity. Nowhere can one more fully appreciate this fact than in the Approval Department, where about 70 per cent of the letters pass through our hands.

Week by week we find the number of letters always on the increase, so that, notwithstanding the fact that during the past two years we have twice increased the staff of this Department, yet as each outgoing mail day comes along our staff has to use its utmost endeavours to reply to each and every letter, so that none may miss a mail. It is a most interesting work to read and reply to the hundreds of letters we receive daily. Here are half a dozen or so letters from customers in our own country apologizing for delay in returning selections due to their having been laid up with influenza. We can sympathize, inasmuch as half our staff has been down with it. Here, again, is a letter from a customer in Victoria stating that the thermometer for the last five days has registered 112° in the shade.

Stamp collecting is a hobby which appeals to all grades of life from the highest to the

lowest. We have amongst our customers a laundrymaid and several bricklayers.

In a business established so many years we frequently are able to trace a boy's career in life. First of all we receive a letter from Mrs. Blank asking for a selection of stamps to be sent her, in order that her little boy may choose some. In a year or so we receive a letter from Master Blank himself in large handwriting. Later we trace him to Eton, Harrow, or some other public school, and later still to Oxford or Cambridge, or perhaps to the Army.

Once a collector always a collector, is a very true saying. We are constantly receiving letters from clients stating that they have sold their collections, and then in a few months' time we hear again from them stating that they have recommenced.

This morning a gentleman, having purchased our set of eight packets for 55s., informed us that his boy, aged nine years, was very backward in geography, but that since he had started him collecting stamps his knowledge of this subject had increased wonderfully.

We especially notice the great increase in the number of stamp collectors in our colonies. In the West Indian Islands, for instance, where formerly we sent out selections to one or two people, we now send out hundreds. The same remark applies also to the Straits Settlements, Ceylon, etc.

We would here like to mention that it is our impression that some would-be customers do not care to write to us for small orders, as they imagine that we only deal with large buyers.

We wish to do away with this idea once and for all, and would mention that we are always willing to send out approval sheets even if the customer only requires 1s. worth of stamps at a time. We make it our duty to pay as much attention to customers spending small sums as to those who can afford large amounts.

Remember, therefore, if you desire to fill up one or two gaps in a particular country, send us a note stating the name of the country and we will send you a sheet of stamps from which you may choose those you desire. It was the Bishop of Ripon who said, "Every one should have a hobby." What better hobby could one desire than that of stamp collecting?

Points for Beginners

By B. W. W.

Separation of Stamps

COLLECTORS are so used to the present method of separating unused stamps when bought in blocks or sheets that they are apt to forget that originally the stamps had to be cut off singly with scissors or a knife, or be folded and torn off as required. The stamps so issued are described as imperforate, frequently shortened to imp. or imperf. in catalogues, which has led novices to think that stamps so classed are imperfect. It is considered a preferable word to unperforated, which might mean that the stamps had been perforated and then had the holes filled up. Incidental reference was made to these a few months back, but it is well to remind beginners that this imperforate condition generally adds to the value of a stamp, so that if the cutting apart has been done unevenly the young collector must avoid trimming the margin to make it look neater, as if the margin is too narrow outside the engraving, it may be doubtful whether the stamp is of the earlier scarce issue or a cheaper perforated stamp cut down to look like the more valuable one. Whenever a pair of such stamps can be got it is best to keep them unsevered.

Besides the clearly cut holes now so general there have been other methods of simplifying the separation of the stamps, usually called rouletting, as practised with a small hand-wheel making indentations in or even cutting through the paper, so that the stamps could be easily torn off in straight lines. This was also done mechanically in printing the sheets, the short lines or dashes - - - like rouletting being inked and showing in colour outside the stamps. In some cases the cutting lines were curved or serpentine as in early Finlands, others diagonal or like the teeth of a saw or V-shaped, and occasionally as half-squares. Many of these were done privately or unofficially; there were some, too, that made little holes like pin-pricks without cutting out the paper, usually described as "pin-perf."

As already mentioned, the invention of a machine for cutting out small circles for the more easy separation of pieces of paper was introduced by an Irishman named Archer, who obtained leave from the Government to try his machine on a number of stamp sheets in 1852. These trial perforations, before the final adoption in 1854, are much sought after by English specialists, and it is always possible that others may find a stamp or two on letters of 1852-3 that had been so perforated. The distinguishing mark is that

such stamps have the letters at bottom corners of stamps of smaller size than those issued after February, 1852. These perforations were of the finer gauge of sixteen holes in the width of twenty millimetres, which was subsequently found in regular use to make the paper break or separate too easily if folded up, so that fourteen perforations were finally adopted and have been the rule since 1855; as well as for Colonial stamps printed by De La Rue & Co.

The various methods of arranging the needles either for single rows or to perforate three sides of a row of stamps at once need not be gone into here, but the different sizes vary from 7 to 17 holes in the 20-millimetre space. In some cases the stamps have a different number at top and bottom from those at sides in the same space, and are referred to as $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ or 12×10 , etc., the first figures being usually the horizontal perfs. and the last the vertical one. Occasionally there are three gauges to be found on the same stamp, and there are others with needles so irregularly arranged as to cause one side of a stamp to show two gauges, say, $6\frac{1}{2}$ for one half and 7 for the other portion of usual space.

Colonial and Foreign Watermarks

Though the stamps of all, or nearly all, the British possessions are on paper made with the watermarked safeguard, there are not nearly so many in foreign countries. Among the more noticeable of the latter are the "loops" pattern of early Spanish and crossed lines; similar but larger "diamonds" were used in Bavaria, and various sizes of wavy lines. Norway had a lion, also posthorn; Denmark and Italy have crowns; while some have initials and others larger patterns extending over a good portion of the sheet.

To save some unnecessary trouble and correspondence as to the discovery of an unchronicled watermark found on a good few of our colonial stamps, it should be known that in the sheets of paper as made with a Crown and CC or CA below to show on each stamp, there are the words CROWN COLONIES running up the side margins twice over, and across the top and bottom, as also in the centre sometimes; and on our own stamps the word POSTAGE is repeated in outlined letters about five-eighths of an inch high. It has often happened that, in placing the paper on the plates for printing, the sheets have got a little on one side, and so when printed it may occur that the Crown is not on the stamp, or only a small portion of it on one edge, while on the other edge

is one of the letters of the above-named words which should be on outer margins only. These are not considered of any importance, but young collectors in their eagerness to show that they have studied their stamps and watermarks often write to the editors of papers to announce their discovery. There are in some very few cases real errors of watermark, as also of the colour in which the stamp should have been

printed, but these are mostly noted in the Gibbons Catalogues as being well known.

Inverted or reversed watermarks are not much thought of as a rule, being due only to placing a sheet of paper wrong end or side upwards. In some cases a whole issue has been printed with watermark sideways for special reasons, and also in regular form; these are varieties to keep.

(To be continued.)

Philately in the Public Eye

Well-known Educationist on the Ethics of Hobbies

UNFORTUNATELY the upholding, or even bare mention of Philately as a premier hobby and pastime, is so rarely indulged in by public speakers, that naturally when stamp collectors are so especially favoured we cannot let such noteworthy instances pass without recording the name of our eulogist.

Mr. J. L. Paton, M.A., at present High Master at the Manchester Grammar School, lecturing on the "Importance of a Hobby" at the Victoria University, Manchester, on Saturday, 9 May, 1908, gave many reasons why it was absolutely necessary for a man or a woman to place their spare moments to the service of some hobby, no matter what that hobby consisted of. He pointed out that the most difficult patient a doctor had was the man who had broken down and did not possess a hobby. He had to tell the man to do nothing, and the patient had no way of getting his mind clear away from his worries.

The keeping of pets was a pastime for the full realization and respect for life; but, from his own view, he thought that there was no hobby that educated the juvenile mind more than stamp collecting. Though he did not partake of this hobby himself, he always encouraged it. He thought that a boy who collected stamps learnt and admired art, commercialism, geography, and history rather better, he must admit, than he would

do under the compulsory teaching. The speaker paid a great compliment to Philately when he said that he always found those boys who collected stamps were especially bright and had a desire to follow in the footsteps of so many famous men who had found the key to fame, not always in the schoolroom, but in the hobby of a leisure hour.

So long as the spirit of commercialism was kept down, he thought that all instructors of education should encourage stamp collecting. The lecturer gave several amusing little incidents of stamp collecting, one of which was how a boy at school, fond of stamp collecting, wrote to the famous Japanese General Oyama, during the war, congratulating him on the brilliant success of his armies, and mentioning casually that he was "short of the following Japanese specimens for his stamp collection." Mr. Paton mentioned that Louis XVI preferred lock-making to the affairs of government, and Nero fiddled. Maybe, had stamps been issued in those far-off days, we should have had historians recording that Louis lost his head through collecting other than French stamps, and Nero was just mounting a few new issues whilst Rome was burning. Who knows? Anyway, we thank Mr. Paton for his remarks, and hope that he in the near by and by will also be persuaded to become a practical devotee of our hobby.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Tercentenary Celebration of the Founding of Quebec

ACCORDING to *Le Journal des Philatélistes* the Canadian Government has definitely decided to issue a special postage stamp, commemorative of the founding of the town of Quebec. At the end of next July there will be general festivities to celebrate the tercentenary of the town; it is said that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will be present for the occasion.

The Postmaster-General of Canada, the Hon. Mr. Lemieux, no sooner made known the intentions of the Government than an enormous number of suggestions for the design of an appropriate stamp were showered upon him. One suggestion was that the design should consist of a view of Quebec as it was in the seventeenth century. Another ingenious idea was that the design should consist of two medallion portraits, one of King Edward VII, and the other

of King Henry IV of France, who was upon the throne when Quebec was founded.

In reference to the latter suggestion, our contemporary very gracefully refers to the cordial feeling now existing between France and our own country, and also says that candidly it cannot welcome the suggestion, as Edward VII's right royal appearance would be too great a contrast to the vapid look of Henry IV! Our contemporary is republican, but . . . God save the King!

However, it is not at all probable that the last-mentioned suggestion will be adopted, as a portrait of another notable Frenchman, Samuel Champlain, the founder of Quebec, is thought to be still more suitable.

The Founder of Quebec

SAMUEL CHAMPLAIN was born at Brouage, in France, in 1570. He was a great traveller, and in 1603 made his first voyage up the

St. Lawrence River, as far as the Falls of St. Louis. He found the natives exceedingly tractable, and, in 1608, founded the town of Quebec at the point where the two rivers, St. Lawrence and St. Charles, join; this spot was close to the fort built sixty years earlier by Jacques Cartier.

In 1620 Champlain became Governor-General of Canada, but the French Government only supported the colony in a half-hearted fashion, and would not grant any subsidy towards its development or defence.

He succeeded in fortifying the town, which for the whole of the year 1628 withstood a siege by the English. It fell in 1629, but was restored to France three years later by the terms of the Treaty of St. Germain-en-Laye.

Champlain again became Governor in 1633, and died two years later.

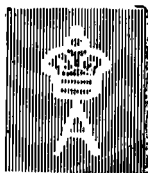
New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Australian Commonwealth.—According to *The Australian Philatelist* (1.4.08) the 6d. was issued on 17 March with the watermark Crown and single-lined A, and perforated 11½, 12 x 11.



Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11½, 12, compound with 11. 143'6d., emerald-green.

Canada.—In our stock we have just found a few copies of the current 1 c. in a yellow-green shade on toned paper. Up to the present the shade has been blue-green on white paper.

The description of No. 139 in the Catalogue should therefore be blue-green.



New shade. Perf. 12. 139a. 1 c., yellow-green on toned.

Cayman Islands.—We have received two more values, the 3d. and 4d., with the new inscription POSTAGE—& REVENUE. Both values are on multiple-watermarked, chalk-surfaced paper, and show the figure of value on a plain tablet.

The sheets are composed of two panes of 60

stamps each, with unbroken marginal line running completely round each pane.

It will be noticed that the colours of the 4d. are changed.

We have also been shown a 10s. stamp with new inscription; it is watermarked Crown and single CA, but is on chalk-surfaced paper. It was explained in the last issue of the *Colonial Office Journal* that certain old stocks of single-watermarked paper, notably green and buff, were being chalk-surfaced, and so used up.



Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14. Name and value in second colour. Lined tablet.

3410s., green and red on green, C.

Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14. Name and value in second colour.

243d., brown on yellow, C.

254d., black and red on yellow, C.

Ceylon.—*Der Deutsche Philatelist* (7.5.08) chronicles a 5 c., lilac, and a 6 c., carmine, both of a different type from the current issue. In a recent issue of the *Colonial Office Journal* we were informed that changes of design were to be expected, the new designs having figures of value inserted in the lower corners. Both these stamps are on multiple, unsurfaced paper, but we shall not chronicle them at present, as we think it probable that our contemporary has derived its information from specimen copies.

Grenada.—We notice that *Der Deutsche Philatelist* (7.5.08) chronicles six new values of the "Ship" design, all on multiple-watermarked, chalk-surfaced paper. The *Colonial Office Journal* gave certain information respecting these stamps, but we do not think they can have been actually issued yet. We do not chronicle them for the reason given under the paragraph on "Ceylon."

The values mentioned are 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 5s., and 10s.

Leeward Islands.—We learn from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (16.5.08) that the 3d. has now made its appearance on chalk-surfaced paper. The earliest postmark seen is 18 April, 1908.



Wmk. Multiple Crown C A. Perf. 14.
35½d., lilac and black, C.

New South Wales.—The following interesting information is taken from *The Australian Philatelist* (1.4.08):—

"Mr. W. A. Hull has shown us a 3d. diadem printed on paper watermarked Small Cr. and NSW, and perf. 11 all round, with postmark dated 1902. This is a remarkable discovery, for when the Small Crown was superseded by the Large Crown paper in 1881, the 11 machine was not in use, and the fact of the stamp having been used only six years ago complicates matters still further. Of course it is known that the 9d. on red, deep brown, and the 1s., black, both exist wmk. Small Cr. and NSW, perf. 11 [S. G.'s Catalogue Nos. 193 and 193a]. The only conclusion we can come to is that a book of the old paper must have lain in stock and been buried under the new paper for several years. We should not be surprised to hear of the 5d. turning up also on Small Cr. paper perf. 11; in fact, we are not surprised at anything.

"Mr. Hull came into possession of the stamps (six in all) in a perfectly *bona fide* manner. Two ladies brought in a lot of stamps, amongst them being 350 threepenny New South Wales, which he bought in the usual way. On examining them afterwards he found one of those above referred to, and on continuing his investigations discovered six altogether."



13



29

Type 13. Wmk. Crown and NSW, Type 29. Perf. 11.
192a½d., green.

Roumania.—Several of our contemporaries chronicle a new permanent set for this country; the issue is said to have taken place on 14 April (new style). The whole issue, with the exception of the 15 bani, is said to be of the same design; the chief feature is a portrait of the head and shoulders of King Charles, looking three-quarter-face to the left. The name of the country, ROMANIA, appears below in large capitals, and the value in figures in the lower left-hand corner. The 15 bani is much the same, but the medallion head is larger.

According to *Der Deutsche Philatelist* (7.5.08) the perforations are mixed as usual; the 5 and 10 bani are known perf. 11½ and 11½ × 13½; the 15 and 50 bani perf. 11½; and the 25 bani perf. 13½. We do not think it worth while to separate the perforations of these stamps.

New design, head of King Charles. Perf. 11½, or 13½, or compound.
5 bani, emerald.
10 " rose-red.
15 " violet.
25 " deep blue.
50 " orange.

Zanzibar.—We have been shown proofs of a wonderful set of twenty-one new stamps, to be issued very shortly, which we referred to last in our issue of 9 May. The values are from 3 cents up to 200 rupees! But we are extremely glad to hear that the values 10 to 200 rupees are not postage stamps at all, but are only *fiscals*.

There are four designs in the set.

First Design.—3 c., 6 c., and 12 c. Small rectangular. Full-face portrait of Sultan Seyyid Ali; name of country above, value in figures below.

Second Design.—1 c., 10 c., 15 c. to 75 c. As first design, but name of country below, and value in figures above.

Third Design.—1 to 5 rupees. Large rectangular. Portrait of Sultan; name of country below. Figures of value in upper corners; native "figures" in lower corners; native inscription on two sides.

Fourth Design.—For *fiscals*: Large oblong. View of port; name of country below. Figures of value in lower left-hand corner.

We give a list of the stamps below, but it must be understood that we merely do so as a matter of interest; it is not a formal chronicle of the issue.

Postage Stamps.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1 c., blue-slate. | 50 c., blue-green. |
| 3 c., yellow-green. | 75 c., greenish black. |
| 6 c., rose-carmine. | 1 r., yellow-green. |
| 10 c., brown. | 2 r., deep lilac. |
| 12 c., deep lilac. | 3 r., orange-bistre. |
| 15 c., ultramarine. | 4 r., vermilion. |
| 25 c., sepia. | 5 r., Antwerp blue. |

Fiscal Stamps.

- | |
|-----------------------------------|
| 10 r., blue-green and brown. |
| 20 r., black and yellow-green. |
| 30 r. " sepia. |
| 40 r. " orange-brown. |
| 50 r. " mauve. |
| 100 r. " Antwerp blue. |
| 200 r., brown and greenish black. |

All the above stamps are said to have a multiple watermark consisting of a lotus flower.

Answers to Correspondents

W. J. D. (East Finchley).—The rare "Government Parcels" is the one with the overprint *inverted*; of this it is believed that only one sheet was made. The 1d. Government Parcels in its normal condition sells retail at 2d. each. The other stamps you mention are all priced in Part I of our current Catalogue, to which we refer you.

H. F. (Bhaga, Bengal).—We have carefully read your letter and the copy of a letter from one of the London stamp auctioneers, and we fail to see that you have any ground for complaint. You valued your stamps by various catalogues at about £200, and apparently wanted an advance of £50

on them. As the auctioneers informed you the stamps would not realize £50 at auction, they very properly returned them to you. They justly point out that your Cashmere stamps are mostly reprints, and that you made other similar errors which largely affected your valuation. "The Times" Duty and Postage stamps are in very little demand, and they correctly told you they had no auction value. You have your stamps back, and the auctioneers acted very honourably in returning them and pointing out why they did not sell them.

Correspondence

Arrangement of Collection in Blank Albums

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—I think the reader who asked for information on how to arrange a collection must have been rather disappointed at the reply given by "B. W. W." in this week's *G. S. W.* The writer appears to make no attempt to solve the difficulty. As the size or shape of the album is not given, it is, of course, a difficult matter for an outsider to offer suggestions. Provided the album referred to is quadrillé ruled, surely if a straightforward collection is desired a line for each issue should be found to meet all requirements, excepting where there is an unusually long set. This can easily be ascertained by referring to the catalogue and an extra line allowed for.

Probably the difficulty your correspondent finds is in leaving space for sets of which he has no specimen to begin the line. In that case, if an orderly appearance is desired let your reader make a beginning thus. Taking it that he is collecting British Colonials, a careful glance through his collection will show that there are three varying vertical measurements in his stamps: those like our own 1d. stamp, the Dominica pictorials, and our own 2s. 6d. value. He will find that these three stamps will be a standard gauge for all Colonials excepting the large South Australians and Sierra Leone Postal Fiscals and Gibraltar high values, but perhaps it would be better to include this fourth measurement at once. The vertical measurements of these four sized stamps are as follows (I will refer to the sizes by their usual watermarks): CA, 1 inch; sideways, CC 1½ inch; upright, CC, say 1½ inch; long South Australia, say 1¾ inch. These should be kept as standard measurements. Next, the vertical measurement of the quadrillé ruling. In a blank leaf I have by me this is 9 inches.

Now, we will imagine the country being dealt with is Cayman Islands. These stamps are all of the same size, so it is a case of simple measurements only. The size will be No. 1 in our gauge, i.e. 1 inch. It is therefore a case of seeing how many times 1 inch will comfortably go into 9. It will be necessary to leave a short space between

each row—say a quarter-inch. This will work out seven rows with a quarter-inch to spare at the bottom of the page, which will be just right. In order to get the rows mathematically exact, it will be necessary to have your standard gauge in a convenient form. A piece of stiff white paper should be obtained about 1 in. wide and 9 in. long (or whatever is the length of the quadrillé ruling), and the above measurements marked along one edge; then work out suitable spacing for the other three measurements, and mark the other edges in the same way. Mark in brackets at the left-hand side of each measurement the number—for instance, the 1¼-inch spacing for 1-inch stamps (1), and the others the same—and it will be a simple matter to arrange the pages.

To return to Cayman Islands. Lay the (1) gauge along the left-hand side of the page, and with a pencil make a faint dot at the beginning of the lines opposite the seven marks on your gauge.

The page is now ready for arranging the stamps. Perhaps the collector will have been so unfortunate as to miss the first two King's Head sets. He will then arrange the Queen's set in the first row he has marked, leave the next two rows, and start the bicoloured set on the fourth row, and so on.

As "B. W. W." cited the Cabot issue of Newfoundland, I will just make a suggestion for arranging this set. We here have fourteen values, six of gauge (3) and eight of (1). These may be arranged in two ways: first, by keeping straight ahead, in which case mark out your rows by No. (3), or by arranging the stamps according to design, in which case one row will be marked by (3), which will take the upright designs, and the other by (1) to take the oblong. I arrange my New Zealand pictorials on this method, and the result is very pleasing. I should recommend this right through Newfoundland.

By adopting this system of measurements the collection will have a neat and uniform appearance, very different from that of the usual blank-album collections.

Yours truly,
J. IRELAND.

1 May, 1908.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 23
Whole No. 179

6 JUNE, 1908

Vol. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Congo—continued

THE stamps of the tablet type call for no remark, the list being as follows. It is said that the remainders of this type were burnt in April, 1903.



1892. "Navigation and Commerce" type.
Perf. 14 × 13½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	0 1	—
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	0 1	—
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	0 2	—
5 c., green on <i>pale green</i>	0 2	—
10 c., black on <i>lilac</i>	0 3	—
15 c., blue	0 4	—
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	—	—
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	1 0	—
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	1 6	—
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	1 6	—
50 c., carmine on <i>rose</i>	1 0	—
75 c., brown on <i>orange</i>	—	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	—	—

In 1900 a new set of stamps was decided upon, one to depict local colour and one, it was hoped, to make the fortune of the colony. The Press agent went busily to work, and a good deal was heard of this wonderful series before its appearance. Meanwhile the 5 c. and 15 c. ran short, and some of the 20 c. and 30 c. of the "tablet" type were surcharged respectively. Very little seems to be known about these provisionals, but it is certain they are very scarce. In the case of the 15 c. on 30 c. the surcharge is known in *blue* as well as *black*, but the 5 c. on 20 c. is only known in *black*.

Valeur
15

1900. Stamps of last issue surcharged as above in blue or black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c. on 20 c., red on <i>green</i>	—	—
15 c. on 30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	—	—

In December, 1900, the 10 c., 15 c., 25 c., and 50 c. were changed for all the colonies, the new colours being in accordance with Postal Union requirements. French Congo received the four values, though it is said this was through a misunderstanding, the new stamps mentioned above having already been sent out to the colony.

1900. As 1892, but colours changed.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 c., rose-red	0 2	—
15 c., grey	0 4	—
25 c., blue	0 6	—
50 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	1 0	—

When the new stamps appeared they proved to be possibly the ugliest and certainly in point of execution some of the worst ever printed. The series was composed of fifteen values in three designs. The designs had been made by M. Paul Merwart, an artist attached to the Colonial Office; the engraving had been done by M. Benjamin Damman, and the printing by the Maison Chassepot (a firm with some reputation in the preparation of maps for the Colonial Office) on paper specially manufactured by the Maison Perrigot-Mazure, with a separate watermark for each type. Perhaps it was a case of too many cooks, but the sale of these "atrocities" to art-loving collectors can scarcely have proved very remunerative. The type for the values 1 c. to 15 c. shows a panther (a local beast of prey) in ambush, and the watermark for this type is a branch of thistle. The type for the values 20 c. to 75 c. portrays a rather good-looking female of the Bakalois tribe holding a lance in one hand and a hatchet in the other, and framed by trees and exotic vegetation. The watermark is a rose branch. The higher values show a grove of coco-nut palms at

Libreville, and at the sides of the stamp are two natives, probably Pahouins, holding lances. The watermark in this case is a branch of olive. In all the designs the name of the colony appears on two elephant's tusks. The stamps were printed in two colours, some combined in the most startling way, and the perforation, which is probably the only satisfactory part of the work, gauges 11 and was effected by the Chassepot's machines. The stamps are still current. In 1904 some values appeared in slightly different shades and on thinner paper.



May, 1900. *Background in second colour. Perf. 11.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 (c.), purple and sepia	0 1	—
2 (c.), brown and yellow	0 1	—
4 (c.), vermilion and grey	0 1	—
5 (c.), green and grey-green	0 2	—
10 (c.), red and pale red	0 2	—
15 (c.), violet and olive-green	0 3	—



20 (c.), green and pale red	0 3	—
25 (c.), blue and pale blue	0 4	—
30 (c.), carmine and yellow	0 5	—
40 (c.), chestnut and green	—	—
50 (c.), violet and lilac	—	—
75 (c.), claret and orange	1 0	—



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 fr., drab and slate-green	—	—
2 fr., carmine and grey-brown	2 6	—
5 fr., orange and black	6 0	—

Though the printings were large, 200,000 of the 5 c. and 100,000 of the 10 c., these two values ran short in 1903, and on 13 July of that year 4000 of the 30 c. and 2 fr. were respectively surcharged for use as 5 c. and 10 c. It is said that half of these quantities were used, and that the remainder were burnt on the arrival of the fresh supplies of 5 c. and 10 c. from France.

5^c 0,10

13 July, 1903. *Stamps of last issue surcharged in black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 on 30 (c.), carmine and yellow	30 0	20 0
10 on 2 fr., carmine and grey-brown	30 0	25 0

Middle Congo calls for little consideration. Following on the division of the Congo into separate colonies an issue for this portion was made early in 1907. The stamps are similar in design to French Congo, except that the name MOYEN CONGO replaces CONGO FRANÇAIS on the elephant's tusks. The production, however, is very much better, the colours being more artistic. The paper is without watermark, and the perforation is altered. This time the work was done by the Government printers.



1907. *Background in second colour. Perf. 14 x 13½ or 13½ x 14.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 (c.), olive and chestnut	—	—
2 (c.), violet and brown	—	—
4 (c.), blue	—	—
5 (c.), green and blue	—	—
10 (c.), rose and blue	—	—
20 (c.), brown and blue	—	—



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
25 (c.), blue and green	—	—
30 (c.), red and green	—	—
35 (c.), chocolate and blue	—	—
40 (c.), olive-green and brown	—	—
45 (c.), violet and red	—	—
50 (c.), green and red	—	—
75 (c.), brown and blue	—	—



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 fr., green and mauve	—	—
2 fr., mauve and grey-green	—	—
5 fr., blue and rose	—	—

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Les Marchands de Timbres-Poste d'autrefois, et leurs Catalogues

UNDER this title my friend M. Pierre Mahé has just published (through the firm of Yvert and Tellier, Amiens, price 5 fr.) a most interesting work upon the rare and little-known catalogues of the earliest stamp dealers of France, including Laplante, Baillieu, Thirifocq, Valette, Nicolas, Roussin, and Potiquet.

M. Mahé first of all gives a short account of each of these publishers, with interesting anecdotes and much information about those early days of stamp collecting that has never before been published.

This is followed by excellent reproductions of the title pages and a few pages of each catalogue.

The reproductions of the catalogues are given as nearly as possible on paper of the same colour as the original issue.

Photographs, where possible, are also included, and the whole work is a great addition to our information about days when rare stamps cost fewer pence than they now cost pounds.

In the catalogue Baillieu issued in 1863 I note the following prices:—

South Australia, first issue, 6d., price 2½d.; 1d., 2d., and 1s., price 5d. each.

Western Australia, 1d. black; 2d., bronze; 4d., blue; 6d., bronze; and 1s., brown—all at 5d. each.

I wonder how many of the 2d. and 6d. M. Baillieu had for sale at these prices.

In looking at these old catalogues I am

struck by the fact that even in 1862-4 the publishers were unable to supply and price many of the old German States stamps that were in use only ten or twelve years previously.

For instance, in the catalogue of Nicolas, under Baden I note, 1851 issue, the 1 and 9 kr. are priced unused, but not the rarer 3 and 6 kr.; and in 1853 Nicolas could not price either the 3 kr., green, or 3 kr., blue, unused.

M. Mahé devotes one chapter to the earliest stamp dealers in Paris, who gathered together on the banks of the Seine, on the same portions of the quays which are now used by booksellers.

There is also a short chapter upon the utility of libraries of books dealing with Philately.

This book of 371 pages will be found of use to all collectors of stamp literature, and all dealers should possess a copy in order to refer to the records of the early days of Philately in France.

By the publication of this work M. Mahé has greatly added to his literary fame, and has given us a work for which we are all indebted to him.

Manchester Stamp Exhibition

THE Manchester Branch of the Junior Philatelic Society has decided to hold an Exhibition in that city on 18, 19, and 20 February, 1909.

Mr. I. J. Bernstein has been elected Exhibition President; Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht,

Exhibition Secretary and Treasurer; and a large and influential Committee is now being formed.

An Interesting Collection

WE have just purchased a small but interesting collection of stamps of Uruguay, containing a few rarities seldom to be found in dealers' stocks. Amongst these I note the 5 c., deep blue, of 1857 in the second type. In our Catalogue a note is given expressing doubts if this stamp is not an essay, but I am told that in the Turin Exhibition there was a specialized and grand collection of Uruguay, and there were several of these stamps on entire letters, the dates of which tend to prove that this so-called "second type" is really the *first* stamp issued in Uruguay.

In the collection there is another stamp that is even rarer—that is the 1 peso, blue, of 1877, with smaller arms, having the quarterings reversed. Dr. Wonner, the great expert on Uruguay, considered this stamp so valuable that he would not let it go out of his hands to be photographed.

The stamps of the early issues are in exceptionally fine condition, mostly unused, large margins, and full gum. In the later issues there are many errors, such as pairs imperf., part perf., and errors of surcharge.

These stamps are now priced, and can be sent on approval to collectors.

The Sectional Imperial Album

WE have now published Sections 1 to 21 inclusive, this being Great Britain and the whole of the West Indies. The North American Colonies are now being prepared, but the manufacture of the plates from which this work is printed is both costly and slow, in order to obtain the best possible results.

As Seen by a Collector in the Early Morning on an Advertisement Hoarding

"WHY so happy, Sunlight Sue?"

"I've had a *G. S. W.* bargain, so should you."

In the Good Old Summer-time

"WHAT have you done with your collection?"

"The Lord knows—and some of His chosen people."

Zoological Philately

A NEW departure in the illustration of zoology has been made, by bringing into use those postage stamps of various countries bearing the representations of animals, birds, and fishes aboriginal to those countries. Thus we find prominently displayed in the Zoological Museum of the Victoria University, Manchester, a case of philatelic illustrations of such animals as are found on the stamps of Newfoundland, Peru, North Borneo, Malaya, Canada, Tasmania, Guatemala, etc. Beside each individual stamp is placed a miniature map with the district or

country marked plainly in red—showing both the place that issues the postage stamp and the native haunts of the creature depicted. The example is commended to other natural history museum authorities.

Sale of the Cayman Islands Remainders

THE Crown Agents for the Colonies have sold the following remainders of these stamps:—

<i>Queen's Heads.</i>	<i>Single wmk.</i>
1d., carmine . . .	33,598 stamps
<i>King's Heads.</i>	<i>Multiple wmk.</i>
½d., green . . .	9,720 stamps
1d., carmine . . .	2,008 "
2½d., ultramarine . . .	10,539 "
6d., brown . . .	4,881 "
1s., orange . . .	5,473 "

We are informed that they have been sold at a slight advance on face value, and they are now being offered wholesale in £50 and £100 lots, so collectors will soon be able to fill up blanks in their albums at reasonable rates.

Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week

Nos. 73, 74, and 75. 3 Vols. Value £1918. *United States.*

THREE fine stock books, well representative in all issues of the postage and Official stamps, with a fair lot of the Carriers.

In the 1845 issue, about twenty fine copies of the large 5 c., several unused.

Providence.—A number of single specimens and an unsevered sheet of both values. 1847.—A fine lot, unused, in many shades, and grand pages of used.

The later issues, especially the popular 1869 lot, are all very complete.

Throughout the books there is a wonderful lot of uncatalogued but interesting rarities, such as imperf. in pairs and blocks of four, sets marked "Specimen," "Sample," "U.P.C.," etc.

During the past six months there has been a steadily growing demand for fine copies of U.S. stamps, and we have found—especially in New York—that dealers were buying us out at full list prices, and, in fact, in many cases had stripped our stock books. Therefore a readjustment of prices has become necessary, as we were not able to fill up our wants at remunerative prices on the present Catalogue rate.

The following Catalogue numbers have all been slightly advanced in price, used:—

8, 9, 10, 20; 24, 25, 31 to 38, 43 to 46; 57, 58, 69, 72, 73, 74; 75 to 79, 83; 92, 93, 94, 97, 98, 107, 108, 109, 111, 112; 114, 115, 116, 118, 121, 122, 125; 197, 198*d*; 218 to 221; 248; 266, 268; 277, 278, 286, 287; 310, 311, 312; 338, 340; 404, 407, 409.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire
Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century
(January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—continued

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—continued

British Empire in India—continued

Official Issues

INDIA is one of the few British possessions in which the issue of special stamps for use upon official correspondence has been attended with any degree of success. Stamps overprinted "Service" were first introduced on 1 August, 1866. In 1874, in consequence of transfer of the administration of the country to the British Crown, this was changed to "On H.M.S.," which is the surcharge at present employed. The reason for the existence of these stamps is twofold; firstly, the overprinting of the stamps prevents petty thefts by small native officials entrusted with the handling of them, as, like penmarked stamps, those bearing the above overprint cannot be cashed at the post offices; and, secondly, letters franked with these stamps are carried at special and very advantageous rates, as the following table, showing the weight per anna allowed on ordinary as compared with official correspondence, will show:—

Denomination.	Ordinary.	Official.
1 anna.	1½ tolas.	10 tolas.
2 annas.	3 tolas.	20 tolas.
4 annas.	6 tolas.	40 tolas.

NOTE.—The tola is the unit by which all postal weights are reckoned in India, and is equal to about 180 grains troy.

These stamps may, however, only be employed by Government officials of certain specified grades, and even then the envelope franked with such stamps must bear the name and official title of the sender in the top left-hand corner, together with the initials "On H.M.S.," or the words "On — Govt. Service." The success with which the use of these stamps has been attended is probably due in a large degree to the fact that apparently there is little difficulty in obtaining unused copies of them, provided one is prepared to pay for them, and consequently the stamps in an unused condition are by no means highly priced, thus offering little inducement to clerks through whose hands they pass to carry on an illicit traffic in these issues, at the risk of their positions.

The following King's Head stamps have been issued with the "On H.M.S." surcharge for official use. The dates appended

to each stamp are, with the exception of the 3 pies and 1 rupee denominations, given on the authority of Mr. C. S. F. Crofton, the well-known Anglo-Indian philatelist, and were first published in the *Philatelic Journal of India*. They are those on which the various Official stamps were issued in Bombay, which is, as a rule, the first Presidency to receive them. With regard to the two values mentioned above, the dates given for the issue of these are approximate only, as I have been unable to find any official record as to the time at which these stamps first appeared.

1903-5.

Contemporary designs of India, 1902-3. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Unsurfaced paper. Overprinted "On H.M.S." in heavy type in three lines in black, in complete sheets, at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta.

- 3 pies, grey (issued January, 1904).
- ½ anna, pea-green (issued July 25th, 1903).
- 1 anna, carmine (issued December 19th, 1903).
- 2 annas, purple (issued June 11th, 1903).
- 4 annas, olive-green (issued February 24th, 1904).
- 8 annas, magenta (issued November 4th, 1904).
- 1 rupee, carmine and green (issued April, 1905).

Shades.

The following distinct shades, occurring upon the regular stamps of the 1902 King's Head issue of India, have likewise been issued, surcharged as above, for official use:—

- 3 pies, blue-grey instead of grey.
- 2 annas, mauve instead of purple.
- 2 annas, reddish lilac instead of mauve.

The two unified stamps issued late in 1906 appeared with this surcharge early in 1907, and are now available for official as well as ordinary use.

1906-7.

Issue of 1906. Designs as for 1902 series. Inscribed POSTAGE & REVENUE. Overprinted "On H.M.S." as above for official use.

- ½ anna, pea-green (issued November, 1906).
- 1 anna, carmine (issued February, 1907).

In addition to India proper and Indian Postal Agencies in various of the Native Protected States, the following countries and protectorates use the ordinary unsurcharged

stamps of India, distinguished only by their postmarks :—

Aden, Assam, Andaman Islands, Baluchistan, Burma, Laccadive Islands, Nicobar Islands, Perim, and Socotra. There are also agencies of the Indian Post Office in operation at Bandar Abbas, Bushir, Guadir, and Muscat on the Persian Gulf. I understand that the statement in the early part of my work that the postal agency in Baghdad was maintained in connection with the British Post Offices in the Turkish Empire was incorrect, and that this office is also a branch of the Indian Post Office and uses unsurcharged Indian stamps. An agency is also maintained at Katmandu in Nepal.

Current Indian stamps, bearing the Lhasa postmark and employed by the Field Post Office attached to the recent Tibet Expedition, are interesting only as postal souvenirs, and have no philatelic value.

Native States

Included in the Indian Empire, and under the suzerainty of the British Crown, are a number of small Native Feudatory States, each of which is ruled over by its own rajah, subject to the supreme authority of the Viceroy of India, representing the Kaiser-i-Hind, as the native title for the Emperor of India runs. These States comprise almost two-fifths of the total area of the Indian Empire, and about one-fifth of its population. They are chiefly located in Central India, the British agency of that name and Rajputana containing the majority, although three are situated on the Malabar coast, one in the Deccan, and one in Baluchistan, whilst the semi-independent State of Nepal, on the slopes of the Himalayas, is also ranked, philatellically at least, as an Indian Native State.

The chiefs of these States enjoy all sovereign rights, excepting those of declaring war upon other States and of sending ambassadors to foreign nations, whilst their military forces are strictly limited, and no Europeans may reside at their courts without first receiving permission so to do from the Government of India, which also reserves the right of dethroning or temporarily suspending any of the native rajahs at will.

A few of these States pay yearly tribute to the Viceroy, and most of them receive a British political officer at their courts to advise and assist the rajah in the proper administration of the affairs of the State. Most of them are also under agreement to furnish properly trained troops to the Indian Government for service on demand, and bodies of these soldiers, known as Imperial Service troops, have fought side by side with the regular Indian regiments in many of the recent campaigns. A notable feature connected with the existence of these States is

that British law does not hold good within their boundaries. Their relative importance is determined by the number of guns accorded in salute to their rajahs, Hyderabad being the premier State with a salute of twenty-one guns.

The majority of these States have at some period of their existence issued their own separate series of postage stamps; but this practice is happily dying out, and now less than half the number of States issue stamps that formerly did so, and scarcely a year passes in which some State does not surrender the control of its postal service to the Indian Post Office, making it merely a matter of time when none but regular Indian stamps will be in use throughout the country.

Five of the States use regular Indian stamps overprinted with the name of the issuing State, and are known as Convention States, having entered into a postal convention with the Indian Government, which agrees to recognize the franking power of such surcharged stamps throughout British India. These stamps are supplied to the various States by the Indian Government at the actual price paid for the manufacture of same, plus the cost of overprinting and the freight charges. The stamps are obtained by requisition from the Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery, and are surcharged in complete sheets at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta; the Service overprint on Official stamps being inserted at a second operation. The issues of the States using the overprinted Indian stamps have up to the present time bristled with errors and minor varieties of surcharge, the stamps being surcharged with movable type, which was frequently set up by native workmen, who had only a very rudimentary acquaintance with the English language, if, indeed, any at all. In future, however, all stamps surcharged for the use of the Convention States are to be overprinted by means of electrotype plates, thus obviating the danger of such errors and varieties as have hitherto occurred on almost all issues of these stamps.

Collectors will no doubt observe a curious circumstance in connection with the issue of these overprinted stamps, viz. that a number of Queen's Head stamps were issued after the King's Head series, similarly surcharged, had come into use. This is explained by the fact that when the King's Head stamps were issued, the States were anxious to have them on sale within their own territories at as early a date as possible, for the average Indian dearly loves novelty; but once these stamps had come into general use and were familiar to all, and some of the novelty had worn off, they had no objection to the remaining stocks of Queen's Head stamps being used up in this manner.

Such other States as boast their own series of postage stamps issue principally crude labels of native design and manufacture, which are available for use only within the borders of the States themselves, and sometimes not even that, being in a few cases issued merely for the purpose of extracting money from long-suffering philatelists. During recent years no fewer than five States which formerly issued their own stamps, and one which made use of the overprinted

stamps of India, have ceased to do so, and several more are under arrangement to surrender their post offices and postal services into the hands of the Indian Postal Establishment within the next few years.

Although these States are not strictly speaking British colonies, they are at all events integral parts of the British Empire, and I therefore propose to deal with all issues made by them during the twentieth century.

(To be continued.)

The Postal System and Stamps of Morocco

By OTTO ROMMEL, *Doctor of Law.* Translated by FRANK PHILLIPS

IN 1871 Spain had established a service of foot messengers on the borders of the Atlantic Ocean, but the ground covered by this service was always very inconsiderable. For the moment, at any rate, it was quite out of the question to endeavour to establish a European postal service in the interior of the country, owing to the competition between the Government service and private enterprise. The dictum of Bismarck had to be respected: "Let private enterprise show the way, and then State protection shall follow." The result was a crop of private postal systems under the protection of the Powers; they began to rob the land as traders, and to prepare the way for the invasion of European influence.

In January, 1891, a private post was established by J. Brudo, a son of the French Vice-Consul at Mazagan, between Mazagan and Marrakesch, or, as it was called at first, Mazagan-Morocco. Morocco is the European name for the second capital, which the natives call Marrakesch. As Mazagan was in touch with various ports by shipping, Marrakesch was placed in connection with Mogador, Casablanca, Rabat, and El Araish. The post between Mazagan and Marrakesch was taken over by the French Department of Posts in October, 1900, and an agreement was made that Brudo was to receive the revenue accruing until 15 June, 1902. So that this might be done, the stamps issued by Brudo about 1897 remained in use as provisional stamps of France. They were

rectangular in shape, and depicted an Arab hunting the antelope.

An English competitor entered the field in 1897, but was not able to maintain a service; this was also the case with a certain Mesod Bensimon, who made a detour through the small town of Assemour.

In 1890 a regular weekly service had been established by Englishmen between Tangiers and Fez. In 1892 the Parisian business firm, "Grand Magasin du Printemps," competed in the working of this route, presumably as it was desired to extend the business of the firm's branch in Tangiers to Fez. In order to make this route a success, as opposed to that under English management, the messengers travelled at exceptional speed, and all responsibility was accepted for articles sent by them in accordance with the prevailing regulations of the International Postal Union. When this service was opened on 1 July, 1892, it was arranged that it should be taken over by the French Department of Posts on 1 January, 1893. Right from the opening, stamps were sold by the French Post Office in Tangiers, and when the route was absorbed by the French office, the same stamps continued to be used until 1 April, 1893, thus acquiring the rank of provisional stamps of France.

In August, 1892, a French service was inaugurated between Mogador and Marrakesch, but this was suppressed in March, 1893, by order of the Sultan, who at this time was actively engaged in reorganizing the native Government post. But this activity did not last long, as in the same year the German firm of Marx & Co., who had branches in Mogador and Marrakesch, started a postal service on this route. This



is the only post run by private enterprise that is still in active operation; it is so safe and so quick that it is made use of by both natives and Europeans.

In 1894 a private postal service under French management was opened between Fez and Safra. The founder was a certain Bensimhon. In the English philatelic Press, during the years 1895 and 1896, it was said that this service had never been in operation, and that the stamps issued for its use were entirely bogus; and further, that the whole thing was engineered by an enterprising native, who had been employed by a German firm in Fez. These statements are entirely contradicted by the French Vice-Consul in Fez, and by a newspaper of Tangiers issued during the first half of the year 1895. It was proved that this service was really in active operation, that mails left twice a week regularly, and that it was run in connection with the French post to Marrakesch. This is proved by the fact that the French route was altered so as to include Safra.

A service between Fez and Arzila was inaugurated under Spanish protection on 1 December, 1895; it was taken over by the Spanish Government later on. The Spanish Government established the only foreign post office in the little town of Arzila.

The French Government endeavoured to establish a service between Alcazar and Wezzan, working through a private contractor; but Wezzan is a sacred town, and must not be brought into communication with any other town in Morocco. Accordingly the service was suppressed by a proclamation of the Cherif, after having been open for one month only.

In December, 1896, a French service was opened between Tetuan and Chechouan, but was only in existence for a short time.

A postal service between Fez and Mekness was opened in 1897 under British influence. On 17 March, 1898, J. M. McLeod, British postmaster in Fez, made it known that in future postal matter for Mekness might be forwarded through the British post offices in Morocco. It was arranged that such letters should be forwarded by the private post leaving Fez for Mekness twice a week, and vice versa. The times of arrival and departure of this post corresponded to those of the British service between Fez and Tangiers. The former service was maintained until some time in 1901. It probably came to an end owing to the establishment of a German post office at Mekness on 27 May, 1901.

In 1897 a private postal service under Spanish management was in operation between Tangiers and Tetuan. Later on a Spanish postal agency was established at

Tangiers and Tetuan, and this brought the private undertaking to an end.

A private postal undertaking between Tetuan and El-Ksar (Alcazar, Alcazar) had only a short period of existence. It was opened in 1897, apparently under the protection of the French Government, but was soon given up as unworkable.

In 1898 a British firm opened a service between Tangiers and Larache (El Araish), which entered into hot competition with the British Government service. However, pressure was brought to bear, which resulted in its discontinuance.

In October, 1906, a Frenchman, Ch. Firschbach, inaugurated a service between Marrakesch and Demnat, a small town of four thousand inhabitants, situated about seventy miles east-north-east of Marrakesch. The existence of this undertaking has been unknown up to the present, even though a postage stamp was issued. The beginning of the business was very modest, but it soon became of considerable importance. However, one day one of the employees was set upon by robbers and the mails rifled. The Kaid of Demnat seized the opportunity to publish abroad that he could no longer guarantee the safety of Europeans. He then forced the Frenchman to leave Demnat by saying that he would cause anybody to be imprisoned who would dare to let a lodging to him. Firschbach left for Marrakesch, but after eight months of work he had to give up his postal business owing to the well-known case of Mauchamp.

The two postal services between El-Ksar, Saffi Marrakesch; and Mogadir, Agadir, were never in operation, although the postage stamps are so well known. They must be regarded as bogus in every respect. As a matter of fact, Agadir has never been opened to Europeans; its sole inhabitants consisted of about four hundred miserable Arabs. It can only be reached via the Atlas Mountains, as the harbour is quite unusable, being long since sanded up.

It has already been mentioned that France, Spain, and Great Britain had established postal agencies in Tangiers.

The first French agency was established at Tangiers in 1860 under the direction of the French consulate. It was subsidiary to the first-class office at Oran, in Algiers. On 1 May, 1887, a "Recette," or receiving office, was opened in place of the agency, and on 23 April, 1893, the title was changed to "Recette Principale," or first-class receiving office. On 15 August, 1893, postal agencies (Recette-Distribution) were opened at Alcazar, Fez, and Larache, and a receiving office at Fez and Mellach. On 21 May, 1895, an agency was established at Tetuan, and on 1 September, 1895, a receiving office at Arzila. At Salé a receiving office was

opened on 22 June, 1899, and on 15 September, 1899, agencies at Casablanca, Mazagan, Mogador, Rabat, and Saffi. It was not until 1 February, 1903, that an agency was established at Marrakesch, and a receiving office in the suburb MDina. The last agencies were opened at Azemour and Méquinez on 1 November, 1906.

It would appear that the agency at Tetuan ceased to exist for a time, but it is now again in working order.

When Great Britain first established postal agents in Tangiers is doubtful, but officially they date from 1886. It is, however, highly probable that at least one office was

established, where letters were received and postage stamps sold; perhaps it was worked by or in conjunction with the British consulate.

In 1886 agencies were opened at Larache and Rabat, in 1887 Casablanca, in 1888 Mazagan, 1890 Tetuan, 1891 Saffi and Mogador, and in 1892 at Fez Tetuan was closed in 1903, only to be reopened on 1 January, 1907.

All these agencies were subsidiary to the General Post Office of Gibraltar until 31 December, 1906. On 1 January, 1907, they were placed under the control of the authorities in London.

(To be continued.)

The Genus Homo in Philately—continued

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

CLOSELY allied to the British in every way are the inhabitants of the United States, who, though a heterogeneous people, have not yet intermingled sufficiently to have any strongly marked characteristics



of their own. The Anglo-Saxon element predominates physically and socially, and thus we may reasonably take Presidents Lincoln and Harrison, whose portraits appear on two of the stamps now current, as fair examples.

People of somewhat similar temperament inhabit the little kingdom of Belgium. The Belgians belong to the Low German stock of the Aryan family, though they are partly of Celtic and partly of Teutonic origin. The



Teutonic characteristics are most clearly marked in the Flemings, who are descended from Belgic tribes settled there in Cæsar's time. The present King of the Belgians, Leopold II, will serve as an example of the modern Flemings. In the other section, the Walloons, the Celtic element predominates, and these are probably almost direct

descendants of the ancient Belge. The people of Holland are very nearly related to the Belgians—in fact, many of the inhabitants are Flemish. They belong to the same branch of the Teutonic stock, but

so many of the other races of Europe have settled there at various times that it is now



difficult to trace the physical traits of the German among the modern Dutch.

Next, we turn to Germany—the home of the Teutonic stock, which is an important branch of the Caucasian division of mankind. The first appearance of the Germans in history is as a multitude of independent and warlike tribes living among the dense forests that in Roman times stretched from the Rhine to the Vistula. They were a tall and



vigorous race, with long fair hair and blue eyes, who took a fierce delight in the arts of war and the sport of the chase. Their love of liberty was all-absorbing, and their social organization made its influence felt on all Teutonic history. At an early period they were divided into two types—High and Low Germans—occupying the central and southern portions of modern Germany, or the low-lying lands bordering the North Sea

and the Baltic respectively. From the Low German branch the modern English and



Dutch are largely descended, while the High Germans are represented by the modern inhabitants of the German Empire.

The people of the grand duchy of Luxemburg are almost purely of Germanic origin, and have no characteristics or customs that call for special remark.

The Austro-Hungarian monarchy includes a diversity of races that is probably unrivalled anywhere else on the globe. How-



ever, with these we have no concern, as the only portrait shown on the stamps of these countries is that of Francis Joseph, who is Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary. He may be taken as a typical Austrian and thus representative of the people who predominate in Austria proper. The Austrians are a German-speaking people belonging to the High German branch of the Teutonic stock of the great Caucasian division of mankind.

The natives of Denmark belong to the Scandinavian stock of the Aryan family, and are thus closely allied to the Teutons. Denmark was originally inhabited by the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes, who colonized England many centuries ago. When they departed the Danes from Zealand settled on the



deserted lands, and there founded the kingdom which still exists. The early Danes were brave warriors and skilled seamen, and their descendants, who are of purer blood than most of their neighbours, preserve these characteristics.

(To be continued.)

Acrostic Competition

DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 10

(Last of the series.)

"Must we part?

Well, if we must—we must—

And in that case

The less is said the better,"

So now to all, with just one sigh,

We say at once—S, G!

1. This little island of ours,
The songster said was this,
As well as right and tight.
2. As inland sea this lake might well be known,
And one that Yankees wish was all their own.
3. From out of it I have taken this,
Scarce good enough to use, too good to lose.
4. This ancient city, once the capital
Of powerful State, now only of a province,
Gave birth to first inquisitor-general;
'Tis highly placed under a cloudless sky,
With 'Varsity of fourteenth century:
You've now enough to fix it by.

5. Reverse this word or you may be behind,
Instead of where you wish, well to the fore;
This ought to be enough for you to find
Just what is wanted, as it rhymes to more.
6. "You can behold such sights,
And keep the natural . . . of your cheeks,
When mine is blanch'd with fear."
Macbeth.
7. Tho' sour at start, yet by an odd conceit,
What issues from it may be clear and sweet.
BEN.

Solutions must be sent on the printed forms to reach 391 Strand, London, by or before the first delivery on Thursday, 11 June; or be posted on the Continent by 13 June, or in America to 21 June. They should be marked outside "Acrostic, G.S.W.," 391 Strand, W.C.

On Postmarks

By D. C. G.

THE first issue of Peru was of a provisional nature only, and its whole interest lies in the obliteration. In December, 1857, a supply of the stamps of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company of the face value of 1 real and 2 reales was handed over to the Peruvian Government by the Company previously to the introduction of the regular Peruvian issue of March, 1858. Owing to their very limited period of use these stamps thus employed are of considerable rarity. They may be distinguished by the special form of cancellation which was struck upon them, of which there were three types. One is a numeral in an oval composed of horizontal bars at top and bottom and curved lines at the sides. The second type is the word "Lima" (the capital of Peru) in an oval, or else "Callao" (the port of Lima), without an oval, surrounded by dots. The third type is the word "Lima" and the date in a circle. For full information as to this issue the reader is referred to the interesting article by Mr. T. W. Hall in Vol. VII, No. 73, p. 4 of *The London Philatelist*.

Another interesting Peruvian issue is that of 1882. During the war between Chili and Peru at this time, Chilian stamps current at that date were issued in the parts of Peru occupied by the victorious Chilians. These stamps, of course, can only be recognized by the town-name and date with which they were cancelled.

Among other town-names, those of Lima, Iquique, and Tacna are perhaps those most often met with.

Other countries on whose stamps interesting postmarks occur are the United States (early issues), the Confederate States, and China; the obliterations on the stamps of the last-mentioned country often being of an unusual and essentially Oriental character.

The foregoing remarks do not pretend to have more than touched on some of the most interesting countries from the point of view of the cancellations found on their stamps. It will at once be seen that most of the postmarks which present points of interest are found only on the earlier stamps, the obliterations of all more recent issues being as a rule merely circular postmarks with the town-name and date. This only helps to bear out the view held by most collectors of any experience, that it is the older issues which are of real philatelic interest as opposed to those of more recent date.

Many collectors doubtless collect new

issues, and will continue to do so in preference to the older stamps.

Some appear to do so because they aim at completeness, and that is easier of attainment with recent issues than with the older stamps.

Others, again, perhaps do so because they keep the money point of view prominently before them. It will be found, however, that it is only about twenty-five per cent of recent issues that show a large real advance in value. The majority of the really old stamps not only cannot be obtained except at full catalogue values, but, in really fine condition, are not only worth, but actually fetch, when sold, higher prices than those at which they are quoted in the leading catalogues.

Again, new issues can usually be obtained as they appear by paying a small fixed rate on their face value, and it may well be doubted whether as much pleasure is gained by such a system of collecting as by the search for postmark and other varieties in the older stamps.

Furthermore, few collectors are adverse to picking up bargains. To the collector who studies the older stamps not a few opportunities of obtaining such bargains occur. Few dealers, at least in Great Britain, at present know (or care) much about postmark varieties, except perhaps those occurring on British stamps, so that often a stamp with a really scarce obliteration may be obtained at the price of the stamp with the ordinary postmark.

It has in the past perhaps been rather the fashion to sneer at the collection of postmark varieties; but it is at least questionable whether in many cases the interest attaching to the obliterations which occur on many stamps is not very considerable as throwing light on the early postal history of many countries.

It is becoming more and more difficult to form a collection on original lines, and in endeavouring to do so the question of the postmarks of a country would seem to merit consideration.

No article on postmarks can very well omit altogether the question of the inclusion in a collection of stamps on either a piece of the original envelope or of the whole envelope.

It certainly cannot be denied that the inclusion of stamps in a collection in such a form adds considerably to its bulk. But, at the same time, the inclusion of stamps in this condition has much in its favour. Printed albums, of course, do not provide space for stamps in this state. But few

printed albums at present published are at all suitable for a specialized collection.

Apart from this, a few well-chosen and typical examples of the stamps of a country on the original envelope, in the opinion of not a few collectors, add greatly to the interest of a collection. Rare stamps on the original envelope are usually considered to be worth more than the same stamp off the envelope, and it seems illogical to deny that the same reasoning applies, at any rate in a limited degree, to the commoner stamps.

Certainly it is not always easy to obtain stamps on the whole envelope. On the other hand, many collectors appear to

derive greater pleasure from the search after a particular stamp in a particular condition than from the actual possession of the specimen when found.

In conclusion, it may be urged that collectors who are unable to spend large sums on their hobby might do worse than make a study of the postmarks to be found on all the earlier stamps of many countries, or even upon one or two issues of a country. They will at least have the satisfaction of entering upon comparatively new ground, and the careful study of the earlier stamps of many countries may even now well lead to the discovery of hitherto unsuspected varieties.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Tristan d'Acunha

IN the South Atlantic Ocean there exists a small group of islands called the Tristan d'Acunha Islands. They were discovered in 1506 by a Spanish navigator, after whom they were named. They were occupied by Great Britain at the time of Napoleon's captivity on St. Helena, but were abandoned in 1821. A corporal and two sailors, all married, obtained permission to settle there, and in 1875 the population numbered seventy-five persons.

The islands are under the protection of the Cape of Good Hope Government, and mails are dispatched *once a year only*. In 1907 the mail left Cape Town on 14 October, and consisted of ten letters, three newspapers, and two packets of books!

Wouldn't things wake up a bit there if the gentlemen responsible for the recent Cayman Islands provisionals were put in charge of the local post office?

Revue de la Fédération Phil. de France.

Salvador

ACCORDING to the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung* there is a remainder of the President Escalon issue for sale. These stamps were engraved in London by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., and were printed in Salvador by Don Carlos Parraga. They were issued in 1905, and were superseded in September, 1907, by the new set showing a view of the President's palace. It would appear



that the efforts of the authorities to get rid of the enormous stock on hand by surcharging were not quite successful, so the following quantities are now offered for sale:—

1 centavo	29,919
2 centavos	11,499
3 "	134,043
5 "	230,862
6 "	272,000
10 "	20,000
12 "	29,000
13 "	95,000
24 "	23,000
26 "	3,600
50 "	2,608
100 "	5,260

I do not think these will disturb the market very much, as only about 2,600 complete sets can be made up, owing to relatively small quantities of the three high values. There must still be thousands of collectors who are in want of a complete set.

Postal Union Statistics

THE International Postal Union in Berne has been busy calculating the number of post offices in certain countries compared with the density of population, and the average area served by each office.

Norway has the greatest number of offices compared with the population, and Switzerland the greatest number compared with the number of square miles of territory.

The following are the official figures:—

	I POST OFFICE PER		
	4 square miles or		890 people
Switzerland	5	" "	1,862 "
Great Britain	6	" "	820 "
Norway	6	" "	1,560 "
Germany	8	" "	3,766 "
Italy	14	" "	3,110 "
Austria	17	" "	3,360 "
France	20	" "	7,704 "
Japan	30	" "	4,009 "
U.S.A.	55	" "	1,114 "
Spain	520	" "	4,766 "
Russia	675	" "	10,392 "

Argentine New Issue

THE *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* prints a full list of the new set, of which the 2 c. and 5 c. have already been issued and chroni-



cled in this paper. Apparently they are all to be of one design—and bad enough it is, by the way. The centavo values are to be in one colour, and the peso values in two.

The list given by our contemporary is as follows:—

½ c., bright violet.	10 c., dull blue.
1 c., ultramarine.	12 c., yellow.
2 c., purple.	15 c., apple-green.
3 c., orange.	20 c., sky-blue.
4 c., red-violet.	24 c., brown-purple.
5 c., red.	30 c., claret.
6 c., yellow-green.	50 c., black.
1 peso, rose and blue.	
2 pesos, green and sky-blue.	
5 „ bright brown and blue-violet.	
10 „ blue-violet and red.	
20 „ sky-blue and black.	

The decree authorizing these stamps was dated Buenos Aires, 17 February, 1908, and one article of it provided that the issue at present in use should continue to be available as long as any stocks remain on hand.

Threatened Geographical War

ACCORDING to *La Revue Postale*, the stamp illustrated here was nearly the cause of a



war between the two Republics of Dominica and Hayti.

It appears that the postal authorities of the Dominican Republic issued a stamp, in 1900, portraying the island, which is divided between it and Hayti. But they had evidently taken lessons in perspective from those clever artists who draw designs of huge factories out of all proportion to the surrounding country, supposed to represent the gigantic home of Somebody's Cure-all. At any rate, Hayti was only given a small slice of territory on the map, and the negro population did not like it. In fact, they thought it distinctly insulting, and straight-

way made preparations for the invasion of the Dominican portion of the island. Wasn't it a splendid excuse for a war! A chance not to be missed! But the Dominicans, or Dominican Republicans, or whatever they call themselves, at once withdrew the map stamp.

NOTE.—This tale to be absorbed at intervals *cum grano salis*.

The Luxemburg Succession

THE present Grand Duke of Luxemburg, William of Nassau, succeeded to the throne on 19 November, 1905. He is only fifty-six years old, but is suffering from an incurable disease; in fact, he is so ill that it has just been announced that he has handed over the regency of the Duchy to his wife, the Grand Duchess Marie-Anne.

Unfortunately the Grand Duke has no male issue, although he has six daughters, the eldest of whom, Princess Marie Adélaïde, is only fourteen years old. The Duke was greatly troubled as to his successor, as the prevailing law did not recognize female issue. On 20 June, 1907, he submitted a new Royal Succession Bill to the Diet of Luxemburg, by virtue of which his eldest daughter was to succeed him on his death, the Grand Duchess acting as Regent if necessary. In addition it was provided that should Princess Marie die without heirs male, the succession should devolve upon her younger sisters.



Grand Duke William.

In spite of the opposition of Nicolas (the Heir-Apparent, a nephew of the Grand Duke), the Bill was passed by a large majority. When the Grand Duke William dies we shall probably have stamps of Luxemburg bearing a portrait of the young Grand Duchess. It is highly probable that the present issue will not last long.

Journal des Philatélistes.

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.

THE BEST STAMP HINGES

We have 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.,
39, Strand, London, W.C.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

British South Africa.—We have received four new values of this country, all perforated 14 to 15, and on unwatermarked paper.



10



11



12

1908. No wmk. Perf. 14 to 15.

- 62a| 10| 3d., dull carmine.
65b| 11| 3s., deep violet.
67a| 11| 10s., dull green.
68a| 12| 1s., brown.

Cayman Islands.—Our contemporary *The Metropolitan Philatelist* (9.5.08) says it has actually received the 2d., "all blue," on multiple, unwatermarked paper; and the 1s., black on green; the latter value is on surfaced, single-watermarked paper, similar to the 10s. listed last week.

According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (23.5.08) a new 5s. has been issued on multiple, surfaced paper.



8

Type 8. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.
23|2d., ultramarine, O.
30|5s., green and red on yellow, C.

Type 8. Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.
32|1s., black on green, C.

French P.O.'s in China.—We have received sets of the 1907 issue of Indo-China, overprinted with an entirely new surcharge, for each of the seven towns, Canton, etc. On the low values,

1 c. to 50 c., the surcharge consists of the name of the town, e.g. CANTON, above, the value in Chinese characters below; in the high values the name of the town is below and the Chinese characters of value above. Of course the Chinese characters differ on each value.



7



8



9



10



11



12



13

CANTON.

貳圓

CANTON

壹角

CANTON

12a

12b

1908. Stamps of Indo-China, Types 7 (1 c. to 15 c.), 8 (20 c. to 50 c.), and 9 to 13, overprinted CANTON, and value in Chinese characters, as Types 12a (1 c. to 50 c.) and 12b, in red; on 10 c., 50 c., 75 c., and 1 fr., in blue. Centre and value in black.

- A258 1 c., sepia.
- A259 2 c., brown.
- A260 4 c., blue.
- A261 5 c., pale green.
- A262 10 c., scarlet.
- A263 15 c., violet.
- A264 20 c., "
- A265 25 c., blue.
- A266 30 c., chocolate.
- A267 35 c., olive-green.
- A268 40 c., brown.
- A271 75 c., orange.
- A272 1 fr., lake.
- A273 2 fr., green.
- A274 5 fr., blue.
- A275 10 fr., violet.

HOI-HAO.

貳圓

HOI HAO

壹角

HOI-HAO

14a

14b

1908. Stamps of Indo-China, Types 7 (1 c. to 15 c.), 8 (20 c. to 50 c.), and 9 to 13, overprinted HOI-HAO, and value in Chinese characters, as Types 14a (1 c. to 50 c.) and 14b, in red; on 10 c., 50 c., 75 c., and 1 fr., in blue. Centre and value in black.

- A354 1 c., sepia.
- A355 2 c., brown.
- A356 4 c., blue.
- A357 5 c., pale green.
- A358 10 c., scarlet.
- A359 15 c., violet.
- A360 20 c., "
- A361 25 c., blue.
- A362 30 c., chocolate.
- A363 35 c., olive-green.
- A364 40 c., brown.
- A366 75 c., orange.
- A367 1 fr., lake.
- A368 2 fr., green.
- A369 5 fr., blue.
- A370 10 fr., violet.

KOUANG TCHOU

(formerly Kouang Tcheou Wan).

貳圓

KOUANG-TCHOU

壹角

KOUANG-TCHOU

15a

15b

1908. Stamps of Indo-China, Types 7 (1 c. to 15 c.), 8 (20 c. to 50 c.), and 9 to 13, overprinted KOUANG-TCHOU, and value in Chinese characters, as Types 15a (1 c. to 50 c.) and 15b, in red; on 10 c., 50 c., 75 c., and 1 fr., in blue. Centre and value in black.

- A390 1 c., sepia.
- A391 2 c., brown.
- A392 4 c., blue.
- A393 5 c., pale green.
- A394 10 c., scarlet.
- A395 15 c., violet.
- A396 20 c., "
- A397 25 c., blue.
- A398 30 c., chocolate.
- A399 35 c., olive-green.
- A399a 40 c., brown.
- A399b 75 c., orange.
- A399c 1 fr., lake.
- A399d 2 fr., green.
- A399e 5 fr., blue.
- A399f 10 fr., violet.

MONGTSEU

(formerly Mongtsé).

貳圓

MONGTSEU

壹角

MONGTSEU

16a

16b

1908. Stamps of Indo-China, Types 7 (1 c. to 15 c.), 8 (20 c. to 50 c.), and 9 to 13, overprinted MONGTSEU, and value in Chinese characters, as Types 16a (1 c. to 50 c.), and 16b, in red; on 10 c., 50 c., 75 c., and 1 fr., in blue. Centre and value in black.

- A438 1 c., sepia.
- A439 2 c., brown.
- A440 4 c., blue.
- A441 5 c., pale green.
- A442 10 c., scarlet.
- A443 15 c., violet.
- A444 20 c., "
- A445 25 c., blue.
- A446 30 c., chocolate.
- A447 35 c., olive-green.
- A448 40 c., brown.
- A450a 75 c., orange.
- A450b 1 fr., lake.
- A450c 2 fr., green.
- A450d 5 fr., blue.
- A450e 10 fr., violet.

PAKHOI.

貳圓

PAKHOI

壹元

PAKHOI

9a

19b

1908. *Stamps of Indo-China, Types 7 (1 c. to 15 c.), 8 (20 c. to 50 c.), and 9 to 13, overprinted PAKHOI, and value in Chinese characters, as Types 19a (1 c. to 50 c.), and 19b, in red; on 10 c., 50 c., 75 c., and 1 fr., in blue. Centre and value in black.*

A 488	1 c., sepia.
A 489	2 c., brown.
A 490	4 c., blue.
A 491	5 c., pale green.
A 492	10 c., scarlet.
A 493	15 c., violet.
A 494	20 c., "
A 495	25 c., blue.
A 496	30 c., chocolate.
A 497	35 c., olive-green.
A 498	40 c., brown.
A 500a	75 c., orange.
A 500b	1 fr., lake.
A 500c	2 fr., green.
A 500d	5 fr., blue.
A 500e	10 fr., violet.

TCHONGKING.

貳圓

TCHONGKING

壹元

TCHONGKING

21a

21b

1908. *Stamps of Indo-China, Types 7 (1 c. to 15 c.), 8 (20 c. to 50 c.), 9, 11, and 12, overprinted TCHONGKING, and value in Chinese characters, as Types 21a (1 c. to 50 c.) and 21b, in red; on 10 c., 50 c., 75 c., and 1 fr., in blue. Centre and value in black.*

A 540	1 c., sepia.
A 541	2 c., brown.
A 542	4 c., blue.
A 543	5 c., pale green.
A 544	10 c., scarlet.
A 545	15 c., violet.
A 546	20 c., "
A 547	25 c., blue.
A 548	30 c., chocolate.
A 549	35 c., olive-green.
A 550	40 c., brown.
A 553	75 c., orange.
A 554	1 fr., lake.
A 556	5 fr., blue.

YUNNAN-FOU.

貳圓

YUNNANFOU

壹元

YUNNANFOU

24

25

1908. *Stamps of Indo-China, Types 7 (1 c. to 15 c.), 8 (20 c. to 50 c.), and 9 to 13, overprinted YUNNANFOU, and value in Chinese characters, as Types 24 (1 c. to 50 c.) and 25, in red; on 10 c., 50 c., 75 c., and 1 fr., in blue. Centre and value in black.*

A 671	1 c., sepia.
A 672	2 c., brown.
A 673	4 c., blue.
A 674	5 c., pale green.
A 675	10 c., scarlet.
A 676	15 c., violet.
A 677	20 c., "
A 678	25 c., blue.
A 679	30 c., chocolate.
A 680	35 c., olive-green.
A 681	40 c., brown.
A 682	75 c., orange.
A 685	1 fr., lake.
A 686	2 fr., green.
A 687	5 fr., blue.
A 688	10 fr., violet.

Correspondence

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—In reference to the perforations of Switzerland.

Careful gauging of my specimens, which are practically complete, though all in singles, shows the following:—

(i.) All issues up to 1900, catalogued as perf. 11½, gauge fully that measurement, though hardly 11½, say, 11¾.

(ii.) Issues of 1882-99, perf. 11½ × 12, gauge as a rule from 11¾ to 12 on top and bottom, some being quite 12, say, average 11¾. The sides are a full 12, or almost 12½.

(iii.) Same issues, perf. 11½ × 11, gauge the same as (ii.) on top and bottom, while the sides appear to be a true 11.

(iv.) Issues of 1902 and later. The perforation catalogued as 11½, either simple or compound, appears to be the same as is (ii.), viz. about 11¾. That described as perf. 11 appears to be true, while perf. 12 is as before a full 12, but not quite 12½.

It may be splitting hairs to attempt to gauge to quarters on single stamps, and I would not trouble you but that there appears to be some danger in confounding the later perf. 11½ with 12, unless it be recollected, if I am correct, that perf. 12 is always full to that gauge; while perf. 11½ never exceeds a bare 12, and is more often 11¾. I say the later perf. 11½ advisedly, because it appears to be a fuller 11½ than the earlier one.

Yours faithfully,

A. H. WOLLEY DOD.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 24
Whole No. 180

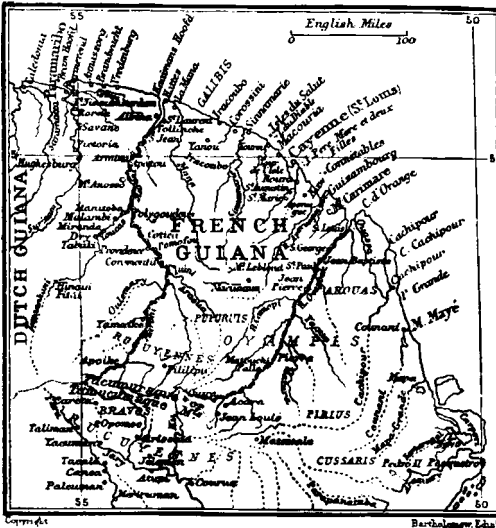
13 JUNE, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Guiana



THE colony of French Guiana in South America, situated between Brazil and Dutch Guiana, has an area of about 30,500 square miles with a population of about 33,000. The boundaries, for a long time in dispute, have now been settled, and are the River Oyapock from its mouth to its source, and thence the line of watershed of the Tumucumaque Mountains to the frontier of Dutch Guiana, which is marked by the River Maroni.

Guiana proper originally embraced the whole tract of country between the Orinoco, the Amazon, and the coast of the Atlantic, and formed part of the ancient Spanish and Portuguese colonial empire. In it was supposed to be situated the fabled "El Dorado," but which existed solely in the perfervid imagination of Sir Walter Raleigh. On the break-up of these empires, the maritime portions passed into the hands of the English, Dutch, and French.

The colony at its origin bore the high-sounding title of "Equinoctial France."

The first immigrants settled on the River Sinnamarie in 1624, and soon afterwards came under the control of a company formed at Rouen for the nurture of the infant settlement. But the violent proceedings of the governor sent out led to an Indian revolt, and he was massacred with most of his associates. Under the auspices of a second company (Compagnie de la France Equinoxiale), formed at Paris in 1652, the new colony was again exploited. The members, twelve in number, styled themselves the "twelve lords." They collected emigrants and sailed across the Atlantic. On the voyage the commander was murdered. Within three months after landing one of the "lords" was executed, three were banished, three died from the effects of dissipation, and another Indian revolt nearly annihilated the entire colony. In 1763 the French Government made a great effort to re-establish it at a cost of about £120,000. But of 12,000 emigrants dispatched under the leadership of Choiseul 9000 soon perished

of disease in the swamps, more than 2000 returned home, and only seventy families became permanent. A second effort failed as completely, and for years the colony was practically abandoned. During the Revolution political victims began to be transported to Cayenne, and French Guiana is now the principal seat of the penal settlements of the mother country. From this fact the colony has received a bad name, and despite its natural resources it is difficult to induce French people to seek new homes in the land. The climate is not so bad as painted, and, provided roads and communication could be bettered, there is certainly a good future for the place. At present the country is oppressively dreary, mainly forest and stream. The crops consist of rice, maize, manioc, cocoa, coffee, sugar-cane, indigo, and tobacco. The most important industry is gold-mining (*placer*), and the gold boom which commenced in 1896 has attracted a good deal of attention to the colony during the last few years. The capital is St. Louis on Cayenne, a river-island, the name of which is frequently given to the entire colony. It is laid out in the usual American chessboard fashion, and has about 12,000 inhabitants. It is the only seaport, and practically the only town. Near to it is "Isle du Diable" (Devil's Island), which has derived notoriety in recent times as being the place of imprisonment of Dreyfus. The colony, administered by a Governor and sending one Deputy to the French National Assembly, costs the mother country about £30,000 annually, mainly for the upkeep of the penal establishment.

Philatelic History

This follows much the same course as that of most other French colonies—French stamps distinguishable only by the post-mark; general issues for the colonies; provisionals; the particular issue of the "Navigation and Commerce" type; and, finally, a full series imbued with local colour.

The first stamps to be noticed here are the provisionals of December, 1886. The stock of 5 c. stamps had run out, and 900 each of the 2 c. "Peace and Commerce" and "Commerce" type respectively were surcharged in black. No decree can be traced authorizing these, but the overprint was handstamped, evidently after the stamps had been gummed, and it is often to be met with imperfectly made.

Dec 1886.
GUY FRANÇ.
0 05

Dec., 1886. Colonial stamps surcharged in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
0.05 on 2 c., green	15	0 25
0.05 on 2 c., brown on buff	25	0 25

On 23 April, 1887, the *Moniteur de la Guyane française*, official journal of the colony, published a decree of the Governor. Le Cardinal, dated 18 April, 1887, in which it was stated: "By reason of the insufficiency of colonial postage stamps of 5, 20, and 25 centimes, etc., the public will be supplied with stamps of 2 c. converted into 5 c., 30 c. into 25 c., and 35 c. into 20 c." The same decree fixed the numbers to be surcharged, which were 3000 of 2 c., 10,000 of 30 c., and 5000 of 35 c. The surcharge was in black, and the 2 c. and 35 c. were of the "Peace and Commerce" type, whilst the 30 c. were the "Ceres" type of France, with large figures, *imperf.* There are varieties in the setting, chiefly inverted "A" for "V" in "Avril," and without "f" after "o" in the numerals.



23 April, 1887. Surcharged in black. Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
0.05 on 2 c., green	7	6 7
0.20 on 35 c., black on orange	6	0 6
0.25 on 30 c., drab	3	6 4

Later on in the same year 5 c. stamps were still short, and a decree of 21 December, published in the same journal, authorized the transformation of 6000 stamps of 30 c. into the needed value. Of these 30 c. 300 were of the "Peace and Commerce" type, the rest being the "Ceres" type, as in the April provisional. These must have been used by inadvertence, as recourse was had to the "Ceres" type later. As there were none of the "Peace and Commerce" type over-printed GUYANE in 1892, perhaps these few sheets were supplied in the first instance to the colony in error.



21 Dec., 1887. Surcharged in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 c. on 30 c., drab (Ceres)	5	0 —
5 c. on 30 c., cinnamon on drab ("Peace and Commerce")	60	0 60

The shortage of the low values still continued, for in February, 1888, more 5 c. and 10 c. had to be made, this time 4000 stamps of the 30 c. "Ceres" being converted into 5 c.,

and 2000 of 75 c. (in about equal quantities of *rose-carmine* and *deep carmine*) "Peace and Commerce" into 10 c.

FEVRIER 1888

FEVRIER 1888.

GUY. FRAN.

GUY. FRAN.

5

10

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

	Surcharged in black.		Imperf.	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.	s.	d.
5 on 30 c., drab	5	0	—	—
10 on 75 c., carmine	12	0	12	0

(To be continued.)

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Fournier's Forgeries

SOME little time back we submitted to the Crown Agents for the Colonies particulars of the forgeries of M. Fournier, of Switzerland, which he openly offered for sale as forgeries. Very few of his productions are at all dangerous or likely to deceive experts, but our correspondence with the Crown Agents has resulted in the following important letter, which we think it useful to print, as it very clearly defines the strong position of the authorities in regard to the imitations of postage stamps:—

WHITEHALL GARDENS,
LONDON, S.W.

GENTLEMEN,

In continuation of our letter of the 15th ultimo I have to inform you that under the Postal Union Convention the contracting parties undertake to adopt or to propose to their respective legislatures the necessary measures for punishing the fraudulent use of counterfeit postage stamps or stamps already used for the prepayment of correspondence, and also for prohibiting and repressing the fraudulent manufacture, sale, hawking, or distribution of embossed and adhesive stamps *in use* in the postal service, forged or imitated in such a manner as to be mistakable for the embossed and adhesive stamps issued by the Administration of any one of the contracting countries. Both in this country and in Switzerland the necessary legal enactments are in force for carrying out the measures prescribed by the Postal Union Convention.

Under the Post Office (Protection) Act 1884, 47 and 48 Vict., ch. 76 (sections 6 and 7), it is illegal, without due authority, to make on any envelope, paper, etc., any mark in imitation of or similar to or purporting to be any stamp or mark of any Post Office under the control of the Postmaster-General or under any foreign or colonial postal authority, or to make, or, unless lawful excuse be shown, be in possession of any fictitious stamp, that is to say, any facsimile or imitation or representation, whether on paper or otherwise, of any stamps, whether British, foreign, or colonial, for denoting any rate of postage, or to deal in or sell any such stamp. It would therefore be illegal

for persons in this country to import, possess, or traffic in the facsimile postage stamps offered for sale by Mr. Fournier.

A Ten-acre Stamp

I HAVE seen some pretty big stamps in my time, but one with an area of ten acres is really a bit too much to lick!

The Philatelic West for May, in reporting an auction sale in New York, says: "A $\frac{1}{2}$ tornese, *Tenacre*, . . . sold for 61 dols." This is, of course, an amusing misprint for *Trinacria*.

Scarborough Stamp Exhibition

ENTHUSIASTS in the absorbing hobby of stamp collecting held their fête night at the Y.M.C.A. on 13 May, when there was an exhibition of specimens from the collections of members of the Philatelic Society in connection with the institution. The Society is a progressive one, and the exhibits were a credit to its supporters. Mr. Colin Colclough was a prominent exhibitor. His displays included some very scarce French Colonial specimens, also some older Canadian stamps. Mr. Reg. W. Jowsey showed stamps of British East Africa, Uganda Protectorate, and new issues of East Africa and Uganda, into which the Uganda Protectorate has been merged. Mr. Jowsey's exhibits also comprised certain specimens of Oil River stamps. Mr. W. J. Dobson, secretary of the local Y.M.C.A., displayed new issues of East Africa Uganda, and a practically complete set of Uganda Protectorates, including the earliest stamps printed by missionaries. Mr. Norman Jowsey's unique collection of Sudanese stamps was much admired, and not the least noticeable feature of the whole exhibition was the careful and adroit manner in which the stamps were mounted. It is probably the care paid by the members to details, which so often receive but scant attention, that makes the Society a prospering one, and the exhibition an interesting one. A general meeting followed, and the busi-

ness of electing officers for the ensuing year was accomplished. Mr. J. H. Rowntree was chosen President, and Mr. H. Harrison and Mr. R. W. Jowsey were appointed Secretaries. The election of Vice-President was deferred.

"Cash on Delivery" with Colonies and Dependencies

The Times for 26 May publishes the following important notice:—

We have received the following from the Post Office:—

To increase the facilities for trade in small articles within the Empire, the Postmaster-General has been in negotiation with certain of the colonies and dependencies for the establishment of a mutual cash-on-delivery system. Under this system goods can be posted from this country and the money collected for the vendor by the post office at their destination, and vice versa.

The first of these services will be brought into operation on June 1 next, and will be available between the United Kingdom and Egypt, Malta, Cyprus, and the British post offices at Constantinople, Smyrna, Beirut, Salonika, and Tangier.

In outline the procedure is as follows:—

The vendor takes his packet to a post office, fills in a form, and pays a special fee of 2d.

He is given a certificate of posting, which he ultimately restores to the post office when receiving the cash.

The post office collects from the addressee the value as stated by the vendor in the form, and remits it by money order or postal order to the

vendor, after deducting whatever may be the commission on the money order or postal order itself, in addition to the delivery fee.

The chief restrictions are that the sum to be collected (the "trade charge") must not exceed £20, that the system is confined to goods sent in fulfilment of an order, and that the goods must be sent by parcel post unless they are registered or insured.

Detailed information concerning this cash-on-delivery service may be obtained at any post office. It will also be given in the July number of the *Post Office Guide*.

Wanted to Purchase

WE are just making up stock books of Argentine and Uruguay, and wish to purchase a number of the following stamps in order to fill up our books:—

Argentine Republic.

Unused.—6, 8, 9, 10 to 25*b*, 30, 32, 36, 40 to 45, 47, 50, 64, 65, 66 to 80, 87, 97, 128*b*, 153*a*, 161 to 162, 171, 171*a*, 301, 302, 311, 318, 326, 330, 333, 334.

Used.—8, 9, 11 to 13*a*, 17, 18, 22, 23, 25*a*, 25*b*, 30, 36, 42*a* to 45, 65, 66 to 68, 161 to 162, 171, 171*a*.

Uruguay.

Unused.—21 to 61, 65, 68, 72 to 88, 101, 122, 141, 158, 159, 208, 212, 214, 269, 270, 412, 413, 414, 422 to 437, 452 to 457, 476, 477, 494, 497, 498.

Used.—49 to 60, 62 to 88, 101, 212, 227, 228.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—*continued*

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—*continued*

British Empire in India—*continued*

Native States—*continued*

Alwar

THE Native Feudatory State of Alwar is located in the Rajputana Agency, in Central India, and has an area of 3144 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the British district of Gurgaon, on the east by the Native State of Bhartpur, on the south by Jaipur, and on the west by that State and Nabha.

Alwar was originally composed of a number of small chieftainships, subject to the Raja of Jaipur, and the present dynasty was founded by a Naruka Rajput named Pratap Singh, who during a quarrel between the Maharattas and the Jats succeeded in ob-

taining control of a large portion of the State, and later, taking advantage of the weakness of the neighbouring Raja of Bhartpur, wrested from his hands the fortified town of Alwar, the present capital of the State, upon which he was formally acknowledged head of the Naruka clan. During the Maharatta war of 1803, his son, Bakhtawar Singh, who had succeeded him in the chieftainship, allied himself with the British and received in return for his services the whole of the northern province of the State. At the same time the State was placed under British protection, and an agreement entered into by which the troops of the Raja of Alwar were to operate in unison with the Imperial forces when required. Internal troubles in the State caused, in 1870, the

formation of a Council of Management under the direction of a British official to control the affairs of the State.

Alwar is rich in mineral wealth, large quantities of iron ore being found close to the surface, in the smelting of which over thirty furnaces are engaged. Small deposits of silver, lead, and sulphur also exist, but are little worked. There are, however, two copper mines in operation. Agriculture is at a high standard in the west of the State, wheat, barley, maize, and cotton being extensively raised. The population numbers 828,487.

The capital and chief town is the fortified city of the same name, situated on the Rajputana railway, ninety-eight miles southwest of Delhi. It lies in a valley beneath the frowning walls of an ancient fortress, crowning a hill over one thousand feet above the town. It is enclosed by a moat and a rampart, and contains many handsome and picturesque buildings, comprising palaces, temples, tombs, etc., of the finest Oriental architecture.

In virtue of its defensive alliance with the Indian Government, Alwar pays no tribute to the Viceroy.

As is usual in the transposition of native Hindustani words into English, the "a" is frequently changed into "u." Thus the title of this State is often spelt "Alwur" or "Ulwur." According to the best authorities, however, Alwar is the correct form.

The Maharajah is a chieftain of the fourth class and entitled to a salute of fifteen guns. Stamps first issued in 1877.

Currency.—Same as India. Alwar was the first Native State to make use of currency struck at the Calcutta Mint bearing the portrait of the British sovereign, and of the same value and weight as the Indian coinage.

The design used for the stamps of this State has remained the same ever since the first issue. It consists of a katar or native dagger, in connection with the appearance of which upon the postal emissions of Alwar the following legend is related by the *Philatelic Journal of India*, which was the first philatelic paper to throw light upon this subject, and which I quote in full :—

The curious dagger, known as a katar, which is so prominent on the stamps of Alwar, owes its presence to the following legend connected with the reigning family of that State :—Mairaj, the father of Naru, who founded the Naruka clan who rule Alwar, was once at war with Kalodar Jhala of Jhalrapatan.

After much fighting, an interview was arranged between the two monarchs. When they were squatting on the ground facing one another four of Jhala's men pinioned Mairaj's arms behind him with intent to murder him. Mad at the treachery, but unable to use his hands, Mairaj gripped at Jhala's katar with his toes, pulled it out of his waistband, and ended the traitor's

career by stabbing him in the stomach. The legend is quite likely true, as the Indian has marvellously prehensile toes, and the broad grip of the katar would lend itself to use of this kind. Anyhow, that is why we find the katar on the stamps of Alwar.

About February, 1901, the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna stamp of this State was changed in colour from slate-blue to emerald-green, the design being a redrawing of that used on all the stamps of Alwar since 1877, which is as follows :— Enclosed within an oval, on an ornamental ground, a katar, with inscriptions in Devanagari above and below, that at the top reading R-A-J-A-I-W-A-R, signifying "Alwar State," separated by hyphens as shown, whilst the lower inscription comprises the value, also expressed in Devanagari, and on the right of this inscription native numerals standing for '31, indicating the year 1931 of the Sainvat era, which corresponds to 1875 of the Julian Calendar, the year in which the Postal Service of the State was inaugurated.



February (?), 1901.

Native design as above. Lithographed locally in the State. Design redrawn on new stone. Printed in sheets of 66, eleven rows of six. Stamps farther apart on sheet than in previous issues. No watermark. Colour changed. Pin-perf. 12½. Native wove paper. No marginal lines or inscriptions, but a roughly drawn cross is printed on the lower margins of the sheets as a guide for the proper division of the sheets.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna, emerald-green.

Shade.

Later in the year, about July, a fresh printing of this stamp was made in an entirely new shade of green. A fresh stone was again used, and impressions made from it are much sharper and clearer than those mentioned above. The size of the sheets was also changed, there now being only 35 stamps instead of 66 to the sheet, in five rows of seven.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna, pale green.

Alwar ceased to issue its own stamps towards the end of 1902, and the post arrangements of the State are now in the hands of the Indian postal establishment, by whom the local post offices are operated.

Note.—In compiling these articles I have experienced great difficulty in obtaining the correct dates of issue of the various Native Indian stamps, as in the majority of cases no record of this appears to have been kept,

and the new issue chronicles of these stamps have been for the most part very irregular. I wish it to be understood, therefore, that with a few exceptions the dates assigned to the Indian Native States, excluding the five Convention States, are approximate only, and must not be taken as official, unless

otherwise stated. Those assigned to the overprinted Indian stamps are for the most part given on the authority of the *Philatelic Journal of India* or the *Stamps of the Indian Native States*, and are presumedly official.

(To be continued.)

The Postal System and Stamps of Morocco—continued

By OTTO ROMMEL, Doctor of Law. Translated by FRANK PHILLIPS

TO begin with, German postal business was conducted through the French agencies in Morocco. In 1890 direct oversea communication was established by means of two steamship lines, the Wörmann and the Oldenburg-Portugal. In order that Germans inhabiting the various ports might be given the utmost facilities for posting their letters, in 1893 it was arranged that the shipping agents of the Wörmann Line should sell German postage stamps. This arrangement continued for six years, when a proper German postal system was introduced into Morocco. On 20 December, 1899, a German post office was opened in Tangiers, and agencies were established in Casablanca, Larache, Mazagan, Mogador, Rabat, and Saffi. The agencies were subsidiary to the Tangiers office, and the latter to the General Post Office in Berlin. On 11 July, 1900, another agency was opened in the native and European quarter (Medinah) of the town of Marrakesch. In the "Mellar" quarter of the town, an hour's walk from the agency proper, is a second receiving office. On 27 May, 1901, three more agents were established in Alcaassar, Fez, and Meknes. In Fez, as in Marrakesch, there is a secondary receiving office in Fez-Mellah, which was opened on 21 October, 1902. From 27 May, 1901, until 21 October, 1902, an agency existed in Tetuan where letters, newspapers, money orders, and C.O.D. transactions were dealt with; but on 19 December, 1906, this office was properly open for the sale of stamps and for receiving letters.

The fact that on 1 November, 1907, France made the *inland* tariff applicable to correspondence sent to and from Morocco is particularly worthy of remark. On 16 November, 1907, Germany followed suit. Spain had already taken a similar step, and only Great Britain still exacts foreign postage on letters to and from the mother country.

I. Stamps of the French Post Offices

Right at the beginning, that is to say from 1860 onwards, stamps of the general issue for the colonies were used in Tangiers. Up

to 1862 these stamps were cancelled by means of an obliterating stamp, making a rhombus-shaped dotted figure enclosing reference number 4018 in small figures; from 1862 to 1876 a similarly shaped dotted figure was used, but with a new reference number, 5106, in large figures. In 1876 this dotted obliterating stamp was superseded by one having a date in the centre, and the words TANGER—MAROC round it.

The Spanish rate of exchange sank lower and lower, and there was very little French money in circulation in Tangiers, so the remainder of the French stamps were overprinted in Spanish currency for the use of the French offices in Tangiers. On 1 January, 1891, the following provisionals were issued:—



French Colonial stamps overprinted.

Perf. 14 × 13½.

5 centimos, carmine, on	5 c., green.
25 " " " "	25 c., black on rose.
50 " black " "	50 c., rose-carmine on pale rose.
1 peseta " " "	1 fr., olive-green.

These stamps might only be used in Tangiers; if used anywhere else they were not accepted as postage stamps. On the other hand, all other *unsurcharged* stamps of France, including the above-mentioned values, were accepted in Tangiers without any question. This is made quite clear by a decree signed by I. de Selves, the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs; the decree was published in *Le Timbre-Poste*, XXIX, No. 338, February, page 91, and also in the *Bulletin mensuel des Postes et Télégraphes*, No. 12, December, 1890.

The stamps that were surcharged were the "Peace and Commerce" type, the 5 c. and 1 fr. belonging to the issue of 1876, the

25 c. to that of 1886, and 50 c. to the 1890 issue.

The designs of these stamps were those of J. A. Sage, and the engraver was Mouchon. Two distinct types are known, the difference between the two occurring in the names of the designer and engraver, which may be seen on the lower margin of the stamps. The inscription reads J. A. SAGE INV; in Type I the letter "V" is exactly beneath the space between the letters "B" and "L" of REPUBLIQUE; in Type II it is under the space between "U" and "B" in the same word. The first printings of the provisional were all Type II.

The 5 c. and 25 c. were surcharged in *red* ink, and the other values in *black*; but between 1886 and 1891 a deeper red, almost a *blood-red*, was used for the former surcharge. The same colour may be found on the Levant stamp, 1 piastre on 25 c., black on *rose*.

The position of the figures of value with relation to the rest of the surcharge varies; in the 5 centimos the "5" may be found

sometimes over the "T," and sometimes over the space between the "T" and "I." In the 25 c. the figure "5" may be found both over the "I" and over the space between the "I" and "M"; the "5" in the 50 c. has been seen over the "I" and also over the space between "N" and "T." The 1 peseta varies still more, the "1" being found over the "S" and second "E," and over the space between them.

The sheets are composed of 150 stamps, made up of three panes, each of fifty stamps, which are joined together vertically by horizontal marginal strips, printed in colour. The sheet is further divided in the middle by a vertical marginal strip, white and printed in colour alternately. From 1891 onwards a figure may be found on this vertical strip, about the height of the second horizontal row; they run from 1 to 0, and indicate the years 1891 to 1900, in which the printing took place. The first printings that took place in 1890 are without any figure indicating the year of printing.

(To be continued.)

Acrostic Competition

THE correct solution of No. 9 Acrostic (23 May) is:—

P	erhap	S
O	verprin	T
S	e	Δ Δ
T	he	M?
A	lam	P
L	ight	S

Three marks are credited to: Adv, Algy, Argonaut, Beyond, Cadi, H. Chapman, Chicken, Hawk, Hiz, J. R. H., W. T. B. H., A. Harvey, Kappa, J. C. Luker, Mascot, Mot, M. M., G. Murray, Old Girl, A. B. Paterson, Roy, S. B. R., Siwol, E. H. F. Salt, E. H. Shears, Taffy, and J. Walker.

Two marks (for only one word wrong) to: Aei, Anona, F. W. A., Bar, Brigida, Crofter, W. G. Cochrane, Capt. Clarke, T. F. G., Jaguar, F. A. J., Kasaj, A. M. Marsh, Pen, O. R. R., Tasman, Tertius, Timbre, and Vox.

One mark to: Jap, Jud, A. Mackay, H. Metcalf, Oudeis, C. V. O'Neil, Reg, H. A. Spowart, M. C. Tancock, Ubique, and Zimpa.

A few others quite incorrect.

For Acrostic No. 7, three to Greek.

For Acrostic No. 8, two to F. E. W.

Notes.—A few solvers have gone out of their way to make three-word solutions to describe Light 5, as an arc-lamp, an electric lamp, etc., but as many of our most powerful lighthouses are still supplied with oil lamps, the simple word above is safe and

comprehensive of all, besides which the word "tiny" was intended to fix the "article" clearly. However, all obvious lamps have been accepted. As to No. 4, it ought to be quite clear from the last words in light, "before you," as to what was meant, especially if with a note of interrogation or scornful exclamation after it. One word I expected to see was "team," but only one person has sent it. A curious attempt to make "Postag Estamp" fit ended in failure, though "Postag Stamps" was nearly right—the words "these appeared" fix the plural word.

As the last of these Acrostics will be in print before this reaches any subscriber, I may express my regretful surprise at the sudden collapse last month of the few who up to then held first place—not one being left now in that position; while a few others whose totals seemed hopeless have as suddenly jumped up and are now in for a place apparently. BEN.

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. 10d.

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

The Stamps of Tuscany

By D. C. GRAY

FROM a philatelic point of view it seems unnecessary to trace the history of the State of Tuscany back beyond the year 1796.

In that year the French conquered the country and it was annexed to the French Empire.

After the fall of the Empire in 1814 the Grand Duke Ferdinand III, who had been driven out in 1801, again obtained possession of Tuscany, the territory of which was augmented by one of the clauses of the Treaty of Vienna.

Ferdinand III was succeeded by Leopold II, his son, in 1824. In 1848 Leopold II was expelled from his duchy, and a constitutional government was established; but this, in its turn, was overthrown by the Grand Duke, who recovered his former power with the aid of the Austrian troops.

On 21 July, 1859, after he had already left Tuscany in consequence of another revolution, Leopold II abdicated in favour of his son, Ferdinand IV.

The people of Tuscany, however, did not wish to put themselves under the sway of the son any more than under that of the father, and accordingly in 1860 Tuscany was by popular vote united to the Kingdom of Sardinia, and since the following year has formed part of the United Kingdom of Italy.

Postage stamps were first issued in Tuscany on 1 April, 1851.

The design is good and the colours effective, though the stamps would have had an even better appearance had they been line-engraved instead of being produced by typography.

The stamps bear the Arms of Tuscany, namely a seated crowned lion facing towards the left and supporting with one paw a shield which bears the Bourbon lilies. The words FRANCO HOLLO POSTALE TOSCANO run round the frame, and at the bottom appears the denomination of value. In each corner is a cross.

It appears that the stamps were produced from a mother die in which the bottom tablet was left blank and the appropriate value afterwards inserted. Hence arise the two more or less pronounced breaks which may be noticed in the bottom outside line.

The design of the stamps measures $18 \times 22\frac{1}{2}$ mm., and each stamp is separated from its neighbour on the sheet by a horizontal space of $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and a vertical space of 1 mm.

The stamps were printed in sheets of 240, in fifteen rows of sixteen stamps. The paper

used varies from azure-blue to greyish blue and grey, the stamps printed on the azure paper being the scarcest. The watermark of each sheet consisted of twelve crowns, arranged in four rows of three, separated by lines, and only a small portion of the whole design appears on each stamp. The gum used was applied thickly, and is often rather crackly, and is totally different in appearance from that which is sometimes met with which has been fraudulently applied to stamps from which the postmarks or penmarks have been cleaned.

These stamps were printed by the firm of Alessandri at Florence. The paper was supplied by Cici Bros., of S. Marcello.

The following were the values and colours of this issue:—1 soldo, olive-yellow; 2 soldi, deep brick-red; 2 crazie, greenish blue; 4 crazie, myrtle-green; and 6 crazie, bright blue.

The same values were issued soon afterwards printed in new shades of colour, viz.: 1 soldo, orange-yellow; 2 soldi, pale brick-red; 2 crazie, light blue; 4 crazie, dark green; 6 crazie, dark blue.

In July, 1851, two new values made their appearance, the 1 crazia, carmine, and 9 crazie, violet. These two stamps are met with in very deep and in quite pale shades.

In (probably) September, 1852, the 2 crazie and 4 crazie stamps were issued in new shades, dull blue and yellow-green respectively.

The scarcest shades of these stamps seem to be the pale brick-red 2 soldi the yellow-green 4 crazie, and the dull blue 2 crazie.

On 1 September, 1852, the 1 quattrino, black, and on 1 November following the 60 crazie, brown-red, were issued.

These stamps were intended for use on newspapers and for franking letters abroad respectively.

The 2 soldi value was only in use until 1 November, 1852, as it was found to be unnecessary to have a stamp of that value.

In 1853 an issue was made of stamps which were identical in design and similar as to their colours, but printed on very thin white paper with a new watermark. This watermark consisted of lozenge-shaped ovals arranged close together in vertical lines, with the inscription H. ERR. POSTE TOSCANO in double-lined capital letters diagonally across the sheet, starting from the lower left-hand corner. These stamps were current until 31 December, 1859. The issue consisted of the following values:—1 quattrino, black; 1 soldo, orange-yellow; 1 soldo,

yellow; 1 crazia, carmine; 1 crazia, pale carmine; 2 crazie, greenish blue; 4 crazie, green; 6 crazie, bright blue; 6 crazie, deep blue; 9 crazie, violet.

As mentioned before, a revolution took place in 1859, and the reigning duke and his family were finally expelled from Tuscany, and the State was amalgamated with the Kingdom of Sardinia, the nucleus of the United Kingdom of Italy.

The postal rates were revised at this date, and a new issue of stamps appeared on 1 January, 1860.

These stamps were somewhat similar as to the outer portions of their design, but the centre was entirely new.

The Arms of Tuscany were replaced by those of the House of Savoy, to which the King of Sardinia belonged, and the value was expressed in centimes and lire instead of in soldi and crazie. These stamps were printed on the same paper as those of the last issue, and presumably each sheet contained the same number of stamps as before, although the new stamps measured $18\frac{1}{2} \times 22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. instead of $18 \times 22\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

This issue was lithographed, and was probably manufactured by the same firm as before (though whether this was so does not seem to be known for certain), and consisted of seven values, several of which exist in very distinct shades.

1 centime, brown-lilac; violet; red-violet; dull lilac, etc. (some shades possibly are due to fading or discoloration).

5 centimes, green; olive-green; dark green.

10 centimes, brown; black-brown; grey-

brown; purple-brown; and intermediate shades.

20 centimes, blue; dark blue; grey-blue; bright blue; dull blue.

40 centimes, deep carmine; rose-carmine.

80 centimes, flesh colour; the other shades sometimes found seem to be due to fading. This stamp is known in the exact shade of yellow in which the 3 lire stamp exists, and is considered by some good authorities to be an error. It is stated, however, in the French Society's Catalogue that the 80 cent., yellow, is a chemical changeling.

3 lire, yellow; slight shades.

The 40 centimes stamp is known used cut in half to pay a postage of 20 centimes.

These stamps were superseded by those of Sardinia in 1861; an interesting collection may be made of these stamps with the obliterations of places in Tuscany.

On 1 October, 1854, a Newspaper-tax stamp was issued of the value of 2 soldi. This stamp continued to be used until the tax was abolished by a decree dated 18 November, 1859.

The stamp consists of two concentric circles, the outermost of which is 24 mm. in diameter, with the value "2 soldi" in the centre, and the words "Bollo Straordinario per le poste" in the space between the circles. The cancellation of this stamp was effected by cutting off a portion on all sides, and it does not occur postmarked.

This stamp is included in most catalogues, but would appear to be merely a fiscal stamp and so, strictly, out of place in a collection of postage stamps.

(To be continued.)

The Genus Homo in Philately—continued

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

THE Norwegians and Swedes are near relations of the Danes, and with them form the Scandinavian stock of the Aryan family of the Caucasian division of mankind.

The stamps of Norway furnish us with no examples of its people, for of course its present ruler, whose portrait appears on the high-value stamps, is of Danish descent. Of the Swedes, however, King Oscar is



typical. The Swedes seem to have been originally a Teutonic race who entered

Northern Sweden about 3000 years ago and drove out the aboriginal Lapps and Finns. The inhabitants of Southern Sweden were called Goths, and in course of time these were amalgamated with the Swedes and formed one nation, which has retained its independence throughout most of the Christian era. They are a warlike race, make admirable sailors, and are successful in commerce and industry.

Racially related to the Scandinavian family is the Slavonic group of the Aryan division of the Caucasics. The Russians, Poles, and Serbs form this group, but of the two former races we find no members represented on postage stamps. With the Serbs or Servians, however, matters are different, as the annexed portraits of the murdered King Alexander, and his successor, King Peter, prove. The Servians were at first identical with the

Croats—one of the races which now inhabit the Austrian Empire—and seem to have



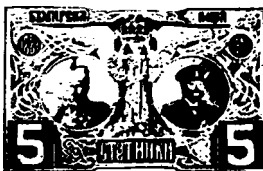
originated in the Carpathian district. They migrated to the Balkan peninsula in the seventh century, and soon afterwards the two tribes separated. In the twelfth century the Serbs founded a powerful Servian kingdom, which was conquered by the Turks three hundred years later. In 1830, under the leadership of Milosh Obrenovitch, the Servians recovered their independence. Physically they are a stalwart race, proud and martial in temperament, and apt to fight on comparatively slight occasion. They are hospitable, energetic, and brave, fond of social intercourse, and cling to old customs and old beliefs.

The Montenegrins are a race of Servians who inhabit the rugged district of Montenegro. They are the only Balkan race



which preserved independence and Christianity against the Turkish conquerors, and their history is one of almost constant warfare with the Turks. The Montenegrins have been called the flower of the Slav race. They are tall, well-formed, and handsome, and are brave and warlike. They are polite and hospitable, simple in their manners, and are justly celebrated for their honesty.

The Bulgarians are near relatives of the Servians, inasmuch as they are of Slavonic stock. The modern Bulgarians are descendants of the ancient Bulgars, with considerable admixtures of Greek and Turkish blood.



They are on the whole of smaller stature than their Servian neighbours, but are

powerfully built. Long subjection to Turkish rule has rendered them less aggressive than of yore. Indeed, Bulgarians of the present day are remarkable chiefly for their stolidity. They have no great liking for strangers, to whom they are reserved and undemonstrative.

Next in our ethnological researches we come to the Italic branch of the Aryan family of the great Caucasian division. In this group the Italians, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Roumanians are included, and as representatives of each are shown on the postage stamps of these countries, all will find a place in this article.

The Italians are, generally speaking, of Latin stock crossed with Teutonic blood, but



to attempt to arrive at an exact estimate of the racial elements which have combined to produce the modern Italian would be a hopeless task. The Italians are a remarkably handsome race with well-formed, symmetrical features and limbs. Although passionate and deceitful, they are a warm-hearted, generous, and hospitable people.

The French people are connected geographically and by language with the Italians.



They are a race of mixed origin, and among their ancestors may be counted the Gauls, Belgæ, Franks, Iberians, Romans, and Normans. In early historic days the land was inhabited by the Gauls, who had ousted some older race. After Cæsar had invaded and conquered Gaul the introduction of Roman civilization quite transfigured the country. France was afterwards overrun by Goths, Burgundians, and Franks, from the



latter of whom the French acquired the name they now bear. The Romans never inter-

mixed with the Gauls, so that the French are a Latin people in language only, while the ethnic base is largely Celtic with a small admixture of Teutonic and Scandinavian elements. They are probably the quickest-witted and most intelligent race of modern Europe. In early days they were an ex-

tremely warlike and aggressive race, but they are now displaying great devotion to the arts of peace, especially agriculture. The portraits on the two stamps illustrated—General Faidherbe and Dr. N. E. Bally—are those of typical Frenchmen.

(To be continued.)

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Express Delivery of Newspapers

THE German postal authorities are not satisfied with having an excellent express letter service, so, according to *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, they are about to institute an express delivery service for newspapers and other printed matter. The tariff is fixed at the following rates: 4, 6, 13, 23, and 35 pf. (for what weights, etc., I do not know), and none of these values are represented by a single postage stamp of the existing set. I believe that in Germany ordinary stamps are used for the express delivery service. Perhaps some new values will be issued, should the need for them be felt. Let us hope that such a step will not prove necessary.

Commemorative Stamp for Brazil

BRAZIL is to have yet another commemorative stamp, according to the *Courrier du Brésil*. This time the excuse does not seem quite so good as usual—it is the celebration of the centenary of the opening of the ports of Brazil to international commerce. The stamp has been designed by Monsieur Henrique Bernadelli, and will be printed by the American Bank Note Company, for issue in July next.

On the right and left of the stamp, below the Arms of Portugal and Brazil, are shown portraits of Dom Carlos II and of Alfonso Penna; below the dates 1808 and 1908 appear. The centre of the design consists of a view of the bay of Rio de Janeiro, flanked by figures of a warrior and a female figure, allegorical of Portugal and Brazil. The design is said to be extremely effective, and the general result a happy one.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie*.

Are the Falkland Islands a British Colony?

THE *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal* informs us that there is shortly to be a diplomatic war between Great Britain and the Argentine Republic as to the possession of the Falkland Islands. These islands are situated about 310 miles east of the southern coasts of the Argentine. It appears that in 1907, at the Congress of the International Postal Union in Rome, the adherence of all the British Colonies to the Union was

announced, and among them the Falkland Islands. A protest was lodged at that time by the Argentinian envoy, who stated that his Government regarded the islands as their property.

The best explanation I can find of the whole matter is contained in the following extract from "Countries of the World" in *G. S. W.* of 16 November, 1907:—

The islands were first sighted by Davis in 1592, and visited in 1594 by Hawkins, who named them "Maiden Islands" in honour of Queen Elizabeth. They received their present name in 1689 from Strong, in compliment to his friend Lord Falkland. Little attempt at colonization was made till the eighteenth century. French, Spaniards, and English successively essayed to form settlements, and the islands were seized now by one, now by another of the rival Powers. In 1828 Argentine, which claimed to be the heir of the Spaniards in South America, possessed itself of the islands and made a concession to a Frenchman. The latter's claim, however, was not recognized by the Powers, and when he attempted to enforce it by levying taxes on North American whalers, his settlement was destroyed by a United States' war vessel.

In 1833 the islands were permanently taken possession of by the British Government for the protection of the whale and sea fishery in the Southern Ocean, and they were for some time used as a convict station. Argentine, which called the group the "Malvina Islands," has never concealed the opinion that the islands properly belong to it.

Government is administered by a governor and executive and a legislative council. For the last twenty years the colony has been self-supporting.

Stamps were first issued in 1878, and bore a portrait of the late Queen Victoria, and in



1904 the design was changed to a portrait of King Edward VII. It would be rather

peculiar if this colony had to be transferred to Part II of the Catalogue, and I believe it would be the only instance of portraits of the present King and late Queen appearing in Part II. However, the change is not to be anticipated!

Canada 8 cents of 1893

THE last stamp issued showing a portrait of the late Queen Victoria as a young girl was the 8 cents, Canada, issued in July, 1893. The stamp was intended for a combined postage and registration stamp; 3 c. for postage (inland) + 5 c. registration fee.



There were three distinct printings of this stamp; they may be easily distinguished from each other by differences of shade.

July, 1893, blue-grey.
October 1895, slate-grey.
? 1897, purple-black.

The total number issued of these stamps was 5,885,000, but unfortunately there are no records of the quantities of each of the three printings.

It will be noticed that there is no 8 cents in the King Edward VII issue, for the simple reason that the inland rate has been reduced to 2 cents; therefore the present combined postage and registration stamp is a 7 cents, the exact equivalent of the 3½d. stamp with which our own registered envelopes are embossed.—*Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal*.

Postal Development of the Solomon Islands

ACCORDING to the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung*, the "Postmaster" of these islands is very pleased with the postal development that has taken place. This official is in charge of the head post office on the island of Tulagi, and also keeps a friendly eye on the sub-offices at Gizo, Shortlands, and Gavu. The mails for Sydney, 1750 miles distant, are made up monthly, and are said to consist of over 1000 letters. The white population cannot be very great, so they must either write a *great* deal to friends at home, or the bulk of the letters must be addressed to stamp dealers! The latter is highly probable, as the trial issue, cheaply lithographed in Australia, is now to be superseded by a brand-new set produced from proper plates in Postal Union colours. There is one point about the new issue that is good to notice: as soon as the new issue is put on sale, the whole remaining stock of lithographed stamps is to be burnt! Bravo, Mr. Woodward! I raise my glass to you! Would that certain other countries, particularly Balkan States, and—a little bird whispers to me—certain British Colonies acting through the gentlemen of Whitehall Gardens—would that they might follow your excellent example.



Points for Beginners

By B. W. W.

Marginal Inscriptions

IN our last remarks as to colonial watermarks, the reference to words or letters to be found on sheets of stamps, which are occasionally found on individual stamps, was not so clear as it might have been. In the earlier paper used, the words CROWN COLONIES are repeated as watermarks on the margins twice over on each side of the sheet of 240 stamps; then the words appeared as CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES once on each side, reading upwards on the left (face side of stamps) and downwards on the right side, with CROWN AGENTS only across the middle. Any of the letters forming these words, also of other words in similar positions on other papers used for stamps, may thus be found as puzzling watermarks on single stamps.

Though young collectors rarely begin with unused stamps, particularly in strips or blocks with margins attached, we may refer

to other words or figures. Besides those impressed by wires in the making of paper, there are printed inscriptions on margins, as in our own early issues, where instructions were given as to being "careful not to remove the cement," the last word being a nineteenth-century official word for the original gum (now referred to by irreverent collectors as "o.g."); further intimations were given as to the price "per label" and for a row of stamps, so thoughtful were our official predecessors. There were figures, too, which it may be as well to keep attached to the stamp, as indicating the number of plate or date when stamp was printed, though of more interest to specialists than to less advanced collectors. If you should find a bottom-corner block or pair of the English red penny stamps with two different numbers, one being in a circle (such as 238 and 201), keep them most carefully intact, as many a British specialist will be glad to

give a fair price for them. On our current stamps there are letters A, B, C, etc., and a figure, that are usually called "control" letters, for checking the quantities printed by the contractors (or as a "tell-tale" check), which indicate very nearly the date of printing.

On some sheets used for foreign and colonial stamps, there are consecutive numbers up to close on a million, often preceded by a letter. There are also many printings of stamps with the contractor's name in the margin at intervals, and also with such a name engraved below every stamp, intended more as an advertisement than anything else.

Overprints and Surcharges

There have been some philatelic writers who advocated ignoring all overprints on stamps, as being of no more interest than a postmark indicating where such stamps were in use. There are others who go on the opposite tack, and want collectors to get British stamps that have been used at foreign ports, or our own military stations like Gibraltar and Malta, as being the actual issues of those places. But such niceties need not be entered upon here, as a special series of articles is running on that subject. The British stamps overprinted Cyprus, Bechuanaland, etc., are distinctly provisional official issues for use in those colonies, and must be classed as such, as also those issued

from Singapore overprinted Johore, Perak, Selangor, etc., for use in those Native States adjoining our Straits Settlements, whose stamps were utilized for this purpose.

When we come to surcharges—that is, the overprinting of a new value on stamps in use in certain places—we get to more debatable questions, as there is no doubt that many of these surcharges were printed solely for sale to collectors, there being very often less than five per cent actually used to pay for postage of letters. Others are perfectly genuine in every sense of the word, either from a sudden shortage of a particular value that the postmaster had not been told was running out, or because of a change in the postal rates, especially where small denominations of value are used, making a quantity of such stamps unusable at the denomination engraved thereon. The beginner, however, does not often get these in his early collecting days, and later on can use his or her own judgment as to buying them. Where actually used on letters, one cannot well refuse to accept them. As many of these overprints are hurriedly set up and printed in an ordinary printing office, there are varieties in the position and sizes of some letters or figures which are often sought for as rarities or errors at fancy prices, but many are due to mere carelessness in the printing, and not of any real philatelic interest.

(To be concluded.)

American Notes and News

By EUSTACE B. POWER

SINCE I last wrote any lines for the *Weekly* I have been called to the State of Massachusetts (awful name to spell), and no one ever thinks of going there without, at least, casually dropping in to Boston. So when in Boston I spent a pleasant day with our agent, Mr. Frank P. Brown, at 339 Washington Street.

Mr. Brown is a very wideawake and progressive dealer, and his handling of the Boston distribution of our Catalogues is always very satisfactory as to results; he kindly loaned me a letter lately received from the Cayman Islands, and as it is of interest I print it in full.

POST OFFICE, GEORGE TOWN,
January 28th, 1908.

MR. FRANK P. BROWN.

DEAR SIR,

As I don't think it likely that there will be any more surcharged stamps for a long time, I'm sending you 8s. worth of other denominations and returning the other 8s. in stamps. It's not possible to buy any of the surcharged stamps here at all. Some one is offering 5s. right in the

Island. I'm sending you one each of the ½d. and 1d. on 5s. that I had of my own. I don't collect, but I'm very much interested in it, and like to do all that I can to help those who do, so please accept these two from me. I'm sorry I didn't have some more, but at the time they were issued I never thought they would be of any use to collectors as the printing was so crudely done. I did it all myself and I'm a little bit ashamed of them, but it was hardly my fault, as the stamps were very bad. The very first that was used of the ½d. on 5s. was on November 23rd, 1907, and the first used of the 1d. on 5s. was November 26th, 1907. There were only 18 sheets of 120 of each printed. The reason that they weren't sent to Jamaica to be surcharged, the same as the ½d. on 1d., was because we had completely run out of ½d., and having to use the 1d. to surcharge on, we also got short of those, so one day we awoke to the fact that there was not a single 1d. or ½d. for the use of this office; therefore these, you see, were done up as hurriedly as possible, and as soon as one sheet was printed I had to commence using right away, so they didn't take a very long time to disappear.

Yours sincerely,

GWENDOLYN PARSONS.

We have heard a great deal about the provisional issues from the Cayman Islands, and this should go on record, I think, for future discussions.

Some letters are pleasant, some unpleasant, and many are amusing. I got this the other day:—

PITTSBURG,
March 20th, 1908.

MR. POWER,

SIR,

I call to your attention the fact that you are selling waste paper at fabulous prices, and hereby demand a public acknowledgment of this fact and an offer to restore their money to your main victims, with whom lies my principal concern. If this is not forthcoming within three days I will lay my evidence before President Roosevelt, who will know how to act in the matter. Even the first issue Mauritius stamps in your Catalogue have been reprinted a score or more times. I have already notified the Scott Stamp and Coin Co.

A. G. JOHNSON.

55 NATCHEZ STREET, PITTSBURG, PENN.

I think I can hardly plead guilty to all these crimes, but am willing to do 'most anything for a quiet life.

We have just remade our stock books of United States, and they are certainly very fine for the moment. Our heavy purchases of these stamps have given us probably far and away the best existing stock, and to make things even more interesting I have amalgamated all Breitfuss's Collection with it. Shades and oddities innumerable are in these books, and collectors are invited to write us if interested in United States.

My friend Dr. Carrol Chase has been studying the 1 c. and 3 c. values of 1851-60 for a long time with very interesting results. He has promised me an article on this subject in a few months, which will make very interesting reading for us over here.

There have been some fresh printings of our current stamps, resulting in slight shades in most varieties, but in the case of three denominations the colour is so marked they will have to find a note in the Catalogue. The 3 c. is now brilliant violet, the 6 c. a carmine-brown, and the 8 c. much lighter purple than before, almost a slate-purple, and the 1 c. now comes in very deep colour, but the difficulty in the 1 c. is to get two sheets alike—the range of greens is enormous.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Chili.—We have been shown a copy of No. 77 with double surcharge, one inverted.

We have also seen No. 83 in the Catalogue, second type, with double surcharge.

The colours of No. 102 should be described as grey-black, green and gold.



16

1903. Type 16, surcharged with Type 19, in blue, twice, once inverted.
866; 10 c. on 30 c., orange-red.



DieZ

CENTAVOS

19

1904 issue. (List commencing No. 79.)

(ii.) SurchARGE double.

78½ c., red.

A lot more entire sheets were shown to us, amongst which several of Nos. 79, 82, and 88 were very interesting. In these the whole of the surcharge was printed diagonally on the sheets, so that on most stamps it appears misplaced, while on others it does not appear at all. It follows that of these three stamps pairs may be had, in which one stamp shows no surcharge and the other a misplaced surcharge.

Falkland Islands.—A correspondent, unknown by the way, has sent us a new shade of the current 1d. King; it is rather deeper in colour, and the watermark, multiple Crown CA, is upright, instead of sideways, as heretofore. We do not make any difference between sideways and upright watermarks in our Catalogue.

Grenada.—Mr. A. Orr Ewing has very kindly lent us a copy of the first value to appear of the new design, which we illustrate below. It is on multiple, surfaced paper, and shows portions of a double marginal line, broken at the corners.



25

1908. Type 25. *Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.*
g1|3d., purple-brown on yellow, C.

Mauritius.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* (20.5.08), on the authority of *The Philatelic Advertiser*, chronicles the 50 c., Arms type, on multiple, surfaced paper.



36

1908. Type 36. *Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.*
174|30 c., green and deep green on yellow, C.

Montserrat.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (23.5.08), the stamps chronicled below were issued on multiple, surfaced paper on or before 7 May, 1908.



MAY, 1908. Type 4. *Wmk. Multiple Crown CA.*

Perf. 14. Centre in first colour.

28	3d., orange and purple, C.
29	6d., lilac and olive-brown, C.
30	1s., green and mauve, C.
31	2s., " orange, C.
32	2s. 6d., " black, C.

New Zealand.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (16.5.08) the 6d. was issued with the new comb perforation on or before 30 March, 1908.



Wmk. N Z and Star, close. Perf. 11x13, 13½.
6d., pink.

Paraguay.—Mr. Roberto Rosauer, our South American correspondent, who is now on a visit to this country, has given us some interesting information about some further varieties of Paraguay. We list the various varieties below, simply

observing that the 5 c., bluish slate, surcharged with Type 42, is number 32 on the sheet.

Our agent in Asuncion sends us a 2 c., carmine, a new colour.



16

10

Provisorio

Centavos

28

Type 16, surcharged with Type 28, in black.

(i) *Surcharge inverted.*

55|10 c. on 15 c., orange.

(ii) *Surcharge double.*

55a|10 c. on 15 c., orange.



39

Habilitado

ea

5

CENTAVOS

41

Type 39. *New colour. Perf. 11½, 12.*
2 c., carmine (1908).

Type 39, surcharged in black with Type 41, inverted.
5 c. on 2 c., vermilion.



66

Habilitado

42

Type 66, overprinted with Type 42, in black.
5 c., bluish slate.

Variety. Bar of surcharge omitted.

Habilitado

en

5

CENTAVOS

43

Type 66, surcharged with Type 43, in black.
5 c. on 20 c., emerald-green.
5 c. on 30 c., purple.

Official Stamps. Type 66. *Perf. 11½, 12.*

1 c., vermilion.

2 c., grey.

5 c., greenish blue.

5 c., bluish slate.

Peru.—According to *Le Timbre-Poste* (25.5.08) the 10 c., black, No. 167*d* in our Catalogue, has been converted into an Express Letter stamp, by means of the word EXPRESS surcharged obliquely on it; the colour of the surcharge is not stated.



EXPRESS LETTER STAMP. Type 30, surcharged EXPRESS obliquely.
601/10 c., black (No. 167*d*).

Russian P.O.'s in China.—According to the *Bulletin Champion* (25.5.08) the 15 and 25 kop. of the 1905 issue of Russia have been overprinted in blue and in red respectively, with the word CHINA in Russian characters.



8

КИТАЙ

C 1

1908. *Russia Nos. 121 and 122, overprinted with Type C1, in blue (B.) or red (R.).*
19/15 k., pale blue and claret (B.).
20/25 k., lilac and dull green (R.).

United States.—We have received new printings of the 3 c., 6 c., and 8 c. (Catalogue Nos. 421, 424, and 425) from our New York house, the lines of the portraits being more finely marked, and the stamps differing slightly in shade: the 3 c. is deeper, the 6 c. has more lake in it, and the 8 c. is lighter, than the old shades. The difference is not sufficiently marked to warrant their inclusion in the Catalogue.

Uruguay.—We have been shown a quantity of recently issued stamps of this country in horizontal and vertical pairs, imperf. between.

The following are the Catalogue numbers of the stamps we have actually seen in this condition: 262, 265, 266, 268, 268*a*, 272, 273, and 274.

These stamps are interesting to the specialist, but of course we shall not catalogue them.

Wurtemberg.—We have received a copy of the 50 pf. Official stamp on watermarked paper.



53

Type 53. *Wmk. Crosses and Circles. Perf 11½ × 11.*
353/50 pf., deep marone.

Answers to Correspondents

GREEK (Ottawa).—The early Newfoundland stamps have their value marked in "pence"; these have been demonetized, and cannot now be used for postage. The two 5 c. stamps can be easily told by the colour, the reissue being much deeper in colour than the original issue.

H. R. M. (Hove).—The first firm you ask about is of the highest reputation, and has been established many years. The second firm is much smaller, but we should consider them good for any engagements they might enter into, but we know nothing as to their philatelic knowledge.

F. W. A. (Balham).—It would be useless to publish your letter without having a large block made to illustrate the surcharges you mention, and we think the matter is not of sufficient importance to go to that expense.

G. G. H. (Slough).—Many thanks for notes on the interesting postmarks you have on stamps of India. We do not separate these in our stock books, but the subject is one of some interest to

specialists, and, as you evidently have special facilities, it might be worth your while to work up a special collection of those obliterations.

S. C. B. (Chorlton).—We do not care for your suggestion to include the overprinted British stamps for use in Cyprus and Zululand in a collection of British stamps. We think they are much better kept separate, as in the Catalogue.

A. B. (Harringay).—We make no difference in our Catalogues for stamps with inverted watermarks, but some people take them and pay a little more for them than for the ordinary variety.

E. J. (Coggeshall).—The U.S. stamp is only one from the margin of a pane, and is worth less than a perfect specimen perforated all round.

A "grille" on a stamp is a pattern of small square dots, arranged in a rectangle, and it was intended to use it to break up the fibre of the paper and allow the obliterating ink to run into it and thus render the cleaning of a postmark from a stamp practically impossible.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 25
Whole No. 187

20 JUNE, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Guiana—continued

FOLLOWING out the suggestion of the French Colonial Minister, the postal authorities of French Guiana, by a decree of 8 February, 1892, ordered that, "pending the supply of the new special issue of stamps for the colony, the existing stock should be overprinted diagonally with the word 'GUYANE,' in black." The stamps were overprinted 50 at a time (two panes of 25 side by side), and were issued 20 February, and of the following list the first stamp was of the "Ceres" type, the next five "Peace and Commerce," *imperf.*, and the remainder the "Commerce" type, *perf.*



20 Feb., 1892. Overprinted in black.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
30 c., drab	6	6	6	6
2 c., green	—	—	—	—
35 c., black on orange	—	—	—	—
40 c., red on yellow	4	6	4	0
75 c., deep carmine	7	6	—	—
1 fr., olive-green on toned	5	0	—	—
1 c., black on asure	0	9	—	—
2 c., brown on buff	1	0	—	—
4 c., purple-brown on grey	1	0	—	—
5 c., green on pale green	1	0	—	—
10 c., black on lilac	1	0	—	—
15 c., blue	1	6	—	—
20 c., red on green	0	9	—	—
25 c., black on rose	1	6	1	0
30 c., cinnamon on drab	1	6	1	6
35 c., black on orange	9	6	—	—
40 c., red on yellow	7	6	5	0
75 c., carmine	4	6	—	—
1 fr., olive-green on toned	7	6	—	—

Before the new stamps were received the 5 c. again ran out, and 10,000 of the 15 c. "Commerce" type were converted into 5 c. Here again the stamps may be found with or

without the "f" after "0" in the numerals, though the latter are scarce



5 Dec., 1892. Surcharged in black.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
0.05 on 15 c., blue	1	6	2	0

The Navigation and Commerce set, though despatched late in 1892, was only put on sale early in 1893. The usual thirteen values were supplied, and the stamps call for little remark. Amongst the lot sent were some 4 c. with the name doubly printed; these are fairly scarce, and probably are worth about 40s. apiece.



1892. Perf. 14 x 13.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., black on asure	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	—	—
15 c., blue	—	—	—	—
20 c., red on green	0	6	—	—
25 c., black on rose	0	6	—	—
30 c., cinnamon on drab	0	8	0	8
40 c., red on yellow	0	8	0	8
50 c., carmine on rose	1	0	—	—
75 c., brown on yellow	1	6	1	0
1 fr., olive-green on toned	1	3	0	6

When the colours of some of these colonial values were changed in December, 1900,

Guiana received its due supply. In 1902 a new value (2 fr.) was decided upon, and in October it was put on sale at Cayenne, Guiana being the first colony to be supplied. In 1904 the 5 c. was changed in shade from the old deep green to a bright yellow-green.

1900-4. *As last.*

	Unused.	Used.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
5 c., bright yellow-green	0 1	—
10 c., rose-red	0 3	0 2
15 c., grey	—	—
25 c., blue	0 4	—
50 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	—	—
2 fr., violet on <i>lilac</i>	2 6	0 8

The authorities of French Guiana had at first rejected the proposal that the colony, in common with other French possessions, should have a special series of stamps showing local pictures, but on 10 January, 1903, the idea was adopted. One of the reasons given was that the set would serve to keep alive the memory of the artist Paul Merwart, who was one of the victims in the earthquake at Martinique, 8 May, 1902. At the same time one of the authorities suggested that with a change of colour each year the colony could reap a considerable benefit from collectors. Luckily this sinister idea has not been adopted. The stamps were issued in December, 1904, and they were of three types. The lower values show a "tamanoir" (ant-eater), a representative animal of the district. French Guiana can boast of a great variety of these strange creatures, some being as small as a rat and others as large as a Newfoundland dog. The type pictured on the stamp is probably one of the commonest, which measure about four feet in length. The medium values show a native engaged in the primitive method of gold-washing, whilst the higher values picture one of the forests of huge palms common in the country, and which grow to a tremendous height.

The stamps were engraved by M. Puyplat, apparently on wood, from designs left by the dead artist Paul Merwart. The clearness of the impression seems to confirm the supposition. The printing was executed by the Government works in the Boulevard Brune, Paris. The choice of colours was evidently restricted, for these are duplicated in some instances, notably in the case of the 1 c., 30 c., and 5 fr., which are all black. The set was augmented by the issue of the 35 c. in 1906.

1904-6. *Perf. 14 x 13½.*

	Unused.	Used.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1 c., black	0 1	—
2 c., pale blue	0 1	0 1
4 c., chocolate	0 1	—
5 c., green	0 1	—
10 c., rose-red	0 2	—
15 c., mauve	0 3	0 2



20 c., chocolate	0 3	—
25 c., deep blue	0 4	—
30 c., black	0 5	—
35 c., black on <i>yellow</i>	0 6	—
40 c., rose-red	0 6	0 6
50 c., mauve	0 8	—
75 c., green	1 0	—



1 fr., rose-red	1 3	—
2 fr., deep blue	2 3	—
5 fr., black	5 6	—

(To be continued.)

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.

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Illustrations of Postage Stamps in the United States

FOR a considerable time past stamp collectors in America have had cause of complaint against the postal authorities for not allowing the use of illustrations of U.S. stamps in albums and catalogues.

The following circular will indicate that the leading Societies in America are now going to make a determined attempt to have the present law altered, and I wish them every success in their endeavour:—

Whereas the Science of Philately in the United States is seriously handicapped and American students of stamps are put to great inconvenience by the statutory inhibition of the illustration of United States stamps; and

Whereas it is the belief of stamp collectors generally that the educational advantages of the illustration of United States stamps are sufficient to warrant the repeal of the prohibitory clause of the postal laws provided that sufficient safeguards be thrown around the proposed illustration; therefore,

Be it RESOLVED, by the Columbus Collectors' Club, that The American Philatelic Association, The Metropolitan Philatelic Association, The Southern Philatelic Association, The United States Revenue Society, and The American Envelope Society, and stamp-collecting clubs and societies generally, should by formal actions at the coming conventions in Columbus, and in their regular meetings, in the case of local and state clubs and societies, petition Congress and the United States Post Office Department for the repeal of the statutory inhibition of the illustration of United States stamps, both postage and revenue, so that they may be reproduced in black and white, in catalogues and in philatelic and other educational journals and other publications, under the supervision and by permission of the Postmaster-General, and that all stamp collectors be urged to exert their individual influence with their senators and representatives in Congress to the desired end; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President of the Columbus Collectors' Club be and he hereby is instructed to cause copies of these resolutions to be sent to the leading philatelic journals and clubs, and to all branch societies of the American Philatelic Association, and to the secretaries of the five societies named hereinbefore, and that he cause them to be introduced for adoption in the National Conventions of the five philatelic associations mentioned, to be held in Columbus in July.

"Love's Labour Lost"

A MANCHESTER shipping merchant, and also an enthusiastic philatelist, observed, the other day, a boy in his employment

carefully taking stamps off the old envelopes. "Do you collect stamps?" he asked. "Yes, sir," replied the youth. Being a benevolent man he took his employee into his private office, and presented him with a large number of better-class Colonials.

Seeing the boy again in a few days, he asked if he had mounted his stamps, to which an answer in the affirmative came. "You might bring your collection down for me to see," solicited our generous-hearted friend; but imagine his surprise, when the request was complied with, by the view of some *half-dozen plates of the porcelain variety, on which the stamps had been carefully "mounted" in fanciful designs, and the whole varnished.* Needless to say, the juvenile got a jacketing, not only for sacrilege, but for being a "fool."

New Publications

I THINK a remarkably good sign of the times is the number of new papers that have appeared this last half-year.

We have had new monthly papers published by Messrs. P. M. Bright and Son and E. Nissen and Co., and now I have three new papers on my desk which I will refer to in the order of receipt:—

The Stamp Journal

hails from Denver, Col., U.S.A., and is edited by Mr. C. A. Nast, and appears to cater for revenue stamp collectors even more than postage stamp collectors. There are also interesting articles on Envelopes, Philatelic Literature, etc.

This paper is well got up and printed, and I trust it will have a long life.

The North American Collector

is a long-wanted Canadian stamp paper, and is issued by the Crossfield Printing Co., Alberta, Canada. No. 1 is dated May, 1908.

I note that it contains very little original matter. The chief article is taken from the *M. J.* (an article on the "Fortas Catalogue Hoax," by M. Hanciau) without any acknowledgment.

The Stamp Lover.

This is a capital paper, edited by Mr. F. J. Melville, and supplied free to members of the Junior Philatelic Society. To non-members the subscription is 2s. 6d. per annum.

No. 1, dated June, 1908, contains thirty-six large pages, the chief articles being:—

“The Olympic Games,” by “Croix Rouge.”
 “The Stamp Lover’s Library,” by Mr. Melville, with a biography and portrait of Mr. Mount Brown, and a careful description of his catalogues.

“The 1d. Stamp of Bahamas,” by R. E. R. Dalwigk.

A very full account of the Junior Stamp Exhibition, with a number of shorter articles, notes, etc. Altogether a capital number, and a paper to which I wish all success.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901–June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—*continued*

(COPYRIGHT, RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—*continued*

British Empire in India—*continued*

Native States—*continued*

Bhopal

BHOPAL is one of the Central India States, and is included in the Malwa district. Its northern boundary is formed by the Feudatory State of Gwalior and the British district of Bairsia. On the north-east and south-east its territories join those of Saga and Nerbada, whilst on the south-west its boundary line marches with those of Holkar and Sindhia, and finally on the north-west it is bounded by Sindhia and Omatwara. The area of the State is 6874 square miles and its population 1,200,000. The State was founded in 1723 by an Afghan soldier of fortune, named Dost Mahommed Khan, from whom the present ruler is the eighth in lineal descent. Since the year 1844, when the Nawab Jahangir Muhammed was succeeded by his widow in the control of the State, Bhopal has been governed entirely by females, the present ruler being Her Highness Sultan Jehan Begam, who ascended the throne on 4 July, 1901, following the death of her mother, Shah Jehan, on the 16th of the previous month.

The State has always been famed for its loyalty to the British, the late Begum Shah Jehan being awarded the Grand Cross of the Star of India in recognition of her good services to the Indian Government, whilst during the Indian Mutiny the troops of the Nawab of Bhopal rendered signal service to the British cause. It is also recounted that when, in 1778, a British division under General Goddard made a forced march across India, Bhopal was the only State that made amicable overtures towards the invaders.

On the second appearance of a British force in that part of India in 1809, the

reigning Nawab of the State appealed to be taken under British protection, but his request was not then granted. He subsequently, however, became involved in a contest with the neighbouring chiefs of Sindhia and Ragholji Bhonsla, who attempted to wrest some of his territories from him, being prevented only by the timely interference of the Indian Government, with whom the Nawab of Bhopal shortly afterwards allied himself in a campaign against the Pindarris. At the close of this expedition in 1818 the Indian Government entered into a defensive alliance with him, under the terms of which he was taken under the protection of Great Britain, and in addition awarded five provinces in the adjoining district of Malwa in return for his services, whilst on his part the Nawab agreed to furnish a certain number of troops to the Imperial forces, which are to-day represented by the 9th Bhopal Infantry and a regiment of native cavalry known as the Victoria Lancers, of the Indian Army.

The capital of the State is the city of Bhopal, which contains the famous palace fortress of Fathgarh, the residence of the Begum, who is entitled to a salute of nineteen guns outside and twenty-one guns within her own territories, ranking as a chieftain of the second class. A British political officer resides at the cantonment town of Sehore, twenty miles west of the capital, and acts as political adviser to the Begum.

Stamps first issued in 1877.

Currency.—Same as India.

Towards the end of 1901, probably about August of that year, the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna denomination of this State, of the type introduced in 1896 for that value, made its appearance printed on thick wove paper, watermarked with the inscription GOVERNMENT OF INDIA in three lines in large open capitals.

According to the *Monthly Journal* the stamps are printed upon half-sheets of this paper, one near the top at the left-hand side, and the other upside down near the bottom, at the right-hand side. In dividing and trimming the sheets part of the watermark appears to have been cut away, thus one-half of the sheets will show the letters "GOVE" and part of the "R" over "IN," whilst the remaining half has "MENT" over "A." The "OF" does not appear at all, and is apparently cut away when the sheet is divided. Sheets have a double frame line, which usually shows, however, on the bottom margin only.



1901.

Design of 1896. Lithographed on thick, smooth, cream wove paper. Watermarked GOVERNMENT OF INDIA in three lines. Imperforate. Printed locally in the State. There are thirty-two variations of the spelling of the name and title of the Begum, the correct rendering of which is H.H. Nawab Shah Jehan Begam.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna, black.

As a result of the accession of the new Begum, in the summer of 1902 a new series of postage stamps, comprising seven denominations, ranging from $\frac{1}{4}$ anna to 1 rupee, was issued for the use of this State. The stamps contain in the centre an oval band, bearing upon it the name and title of the new ruler, H.H. Nawab Sultan Jehan Begam, and enclosing a further inscription in Persian characters, whilst in the four corners of the design are the initials "B.L.C.I.," enclosed in circles, signifying "Bhopal Central India." They bear apparently no indication as to their values, which can be determined solely by the colours of the stamps. This series is, I believe, still in use throughout the State.



June (?), 1902.

Design as above. Lithographed on thin, yellowish wove paper, the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna value in sheets of 16, four rows of 4, and the remainder in sheets

of 8, two rows of 4; the spelling of the Begum's titles differing on each stamp of the sheet. Imperforate. No watermark. Stamps embossed before issue with an octagonal frame, which usually shows but very faintly through them.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna, red.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ " black.
 1 " brown.
 2 annas, blue.
 4 " orange.
 8 " mauve.
 1 rupee, rose.

Shades.

Subsequent printings of the $\frac{1}{4}$ and 8 anna values developed the following shades:—

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna, rose-red, instead of red.
 4 annas, yellow, instead of orange.

Errors.

The following stamps have been found with the embossing inverted:—

Inverted embossing.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna, black.
 1 " brown.
 4 annas, orange.
 8 " mauve.
 1 rupee, rose.

In the March of the following year the supply of the 8 annas denomination of the above series unexpectedly gave out, and in order to supply this deficiency until a new printing could be made, that value of the 1893 series of the State was temporarily re-issued, overprinted with the initial "S" in red, signifying "Sultan," the name of the new Begum, and taken from her seal.

1903.

Design of 1893. Lithographed on thin wove paper. Imperforate. No wmk. Printed locally in the State, in sheets of ten stamps; octagonal embossing. Surcharged with the seal of the new Begum in red. Sheets have single-lined frame.

8 annas, green-black.

Later in the same year the style of embossing applied to the current series was changed, and now takes the form of a double circle, enclosing an inscription in native characters, whilst at the top, between the two lines, are the native figures for 1320, corresponding to 10 April to 29 March, 1903, in our reckoning. The stamps with this new type of embossing were issued about October, 1903.

1903.

Designs, paper, etc., as before. Embossed with a circular device as described above, instead of rectangular as in previous issue.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna, red.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ " black.
 1 " brown.
 2 annas, blue.
 4 " yellow.
 8 " mauve.
 1 rupee, rose.

Shade.

1 anna, red-brown, instead of brown.

Up to this time the postal issues of the State had been free from the taint of commerciality, and apparently issued for purely postal purposes. Commenting upon the death of the former Begum in the *Monthly Journal* for 30 September, 1901, Major Evans, the well-known authority upon the stamps of the Indian Native States, remarks:—

The stamps of Bhopal have, we believe, always been issued for purely business purposes, and although they include an unnecessarily large number of minor varieties, there does not appear to be anything speculative about them.

About the end of 1903 and beginning of 1904, however, the local postal authorities lapsed from the path of virtue, and commenced to reprint the older issues of the State in large quantities, which they offered wholesale to European dealers, impressed with the new circular embossing. Almost any value could be supplied, and in any desired quantity. The stamps were for the most part printed from the old stones, which had been cleaned and retouched. Such stamps are neither fish, flesh, fowl, nor good red herring, as few of them ever did postal duty, the primary object of their issue being the extraction of revenue from stamp dealers and collectors. With regard to these stamps, I reproduce the following note, which appears in the 1906-7 edition of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, Part I:—

Numerous varieties of the older issues, and of the earlier types redrawn, have been put on sale with the new circular embossing. We only

catalogue those that we know to have been in use, as there is little doubt that all were made primarily for sale to collectors.

The stamps known to have been in use are those which I list herewith, which were issued about March, 1904.

1904.

Designs of 1884 and 1895. Redrawn, with lines of shading closer together. Impressed with new circular embossing. Lithographed locally in the State from old stones in sheets of 32 for the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna and 16 for the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, in rows of four. Imperforate. Thin wove paper.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, black.

$\frac{1}{4}$ " "

Varieties.

The $\frac{1}{4}$ anna is also found printed upon laid instead of wove paper.

Laid paper.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna, red.

Both varieties of the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna exist pin-perforated as well as imperforate.

Pin-perf.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, black.

$\frac{1}{4}$ " " red (laid paper).

The following particulars of the postal tariff of the State are given by Mr. Stewart-Wilson in the *Monthly Journal* for August, 1906:—

The rates for letters are $\frac{1}{4}$ a. per $\frac{1}{2}$ tola up to 2 tolas, then 2 annas for 5 tolas, 4 annas for 9 tolas, 8 annas for 27 tolas, and 1 rupee for 60 tolas; parcels post is 3 a. for every 10 tolas.

Parcels are, however, seldom weighed, 3 a. being the usual charge regardless of weight.

(To be continued.)

The Stamps of Tuscany—continued

By D. C. GRAY

THE numerous varieties of obliteration which occur on the stamps of Tuscany have an interest of their own.

There appear to be fourteen main types of postmark which may be found on the stamps of the lion type (see plate). Unless mention is made to the contrary, these postmarks exist in black only.

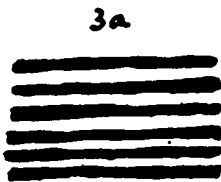
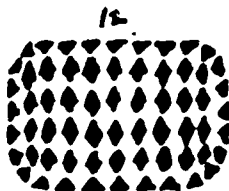
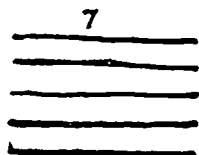
Type 1.—A circle 18 mm. in diameter containing the day of the month, month, and year within it, and having a scroll below it in which the town-name is inserted. This postmark was usually impressed in black, but is by no means uncommon struck in red.

Type 2.—A circle 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. across with the letters "P D" at the top inside it, the town-name round the lower half, and figures denoting the day of the month and month only (not the year) in the centre.

Type 3.—A large circle measuring 26 mm. in diameter, with "P D" at the top, the town-name in large capitals at the bottom, and the day of the month and month in the centre, with figures representing the year immediately below.

Type 4.—Two concentric circles. The upper half of the space between the circles is left blank, while along the lower half runs the town-name. The diameter of the outer circle is 26 mm., of the inner 16 mm. In the centre the date appears in three lines: a small ornament is inserted in the centre of the lower part of the space between the circles.

Type 5.—Somewhat similar to the preceding type; the town-name is placed in the upper half of the space between the circles and the lower half is blank, the small orna-



ment being omitted. The date is arranged in the same way as before. A variety of this postmark differs only in having the town-name at the bottom instead of at the top.

Type 6.—This type seems to be rather scarce. It consists of the town-name only across the middle of a figure bounded by curved lines.

Type 7.—Five parallel lines 4 mm. apart.

Type 8.—Similar, but the lines are thicker and set closer together, viz. 2 mm. from each other.

Type 9.—The letters "P D," 8 mm. high, enclosed within a frame.

Type 10.—The same letters "P.D." 7 mm. high, with a full stop after each letter, but with no surrounding frame.

This postmark may be found in red, black, and, occasionally, in blue.

Type 11.—This occurs on the 1 soldo stamp, and is probably a newspaper cancellation. It consists of a series of diamond-shaped figures strung on a straight line.

Type 12.—A kind of grille composed of diamond-shaped dots about 20×30 mm.

We next come to some rather curious postmarks which were impressed on the stamps on letters forwarded for at least a portion of their journey to their destination by the various railways. Until the passing of the law of 5 March, 1860, the Government had not the exclusive privilege of carrying letters, and private companies and individuals were not slow to take advantage of this fact.

The following are perhaps the most usual specimens of this class of obliteration:—

Type 13.—The letters "S F" 10 mm. high, within a frame. This is an abbreviation for "Strada Ferrata" (railway).

Type 14.—A large circle 27 mm. in diameter, having the town-name along its upper circumference and "Strada Ferrata" in capital letters along the lower half. The date is in the middle in two lines.

Type 15.—This consists of simply the word FRANCATI, 38 mm. long, struck in large capitals.

Other varieties occur, but are by no means easy to obtain.

Not very many varieties of cancellation occur on the issue of 1860. The usual postmark consists of a small circle 20 mm. in diameter, containing the town-name along the top, a star-shaped ornament at the bottom, a number in Roman or Arabic figures (probably signifying the particular post office), and the date in the centre in two lines (Type 12).

Another equally common postmark is very similar, but the little ornament at the bottom is shaped like a diamond instead of like a star, and the circle is 22 mm. across (Type 24).

Another not uncommon obliteration is Type 3a, consisting of six thick parallel lines.

Types 7 and 8, mentioned above, also occur on this issue, and probably some of the other types of postmark previously described.

Two specimens of the 4 crazie, 1851 issue, have been seen with the following postmark: a circle containing the word "FELDPOST (fieldpost) No. 2", and the date (day of month and month only) in figures in the centre.

The most probable explanation of this postmark seems to be that suggested by M. Moens, namely, that this type of obliteration was used by the Austrian military post office in Tuscany.

During the years 1849 to 1855 an Austrian military post office was in full working order, and carried its own correspondence separately and quite apart from the Tuscan Post Office. The stamps used by this Austrian service, however, were those of Austrian Italy, not those of Tuscany, a fact which makes it difficult to account for the presence of this obliteration on the regular Tuscan stamps.

At least two different sets of reprints of the stamps of Tuscany have been made. The first set was struck in 1864, and consisted of all the values from the 1 quattrino to the 9 crazie. The colours, however, are not the same as those of the original stamps, and the paper used was white, not bluish. The second series of reprints was made in 1866, and consisted of the 2 soldi and 60 crazie stamps. These were printed from defective plates, and differ from the original stamps. In the 9 crazie stamp the word CRAZIE measures 9½ mm. instead of 9 mm., and in the 60 crazie the figures "60" measure 3 mm. instead of 2½ mm.

At the same time, the 3 lire stamp of the 1860 issue was reprinted on the paper with the first type of watermark.

Besides these reprints, which are not really dangerous, there exist a number of forgeries made at different times, some of the more recent of which need very careful examination to detect them.

Most of the older forgeries, which often also bear forged postmarks, are rough, and can be detected at once when compared with undoubtedly genuine stamps. A few forgeries, however, are quite dangerous, being in colour, design, paper, and watermark exceedingly close imitations of the genuine stamps.

The more recent forgeries made by Venturini, of Florence, in particular are very good facsimiles of the original stamps. The point by which perhaps they may most readily be distinguished is the watermark, which is not an exact copy of that which

was used for the actual stamps. They appear to be un gummed as a rule.

Proofs (!) of these forgeries exist in various colours, printed on white card and on thin white and blue unwatermarked paper. There is also a forgery of the 60 crazie made from the genuine 1 crazia stamp. In this forgery the figures "60" are inserted in the place of the figure "1", and the final "A" of CRAZIA is altered to an "E", or else an entirely new forged bottom label is neatly pieced into the stamp.

The greatest danger to the unwary, however, undoubtedly lies in the cleaned stamps. Stamps of Tuscany are sometimes offered for sale as unused which show no trace of an obliteration on their face, but which usually have no gum, or else have gum which differs from that originally applied. Hence in the case of Tuscany, at any rate, original gum is of great importance, as showing that the stamp is a genuine unused specimen. Therefore, the sooner the collector of the stamps of Tuscany familiarizes himself with the appearance of the original gum, the better for his purse and his peace of mind.

Essays or proofs of the stamps printed on the paper with the Crown type of watermark, and of the issue of 1860, seem to be unknown, with the exception of a 1 quattrino, black on greyish yellow.

The following proofs, however, are known printed on unwatermarked paper:—

No value, black on white (? die proof).

1 soldo, pale yellow, yellow, and deep orange.

2 soldi, pale red and deep red.

1 crazia, pale to deep crimson. All these are printed on white paper.

2 crazie, black on green, black on yellow, black on dark blue, black on azure, black on lilac, black on carmine, and black on flesh; pale blue-green, dark blue-green, and pale blue.

The last three are printed on white paper, and the last-mentioned shade is known genuinely postmarked.

4 crazie, black on white; pale green and deep green on white.

6 crazie, blue, bright blue, and indigo-blue on white.

9 crazie, lilac on white.

1 quattrino (printed both sides), black on white and black on flesh.

Some of these proofs are found with a forged watermark.

Finally, it may be urged as a point in favour of the stamps of Tuscany that there is not the smallest suspicion of any unnecessary issues or varieties having been made for philatelic purposes; and although one or two of the stamps are rare even in used condition, a fairly representative collection can be made without undue expense.

The chief difficulty is to obtain specimens with any margin to them, since the stamps were printed very close together. The only way to get really satisfactory margins is to obtain a stamp from a corner or edge of a sheet, or else to collect the stamps in pairs or blocks, in which condition, however, they are by no means common.

The Postal System and Stamps of Morocco—continued

By OTTO ROMMEL, *Doctor of Law*. Translated by FRANK PHILLIPS

Stamps of the French Post Offices—continued

IN February, 1892, it was reported that the 15 c., blue, of France had appeared with a block surcharge, 15 centimos; but the report was soon contradicted, as there was absolutely no *raison d'être* for such a value. All outgoing letters from Tangiers cost 25 centimos at that time, and correspondence intended for the interior had to be franked with one or other of the special stamps issued by various private postal enterprises. As an excuse for this incorrect report, the following explanation was put forward: The French marines and their officers enjoyed a special privilege with regard to their home correspondence; they had to pay only 15 centimos. It was said that the French warships, the *Bayard* and the *Cosmao*, were anchored off Tangiers in February, 1892, and that they requisitioned stamps of 15 centimos, or centimos, from the post office.

Before provision could be made for supplying such stamps, the warships were ordered to another station.

So it is not absolutely certain whether the above-mentioned stamp was prepared for use but never actually issued, or whether it is quite bogus; it is probable, however, that the latter is the correct explanation, as warships are never on one station for long. The approximate duration of their stay is also known in advance, so that the authorities would not be likely to have special provisionals made at head-quarters, knowing that they could only be delivered too late to be of any use.

When the French Government took over the private post between Tangiers and Fez, on 1 January, 1893, stamps of 10 and 20 centimos became necessary. According to official records the agency in Fez was es-

tablished on 15 August, 1893, simultaneously with the agencies in Alcazar and Larache; as French stamps were authorized for use in Fez from 1 April, 1893, it follows that the office of the private company must have been used for a short time.

The tariff for letters from any French office in Morocco to any other was naturally similar to that pertaining for inland correspondence in France, and the need of low-value stamps was felt, there being none other than the 5c. Further supplies of the 5c., and also new values of 10 and 20 centimos, were ordered from Paris, as also was a supply of 10c. post cards.

The delivery was delayed for such a long time that the Director of Posts in Tangiers had the 5 and 10 centimos values of the Colonial Postage Dues overprinted for use as postage stamps; 150 of the former and 600 of the latter were overprinted the words TIMBRE and POSTE, over the words CHIFFRE and TAXE, and the inscription À PERCEVOIR was obliterated with a thick, horizontal bar.



French Postage Dues overprinted. Perf. 14 × 13½.
5 centimos, black; red surcharge.

10 " " "

The first-mentioned of these two stamps was entirely sold out on the first day of issue, 6 February, 1893, and 450 of the second were sold, so that of the latter only 150 remained; these were sent to Paris, as the new issue arrived on the same day.

On 6 February, then, the following new values were issued:—

10 centimos, carmine, on 10 centimos, black on lilac.
20 " " black, on 20 centimos, red on green.

All these stamps, including the new printing of the 5 centimos, are Type II.

In 1891 the *blood-red* ink was slightly changed in Paris, the colour becoming *carmine*; the stamps that were surcharged 5 and 10 centimos, for use in Morocco, were overprinted in this colour. The 20 centimos was surcharged in *black*.

The position of the figures of value in relation to the rest of the surcharge differs slightly in the above-mentioned stamps: the "1" of "10" and the "2" of "20" are sometimes immediately over the space between "N" and "T," and sometimes over the "T."

The sheets of the first printings of the 20 centimos had no figure denoting the year of printing, but they may be found (later) marked 5, 6, 7, 8, and 0, denoting 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, and 1900.

From 1897 onwards the *carmine* shade was again in use for all the stamps that were not surcharged in black. The following table gives the *millésimes* (figures denoting year of printing) for each value:—

5c.	2, 6, 7, 8 (1892, 1896, 1897, 1898).
10c.	1, 2, 6, 7 (1891, 1892, 1896, 1897).
20c.	2, 5, 6, 8, 0.
25c.	2, 8, 0.
50c.	3, 6, 7.
1 pes.	2, 3, 6, 7, 0.

The two errors of surcharge—10 centimos, carmine, on 25c. (wrong value), and the 25 centimos on 25c., black on *rose*, double surcharge, both have the *millésime* 8 (i.e. 1898); but they are both nothing but printers' waste, and were neither of them issued for use.

In 1894 the red colour used in Paris was changed temporarily, until 1897, to a *vermilion* shade, and in November, 1894, the post office at Tangiers received a supply of the 5, 10, and 25c. with the surcharge in *vermilion*. In this printing the relative position of the figures of value, and the rest of the surcharge, varies as previously stated.

(To be continued.)

The Genus Homo in Philately—continued

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

TO the same extent and in the same manner as the French, the Spaniards are a branch of the great Latin family of nations. Like most of the other European races, the modern Spaniards have a mixed ancestry. The earliest inhabitants are be-



lieved to have been the Hamitic Iberians, who are now represented by the Basques. Numerous Celtic invasions modified the type, and the ultimate conquest by the Romans made further differences. In the fifth century the Vandals and Visigoths invaded Spain and mixed with the inhabitants, the latter element having left its mark more prominently on the modern Spaniard than perhaps any of the others. They are haughty, brave, and warlike, and at one time were the greatest power in Europe. Owing to their turbulent nature and lack of political skill, Spain has de-

cayed in modern times, though there are now signs of a return to prosperity.

Mention of Spain naturally draws our attention to the various States of South and Central America, where the bulk of the white inhabitants are Spanish-Americans, more or less directly descended from the hardy Spanish colonizers who settled there soon after Columbus discovered the New



World. The American continent was at one time inhabited by hundreds of distinct aboriginal tribes, and with these the Spanish conquerors mixed to some extent. Indeed, at the present time, in some of the States—Salvador, Paraguay, Peru, Ecuador, Honduras, and Nicaragua—mulattoes or half-breeds predominate numerically. But in these States as well as in Uruguay, Vene-



zuela, Argentine, Bolivia, and Colombia—where the Spanish element is strongest—the Presidents and leading citizens are almost always of Spanish extraction. Thus, so far as may be gleaned from the portraits on the stamps of these countries, the characteristics of the people are Spanish—a conclusion that is not strictly accurate.

The distinction between the Portuguese and the Spanish is geographical rather than ethnical. The Portuguese come from practically the same stock, so that the remarks given above regarding the Spanish people apply here also. As with the Spaniards, the basis of the Portuguese is Iberian, after-



wards modified by fusion with the Celts. An independent kingdom was formed by

the Portuguese in the twelfth century. The early inhabitants were enterprising seamen, who contributed largely to the exploration of the world. They founded many colonies in Africa, several of which they still possess. Physically they are not so handsome as the Spanish race, but in character they are in many respects the more pleasing of the two nations.

The Republic of Brazil was at one time an important settlement of the Portuguese, and it is therefore hardly surprising to find that at the present day the majority of the white inhabitants of Brazil are of



Portuguese descent. Many of the present natives are half-castes, owing to the admixture of the Portuguese with the native Indian and imported negro races, but with few exceptions the ruling class are of almost pure Portuguese descent, and members of this class are represented on some of the current postage stamps.

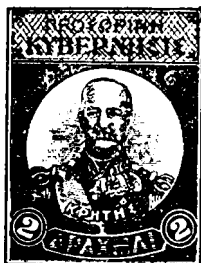
To the ethnologist the Roumanians are perhaps the most interesting of the Balkan peoples. Though usually classed with the Italians, French, Spanish, and Portuguese, they differ in many of their characteristics from all of these nations. They are probably descended from the inhabitants of the ancient Roman province of Dacia, but they have been so often conquered by other races that the ancestry of the modern Roumanian is a highly controversial subject. They are well-built, muscular, and altogether a fine race. The peasantry are hardy and thrifty, though much inclined to laziness. They have the reputation of being hospitable, though they are inclined to be very suspicious of strangers.

The Greeks belong to another branch of the great Aryan family—the Hellenic. We



find no representatives of modern Greece on any of the postage stamps of this country,

though the ancients form the subjects of many of the designs. The inhabitants of ancient Greece, called Hellas, were the Hellenes, to whom we owe the first important developments of civilization in Europe. The portrait of a member of the Royal Family of Greece—Prince George—appears on some



of the stamps of Crete, but he can hardly be said to be representative of the modern Greek, as he is almost purely Danish in descent. The present High Commissioner for Crete, whose portrait is shown on the current 25 lepta stamp, is a typical Greek.



The modern Greeks are descended from the ancient Hellenes, with a fairly strong admixture of Albanian, Wallachian, and Turkish blood. In appearance they are of medium height, well-proportioned, and with good features. They are clever and energetic, and of a cheerful temperament, but they have an unenviable reputation for sharp practices in matters of business. They are intensely

proud of their nationality, a trait which has done much to preserve their racial purity.

The Persians are a fine type of the Iranian branch of the Aryan family, and are thus included in the great Caucasian division of mankind. The ancient Persians were a civilized and warlike nation, who taught their sons "to ride, to shoot with the bow, and to tell the truth." They built up a mighty empire under Cyrus (537 B.C.) and his successors, which was destroyed by Alexander the Great, and modern Persia represents only a small portion of the ancient empire. The modern inhabitants, known as Tajiks, are descendants of the ancient Persians, with a considerable strain of alien blood due to the long period of Turkish and Arabian domination. The ancient Persians



were celebrated for manly beauty, tall stature, pleasing faces, and the good looks of the women, and the modern denizens of the country have not deteriorated in these respects. In character they are said to be easy-going, and always willing to make things as pleasant as possible for every one else. Unlike most Asiatics, they are friendly to foreigners, extremely hospitable, and fairly honest in their business dealings. They have the reputation of being brilliant prevaricators of the truth, and the habit of lying is so prevalent that it is not considered an insult for one man to call another a liar.

(To be continued.)

A Plea for a Blank Album

By M. B. HOWARD

IT has to be confessed that an illustrated album is occasionally a source of discouragement to a collector. There are so many illustrations to be covered, so many rows to be filled, and every blank space shows up woefully. The possessor of such an album realizes he is pledged to a complete collection, be it never so costly, if he is to follow the illustrations faithfully.

There is Russian Levant, for example. The first illustration is that of a stamp catalogued £3, and the next two are priced £7 and £9 respectively. Here, in the case of a considerable number of collectors, will

be three blank spaces to start with. Next come spaces for stamps catalogued 2d. to 5s. each; these may be within reach, but the two illustrations immediately following are of surcharges priced 6s. and 15s. respectively—which may mean two more blank spaces. The upper half of the page thus presents a discouraging appearance, and it is only the lower half that admits of being anything like filled in.

Many a collector has lost heart before the yawning depths of some tremendously big illustrated album, given him, maybe, as a Christmas or birthday present. At the out-

set he attacked it with zest, but it swallowed up such a multitude of stamps without yielding any appreciable display in return, that his interest degenerated into discouragement. There would be, say, a dozen stamps on page 40, but never another till page 47; after which it became a matter of guesswork as to whether some solitary specimen would turn up on succeeding pages—the stamps as far apart as milestones (two of which, they say, have never been seen together). I remember a comrade once describing such an album as “a wilderness of superfluous pages.” The moment he realized the pages could never be completed the man’s interest flagged.

A perfectly blank album, however, to my mind avoids these discouragements. The glory of the blank album is that the collector may begin where he chooses, collecting such stamps as are within his power to acquire, and filling them in without any blank spaces save such as he is likely to eventually cover. He is tied down by no illustrations, but may follow his own bent and inclination throughout, and the result should be a page that gives him satisfaction.

There is always joy in creating things for oneself. Following a cut-and-dried track is usually monotonous, but where a man can “make adventures” for himself here and there the task becomes a pleasure. It is not a bad plan to acquire half a dozen penny exercise books, and by way of experiment fill these in with stamps affixed lightly, the collector arranging them as he thinks fit. Time after time he will change his mind and alter the order of things, but eventually he will hit on a satisfactory plan. Then let him invest a substantial sum in a first-rate blank album, and transfer his treasures into the volume in the approved order, discarding the exercise books as being of no further use. This is a better plan than proceeding to fill in a blank album straightway, for some desirable alteration or other is sure to occur to mind when one is half-way through, and the resultant upheaval may be terrific. The exercise books serve to fill the purpose of this experimental stage.

The entire number of obsolete stamps of any country that one intends to collect should first be ascertained, and pencil-marked in the catalogue. The collector may fix his own limit as to prices, may eliminate or include varieties to his heart’s content, may omit whole issues if he chooses, or wander into bypaths of irregular watermarks or perforations. But he should know the exact number of stamps he intends to secure; then let him allot a space to each on the blank page.

The illustrated album, on the other hand, obliges one to collect along lines already laid down, from which there is no departing

save at the cost of blank spaces or torn-out leaves. Certain issues a collector may have a strong objection to, but if he is to follow the album’s guidance he has to submit to the weariness of collecting stamps which he has no particular desire to possess. Every collector has his own ideas—usually stoutly held and occasionally strongly expressed—as to what is collectable and what is not, and he is sure to find himself confronted, in an illustrated album, with a set here and there which he does not care to gather.

If the truth were known, it is possible that Colombia has proved the stumbling-block to many a possessor of an illustrated book; the description of this country’s stamps occupies nearly fifty pages in the catalogue. What an infinite task to “round up” so huge a quantity! But each type is illustrated in the album, with its train of blank spaces following, all waiting to be covered—page after page of them. Every time the owner of the book passes from China to Congo Free State he whisks over the blank Colombian pages till their locality becomes dreadfully familiar, and their vacancy ultimately begins to pall. Other countries fill more or less easily, but Colombia seems to be a department that wearies the worker. And its stamps are not remarkably prepossessing in appearance.

There can be no doubt that the illustrated book is a sharp spur to collecting, its uncovered pictures a constant reminder of stamps the collector does not possess, and consequently an incitement to make haste to possess them. But this is a matter that has two points of view; some collectors might shake their heads in dismay at the number of stamps illustrated that are beyond their reach. The blank album may lack the guidance that illustrations afford, but it should be entirely free from the danger of provoking discouragement in the heart of the collector. He makes his collection as he goes along, and finds fascination in planning out its pages to meet his own requirements. The illustrated book may suit the collector who has prospects of being able to eventually fill it, but a collector of less extensive ambition would probably find the blank album more to his liking.

THE “SIMPLEX” BLANK ALBUM *Spring back, movable leaves*

150 leaves, cloth cover, bevelled boards, lettered on back, with blank panel in which particulars of contents can be inserted.

Price 12s. 6d.; post-free in United Kingdom, 13s. 1d.; abroad, extra.

Bound in dark green or marone. When ordering mention colour desired.

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

Points for Beginners

By B. W. W.

IN bringing these rambling papers to a close for the present, it may be permissible to remark that no attempt has been made to provide a graduated or complete guide for beginners in stamp collecting, whether in their teens or of more mature years, but just to call attention to certain points with the object of inducing readers to observe for themselves and take sufficient interest in to study the stamps a little with the aid of a good catalogue and handbook, and not to look upon them, as so many did in our young days, as merely interesting bits of engraved and coloured paper to mount in fancy patterns in scrap-books, alternated with pages of crests, monograms, etc., and possibly interspersed with note-paper views or on cards.

Envelopes and Post Cards

This incidental remark reminds me that, though a stamp collector for over forty-six years, I had long before that, and still have, a quantity of those old crests, with some hundreds of view cards, the predecessors of our present-day pictorial cards—which have been dubbed “post cards,” which they are not, as they are not impressed with a franking stamp, though a lenient postal authority permits those words to be printed on, which they would not allow private people to do with specially designed labels of their own which they might like to call “post stamps.” The collecting of stamped envelopes and cards is just as commendable as the getting together of adhesive stamps; they hold exactly the same position philatelically—in fact a higher position, as they are exclusively used for postal purposes, whereas the adhesives are largely used as fiscals throughout the Empire.

Postal Fiscals

The Post Office a few years back authorized the use of the stamps cut from envelopes, wrappers, and post cards just the same as adhesives, but they do not allow purely fiscal stamps to be used for postal purposes. As questions have been asked as to the use of some fiscal stamps as postals, it may be mentioned that in June, 1881, it was arranged that the then “receipt” stamps might be utilized for postage, as that year the new issue of penny stamps was of almost same design as the fiscal penny, and bore the inscription “Postage and Revenue,” to indicate that they could be used for either purpose. As the older issues of other Revenue stamps were not clearly defined as

included, many were so used, including even some embossed deed stamps, and for a time some postmasters refused to recognize them on letters or to have them cancelled; but the letter-carriers in many cases demanded a penny payment only on delivery, instead of the doubled rate for unstamped letters, with the explanation that the affixed stamp had been placed there in error. A curious defrauding of the postal revenue (in a technical and legal sense) resulted through the misunderstanding, but quite unintentionally. General instructions were given to allow these to pass, but the stampers refused to postmark them, and many collectors being anxious to get old Revenue or Draft stamps postmarked, used them on letters addressed to themselves; but they generally arrived uncanceled, so were used again until successful; one collector admitting to me that he had used a particular stamp five times over before it was finally obliterated. In some foreign countries also such fiscals have been authorized for use, pending new issues.

Oldest Stamp Types

A question often asked, though not of real philatelic interest, is as to what stamps have been longest in use. In one sense, this honour may be claimed for the penny envelope stamp issued in 1841, immediately after the unpopular Mulready covers. This embossed Queen's Head was virtually the same up to the end of Her Majesty's reign in 1901, though there were trifling alterations in the hair at back, and date plugs were inserted in the oval frame for some years and then withdrawn, so that the stamp in sixty years after its start was scarcely distinguishable from the original. The 5d. square stamp of New South Wales has had an unchanged run of over fifty-two years, but the paper has borne different watermarks and perforations. Another stamp, that of Jamaica, value 3d., has been in continuous use from 1860, with a variety of watermarks.

Various minor varieties of stamps might have been referred to, but they are such as do not usually appeal to beginners, and a course of the simplest, straightforward issues is the best and safest to form the true philatelist, who cannot fail to discover the others as he advances.

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.

British Stamps used Abroad

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

Porto Rico—*continued*

F 83. Arroyo

A PORT on the south coast of the island. Its trade consisted chiefly in the export of sugar molasses and bay-rum, and the volume of it was very small indeed.

British stamps were used here from 1873 to 1877, and the large upright oval was



employed, the date stamp being struck on the letter.

- 1d., plate 156.
- 2d. ,, 14.
- 4d., plates 14, 15 vermilion.
- 9d., plate 4 spray.
- 10d. ,, 1.
- 1s., plates 4 sp., 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.
- 2s., plate 1, blue.

F 84. Aguadilla

A small town and seaport, situated on a most magnificent bay, lies some sixty miles to the west of the town of Porto Rico. It exports coffee, sugar, and tobacco, but the trade is small, and the stamps used here are

very rare. They came into use in 1873, and were discontinued in 1877.

The large upright oval was used, and is found occasionally struck in red.



A round date stamp was used, but only on the letter.

- 3d., plate 12.
- 4d., plates 12, 14, 15 vermilion.
- 6d. ,, 13, 14.
- 10d. ,, pale.
- 1s. ,, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12.

582. Naguabo

A tiny town and port on the east coast of the island. Its trade was purely nominal, and a British post office must have been more in the nature of a luxury than a necessity. British stamps were used there between 1875 and 1877, but their numbers must have been very small indeed, as they are probably the rarest in this group.

The upright oval was used, and only the following varieties have been found:—

- ½d., plates 12, 14.
- 4d., plate 14.

(To be continued.)

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 281 Strand, London, W.C.

Papua.—A correspondent tells us that he has been in communication with the authorities at Port Moresby with regard to certain Queensland stamps used in British New Guinea. The Postmaster writes as follows:—

“It is impossible to supply you with the information asked for with regard to the Queensland stamps used in British New Guinea. The post offices were opened when the possession of British New Guinea was proclaimed in the year

1888, when the laws of the State of Queensland were adopted in regard to the post offices, by ordinance No. 4 of 17th September, 1888.”

We ourselves have seen stamps of Queensland marked “B.N.G.” in a circle, showing that they were used in British New Guinea.

Touching the old 1901-5 issue of British New Guinea, our correspondent has authoritative information that the numbers issued *unsurcharged* were as follows:—

Value.	Is-ued.	Officially destroyed.
½d.	118,115	184,025
1d.	126,918	14,902
2d.	116,200	—
2½d.	36,550	—
4d.	20,285	—
6d.	16,715	—
1s.	13,835	—
2s. 6d.	2,234	—

Our correspondent has also shown us a used block of four of the 6d., with double surcharge, "Papua," in the second (smaller) type.

Papua.

4

Type 1, with double overprint, as Type 4 (small overprint), in black.

24a/6d., black and myrtle-green.

Santander.—A correspondent in Cartagena, Colombia, writes us touching the *raison d'être* of the vast number of provisionals issued for Santander and Cucuta, which we chronicled in our issue of 21 December last.

He states that the original stamps issued for use in 1904 and 1905 were not gummed, and were intended for internal use only. They were only used up very slowly, especially the higher values, so the latter were surcharged *by order of the*

Note.—All New Issues and Discoveries chronicled up to and in this number will be included in the Supplement to the Catalogue now in the press.

Government. They were on sale to the public at the post office of Bucaramanga.

Undoubtedly there was some evil influence at work, or such an abnormal number of varieties would not have been made; but for all we might have thought to the contrary the stamps are perfectly legitimate provisionals.

South Australia.—According to *The Philatelic Advertiser* (25.5.08) the 10d., large POSTAGE type, has now been issued with the Crown and A watermark.



1908. Type 27. Wmk. Crown over A, Type 29. Perf. 12.
341 10d., buff.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Afghanistan Mail Service

THE methods adopted by the Indian Post Office authorities for forwarding the Afghanistan mail are explained briefly by the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung*.

The whole of the mails are forwarded to the town of Peshawar, where agents of the Afghanistan postal service are in residence. The agents then take charge of the letters, and forward them direct to Kabul, nearly 200 miles distant. The tariff in force between Peshawar and Kabul is high: the charge for each unit of weight is 5 annas (i.e. 5d.), and the unit of weight is only about one-sixth of an ounce. Letters not prepaid are charged double rates.

Should a correspondent in India, or elsewhere, wish to send a letter to Afghanistan, in addition to the ordinary Postal Union charge of 1d. or 2½d., as the case may be, stamps of Afghanistan must also be affixed to the envelope; should no such stamps be obtainable, the proper amount, in Indian currency, may be posted to the Afghan agents in Peshawar.

By the way, the agents at Peshawar keep a good stock of Afghan stamps on hand, and sell them at face value.

Registered letters are also accepted from Peshawar to Kabul, the charge for registration being 10d.

"Eisenbahn" Stamps of Bavaria

SOME weeks ago in our New Issue pages I chronicled some of the current stamps of Bavaria overprinted with a large letter "E," standing for "Eisenbahn," the German for "Railway." I think that I explained that these stamps were by no means Railway Letter stamps, but occupied much the same position as our own (now obsolete) "I.R. Officials," etc., inasmuch as they are intended for the use of the officials of the Government railway department.

Well, the publishers of *G.S.W.* were offered complete sheets of these stamps, in an unused condition, by a certain railway employé in Bavaria, at, I may say, a considerable price. Not knowing if it were permissible to deal in these Official stamps in an *unused* condition, they wrote to the Minister of the Interior on the subject. After considerable delay a letter was received from that gentleman stating that the man offering these stamps could not have come by them honestly, that none were allowed to be sold unused, and at the same time thanking our publishers for calling his attention to the matter. He added further that the gentleman in question was being dealt with legally without delay.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., desire me to say that they will not deal in these stamps in an unused state.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 26
Whole No. 182

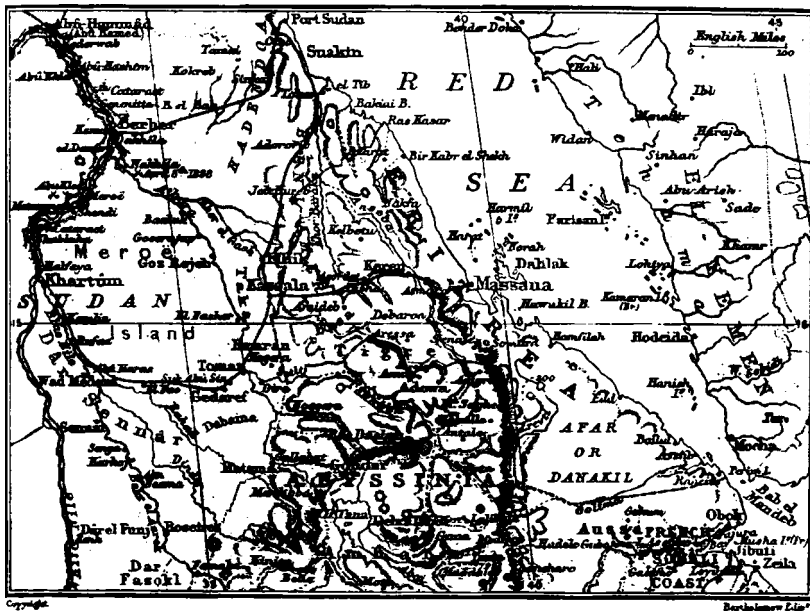
27 JUNE, 1908

VOL. VII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Somali Coast (including Obock)



FOR this series of articles a description of "French Somali Coast" should properly embrace an account of "Obock" and "Djibouti," since the district includes both these settlements and protectorates, and is changed in little save the name. The French catalogues do not separate Djibouti from French Somali Coast, and indeed the title on the stamps of the former place, *Protectorat de la Côte des Somalis*, seems to warrant the arrangement.

It is not quite clear what is the official title. The present stamps bear the inscription *Côte française des Somalis*, corresponding to the name given in a decree of 1896 combining various places. A notice of 1899, concerning an issue of stamps, is headed

Protectorat de la Côte Française de Somalis et Dépendances, whereas in another dated 1901 the first three words are omitted. Possibly therefore the district is now considered as a fully fledged French colony.

It lies between the Italian colony of Eritrea and British Somaliland, the inland boundary towards Abyssinia being by convention of 20 March, 1897, at a distance of about fifty miles from the coast. The territory has an area of about twelve thousand square miles, and contains about fifty thousand inhabitants.

The port of Obock, on Tajura Bay, opposite Aden at the entrance of the Red Sea, together with about twenty-five square miles of the surrounding district, was bought for

France from a local chief by Captain Russel in 1859 for about £1000, though the treaty was not ratified till 1862. Active occupation only commenced about 1884, and an administration was not established till 1889. Previous to this, in 1884, Sagallo and Tajurah were acquired, whilst Ambado was ceded to France in 1885. In 1888 the frontiers with British Somaliland were settled, and in the same year the commodious seaport of Djibouti was established. In 1896, by decree dated 20 May, "the colony of Obock, the protectorates of Djibouti and the Danakils coast" were combined under one title *Côte Française des Somalis*, and the seat of government was removed to Djibouti. The growing importance of the latter port has entirely eclipsed Obock, which at best was only a village of huts with four rudimentary European establishments. It was used as a revictualing station for French squadrons during the war in Tonquin, but it existed mainly as a coaling station for the "Mesnier" line of steamships, and as a sub-station of an English cable company at Perim. In 1899 there were scarcely a dozen foreigners there, and of these the only real postal customer was the English cable clerk, the rest being Egyptian merchants who could not write. To-day its only importance is probably derived from the said cable station.

With the opening of the Djibouti-Harrar railway in December, 1902, the colony has acquired considerable importance, and much of the traffic which formerly passed by way of Zailah and Aden now goes by this line. Eventually, as the trade of Abyssinia (checked for centuries from causes explained in the article on Eritrea of this series) is developed, there is a great future for Djibouti. It has about eleven thousand people, of whom five hundred are European. The natives are either of the Danakil or Somali race. The country has scarcely any industries, but with the coast fisheries and inland trade there is considerable traffic. The chief imports, total value about £560,000, are cotton goods; the chief exports, total value about £800,000, are coffee, ivory, and hides.

Philatelic History

This follows the geographical divisions, first Obock, then Djibouti, later a confusion of the two, and finally French Somali Coast. The issues have been in inverse proportion to the apparent needs. The fewer the folks and less the importance of the place, the greater the number of stamps; with increased population and importance, fewer issues. The earlier issues are transparently speculative and unnecessary, and include much of the "wall-paper" variety, while the later ones are not entirely free from suspicion. Philatelically they are uninteresting and have not even good execution or artistic design

to recommend them. Still they were properly issued and postally used, so general collectors are bound to take them for completion. If only the triangulars had been of lower face value they would have proved attractive "packet" varieties, but then the revenue would not have benefited sufficiently, and this benefit was undoubtedly the sole object of issue.

The issues of "Djibouti" have already been dealt with (*G. S. W.*, No. 124), so that only Obock and French Somali Coast call for attention.

Obock

Till 1892 the general issues for the French colonies were used here in an uneventful way. When the suggestion of the Colonial Minister—"that each colony should overprint its stamps to escape loss by difference of exchange"—was communicated to M. Lagarde, the Governor of Obock, he realized what an opening it gave him to dispose of his stamps with much financial advantage to his colony. By virtue of a decree, 1 February, 1892, the stamps in stock were all overprinted "Obock," and the philatelic public was startled by the appearance of sets emanating from a place of unsuspected existence. So that there should be "plenty in it" the overprint was applied in two ways, *curved and straight*.



1 February, 1892. *Commerce type overprinted in black. Curved overprint.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	2 0	—
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	2 0	—
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	—	—
5 c., green on <i>pale green</i>	1 6	—
10 c., black on <i>lilac</i>	2 6	2 6
15 c., blue	2 6	2 6
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	3 0	3 0
35 c., " <i>orange</i>	—	—
40 c., red on <i>buff</i>	—	—
75 c., carmine on <i>rose</i>	—	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	—	—

Straight overprint.

4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	0 5	—
5 c., green on <i>pale green</i>	0 5	—
10 c., black on <i>lilac</i>	1 0	—
15 c., blue	1 6	1 6
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	3 0	3 0
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	—	—
40 c., red on <i>buff</i>	—	—
75 c., carmine on <i>rose</i>	4 0	4 0
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	4 0	5 0

Perhaps the sale of the above used up many of the values on hand, but whether from this reason or from the casual methods of supply and demand prevalent in colonial postal administration, many values did run short, and a great number of provisionals were created in accordance with decrees dated 29 February, 1892, 25 March, 1892, and 6 April, 1892. In the lists following the numbers authorized are given in brackets. All the surcharges were made by hand-stamps of wood or india-rubber, and in the case of the "35," "75," and "5 F" each figure was stamped separately. As may be supposed, there are many errors and varieties, but these only added to the profit. At the time there was a good deal of condemnatory talk, but the issues have outlived to some extent the shame of their birth and are in good request to-day.

The Postage Due stamps in use at the time were also earmarked with the name of the colony.



Feb.-April, 1892. Commerce type overprinted with straight OBOCK.

Surcharged with new value.

	In red.	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 on 25 c., black on rose (15,000)	1 6	—	—
2 on 10 c. " lilac (2000)	5 0	—	—
2 on 15 c., blue (10,500)	0 6	—	—
5 on 25 c., black on rose (7000)	0 8	—	—
30 on 10 c. " lilac (1000)	4 6	—	—
30 on 10 c. " " (1000)	5 0	—	—
35 on 25 c. " rose (2000)	5 0	—	—
75 on 1 fr., olive-green (1600)	6 0	6 0	0 0
<i>In black.</i>			
4 on 15 c., blue (7000)	1 6	—	—
4 on 25 c., black on rose (7000)	0 9	—	—
<i>In violet-blue.</i>			
5 fr. on 1 fr., olive-green (500)	—	—	—

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' latest Stock Books, 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.

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Death of M. Paul Mirabaud

DEATH has been busy in the ranks of philatelists lately, and now I have to announce another great loss in the person of M. Paul Mirabaud, one of the foremost philatelists and stamp collectors in France, which took place in Paris on 12 May. He was only sixty years old.

M. Mirabaud had been suffering from heart disease for some years, and since the beginning of this year has not left his house or been able to see even his intimate friends; he himself anticipated his early death, as only last year he told me his race was nearly over, and that he could not expect to live long.

M. Mirabaud had been a stamp collector for nearly thirty years, and for more than half that time was also one of the finest philatelists in France. His standard work upon *The Postage Stamps of Switzerland* (in collaboration with his friend Baron A. de Reuterskiöld), published in 1899 in French, English, and German, ranks as one of the best, as it is the most sumptuous handbook ever issued.

Some years prior to this M. Mirabaud published a grand work upon the history of the Mirabaud family; this was only issued privately, and is now very scarce.

M. Mirabaud was the head of the great

banking firm that bears his name; he was a Regent of the Bank of France, Administrator of the Suez Canal Company and of the Orleans Railway, and was president or vice-president of a number of large commercial undertakings, and was very largely interested in the railways of France, in copper mines in Spain, etc.

His stamp collection ranked as the third most valuable in France, and I should include it in the best ten collections of the world.

His collection of Swiss stamps is one of the finest specialized collections in existence, ranking with the well-known United States of Lord Crawford.

M. Mirabaud was one of the most fastidious collectors that I ever met; he would only admit absolutely perfect stamps into his collection, and he, above all, loved a stamp with fine margins giving it a good setting and appearance.

I do not think the will has been proved yet, but I hear from Paris it is stated in that city that the collection has been left to some public museum in France, and I trust this may be the case, and that the celebrated Mirabaud Collection may be to French collectors what the Tapling Collection is to those of this country.

By the death of M. Paul Mirabaud I have lost not only a good client but a friend as well. I had known him personally for nearly twenty years, have often seen his collection, and found him a most kind and courteous gentleman, who was always willing to help a student. His early death is a real loss to French Philately.

South American Agency

DURING the later part of May we have had the pleasure of several visits from our correspondent Signor Roberto Rosauer, of Buenos Ayres, and as the result of many discussions I am pleased to announce that he has accepted an agency for the sale of our publications in the Argentine Republic.

A large stock of Albums, Catalogues, etc., has been forwarded to Buenos Ayres, and can be inspected by collectors in that city. Mr. Rosauer informed me that he expected very large sales for the Facile Oriel Albums and the Sectional Imperials, both of which he considers the best of their kind that he has ever seen.

The Decadence in New Issues

THE following very appropriate remarks are put forth by the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Ltd., of New York, and I agree with them almost absolutely :—

The steady reaction from the new-issue craze, which had been noted during the past year, and the tendency of all classes of collectors to turn, either as general collectors or as philatelists, to the interesting old issues of all countries, seems to be spreading fast. The speculator, with his little book of single watermarks or "ordinary" papers, has almost vanished from the stamp shops, and in his place is the man who sits down with a book of old Europeans or Americans and goes away with an envelope full of stamps for his collection. It is this kind of a buyer, who takes one of a kind and does not speculate, that is making the increased stamp business this fall, and, speaking as dealers, it is the kind of business we welcome. The speculator boosts the stamps in which he is interested to abnormal figures, sells a few at the higher rates, and then usually unloads what is left at big discounts. Such fluctuations in prices, for which the poor cataloguers often get discredit, only harm stamp collecting. The legitimate demand from *bona fide* collectors results in a slower but steady increase in values, and it is this process, continued during the past fifty years, which has placed stamp values where they are to-day.

The Philatelic Literature Society

Is rather soundly rated by *The Australian Philatelist*, owing to the circular which accompanied No. 1 of the Journal of the Society stating that no further review copies would be sent out, as they were being reserved exclusively to members of the Society.

The reviewer goes on to state that "the governing powers have thrown 'a wet blanket' over us by their silly and ill-advised restriction. . . . They aim at setting themselves on a pinnacle above their fellows which they will regret. This is not the way to further the objects for which the Society has been formed. . . ."

Now, I am a member of this Society, but I am not on the committee, and have never attended a meeting owing to pressure upon my time. I therefore hold no brief for the Society, and can speak candidly, and I must say that Messrs. Fred Hagen, Ltd., have published a rather bitter critique, possibly without considering the reasons that induced the P. L. Society to take the step they have done.

In the first case, in forming a Society it is necessary—in order to get a fair number of members together—to consider how best to attract members.

In the case of philatelic literature there are probably not a couple of hundred serious collectors in the world, and of these the committee could only find a small proportion in or near London, and it would at once be evident that members must have some publication to which all could contribute, or send in notes or queries. Books are not portable like stamps; collectors cannot take collections to the meetings and compare with one another, so they must have a good journal, and next, this Journal must be of a limited number, so that it may be scarce and valuable, and thus give each member a good asset for his subscription.

Although the Journal of the Society is only published quarterly, there is an immense amount of detail in it, and the authors must carefully check each line and item—these technical details take far more time than chatty articles or reviews that one can sit down and dash off in any odd hour.

Another reason for not sending out review copies of each number seems to me very probable, namely, that immediately a paper is received with interesting new matter, many home and foreign journals make such copious extracts that the original journal itself is almost unnecessary.

Finally, I think by confining the Journal to the members, the committee have found something that will be a great inducement to lovers of philatelic literature to join the Society, and I hope that every one will join who has any interest in the numerous works upon the excellence of which his hobby has been built up.

Stamps at One Penny each

The Postage Stamp publishes the following interesting calculation :—

Mr. W. A. V. Neill, Exeter, writes to me as follows :—

"In your issue of 23 May, 1908, you suggest an exhibit of stamps not exceeding one penny each. I have been through Gibbons' latest Catalogue (1908 edition), and have counted the number of stamps listed at one penny each. The figures may be of interest to some of your readers.

	Unused.	Used.
Great Britain and Colonies	193	672
Foreign Countries	1502	2786
	1695	3458"

New Supplement to Catalogue

A SUPPLEMENT containing twenty-three pages, and listing all stamps that have appeared since the 1908 Catalogues were issued, is now ready, and has been sent to all those who have filled in the slip given in each part of the Catalogue.

To those who have not sent in the slip, the Supplement will be sent post free on receipt of threepence.

Twentieth Century Colonials

A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901-June, 1907)

WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY D. B. ARMSTRONG

PART II—*continued*

(COPYRIGHT RESERVED.)

British Possessions in Asia—*continued*

British Empire in India—*continued*

Native States—*continued*

Bussahir

BUSSAHIR, or Bashahir as it is generally written, is one of the hill States of the Eastern Punjab, perched on the slopes of the snow-clad Himalayas. It has an area of 3300 square miles and a population of 75,000.

In the year 1803 the country was overrun by the Gurkhas, to whom it remained in subjection until twelve years later, when, on the overthrow of the Gurkha power by the British, the control of the State was handed back to its Raja, who became a tributary to the British Government. In addition to paying annual tribute to the Viceroy the Raja of Bussahir is required to furnish troops in time of war to co-operate with the British forces, and to supply labour at all times for the building of any military roads constructed within the borders of his State, in return for which services the Indian Government guarantees him in the possession of his dominions, and undertakes, if necessary, to protect him against any of the neighbouring tribes. The Raja enjoys all regal powers excepting that of passing the death sentence, which has to be submitted to the Indian Courts for confirmation before it becomes valid.

With the exception of the above-mentioned facts very little appears to be known concerning either the State, its ruler, or its inhabitants.

Stamps were first issued in 1896.

Currency.—Same as India.

The postal service of this State was organized by the son of the reigning Raja, named Raghunath Singh, by whom it was operated until 1901, and whose initials we

find impressed in various coloured inks upon all its stamps. On his death his father, the Raja, did not wish to continue the upkeep of a separate postal establishment, and accordingly on 31 March, 1901, the control of the State post offices was assumed by the Indian Government. For a short time after the death of Raghunath Singh the State post office was managed by one Padam Singh, who succeeded during his short term of office in having large supplies of all the values printed off, which, after the closing of the post office, he offered for sale in Europe in large quantities stamped with his own initials. These stamps continued to appear at intervals right up to 1904, but are at the best reprints, and of no real value, and I shall content myself, therefore, with merely mentioning that such exist.

The issues of this State teem with varieties, of which only the most prominent are listed here.

In the early part of 1901 the colours of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna and 1 anna stamps of the current series of Bussahir were changed in colour, and the 2 annas was issued with the type slightly redrawn; a 4 anna denomination was likewise added to the series.

The designs are different for each value, and are similar to those of the first issue, but are on the whole much clearer and sharper impressions. The central figure on all the stamps is meant to represent a tiger, but according to Mr. C. A. Howes it is uncertain as to whether this is the emblem of the ruling house of the State, or if it has reference to the large numbers of these animals that exist in the immediate neighbourhood. All stamps are impressed before issue with the letters "R. S." or "R. N. S." in monogram, these being the initials of Tika Raghunath Singh.

1901.

Designs as above. Lithographed locally in the State on wove paper. No wmk. Imperf. Monogram in mauve, except on the 4 annas, which is in rose.

½	anna, vermilion.
1	„ „
2	annas, orange.
4	„ claret.

The ½ anna and 1 anna stamps are lithographed in sheets of 24, six rows of 4; the 2 annas in sheets of 50, ten rows of 5; and the 4 annas in sheets of 28, seven rows of 4. The sheets are surrounded by a single line of colour, the same as that in which the stamps are printed, and have figures indicating the number of stamps in the sheet on the top margin, and at the foot, in two lines, the inscription, "Printed at the Bussahir Press by M. K. B.," the last initials representing "M(aulavia) K(aram) B(akhesh)." The redrawing of the 2 annas stamps consists of the insertion of a small hyphen between the words BUSSAHIR and STATE at the top of the stamp, and the addition of some native characters to the lower inscription.

Shades.

The 2 annas value comes in the following distinct shades:—

2	annas, brown, instead of orange.
2	„ yellow „ „

Varieties.

Two denominations of the above series are also found with the monogram impressed in blue instead of mauve ink.

Monogram in blue.

½	anna, vermilion.
4	annas, claret.

These stamps were also issued pin-perforated as well as imperforate, but otherwise as above.

1901.

Designs, paper, sheet arrangement, etc., as before. Pin-perf. Overprinted with initials "R. S." in monogram, in mauve.

½	anna, vermilion.
1	„ „
2	annas, orange.
4	„ claret.

Shades.

2	annas, orange, instead of yellow.
2	„ brown, instead of orange.

Varieties.

Monogram in blue.

½	anna, vermilion.
---	------------------

Monogram in rose.

2	annas, yellow.
4	„ claret.

With regard to the monogram overprint on these stamps, I have taken the liberty

of reproducing the following note from the 1906-7 edition of Gibbons' Catalogue, Part I:—

No rule seems to have been observed as to the colour of the overprinted monogram; pale blue, rose, and mauve were used from the first. The pale blue varies to greenish blue or blue-green, and appears quite green on the yellow stamps. The dull rose may be put down to bad ink, and the lake is possibly a mixture of the mauve and the rose; it is quite a distinct colour, and apparently later than the others. Specimens without overprint are no doubt copies that have escaped accidentally; they have been found sticking to the backs of others that bore the overprint. Varieties may also be found doubly printed, in two different colours.

The same designs were also issued, surcharged "R. N. S." instead of "R. S.," the monogram this time being much larger than the "R. S." device. These initials are also those of Tika Raghunath Singh.

1901.

As before, but overprinted "R. N. S." instead of "R. S." only, in mauve. Imperforate.

½	anna, vermilion.
1	„ „
2	annas, orange.
4	„ claret.

Varieties.

Monogram in blue.

½	anna, vermilion.
1	„ „

The ½ anna and 1 anna values of the above series with the "R. N. S." overprint are also found pin-perforated as well as imperforate.

1901.

Designs, paper, sheet arrangement, etc., as before. Surcharged "R. N. S." in monogram, in blue. Pin-perforated.

½	anna vermilion.
1	„ „

Bussahir ceased to issue its own stamps 31 March, 1901.

(To be continued.)

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.

Acrostic Competition

THE correct solution of final Acrostic (6 June) is:—

S	nu	G
O	ntario	O
L	imb	O
V	alladoli	D
E	rofe	B
R	ub	Y
S	ourc	E

Three marks are allotted to Adv, Kasaj, Mascot, A. Mackay, A. M. Marsh, H. A. Spowart, J. Walker, and Zimpa.

Two marks to Aei, Argonaut, Bar, Capt'n. Clarke, Crofter, H. Chapman, Hiz, F. A. J., Jaguar, J. C. Luker, G. Murray, C. V. O'Neil, Roy, O. R. R., S. B. R., Seabee, Taffy, M. C. Tancock, Tertius, Thistle, and Timbre.

One mark to Algy, Anona, F. W. A., Beyond, Cadi, Carl, Chicken, W. G. Cochrane, T. F. G., W. T. B. H., A. Harvey, Jap, Jud, Kappa, Lotus, M. M., H. Metcalf, Old Girl, Oudeis, Pen, A. B. Paterson, Reg, Siwol, E. Schilizzi, E. H. Shears, Tasman, P. Talagrand, Mot, Ubique, Gingi, Tea, F. E. W., and Vox.

For No. 7 Acrostic: One to Miss Keyser.

For No. 8 Acrostic: Three to Greek; two to Miss Keyser.

For No. 9 Acrostic: Three each to Tea and Greek; two each to Gingi, Seabee, and F. E. W.

Notes.—The above ending is a surprise, as scarcely any change was anticipated from previous positions. "Limbo," as understood by me for forty years past is used, as Dr. Brewer put it in his Dictionary, to mean "A waste-basket or place where things are stowed, too good to destroy, but not good enough for use."

And in the selfsame limbo put
The knight and squire, where he was shut.
Hudibras.

In other words, a lumber-room; a place of confinement, or slang for prison; in theology, "unbaptized infants go to Limbo." There was no idea of punning on "to lose," or "Toulouse" either, and the understood rule is that complete single words are intended unless referred to as requiring additions, or as compounds. Though I have credited two or three with "libretto" and "lingo" as fairly suited to the light, the senders do not get into first places. For No. 5, "before" is fairly inferred as the reverse of "behind," in addition to the printed form of it and the second line. The dictionaries tell us that "source" means "the spring or fountain head" of a water-stream, and certainly "what issues from" a "sloe" and other words

submitted is neither clear nor sweet, either in a honeyed or a freshening sense. The sloe juice is very rough and bitter, and is used to adulterate port or to flavour gin; "saccharin" as a noun has not a final "e," as used when an adjective, which will not fit.

The first light of No. 8 Acrostic is not obscure, and the second line absolutely fixes the word. The little mine is not "me," but one of informing notes and books, from which I declined to pay out more flashes of light, as there were no monetary mites in my mine or mind. In several cases, before and since, the words (or sounds) have been freely given in the lights—*perhaps* you remember *them*? In above last light, "sour" refers to the word as spelled. If a master writes or says "Allegro," he means that the music there is to be quicker than previously—"sprightly, and by implication, quick in time."

As to "dewdrop," it may be as figurative as the heaven from which poetic writers have described it as falling, but scientists still dispute as to its literalness. The word "drop" of itself could not fit the light—what else does! The scientific Adv would still be outside if his plea were admitted.

I must go seek some dewdrops here,
And hang a pearl in every cowslip's ear.

Or stars of morning, dewdrops, which the sun
Impearls on every leaf and every flower.

The notion that dew falls has prevailed through all ages, and continues to tincture every language.

"An Old Solver" does not reveal himself with his "thirty years' experience" (mine, alas! is ten more), and his reference to *The World and Daily Telegraph* does not affect the rules of this competition, in which second thoughts were expressly provided for on 18 January, and two, three, or four alternatives have been sent in by competitors.

Results.—The originally proposed first prizes were for expected totals of 30 and 29, with 10s. each for 28 and 27 marks; but as no one reached the two highest figures, a modification has been made to cover a larger number of solvers without the trouble of "ties."

Totals of 28 to receive 25s. value: Kasaj, Mascot, and S. B. R.

Totals of 27 to receive 20s. value: Cadi and Old Girl.

Totals of 26 to receive 12s. value: Algy, Chicken, W. T. B. H., Miss Harvey, Kappa, A. M. Marsh, and C. V. O'Neil.

Totals of 25 to receive 10s. value: Argonaut, Capt'n. Clarke, Hiz, Jaguar, Pen, Roy, Taffy, M. C. Tancock, Ubique, and Zimpa. One reserved for possible colonial winner.

Will the ladies and gentlemen as above send full names and addresses direct to Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., with list of stamps or books to the values mentioned?

As a modest man or too old to repeat the many compliments received, I thank all

for them most sincerely; for it has been a most pleasing gratification to me to conduct these wayfarers through the giddy mazes provided by a contortionist composer, without twisting them too unmercifully.

BEN.

The Postal System and Stamps of Morocco—continued

By OTTO ROMMEL, Doctor of Law. Translated by FRANK PHILLIPS

Stamps of the French Post Offices—continued

AT the commencement (? March) of the year 1896 Postage Dues were issued; Postage Due stamps of France, similar to those surcharged in 1894 for use as postage stamps, were issued with the two-lined surcharge (red and black) of the value in Spanish currency.

1

CENTIMO

Postage Dues. Perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

5 centimos, carmine, on 5 c., blue.
10 " " " 10 c., brown.
30 " black " 30 c., rose.
50 " " " 50 c., lilac.
1 peseta " " 1 fr., brown.

The 50c. Postage Due may also be found with the final "S" of CENTIMOS omitted. The 1 franc was withdrawn after a very short time; in fact, it did not last the year 1896 out, as the same value of the French set of Postage Dues was withdrawn in August, 1896.

The first printing of the 5 and 10 centimos was *vermilion*, and the *millésimes* "5" and "6" (i.e. 1895 and 1896) appear with this colour. Later printings, having the *millésime* "7" and onwards, are in *carmine*.

For those who collect shades, it may be observed in passing that the Postage Due stamps of France, that were overprinted for Morocco, are themselves known in several shades, which are set out as follows:—

5 c., deep blue, light blue.
10 c., black-brown, light brown.
30 c., rose-carmine, carmine.
50 c., lilac, dull mauve.
1 fr., deep lilac, rosy lilac, red-brown, yellowish brown.

In the last stamp on the list the *yellowish brown* shade is particularly worthy of note, as having a remarkable effect on the appearance of the surcharge.

In 1898-9 the 5 c. postage stamp of France was printed in *yellow-green* instead of in *deep green*, and was naturally overprinted with the carmine surcharge for use in

Morocco. They were issued in that country in September, 1899, and bore the *millésime* "9."

Perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

5 centimos, carmine, on 5 c., bright yellow-green.

The bottom pane of fifty stamps, in the sheet of 150, was Type I; therefore vertical pairs of Type I and II may be had which are joined by a marginal piece of paper: this paper is printed with the *ground* colour of the stamps, and also with a narrow band, running through the centre, in the *actual* colour of the stamp.

The 10 centimos shows a similar setting of the two types as the 5 centimos in at least one printing; but it is also known that in one printing the *bottom* pane was Type II and the *middle* pane Type I; it is not absolutely certain that both these settings occur in the stamps that were overprinted for use in Morocco. However, one thing is certain, namely, that vertical pairs of the 10 c. are known with Type I at the top and Type II at the bottom, with the *millésime* "9." From the close of 1899 and onwards the 5 c., bright yellow-green, 10 c., black on *lilac*, and 50 c., rose on *toned*, were printed in full sheets, all Type I, and also that these were overprinted for Morocco. These stamps all have the *millésime* "o." The 50 centimos, black, on 50 c., rose on *toned*, was apparently issued in 1901.

The relative positions of the figures of value and the word CENTIMOS vary, as previously described. In the 10 c., Type I, I have seen a surcharge reading thus:—

10
ENTIMOS C.

Some time in August, 1900, the 2 francs, brown on *azure*, of the 1900 issue of France, was issued with the overprint 2 PESETAS in black.

Perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

2 pes., black, on 2 fr., brown on *azure*.

This is always Type I, and the figure "2" is sometimes immediately above the space between "E" and "1," and sometimes over the "E," of PESETAS. The sheets have "o"

as a *millésime*, indicating 1900 as the year of printing.

The already long list of varieties of these stamps, chiefly due to the variations in the surcharge, and to the various *millésimes*, is made still longer by the large number of shades that are to be found.

The 5 c. (S. G. Cat., France, No. 201), which was issued in July, 1876, appears in various shades of *blue-green*, while the colour of the paper varies from *light green* to *yellow-green*, and even as far as *greenish yellow*.

The 5 c. (France, No. 256) is always a lighter or darker shade of *yellow-green*, and the colour of the paper is *greenish yellow*.

The 10 c. (France, No. 227), *black* impression, is said to exist on *lilac*, *red-lilac*, and *reddish lilac*. I myself have seen it in various shades from *pale lilac* to *bright rosy lilac*. The variety of the 10 c., with *black* impression on *greenish grey*, that is sometimes supposed to exist, is nothing but a chemical change of colour—whether intentional or otherwise I cannot say.

The 20 c. (France, No. 232) was printed in *bright* and *deep brick-red* and in *brownish red*; the colour of the paper varies from *greenish yellow* to *yellow-green*.

The 25 c. (France, No. 238) was printed in

black, or rather *grey-black*; the paper varies in colour from *flesh* to *bright* and *pale rose*.

The 50 c. (France, No. 243) is *rose*, *rose-carmine*, and *bright carmine* in Type II, and in Type I is always *rose-carmine*. The first change in the colour of the paper, which is *rose* in Type II, can be traced from notes in the *Monthly Journal*, VII, No. 88, and in the *Monthly Circular*, XXIII, No. 276, where it is given as *white*.

The 1 franc or 1 peseta (France, No. 213) was printed in *olive-green* and *bronze-green*; the paper is *greenish yellow*.

The 2 fr. or 2 pes. (France, No. 261) is distinguished by there being no variation of shade, as far as I know. It is always *brown* or *bluish*.

No errors of the "Sage" type of France, overprinted for Morocco, have ever been discovered, and it is improbable that any exist. Nevertheless, I have seen a 5 c., light green, Type I, which appeared to have an inverted letter "C" instead of an "O" in the carmine-red surcharge CENTIMOS, but this could not have been anything more than a badly printed "O," probably owing to dust, or paper clippings, getting on the plate, and so preventing a proper impression.

(To be continued.)

The Genus Homo in Philately—continued

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

THE Hindus are another important branch of the Aryan family. They comprise a large proportion of the natives of India, and are divided into numerous well-defined tribes. The original Hindus entered India—hence called Hindustani—from the north-west at some prehistoric period, and they soon became the predominant race in the peninsula. Representatives of some of the Hindu families are shown on a few of the stamps of the

with a Hindu element. They became the dominant power in West and Central India in the seventeenth century, and two of the States then founded—Holkar and Gwalior—survive to this day. The English had long and bloody contests with these warlike mountaineers before they were finally dominated.

Another important subdivision of the Caucasics is the Semitic, and to this group the Arab belongs. The term "Arab" should be strictly applied only to the inhabitants of Arabia, but it is used somewhat loosely, and



Native States of India. For instance, on the Holkar stamp shown a member of the Royal Family of this State is seen. The inhabitants are Marachis or Mahrattas, and they are a numerous race of mixed origin, probably of aboriginal blood in the main,

also covers the nomadic tribes of North Africa and the Moors. On two of the current stamps of Tunis Arabs are depicted. On the 1 c., two of the better-class Arabs are shown on their way to a mosque, and on the 10 c. natives are shown engaged in the peaceful art of agriculture. The primitive

Arabs were nomadic horse-breeders and shepherds, very warlike, and of fine physical development. They wandered over most of the northern districts of Africa, frequently mixing with the various races with whom they came in contact. Thus the Tunisian Arabs are not of pure blood, but are an admixture of Arabs, Berbers, and, to a small extent, negroes.

The Abyssinians are closely related to the true Arabs, and are members of the Himyarite family of the Caucasian division. They are a mixed race of Hamitic, Semitic, and Negro stock, and their name is derived from the Arabic word *habashi*, which means "mixed." The traditional name of the kingdom is Ethiopia, so called



after Ethiops, one of the mythical twelve children of Cush, a great-grandson of Noah, who was supposed to have migrated from Arabia to Abyssinia after the Flood. The tradition probably has a certain stratum of truth, for the nucleus of the Abyssinian people are Semites, who crossed from Southern Arabia at some remote period. The kingdom is very ancient, and according to national tradition the Queen of Sheba who visited Solomon was the Abyssinian Queen Maqueda. As a result of that visit the queen gave birth to a son, whose father was Solomon, and who was named Menelik David. He was sent to Jerusalem to be educated, and returned with a party of Jewish priests whose descendants still live in the country as the tribe of the Falasha. This enterprising young Menelik David, finding the gates of the Temple open on the day he had

decided to return home, is alleged to have walked off with the Ark of Zion and the Tables of the Law! In accordance with this tradition, the "Negus Negusti," or "King of Kings," as the Emperor of Abyssinia is named, has for his second title "The Lion of the Tribe of Judah." Every king is thus regarded as a descendant of Solomon, whether he is a Semite or a Hamite. He acquires the ancestors as one of the "fixtures" attached to the throne! Typical Abyssinians are tall, with long frizzly hair, and small hands and feet. They are intelligent, and have bright, animated faces, but have the reputation of being very quarrelsome and exceedingly vain.

The inhabitants of Somaliland—a typical group of whom is shown on the current stamps of French Somali Coast—are near neighbours of the Abyssinians and are related to them ethnologically. The Somalis are members of the Caucasian division of mankind, and are members of the Eastern Hamitic group. They are a pastoral people, of good physique, and, for an African race, decidedly handsome.

Early travellers gave them a bad name as a treacherous, fickle, and cruel people, but this opinion is now generally admitted to be unjust. That they are warlike and independent is unquestionable, but those in a position to judge assert that they are devoted to men they trust and tolerant of discipline. For these reasons they make excellent soldiers and servants.



(To be continued.)

International Transshipment of Mails

At the meeting of the Royal Mail Steamship Company on Wednesday, 27 May last, Mr. Owen Philipps, M.P., in presiding, spoke of the inadequate allowance made by the G.P.O. for the conveyance of mails. He said it was absolutely necessary that the Government should pay a larger sum for the carriage of mails than they were at present receiving, as the present payment of 3s. per pound for letters was quite insufficient to cover the expense and trouble occasioned.

It is of interest to note that whilst the Royal Mail Steamship Company find the aforementioned amount too small, there are several instances where the British Government pay much less, or nothing,

for the conveyance of mails from Great Britain.

Take most of the greater ocean lines—as, for instance, the White Star and the Cunard companies sailing regularly between England and New York or Boston. Most of the liners belong to the British Naval Reserve and fly the Blue Ensign; that is, in time of war these boats can be called into service by the Admiralty. For this, what one might call privilege, the British Government pays large amounts for the upkeep of these ships—in some cases including the terms of the mail contracts, since all men, rank and file, are sworn into the service of His Majesty. During the late South African crisis a large number of the Castle Line

steamships were used by the War Office for the carriage of soldiers to the front. Such famous boats as the *Mauretania*, *Lucania*, *Baltic*, *Oceanic*, etc., are all entered in the Admiralty service as "troopships," and the General Post Office as "British mailboats."

It is not definitely known as to the exact terms of contract paid by our own Government to the Atlantic lines for freightage of the mails from England to the States, but the U.S.A. Post Office pays 5 cents per pound for correspondence on the *inward* voyage for the fastest services. Probably we pay the same, or such sum may be included in the maintenance contracts.

In nearly all cases of the international transhipment of mails, the *exporting* Post Office contract with the steamship company. On the greatest international service in the world—viz. Great Britain and the U.S.A.—the outgoing contracts of the British Post Office are with the White Star and Cunard lines, with a supplementary service by the North-German Lloyd. The incoming contracts are between the U.S. Post Office and the American and the North-German Lloyd, with a supplementary service by the Hamburg-American Company.

On most of the larger liners, as is well known, a sailing post office is maintained by the respective Governments, of three officials each, supplied by the New York and Liverpool post offices. These six sorters work as follows: three U.S. and one British on the *outward*, and three British and one U.S. officials on the *inward* voyages.

The two off-duty men are taken in turn every third voyage.

Internal Transhipment of Foreign Mails

On such mail services as Boston to Liverpool, West Indies or Canada and Bermuda to Bristol, etc., the mails are not dealt with *en route*, but immediately upon landing are transferred to the railway post-vans, where they are sorted on the inland journey. For example, the mail from Boston is dealt with between Liverpool and London by a staff supplied by the Birmingham Post Office. Several other routes are also interesting, as Liverpool to South Wales, staffed by the Shrewsbury office; Bristol to the capital, by the Windsor; Liverpool to Scotland, by the Preston and Carlisle offices; and so on. Each of these travelling post offices uses its "parental" office's obliterator. Some months ago the writer saw a most interesting collection of these "T.P.O." postmarks of Great Britain. Naturally, to collect these, the whole of the back portion of the envelope must be preserved.

It is also worthy of mention that the Irish mails are similarly dealt with between Holyhead and Crewe. There is no district in Great Britain served so efficiently for the delivery and collection of letters as the mail line between Chester and Holyhead. By means of the automatic mail-bag sling and posts, the mails are dropped and collected whilst the train is going at perhaps seventy miles per hour. Almost every town on the route is so served, and the inhabitants enjoy a really quick service. It is possible to post a letter at from 1 to 2.30 a.m. at a North Wales coast-town and it be received by the morning delivery in London, Manchester, Birmingham and other large towns.

It would be idle to repeat that the British service has no equal amongst the posts of contemporary nations as regards up-to-date equipments.

British Stamps used Abroad

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP V

IN this group we have put all those post offices established about 1860-65, and in some instances in 1875-79 in various parts of the world, not dealt with so far. Very little can be ascertained about them, and in some cases it is impossible to say where the particular office number was used. In fact, some numbers were allotted, in our opinion, not to places at all but to mailboats, or at least to mail lines. They may be divided as follows: 1. Those places about which there is no doubt and which used British stamps. 2. Those places to which office numbers were undoubtedly

allotted but where the use of British stamps is as yet unknown. 3. Those office numbers unquestionably used abroad but impossible so far to locate.

In sections 1 and 2 the fact that the same office number has been retained, although the colony has stamps of its own, is, of course, conclusive, and we propose therefore to deal with them in those cases where obliterations have been found on British stamps first, the foreign ports next, and then with those offices situated abroad it is impossible to locate.

The list of marks in the first section is as follows:—

554.	Accra, Gold Coast (after 1875 only).
556.	Cape Coast Castle " " "
B 27.	Quittah " " "
A 92.	Halifax, Nova Scotia.
B 31.	Sierra Leone.
B 53.	Mauritius.
B 62.	Hong Kong.
B 64.	Seychelles.
B 65.	Rodriguez, Mauritius.
D 14.	Singapore.
D 17.	Penang.

Of these, numbers 554, 556, and B 27 were allotted (why, we cannot say) to the Gold Coast only after the 1874 list of obliterating stamps had been issued, and consequently are only to be found on the stamps of the colony. As these numbers, however, had been used previously in England, they may be found on British stamps, but then merely signify that these stamps were used in the towns Etruria and Shelton, Staffordshire. The post office numbers B 31, B 65, D 14, D 17, have so far been found only on the stamps of the respective colonies, but of course it is possible that British stamps were used there.

All the office numbers now under consideration were used either at naval stations or by the British fleets, and it would seem that the Nos. A 79—A 90 were used in the Pacific, A 91—A 99 in the Atlantic, the B—series in Africa, and the D—series in China, Japan, and vicinity after 1875.

Naval officers have always had the right to send their letters home, no matter how high the ordinary postal rates were, at a fixed fee of 6d., and ordinary sailors' letters were

carried at 1d., provided the envelope was endorsed with the sender's name, ship, and last port of call, and signed by a commanding officer. The inscription takes this formula:—

"From William Jones, Seaman,
"H.M.S. *Tiger*, Halifax.

"J. Wright, Commanding Officer."

Officers' letters would simply be inscribed: "Officer's letter," and name of last touching place.

It is now and always has been the practice of a British man-of-war to make up all letters to be sent home, stop the first mail-boat encountered on the high seas and place the mail aboard. Hence the inscriptions are, instead of being a guide, usually misleading, as letters from ships whose last ports of call were so far apart as Sydney, New South Wales, and Shanghai may have been put aboard the same boat and would bear the same postmark.

The obliterator used was the small horizontal oval, and as date stamps were never employed excepting on arrival in England, one has absolutely no clue as to the place of origin of most. In some cases, too, the stamps were obliterated with the postmark of some port where they may have been transhipped to catch a home-going mail, or perhaps only on arrival in London. This rather confirms our theory that some numbers were allotted to a limited number of mailboats; those cancelled on arrival would be the ones put aboard a boat that did not possess a travelling post office and number.

Portraits on Stamps

By BOSWELL JUNIOR

Philippine Islands

THESE islands, numbering some 1200, cover an area not quite as large as the British Islands. They lie in the Pacific Ocean to the north-east of Borneo, and have a population of 7½ millions. The inhabitants are Malays, Negritos, and Indonesians. Discovered in 1521 by Magellan, of whom we shall write later, the Philippines were called St. Lazarus Islands, which, twenty years afterwards, was changed to their present name in honour of Philip II of Spain. Forty-eight years after their discovery Miguel de Legaspi took effective possession of the islands, and they were officially annexed to Spain. The Spaniards established a monopoly of trade with the Philippines, and, during the union of Portugal with Spain (1580-1640), the islands formed the centre of a great colonial empire. Dutch competition, however, soon restricted

Spanish enterprise to the Philippines proper, and commercial prosperity waned.

In 1763 a British fleet appeared off Manila and took possession, but the Treaty of Paris restored to the Spaniards all that had been conquered.

The oppression of the Spanish rule and the tyranny of the religious orders have caused frequent rebellions. The monks absorbed all the best land in the colony, and brought the Europeans into contempt with the natives by their intrigues and frequent quarrels among themselves. As soon as the natives began to acquire wealth and education, they began to press for a redress of their grievances, the chief of which was the ascendancy of the monks. Many of the natives had been ordained priests, but the monks usurped their duties. The people, therefore, demanded that Mass in the villages should be celebrated by the secular clergy.

In 1872 the monasteries retaliated by a bill of indictment against the richest and most powerful of the native families, who were deported to the Ladrone Islands. Four ringleaders among the native priests were publicly garrotted, and the native clergy were declared, henceforth, to be incompetent to have a charge of souls. The natives now began to talk openly of revolution. Committees were formed at Madrid and Barcelona, and native scholars, educated in Europe, began to introduce new ideas. Of these, the most distinguished was Dr. Rizal, whose portrait appears on the 2 centavos of the 1906 issue. He began by questioning the legal title of the monks to the lands they held. Such a bold attack made Rizal the idol of his fellow-countrymen. His life was in danger of being taken by the monks. He, therefore, returned to Europe, but went back in 1892 on receiving a safe-conduct from the Governor-General. On his arrival he was arrested, at the instance of the monks, on a charge of introducing seditious pamphlets in his luggage. The monks demanded his execution, but the Governor, not wishing to adopt such extreme measures, banished him to the island of Mindanao. The monastic orders, thereupon, brought about the recall of the Governor-General, though he had been only eight months in office. The revolutionaries now planned a rising in arms, and guerrilla warfare became the order of the day, in which warfare Aguinaldo came to the front as commander-in-chief of the rebels. The war between Spain and America, in 1898, put an end to Spanish government in the Philippines. The islands were ceded to the United States on a payment of £4,000,000. The Philippine leader, Aguinaldo, however, continued a desultory war with the United States forces. For more than two years an army of 60,000 men was kept fully occupied in conquering the islands, and it was not until fifteen months after the capture of Aguinaldo that resistance was stamped out. In 1902 a Civil Governor was appointed, with a Legislative Body consisting of seven Commissioners, four Americans and three Filipinos.

Fernando Magellan, the Portuguese navigator, was born at Oporto, Portugal, in 1470. From an early age he devoted himself to the study of navigation and astronomy, and served with success in the East Indies. In 1517 he forsook the service of Portugal and turned his steps to Spain. A cordial reception prompted him to bring forward his plan for finding a passage to the Moluccas round the

south coast of America, instead of the usual route round the Cape of Good Hope. Magellan's plan was favourably received, and he was appointed admiral of the exploring fleet and governor of all the lands which he might discover. The fleet, consisting of five vessels, with eighty cannon, set sail on 20 September, 1519, and, after a rough passage of about two months, reached the Bay of Rio Janeiro, where it took in fresh provisions. On 12 January, 1520, he reached the Rio de la Plata, and sailed up the river for several days, thinking it was the strait of which he was in search. On finding out his mistake he continued his journey southwards until he reached the port of San Julian on 31 March. Here a conspiracy, organized by his captains, threatened to bring the expedition to a disastrous conclusion. Magellan, however, by using violent measures, quelled the mutiny, and continued his voyage until he reached the cape on the north-east of the strait on 21 October. This was the festival day of St. Ursula and her 11,000 virgins. The cape was therefore named Cape Virgins. Magellan sailed slowly through the unknown channel, and on 27 November entered the Pacific Ocean. A course was now steered toward the north-west, and after a voyage of three months and twenty days the Ladronees were sighted (6 March, 1521). Ten days later he discovered the group of islands now known as the Philippines, where his zeal for the conversion of the natives to Christianity led to his assassination at Mactan on 17 April, 1521.

Meguel Lopez de Legaspi, a Spanish soldier, was born at Zumarraga, Guipuzcoa, in 1524. He went to New Spain in 1545, and was for some years chief notary to the common council of the city of Mexico. In 1564 the Viceroy appointed him commander of the expedition which he was preparing by order of Philip II for the conquest of the Philippine Islands. Legaspi sailed in November with four ships and a numerous force. He visited the whole Philippine archipelago, and conquered Mindora. In 1570 he conquered the island of Luzon, and founded the city of Manila, where he died on 20 August, 1572. His dispatches to the King about his conquest are preserved in manuscript in the archives of the Indies at Seville, Spain.

**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. 10d.



Some Notes on the French Provincial Post Office

By H. G. JOBSON

THE working and general appearance of the country post office in France differ considerably from those of its English neighbour, the chief reason for this being that the average Frenchman writes far fewer letters than we English do. The post office of a small town of, say, 3000 inhabitants, consists of a long room, one-third of which is divided from the rest by a counter and wire screen, leaving the remaining two-thirds, which contains the telegraph apparatus, telephone exchange, and postmaster's desk, open to the public view, a very different scheme of arrangement from that employed in our offices, where everything is most carefully stowed away out of sight. Only a very few stamps of any denomination are kept in the drawer at the counter, and when the clerk runs out of any value he pays out of his till so much to the postmaster at his desk and gets stamps to that amount in exchange. Very often in remote country towns the stock of stamps gets low or some values are out of stock altogether, and if one is a collector requiring a special stamp, he has to wait till the train brings in the requisite supply.

It may be news to your readers that the post office clerks are forbidden to collect stamps, the Government putting forward as a reason the likelihood of stamps being stolen off letters for their collections. There are two kinds of postmen; one, who is called the "courier," collects the letters from the boxes and outlying villages. He is armed

with a revolver, carried in a leather pouch at his waist, and a stout stick, and wears a uniform very like that of a French soldier, namely, red trousers, which, however, are not baggy, blue tunic, and peaked cap. The "facteur," or postman who delivers the letters, wears much the same sort of dress, excepting the revolver and stick, and carries a box, covered in patent leather, with the letters arranged in it in bundles; in fact, it looks much the same as the trays used by street hawkers in London. In case of rain a lid shuts down over all. Registered letters have to be delivered to the addressee in person, a rule which one finds decidedly awkward in the early morning. With regard to the transmission of letters, a second-class compartment, with a label "Postes" in the window, is reserved for the mails on branch lines. The letters are put in leather pouches during the journey, and at each station the letters addressed to that place are delivered by the mail clerk to a courier who is waiting for them.

Parcels are not dealt with at the post offices, but have to be taken to the nearest railway station to be dispatched. They are not delivered to the address, but are left to be called for by their owners, who are warned of the arrival by letter.

This short description of the working of provincial post offices in France may be of interest to readers who like to know something of the working of other post offices than their own.

New Issues

By FRANK PHILLIPS

I should be most grateful if readers would help me by furnishing the earliest possible information concerning issues of stamps, new or projected. If possible a specimen should be sent, which will be returned at once if desired, together with stamp for postage; or to readers subscribing direct, their subscription will be lengthened by one number for each penny face value and postage. Any official information or notices will also be welcome.

FRANK PHILLIPS, 301 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibraltar.—A correspondent of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (6.6.08) has reported the 6d. on surfaced paper. It is said to have been issued on 20 April, or earlier.



8

1808. Type 8. *Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14. 606d., lilac and violet, C.*

Gold Coast.—Mr. A. D. Jenny sends us a specimen copy of a new 1d., which is to be issued shortly. The colour remains *carmine*, but the design is somewhat changed. The value is shown, in figures, twice in the lower corners, and the name of the colony appears in a double curved scroll at the top.

Grenada.—Mr. A. D. Jenny has shown us specimen copies of five new stamps, similar in design to the new 3d., illustrated in our issue of 13 June. All the figures of value are plain on coloured ground.

To be issued shortly.

Centre in first colour. Chalky paper.

(i.) Multiple wmk.

- 6d., lilac and mauve.
2s., blue and lilac on blue.
5s., green and red on yellow.

(ii.) Single wmk.

- 1s., black on green.
10s., green and red on green.

New Zealand.—In our issue of 23 May we listed a £1 Official stamp. Unfortunately we described the stamp as being No. 474 in our Catalogue, whereas it should have been No. 499b. We hope our readers will make the necessary correction.

Nyasaland Protectorate.—By an Order of Council dating from last year, the title of British Central Africa was changed to the above. Mr. A. D. Jenny sends us specimen copies of a new set of stamps, with the new title of the colony. The design has also been changed by the addition of the words POSTAGE—REVENUE, and also in other details. All the figures of value are plain on coloured ground. The values from ½d. to 1s. are small rectangular, and the higher values large rectangular.

To be issued shortly.

Centre in first colour. Multiple, chalky (where not stated otherwise).

- ½d., green (Ord.).
1d., carmine (Ord.).
3d., purple on yellow.
4d., black and red on yellow.
6d., lilac and mauve.
1s., black on green (Single, Ch.).
2s. 6d., black and red on blue.
4s., carmine and black.
10s., green and red on green.
£1, lilac and black on red.
£10, lilac and ultramarine.

St. Helena.—Mr. A. D. Jenny sends us specimen copies of four stamps of a new design, which is very like the small rectangular type (Type 10 in the Catalogue), but the value is in coloured figures in a white tablet, and the medallion containing the head is cushion-shaped, instead of round.

To be issued shortly.

Name and value in second colour. Multiple wmk.

- 2½d., ultramarine (Ord.).
4d., black and red on yellow (Ch.).
6d., lilac and purple (Ch.).

Single wmk. Chalky.

- 10s., green and red on green.

St. Vincent.—Mr. A. Orr Ewing has very kindly shown us a copy of a new 2d., orange, of the PAX ET JUSTITIA type. It is apparently line-engraved, and printed on unsurfaced, multiple paper.



17

1908. Type 17. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.
94a|2d., orange. O.

Siam.—We learn from *The Postage Stamp* (6.6.08) that no less than five varieties have been issued of the 1906 issue. The 2 and 3 atts have exchanged colours; the 4 atts is issued in the colours of the 5 atts, which will, of course, necessitate a change in the latter value. Then there are two new values of 9 and 18 atts.

According to our contemporary:—

“These latter will probably displace the 12 a. and 24 a. altogether, for they are printed in the colours of those values. These changes are apparently due to an increase in the value of the tical, for 2, 4, and 9 atts represent ½d., 1d., and 2½d. postal rates now, instead of 3, 5, and 12 atts, as formerly.”



50

1908. Type 50. Centre in first colour. Changes of colour and new values. Perf. 14.

- | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|
| 163\| | 2 a., green. |
| 164\| | 3 a., grey and violet. |
| 165\| | 4 a., rose and carmine. |
| 167\| | 9 a., pale blue and blue. |
| 169\| | 18 a., pale and deep red-brown. |

South Australia.—According to *The Postage Stamp* (6.6.08) the 10d., thick POSTAGE, has been issued in a pale orange, instead of the old buff shade. The watermark is Crown and SA (close), as before.



27

1908. Type 27. Wmk. Crown SA (close), Type 13.
Perf. 12.

- 319a|10d., pale orange.

Tasmania.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (6.6.08) reports having received sheets of the 6d. pictorial stamp, watermarked Crown and double-lined A, and perforated 11. The colour has been changed from lake to rose-red, and the stamp is said to have been issued on 24 April, or earlier.



29

1808. Type 29. *Wmk. Crown over A*, Type 33. *Perf. 11.*
236| 6d., rose-red.

Uruguay.—In addition to the reissue of two values, mentioned in our issue of 11 January, Mr. A. H. Davis now informs us that Nos. 272 and 270 in the Catalogue were reissued on 17 May, and that Nos. 281 and 285 will be withdrawn from circulation and demonetized on 20 August, 1908.

The following table gives the Catalogue numbers of the stamps that have been (or will be) withdrawn and reissued respectively.

Value.	Withdrawn.	Reissued.
1c. ...	No. 281 (20.8.08) ...	No. 272 (17. 5.08).
2c. ...	,, 282 (27.2.08) ...	,, 273 (25.11.07).
2c. ...	,, 291 (") ...	—
5c. ...	,, 283 (") ...	,, 274 (25.11.07).
5c. ...	,, 292 (") ...	—
20c. ...	,, 285 (20.8.08) ...	,, 270 (17. 5.08).

Victoria.—Mr. H. C. Sellé informs us that he has in his possession the 5s. with Crown and double-lined A watermark, perforated 12½, instead of 11.



73

Type 73. *Wmk. Crown over A*, Type 77. *Perf. 12½ or 12 X 12½.*
30|5s., carmine and blue.

Zanzibar.—We are informed by *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (6.6.08) that eleven values of the cental issue, referred to in our issue dated 30 May, have now been received. Our contemporary states that:—

"The cents values are printed in sheets of 60, 10 rows of 6, with plain margins, and the rupee values in sheets of 60, 5 rows of 12, also with plain margins."

All the stamps mentioned below are said to have been issued on 4 May, or earlier.

We believe that all values are on unsurfaced paper, and that the watermark consists of rosettes, as Type 18 in the Catalogue.



25



26



27

MAY, 1908. Types 25 (3 c., 6 c., 12 c.), 26, and 27 (*rupee values*). *Multiple wmk.*, Type 18. *Perf. 14.*

- 226| 3 c., yellow-green.
- 227| 6 c., rose-carmine.
- 229| 12 c., deep lilac.
- 230| 15 c., ultramarine.
- 231| 25 c., sepia.
- 232| 50 c., blue-green.
- 234| 1 r., yellow-green.
- 235| 2 r., deep lilac.
- 236| 3 r., orange-bistre.
- 237| 4 r., vermilion.
- 238| 5 r., Antwerp blue.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Military Frank Stamps of France

WHEN the stamps of France were overprinted in black with the letters F.M., standing for "*Franchise Militaire*," the greatest care was taken to prevent errors in the overprint.



Nevertheless two minor varieties were discovered in the 10 c., rose-carmine, of the 1906 issue. The sheets consist of 150 stamps, and on stamp No. 11 the dot after the "M" is miss-

ing; the second variety is found on No. 144 in the sheet, the letter "F" being broken. Quite lately similar varieties, in the positions indicated above have been found on sheets of the F. M. older 15 c., slate-green, but only on those sheets which have the *millsime* "5."

These varieties are a source of considerable profit to certain colonial officials, as each is only present once in a sheet of 150 stamps; they are nearly always taken out and sold subsequently to collectors.—*Le Journal des Philatélistes*.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 1, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 157).

4 JANUARY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: Finland. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	1
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	2
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	5
4. NEVER MORE (The Croak of a "Raven" Lunatic). <i>By W. E. Imeson</i>	7
5. NOTES ON THE PROVISIONAL STAMPS OF GRENADA <i>By R. E. R. Dalwigh</i>	8
6. CITY STAMP-SELLERS OF THIRTY YEARS AGO. <i>By B. W. W.</i>	10
7. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nissen</i>	11
8. FROM AN INDIAN POET	12
9. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	13
10. CORRESPONDENCE	16
11. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	16

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.



PORTUGAL

1895-9. Type 39.

Error, with figure of value
inverted, and at top instead
of at foot of stamp.

2½ r.

PALE GREY AND BLACK

This is a new discovery, and comes before
369c in the new edition of the Catalogue.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

Unused and mint.

7s. 6d., post-free.

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 " rarer	5 1
9.	200 " rare	5 1
66.	500 "	4 1
67.	1000 "	15 0
68.	1500 "	35 0
69.	2000 "	60 0
69A.	3000 "	170 0
69B.	4000 "	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in **FINE**
CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value
offered by any stamp dealer.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 106 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to

The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or

Italian postmarks, additional time will be required to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. V of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

The Monthly Journal

Edited by MAJOR E. B. EVANS

THE *Monthly Journal* is chiefly intended for Stamp Collectors who are rather advanced.

The chief features are—

1st.—A series of entirely Original Articles by the leading Philatelic Writers of the day on all subjects of interest to Stamp Collectors.

2nd.—A special and most carefully compiled list of all New Issues, Discoveries, Minor Varieties, etc.

SUBSCRIPTION: 2/- per Annum.

All Subscriptions must be prepaid, and commence with the first number of a volume. Collectors who subscribe now will receive the back numbers of the current volume.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

CHEAP SETS of beautifully engraved and bright-coloured

AMERICAN STAMPS



SALVADOR.

POSTAGE DUE.

FIGURES OF VALUE IN SHIELD.

		<i>Price, post-free. s. d.</i>
	1895. 1 c. to 50 c.	
Set of Eight, <i>unused</i>		1 6
	1896. 1 c. to 50 c.	
Set of Eight, <i>unused</i>		1 6
	1897. 1 c. to 50 c.	
Set of Eight, <i>unused</i>		1 6
	1899. 1 c. to 50 c.	
Set of Eight, <i>unused</i>		1 6



PARCEL POST.

	1895. Diamond Shaped. 5 c. to 50 c.	
Set of Five, <i>unused</i>		1 6

OFFICIAL.

	1896. Allegorical Figure. 1 c. to 1 p.	
Set of Twelve, <i>unused</i>		1 6

**LIST OF NEARLY 2000 CHEAP SETS
AND PACKETS OF STAMPS SENT
POST-FREE ON APPLICATION TO**

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

New Year Presents.

NOW READY. The following popular series of

PACKETS OF FOREIGN Postage Stamps

All the Stamps contained in the following Packets are warranted absolutely genuine, free from reprints. They are also in good condition and perfect.

These Packets cannot be sent by book post to Postal Union Countries. The cost by letter rate is 2½d. for every 100 Stamps. The amount required for postage can therefore be reckoned, and should be added when remitting.

New and Improved Packets of Used and Unused Stamps.

No. 8.—The Five Shilling Packet of Obsolete Stamps contains 100 varieties, including, amongst others, Liberia O.S., Western Australia provisional, India H.M.S., British Guiana, Cyprus 2½d., Argentine, Greece, Liberia, Guatemala, Mauritius, Provisional Cuba, Hungary 25 kr., Mexico, Bolivia, Uruguay, Transvaal, old Egyptian, old Swiss, Turkey, Peru, Barbados, Spain, Porto Rico, Canada, Chili, old Tasmania, old Japan 15 and 25 sen, Siam, Brazil, Victoria, and others rare. This packet contains no stamps of the present issue, and is well worth 10/- Post-free, 6/1.

No. 9.—The Five Shilling Packet of Foreign Stamps contains 200 varieties (used and unused), including Cape of Good Hope, Turkey, Bermuda, Belgium, India Service, Brazil, Japan, Portugal, Spain, U.S. Post Office, Russia, Swiss, British Guiana, New Zealand, Bulgaria, Denmark, South Australia, Mexico, Malta, U.S., Holland, Italy, Victoria, Chili, Queensland, Gibraltar, Porto Rico, Greece 1 l., Orange River Colony, Nicaragua, British Honduras, Bolivia, Hungary, Hayti, Straits Settlements, Natal, &c. All different. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 10.—The Ten Shilling Packet of Used and Unused Stamps contains 100 varieties, all rare and different, including Chin-kiang, obsolete Cyprus, Salvador, Ecuador, Philippine Islands, Hayti, Tolima 5 c., St. Kitts, Uruguay, Montserrat, Finland surcharged British Honduras, old Victoria, Newfoundland, Mexico, British Bechuanaland, British Guiana, unpaid Greece, Hyderabad, Borneo, Nicaragua, Zululand, set of 6 Egypt, New South Wales O.S., 4 scarce Spanish, Serbia, Turkey, St. Vincent, Porto Rico, Bermuda, United States of America, Peru, Dutch Indies, Republic of Colombia, and others scarce. This packet is highly recommended as being well worth 20/-; and if the stamps were bought separately, it would come to over that amount. Post-free, 10/1.

No. 11.—The Guinea Packet of Rare Used and Unused Stamps contains 200 varieties, including provisional Trinidad, Persia, obsolete Japan, official Mexico, Porto Rico, Antioquia, Ecuador, provisional Ceylon, South African Republic, Dutch Indies, provisional 1881 British Guiana, Ivory Coast, Macao, Leeward Islands surcharged Peru, Spanish, Austrian, Levant, Gibraltar, Cuba, Argentine Republic, Egypt, Dhar, Servia, Greece unpaid, Guatemala, Nabha, set of 3 Chili, Surinam, Hawaii, Brazil unpaid, and other obsolete issues, Bulgaria, St. Thomas and Principe, Fiji Isles, Malta, obsolete Newfoundland, Honduras, British East Africa; British Honduras, set of 4 Nicaragua, set of 3 Philippine (Infant King), Argentine, Tasmania, Roumania, Guatemala, and others equally rare. Some of the stamps in this packet are worth from 1/6 to 2/6 each. Post-free, 21/-.

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

CEYLON.

1899. Type 26 surcharged. Reduced price.
6 c. on 15 c., sage-green (No. 203) . used $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{4}$

CYPRUS.

1907. King's Head. Multiple wmk.
10 par., orange-yellow and green . used $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{1}$

GOLD COAST.

1902. King's Head. Single wmk.
2d., lilac and orange-red . . used $\frac{s.}{1}$ $\frac{d.}{0}$

GWALIOR.

1903-5. King's Head. Revised prices.
3 pies, blue-grey (No. 74) . . used $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{1}$
½ a., green (,, 75) $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{1}$
3 a., orange-brown (,, 79) $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{4}$

1903-5. Service. King's Head.

½ a., green (No. 128) . . . used $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{1}$
1 a., carmine (,, 129) $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{1}$

HOLLAND.

1907. Postage Duc. De Ruyter series overprinted
PORTZEGEL and surcharged.
½ c. on 1 c., lake $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{8}$
2½ c. on 1 c. ,, $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{3}$
6½ c. on 2½ c., vermilion $\frac{s.}{1}$ $\frac{d.}{0}$

HONG-KONG.

1890. Queen's Head. Reduced price.
\$1 on 96 c., brown on red (No. 62) . used $\frac{s.}{1}$ $\frac{d.}{6}$

MALTA.

Various types. Revised prices.
Cat. No.
35. 3d., grey and mauve . . . used $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{5}$
36. 4d., black and brown $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{9}$
42. 2½d., marone and ultramarine $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{3}$
45. 4½d., brown $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{6}$

MAURITIUS.

1899. Handsome Commemorative Stamp.
Reduced price.
15 c., ultramarine (No. 136) . . . used $\frac{s.}{0}$ $\frac{d.}{6}$

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 108 BROADWAY.

Herne Bay Philatelic Society

Hon. Sec.: T. F. Newton, 8 Promenade Central, Herne Bay.

THE fortnightly meeting was held on Wednesday, 27 November, 1907, at 8 Promenade Central.

The President, R. J. MacLachlan, Esq., J.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

The chief item for the evening's programme was a paper on Austria, by Major P. F. Brine, a gentleman who has taken up Philately as a hobby only within the last twelve months, but becoming interested in the subject, he confined his researches more particularly to Austria. Having procured a blank album, he, with a vast amount of patience, ruled it to correspond with the issues of that country as catalogued by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons—a splendid means of getting the sets and dates of issue fixed in the mind. Armed with a perforation gauge, the gallant Major has since then tackled, and successfully overcome, the complicated and somewhat perplexing perforations, types, etc., of this particular country, and these formed the subject of a very instructive and interesting paper.

A hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Kräuter and seconded by Mr. Bignold, was carried unanimously.

Junior Philatelic Society Manchester Branch

THE twenty-seventh meeting was held on 5 December, 1907. Mr. Bernstein presided, and there were about twenty-five members present. The Secretary read a paper entitled "Philately from an Historical Point of View." He mentioned, among other countries, Italy. As the various independent states came under the rule of Victor Emmanuel, their stamps were replaced by those of Sardinia or the Neapolitan Provinces, which were in turn superseded by an issue for the Kingdom of Italy. In Spain the reigns of Queen Isabella II, King Amadeus and Alfonso XII, the Provisional Republics of 1868 and 1873, and the Carlist insurrection of 1873, are all represented by postal issues.

Our Philatelic Society's Meeting

[The contributor of this amusing report has omitted (perhaps purposely) the name of the Society. Doubtless his fellow-members will recognize it from his description, and we shall welcome further news of its proceedings.—Ed. G. S. W.]

INHABITANTS of a small but populous provincial town, of course we ardent stamp collectors have formed a Philatelic Society for the furtherance of our hobby in the district.

We meet every second Monday evening in the month. Why this day I have often wondered, unless because Monday is the universal washing-day, and most of our members are Benedictines. Mint stamps and a damp atmosphere occasioned by rows of drying domestic apparel are hardly of a reciprocal character, at least not to the enthusiastic philatelist.

I did once hear a cynical member declare that the reason why these first-weeknight gatherings were brought about was because certain ladies had "quite enough soaking and littering about of those bits of old paper on the Sabbath, but to have two such days running—even that was more than flesh and blood could or would stand." Another reason he evinced was that the first Monday in the month being pay-day, these "tied" men were obliged to go home. There may have been a little foundation of truth in these assertions, but, needless to say, my informant was of the bachelor belief—single b'essings, etc.

Our head-quarters are held in (the one and only room of) a somewhat aged temperance café, which possesses the aristocratic and high-sounding title of "Parisian Restaurant." To me this name was and is a *lapsus calami* of the sign-writer—unless that artist had passed his student days in the Quartier Latin.

The proprietor (one who has either seen much better days, or has jumped up in the world half-way, so to speak), however, conducts his frivolously named establishment with puritanical severity. The head waitress, a person of perhaps—but there, I have no right to touch upon the gentler sex's period of existence on this planet—and the rest of the staff (which by the way consists solely of a porky-nosed maiden, who was either born late, or this is

her second time) are to some extent reflections of their master's convivial hospitality.

We have little to grumble about the civility and attention from our landlord's menials—except, perhaps, when the Sunday preceding our monthly turn-up has been wet. Maybe these ladies were disappointed in the meeting of their affianced—at any rate we poor stamp fiends suffer with cold coffee for damping our "mount-moisteners," and hear audible remarks and queries as to our sanity in pursuit of our pastime on these occasions.

The ignorance of people generally is indeed wonderful. I myself have long given up the task of replying to such questions from the "man-in-the-street" as "What good are old stamps?" "Are they used for screens?" "Is it correct that some very old stamps are worth as much as five shillings?"—and the worst question of the lot is that of some friend, "What's the most valuable stamp you've got?" Laugh!

In our time-table the meetings are announced to start at "8 p.m. prompt," though I am sorely afraid this rule, in common with the others, was never meant to be observed. I know not of any that ever really began until an hour later. You see, when such enthusiasts as we get together, we are not proof against the fascinations of a "swop."

Further, some one has just received from "a new-issue" dealer a copy of some Colonial on "chalky paper." Another has discovered a previously unchronicled "dropped letter" in a Pottillian Official. Then we have a business-like Irishman, of the name of Solomons, who does a nice little turn-over at these meetings; so we have plenty to see and hear.

On the principle of the "try, try again" adage, our Chairman, after the third or fourth attempt, manages to get half the meeting in some sort of order, not unlike one sees in the French and German armies. The Secretary reads the minutes of the last assembly, and they are passed as read.

Why no one ever protests against the minutes in our Society is no doubt because our Secretary was never intended to brave the cares of this world as an auctioneer. Nobody ever hears what he says, so naturally they can hardly dispute the correctness of his statements.

After these the Chairman asks if there "are any new members to propose." This, to my mind, is a waste of time, because there never are. The same also applies to the query, "Has any one any subscriptions?"

After an animated discussion on some subject between the Chairman and the Treasurer (during which the rest of those present sit as still as mice for fear they might interrupt), the former wants to know whether "any member has any other business." To which remark all sit quieter than ever.

Then Mr. So-and-so is requested to give us his paper on the Stamps of India. This is extremely interesting, for the gentleman has evidently taken great trouble and care to provide us with many new and original notes, such as "India is a British possession of pear-shape in Asia. The famous Indian Mutiny occurred here (sensation among the audience!). The coinage is in rupees and annas—the value of the latter being equivalent to one penny. The stamps, during the life of Queen Victoria, had her portrait, and those now in use have that of King Edward VII."

After holding us breathless with this exhaustive (to us!) information, the lecturer suddenly rushes through the dates and values of the various issues, no doubt taken *ad lib.* from Gibbons' No. 1. Then he pauses—we once more hold our breath, wondering (fearfully) whether his paper also contains details of the Protected and Feudatory Native States of our Eastern Empire.

We are, however, relieved to find that he was only recovering his "wind" to remark that he had finished his subject. Cheers and clappings follow (which really seem very hearty—though I could never really determine whether as an appreciation of the paper, or the finish). The Chairman then proceeds to make a few eulogistic expressions on the paper and its author—which take exactly twice the time occupied by the latter. A vote of thanks is proposed, to which we once more clap (more feebly, perhaps, as we were exhausted by the former display).

Then the meeting is declared closed. Several members who live at a distance make a rush in order to catch their respective trams. Of those remaining, a few chat, whilst the rest hurriedly don their headgear and coats upon hearing a mysteriously whispered word that sounds like "wink" or "think."

And so ends the monthly meet of our Philatelic Society.

RARITIES FOR SALE

The circulation of G. S. W. is getting so large that we must number amongst our readers some collectors who wish to add exceptional stamps, in singles or blocks, to their collections. We shall therefore occasionally advertise in these pages some of the choicer things on hand.

Any of the following will be sent on approval to clients known to us, or after usual business references.

The following Discounts will be allowed on the prices quoted below :

On purchases under £50 10 per cent.
" " over £50 15 "

Special terms will be quoted for really important orders.

NEVIS.

		£	s.	d.
1861.	1d. on grey paper, reconstructed plate, all fine and unused .	5	10	0
"	4d. " " " " " " " " " " "	34	0	0
"	6d. " " " " " " " " " " "	34	0	0
"	" " " " " " " " " " but used .	22	10	0
"	1/-, green on grey, reconstructed plate of fine used copies	30	0	0
1867.	1d., red on white paper, reconstructed plate, unused .	6	0	0
"	4d., orange, a superb uncut sheet with full margins ; this variety, in a sheet thus is of greater rarity than the rare "litho."	100	0	0
"	a full reconstructed plate of the same stamp, used	15	0	0
"	1/-, blue-green, a fine reconstructed plate, used	14	0	0
1878.	1d., lithographed red, a mint sheet with full margin	4	0	0
"	4d., litho., a reconstructed sheet of used	12	0	0
"	6d. " a complete sheet, fine and with full gum	100	0	0
"	1/-, pale green, a mint sheet with full margins	18	0	0
"	1d., perf. 11½ " " " " " " " " " " " "	10	0	0

TRINIDAD.

The very rare "LADY MCLEOD," a brilliant unused copy, on an entire original envelope, not touched by postmark	35	0	0
Ditto, a fine used copy on piece	15	0	0
1853. 1d., blue, a very fine lightly cancelled copy on the cartridge paper.	10	0	0

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited
391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

RARITIES FOR SALE

(Continued).

TURKS ISLAND.

	£	s.	d.
1873-79. 1/-, prune, unused, with full gum	22	0	0
" " used (a cheap stamp)	14	0	0
June, 1881. ½d., on 1d., dull red, a complete mint sheet of 30, showing varieties No. 10 and 11	22	10	0
A similar sheet, but of another setting, showing varieties No. 10 and 12	20	0	0
2½ on 6d., black, a mint block of 4	15	0	0
2½ on 1/-, prune, a very fine mint pair, showing two types, Nos. 28 and 29, the later being a very rare stamp, and possibly unique thus	40	0	0
2½ on 1/-, prune, a brilliant mint block of nine, the upper two rows being variety No. 30, and the lower three stamps being No. 31, a very fine addition to any collection, probably also unique	120	0	0
2½ on 1/-, dull blue, a mint strip of three, consisting of Type No. 23 (2) and 14, the later being the rarest type of surcharges of this value	80	0	0
2½ on 1d., dull red, No. 27, a fine unused copy, with gum	15	0	0
" " " " 10 " " " mint	10	0	0

BAHAMAS.

1861. No watermark, 6d., grey-lilac, No. 8 in Catalogue, a fine unused copy	14	0	0
1863. Watermark CC and Crown, perf. 12½, a fine unused specimen, with gum	10	0	0

BARBADOS.

1860. Pin perf. 12½, No. 16a, 1d., blue, a fine lightly-cancelled copy of this great rarity, only a few copies known	15	0	0
March, 1878. 1d. on 5/-, a fine pair of No. 86, very lightly cancelled	21	0	0
Ditto " " " No. 88 " "	25	0	0

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

1863-64. (De La Rue) 1d., 4d., 6d.; and 1/-, dark green (Perkins Bacon), a brilliant mint pair of each, with large margins, full gum, and in spotless condition, an unprecedented opportunity of obtaining these fine old issues at a bargain price	11	10	0
A similar pair of the rare 1/-, emerald	10	0	0
March, 1861. 1d., scarlet, a fine bright unused copy of this rare woodblock	25	0	0
March, 1861. 4d., dark blue, a fine used copy, very lightly cancelled	9	0	0

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited
391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391, STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391, STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 22.

A COLLECTION OF

BRITISH COLONIALS

DATING FROM 1900.

Over Ninety per cent unused, mint.

Amounting to about £45 face value, with a Catalogue value of over £150, including

BRITISH SOMALILAND, the three issues, and many varieties, also ten Unused Service. MAFEKING, set used, on original paper. CEYLON, complete, Single and Multiple. CYPRUS, complete, except 9 and 18 Single. EAST AFRICA and UGANDA, up to 5 r., Single. GAMBIA, both complete sets. HONG KONG, up to \$3 Single, and \$2 Mult. INDIA, a fine lot King's, Surcharged and Native. LAGOS, up to 1/- Single, and 2/6 Mult. NATAL, Single, up to 20/-, also four Officials, used. NEW ZEALAND, a fine lot, including many paper and perf. varieties, also Aitutaki, Niue, and Penrhyn. NORTHERN NIGERIA, Queen's and King's, Single, up to 2/6. ORANGE RIVER, V.R.I., a good lot of varieties of Surcharge, including two 6d., pink. SEYCHELLES, also a very good lot.

1500 STAMPS.

— Price £55 —

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 2, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 158).

11 JANUARY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD:	
Finland. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	17
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	19
3. PRIZE COMPETITIONS.	21
4. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS:	
A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	21
5. NO SMOKING ALLOWED. <i>By Pierre Mahé</i>	23
6. PHOTOGRAPHY AS APPLIED TO STAMPS. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	24
7. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nissen</i>	25
8. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i>	27
9. THINGS GRAVE AND GAY. <i>By "Uncle Tom"</i>	28
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	29
11. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	32
12. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	32

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.



ROUMANIA

1907. View with the Queen of Roumania and her children receiving a poor family conducted by an angel. * * * *

3 bani, brown and red-brown.
5 " " " green.
10 " " " carmine.
15 " " " violet-blue.

Set of four stamps, unused and mint.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

9d., post-free.

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different . . .	2 1
8.	100 " rarer . . .	5 1
9.	200 " rare . . .	5 1
86.	500 " . . .	4 1
87.	1000 " . . .	15 0
88.	1500 " . . .	35 0
89.	2000 " . . .	60 0
89A.	3000 " . . .	170 0
89B.	4000 " . . .	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391, STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391, STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 22. A COLLECTION OF BRITISH COLONIALS

DATING FROM 1900.

Over Ninety per cent unused, mint.

Amounting to about £45 face value, with a Catalogue value of over £150, including

BRITISH SOMALILAND, the three issues, and many varieties, also ten Unused Service. MAFEKING, set used, on original paper. CEYLON, complete, Single and Multiple. CYPRUS, complete, except 9 and 18 Single. EAST AFRICA and UGANDA, up to 5 r., Single. GAMBIA, both complete sets. HONG KONG, up to \$3 Single, and \$2 Mult. INDIA, a fine lot King's, Surcharged and Native. LAGOS, up to 1/- Single, and 2/6 Mult. NATAL, Single, up to 20/-, also four Officials, used. NEW ZEALAND, a fine lot, including many paper and perf. varieties, also Aitutaki, Niue, and Penrhyn. NORTHERN NIGERIA, Queen's and King's, Single, up to 2/6. ORANGE RIVER, V.R.I., a good lot of varieties of Surcharge, including two 6d., pink. SEYCHELLES, also a very good lot.

1500 STAMPS.

Price £55

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 2, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 158).

11 JANUARY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD:	
Finland. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	17
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	19
3. PRIZE COMPETITIONS	21
4. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS:	
A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	21
5. NO SMOKING ALLOWED. <i>By Pierre Mahé</i>	23
6. PHOTOGRAPHY AS APPLIED TO STAMPS. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	24
7. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nissen</i>	25
8. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i>	27
9. THINGS GRAVE AND GAY. <i>By "Uncle Tom"</i>	28
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	29
11. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	32
12. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	32

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 " rarer	5 1
9.	200 " rare	5 1
66.	500 "	4 1
67.	1000 "	15 0
68.	1500 "	35 0
69.	2000 "	60 0
69A.	3000 "	170 0
69B.	4000 "	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.



ROUMANIA

1907. View with the Queen of Roumania and her children receiving a poor family conducted by an angel. ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣

3 bani, brown and red-brown.
5 " " " green.
10 " " " carmine.
15 " " " violet-blue.

Set of four stamps, unused and mint.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

9d., post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to The Editor, *G. S. W.*, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or

Italian postmarks, additional time will be required to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. V of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
 Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
 New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
 Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
 Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
 "Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
 Philatelic Societies' Reports.
 The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
 Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
 Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

The Monthly Journal

Edited by MAJOR E. B. EVANS

THE *Monthly Journal* is chiefly intended for Stamp Collectors who are rather advanced.

The chief features are—

1st.—A series of entirely Original Articles by the leading Philatelic Writers of the day on all subjects of interest to Stamp Collectors.

2nd.—A special and most carefully compiled list of all New Issues, Discoveries, Minor Varieties, etc.

SUBSCRIPTION: 2/- per Annum.

All Subscriptions must be prepaid, and commence with the first number of a volume. Collectors who subscribe now will receive the back numbers of the current volume.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

CHEAP SETS of beautifully engraved and bright-coloured AMERICAN STAMPS

SALVADOR.

Price,
post-free.
s. d.

1893. GENERAL EZETA AND PICTORIAL.

1 c. to 10 pesos.

Set of Thirteen, *unused*

3 0



1894. FIGURE IN OVAL AND PICTORIAL.

1 c. to 10 pesos.

Set of Thirteen, *unused*

3 0



**1895. VARIOUS DESIGNS.
OVERPRINTED ARMS.**

1 c. to 1 peso.

Set of Twelve, *unused*

1 6



1896. ALLEGORICAL FIGURE.

1 c. to 1 peso.

Set of Twelve, *unused*

1 6



List of nearly 2000 cheap Sets and Packets of Stamps sent post-free on application to

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

New Year Presents.

NOW READY. The following popular series of

PACKETS OF FOREIGN Postage Stamps

All the Stamps contained in the following Packets are warranted absolutely genuine, free from reprints. They are also in good condition and perfect.

These Packets cannot be sent by book post to Postal Union Countries. The cost by letter rate is 2½d. for every 100 Stamps. The amount required for postage can therefore be reckoned, and should be added when remitting.

New and Improved Packets of Used and Unused Stamps.

No. 12.—The Sixpenny Packet of Unused Stamps contains 12 varieties, including Indo-China, Greece (1 lepton), Tunis, Monaco, Porto Rico, obsolete 2½d. Cyprus, North Borneo, Roumania, Paraguay, Jamaica, Johore, and Mauritius. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 7d.

No. 14.—The Two Shilling Packet of French Colonial Stamps contains 25 varieties, used and unused, including Obock, Reunion, French Congo, St. Marie, Martinique, Guadeloupe, and others rare. Post-free, 2½.

No. 15.—The Shilling Packet of Unused Stamps contains 30 varieties, including obsolete 1d. Cyprus, Liberia, Barbados, Newfoundland, Nyassa, Bhopal, Siam, Angkor, Bundi, Jamaica, Barbados, provisional Italy, Mexico, Holland, Shanghai, and others rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 1½.

No. 18.—The Half-crown Packet of Unused Stamps contains 40 varieties, including, amongst others, Sirmoor, Tolima, Cashmere, Guatemala, Dutch Indies, United States, India 9 pies envelope, Bulgaria, Macao, Uruguay, Nicaragua, United States of Columbia, Alwur, British South Africa, Spain (nead of Liberty), West Australia, Cyprus, Cuba 1888, Travancore, San Marino, Bechuanaland, Roumania, Shanghai, Greece, &c. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 2½.

No. 20.—The Five Shilling Packet of Rare Unused Stamps contains 60 varieties, including the following: Transvaal, Uruguay, Hayti, New Caledonia, Guatemala, British Guiana provisional 2 c., Newfoundland, Federated Malay States, Labuan, United States, Shanghai, Hawaii Isles, Martinique, Alwur, Johor, obsolete Tolima, Perak, provisional Ceylon, provisional West Australia, Cyprus, Argentine, Mexico Porte de Mar, Republic of Columbia, Cashmere Service, Branwick, Trinidad, Chili, Bechuanaland, Finland, Jhalawar, Porto Rico, Belgium, provisional Norway, Spain, British Honduras, Greece, Chefoo and provisional Straits Settlements, and many others. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 5½.

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

CUBA.

1905-7. Types 18 and 19. Retouched Die. s. d.	
5 c., deep blue	0 4
10 c., brown	0 8

GOLD COAST.

1901. Provisional.	
1d. on 6d., lilac and mauve	used 1 6
1907. Printed in one colour.	
1d., carmine	used 0 1

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

1902. Provisionals.	
1d. on 4d., lilac and orange	used 1 6
1d. on 6d. ,, brown	1 6
1d. on 7d. ,, slate	1 6
1905-7. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
½d., lilac and green	used 0 2
1d. ,, carmine	0 3
1d., carmine (printed in one colour)	0 2

MAURITIUS.

1902 5. Arms type. Single CA wmk.	
12 c., grey-black and carmine (No. 153) used	0 4
15 c., black and blue on blue (No. 153a) ,,	0 6
3 c., green and carmine on yellow (No. 159)	0 2
5 c., lilac and black on buff (No. 162)	0 3
1904. Express Delivery.	
15 c., grey-green (No. 206)	used 0 6

NEWFOUNDLAND.

1897. Cabot Issue.	
1 c., green	used 0 5
2 c., carmine	0 6
1897-1901. Type 44. Prince of Wales.	
5 c., blue	used 0 3

NICARAGUA.

1907. Type 40 overprinted with type similar to Z. 10, but "C" instead of "B" under "Costa Atlantica."	
1 c., green	0 1
2 c., red	0 2
3 c., purple	0 3
4 c., brownish orange	0 3
5 c., blue	0 4
10 c., bistre-brown	0 8
15 c., olive	1 0
20 c., claret	1 3
50 c., orange	3 0
1 p., black	6 0
2 p., green	12 0
5 p., violet	30 0

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

**The Imperial Philatelic Society
(N. London)**

President: C. M. C. Symes.

Vice-President: C. J. Phillips.

Hon. Sec. and Treas.: Mr. C. S. Muratori, 29 Fletching Road, L. Clapton, N.E.

THE above Philatelic Society has now been formed for stamp collectors in North London, with the object of encouraging the advancement and study of Philately, to help the young and inexperienced philatelist to form a library of philatelic works, and to assist in the sale and exchange of duplicates. A syllabus for the season has been arranged as follows:—

- 1908.
- Jan. 2. 8 p.m. Opening Meeting.
 - 8.30 p.m. Auction and Conversazione.
 - Jan. 15. 8 p.m. Paper and Display, Mr. E. Heginbottom, N.A.
 - 9 p.m. Five-Minutes Papers by Members.
 - Feb. 6. 8 p.m. Debate. "Specialism," by Mr. J. M., Morton, vs. "General Collecting," by Mr. C. S. Muratori.
 - Feb. 20. 8 p.m. Paper and Display, "Chilli," by Mr. C. M. C. Symes.
 - 9 p.m. Paper, Mr. A. R. Maisey.
 - Mar. 5. 8 p.m. Competitive Display, Limited to One Country. Award, Diploma.
 - Mar. 19. 8 p.m. Paper and Display, "Egypt and Sudan," by Mr. J. C. Rix, B.A.
 - 9 p.m. Paper by Mr. C. J. Phillips.
 - April 2. 8 p.m. Auction.
 - April 16. 8 p.m. Paper and Display, Mr. A. C. Merington.
 - 9 p.m. Paper by Mr. M. K. Clarke.
 - May 7. 8 p.m. Paper by Mr. H. Clarke.
 - 8.30 p.m. Competitive Display, Limited to Five Countries. Award, Diploma.
 - May 23. Annual Excursion. Visit to Taping Collection, Dinner, and Theatre.
 - May 28. Annual General Meeting.

A Bazaar will be held before each meeting from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Philatelic Society of Johannesburg

THIS Society held its ordinary general meetings on 15 October and 5 November, at the Balcony Tea Rooms, Mr. C. R. Schuler presiding at both over a fairly large attendance of members and visitors. A vacancy having occurred on the Committee, owing to the resignation of Mr. Baury, Mr. Ansell was unanimously elected in his stead, and the Chairman congratulated the members upon their choice.

Among the interesting items of the evening was a paper read by Mr. W. P. Cohen, entitled "Why I Specialize," for which a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him.

An exhibition of the stamps of British Central Africa and those of Spain followed, and fine collections were displayed by Messrs. A. J. Cohen, T. Henderson, and W. P. Cohen.

The Chairman was asked to convene a meeting for the purpose of forming a Junior Philatelic Society, which meeting was held on 30 October, at the Marist Brothers' School, and at which a large number of enthusiastic boys and several members of this Society were present. Other meetings have been held since, the boys resolving that the Junior Society be formed as a branch of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg. A Board of Management has been elected, and Mr. D. Epstein, who is the Hon. Secretary, will be pleased to answer any questions concerning the Junior Society. His address is Post Office Box 4967.

It may also be stated that an honour has been conferred upon this Society by the Degree of Fellowship of the Royal Philatelic Society of London having been given to Mr. A. J. Cohen, Hon. Librarian, and Mr. W. P. Cohen, Hon. Treasurer of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

THERE was an exceptionally large attendance of members and visitors at this Society's meeting on 19 November, and a most pleasant and interesting evening was spent, Mr. C. R. Schuler presiding.

Among the novelties and rarities exhibited were the following:—A block of four £5 stamps, V. R. I. surcharge, postally cancelled, shown by Mr. M. Neuburger; 5d. Postage Due, with inverted "p" in place of "d" after value (a recently discovered error), shown by Mr. A. J. Cohen. The further use and issue of this stamp has been discontinued. A 3d. New Zealand, redrawn type, shown by Mr. W. P. Cohen. An exhibition of the stamps of Straits Settlements took place, Messrs. A. J. Cohen and T. Henderson exhibiting their fine collections. The very interesting paper read by Mr. M. P. Vallentine, entitled "How to form a Collection," was much appreciated by those present, and declared to be most instructive and entertaining. The various points raised in it caused a great deal of vigorous and healthy discussion, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Vallentine.

The Chairman announced that the Committee had arranged the following syllabus:—

- Dec. 3, 1907—Exhibition of British South Africa and Paper on same by Mr. Ansell.
- Dec. 17, 1907—Exhibition of Tasmania and Paper by A. J. Cohen, entitled "The Humorous side of Philately."
- Jan. 7, 1908—Bonus Drawing and Auction. Paper on Swaziland by Mr. Ansell.
- Jan. 31, 1908—Exhibition of Seychelles and Exhibition by Mr. Neuburger of his magnificent collection of post cards, wrappers, envelopes, etc. Discussion, "Whether such should be collected."
- Feb. 4, 1908—Competitive Exhibition. Paper by Mr. M. P. Vallentine.
- Feb. 18, 1908—Exhibition of Jamaica, also a Paper by Mr. T. Henderson.

This Society specially invites all those interested in Philately to attend its meetings.

Junior Branch

THE first meeting of the Junior Branch of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg was held at 5.30 on Wednesday afternoon, 20 November, at the Y.M.C.A., Mr. C. R. Schuler presiding over a large number of boys, several members of the senior Society also being present.

The Chairman, after welcoming those present, expressed the hope that the Junior Society would have a long and prosperous career, prove to be a source of pleasure to its members and a valuable adjunct to Philately in general.

Mr. A. J. Cohen exhibited his very fine collection of King's Head stamps, thereby illustrating to the juniors how a collection should be kept, and what can be achieved by energy and perseverance.

The Chairman announced that several members of the senior Society had promised the Junior Society philatelic papers for the ensuing year, also that Mr. M. P. Vallentine would read an interesting paper at the next meeting, to be held on Wednesday, 4 December.

The Junior Society holds its meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of every month, and intending members and others seeking information should communicate with the Hon. Secretary, Box 4967.

**Prabran Philatelic Society,
Victoria, Australia**

President: C. E. Lovett.

Secretary: G. W. Minty, Kooyong Road, Armadale.

Meetings: Prabran Coffee Palace, Chapel Street.

THE monthly meeting of the Prabran Philatelic Society of Victoria was held on Friday, 15 November.

The President, Mr. C. E. Lovett, occupied the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed as read, and the ballot for November Exchange Book was conducted by Messrs. Hoshier and Best.

Mr. Austin Winwright was elected a member of the Society, and the standing orders were then suspended so that a musical programme arranged for the evening might be proceeded with.

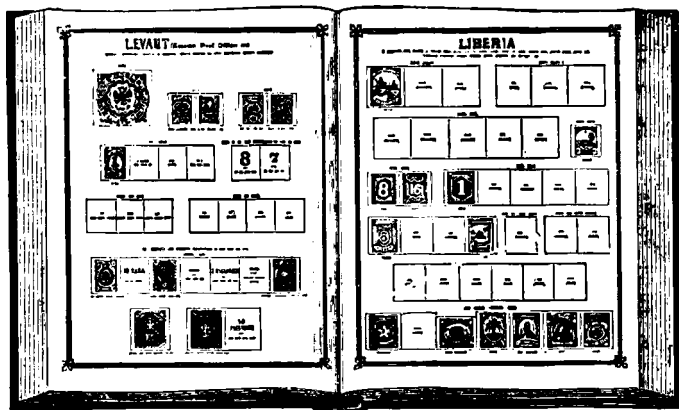
An excellent collection of Victorian stamps was exhibited by Mr. Woodward, the selection containing among others the following rarities, all in splendid condition: 6d., orange, figures at sides; 2d., unused, fine background; 5s., blue on yellow; 185r, red-brown, No. 1 S.G.; 1d., orange-vermilion, and also the 1d., green, emblem, wmk. Star, rouletted.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to all concerned in the evening's entertainment.

THE IDEAL ALBUM.

**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.



600 pages. Size—9½x11½ inches. 5,200 Illustrations.

ALL THE WORLD IN ONE VOLUME.

FOR some years past we have had a great demand for a simple Album, fully illustrated, with a square for each Stamp, and omitting all minor varieties, and we trust that collectors and the trade will be pleased with this our latest production.

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.

IDEAL I.—*On extra stout paper, strongly bound in cloth, artistically designed cover in assorted colours, sprinkled edges, gold lettered on back, 600 pages.*

Price, post-free, U.K., 10/7; abroad, extra.

IDEAL II.—*As last, but INTERLEAVED to prevent any chance of Stamps rubbing, and in superior and stronger binding.*

Price, post-free, U.K., 15/10; abroad, extra.

IDEAL III.—*Sumptuously bound in half-morocco, gilt edges and lettering, and INTERLEAVED as Ideal II.*

Price, post-free, U.K., 25/9; abroad, extra.

IDEAL Nos. I. and II. can be supplied bound in blue, green, or red.

IDEAL No. III., bound in half red or green morocco only.

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

GRAND COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL READERS OF

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

£ 1 0 0 in Prizes

WE have decided to give away the sum of one hundred pounds in prizes for those who succeed in getting us the largest number of *new subscribers* from 1 January to 30 June, 1908.

The conditions of this competition will be as follows:—

1. The competition is open to every one except to employes of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.
2. The Competitors sending in the highest number of new subscriptions will win, however small the number may be.
3. Subscriptions for a half-year cost 3s. 3d. and will reckon as one vote; a subscription of 6s. 6d. for a year will reckon as two votes.
4. Competitors should at the end of each month send in a list of new subscribers, together with the proper amount of the subscriptions, addressed to

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.,
391 STRAND, LONDON,

with the words "G.S.W. Competition" written on lower left corner of envelope.

5. All lists must be sent in by 30 July, 1908, and the names of the winners will be announced in *G.S.W.* about the end of August.

6. In case of any disputes they will be settled by Messrs. C. J. Phillips and G. Hamilton-Smith, whose decision will be final.

The prizes offered will be as follows:—

1st prize. Stamps to be selected by the winner from our Catalogue or approval sheets to the value of		£	s.	d.
		40	0	0
2nd	" " "	20	0	0
3rd	" " "	10	0	0
4th	" " "	7	10	0
5th	" " "	5	0	0
6th	" " "	2	10	0
7th	Packet of stamps value	4	0	0
8th	Imperial Album, bound in 3 vols., No. 8 quality	3	15	0
9th	" " 7 "	2	7	6
10th	" " 6 "	1	12	0
11th	Facile Oriol Album	1	10	0
12th	Ideal Album, No. 2	15	0	
13th	Century Album, No. 21	12	6	
14th	Strand Album, No. 15	5	0	
15th	Improved Album, No. 2	3	6	

Any of our readers who intend to compete for these prizes can have sample bundles of our paper to distribute to their friends free of all charge on receipt of a post card stating how many copies they can use.

We hope many subscribers will compete; those with a large circle of friends may get several dozen subscriptions, but some of the smaller prizes may be won with a very small number of subscriptions.

The attached form must be used by all entering in this competition.

I hereby enter my name as a competitor in the above competition, and agree to abide by the regulations set forth above.

Name

Address

I send the following names of new subscribers to G.S.W. and enclose

£ " " " " " "

To STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited,

391 Strand, London, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391, STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391, STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 20.

A COLLECTION OF

BRITISH COLONIALS

MODERN ISSUES.

Mostly unused, and many in blocks of four, arranged in a new King's Own Album, and including

ARMY OFFICIAL, 6d., Type II., unused, a very rare stamp, and a fine lot of unused and used British Officials. BARBADOS, large set, ½d. to 2/6; small set, ¼d. to 10d., mint. SOMALILAND, fine set, mostly pairs, Ordinary and Official. CEYLON, including large 1 r. 50 c., and 2 r. 25 c., Queen. MALDIVES, set of six, complete, mint. EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA, Single CA in pairs, including 5 and 8 annas. FALKLAND ISLES, pair, 2/6, Queen. FIJI, the rare V.R. Gothic on 3d., green, used. GRENADA, King, 1d. to 10/-, mint. GAMBIA, King, 1d. to 3/-, and pair, 1d. on 3/-. GOLD COAST, King, ½d. to 2/-. LAGOS, a fine lot, Single and Mult. CA, including pairs and blocks. NATAL, ½d. to 10/-, mint. NORTHERN NIGERIA, King, ½d. to 10/-. ST. VINCENT, Queen, ½d. to 5/-, etc. SIERRA LEONE, King, ½d. to 5/-. STRAITS, 1 c. to \$5, etc., etc., etc.

A very nice collection, and cheap at the price asked by the owner.

£52 10s.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 3, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 159).

18 JANUARY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: France. <i>By W. Percy Barnadali</i>	33
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	36
3. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nissen</i>	37
4. PHOTOGRAPHY AS APPLIED TO STAMPS. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	39
5. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	40
6. PRIZE COMPETITIONS	42
7. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i>	42
8. ALL ABOUT THE GUM ON OUR POSTAGE STAMPS	44
9. OMNIUM GATHERUM. <i>By "Philologos"</i>	45
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	46
11. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	<i>Page 5 of Cover</i>

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
7.	100, all different . . .	s. d. 2 1
8.	100 ,, rarer . . .	5 1
9.	200 ,, rare . . .	5 1
66.	500 ,, . . .	4 1
67.	1000 ,, . . .	15 0
68.	1500 ,, . . .	35 0
69.	2000 ,, . . .	60 0
69A.	3000 ,, . . .	170 0
69B.	4000 ,, . . .	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.



AUSTRIA

1899-1906.

Head of the Emperor Francis Joseph
Types 15, 16, 18, 19, etc.

A fine Set of Fourteen Stamps, various
issues, all postally used, including 35, 40,
50, 60, and 72 heller values.

Catalogue value about 3s.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the Set of Fourteen.

9d., post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or

Italian postmarks, additional time will be required to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. V of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

CHEAP SETS of beautifully engraved and bright-coloured

AMERICAN STAMPS



NICARAGUA.

Price,
post-free.
s. d.

1898. Official. Arms in Triangle.

1 c. to 5 pesos.

Set of Eleven, *unused* 1 6



1899. Official. Allegorical Figure.

1 c. to 5 pesos.

Set of Eleven, *unused* 1 6



SALVADOR.

1890. Figure holding Flag and Shield.

1 c. to 1 peso.

Set of Nine, *unused* 1 6



1891. Arms in Circle.

1 c. to 1 peso.

Set of Ten, *unused* 1 6



1892. Landing of Columbus.

1 c. to 1 peso.

Set of Ten, *unused* 1 6

List of nearly 2000 cheap Sets and Packets
of Stamps sent post-free on application to

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Annual Sale over 30,000 PACKETS.

NOW READY.

The following popular series of

GRAND Collection Packets

New and Greatly Reduced
Prices for 1908.

No. 64 CONTAINS 100 VARIETIES,

Including used and unused. Price 6J. post-free, 7d.

No. 65 CONTAINS 250 DIFFERENT VARIETIES,

Both used and unused Stamps, Envelopes and Post Cards and is well recommended as a capital start for a collector.

Price 2/-; post-free, 2/1.

No. 66, 500 VARIETIES,

And 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 &c., are clean, picked specimens, fit for any collection. The best 500 varieties in the trade.

Price 4/-; post-free, 4/1.

No. 67, 1,000 VARIETIES.

This packet contains 1,000 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.

Price 15/-; post-free and registered.

No. 68, 1,500 VARIETIES.

Each specimen is in perfect condition, and the 1,500 different Stamps form a noble start for anyone. 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 we purchase such. Satisfaction is guaranteed.

Price £1 15s., post-free and registered.

No. 69, 2,000 VARIETIES.

A grand packet for a dealer or collector, every Stamp being different and genuine, and thus forming a choice collection in itself or a stock to make up sheets or for exchange purposes.

Price £3, post-free and registered.

No. 69A, 3,000 VARIETIES.

A very fine packet, containing many rare stamps, all arranged in order, and mounted ready to price or remove to a collection.

Price £8 10s., post-free and registered.

No. 69B, 4,000 VARIETIES.

A valuable collection, all mounted on sheets in order. Really good value; being sold by us to collectors at less than the price usually charged in the trade.

Price £14, post-free and registered.

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

AUSTRIA.

1908. *New Jubilee Series.*

	s.	d.
1 h., black	0	1
2 h., lilac	0	1
3 h., purple	0	1
5 h., yellow-green	0	1
6 h., buff	0	2
10 h., rose-carmine	0	2
12 h., vermilion	0	2
20 h., reddish-brown	0	3
25 h., blue	0	4
30 h., pale olive-green	0	5
35 h., slate-blue	0	6
50 h., olive-green	0	8
60 h., deep carmine	0	9
1 kr., dull violet	1	2
2 kr., olive-green and claret	2	4
5 kr., violet and olive-brown	5	0
10 kr., deep brown, blue, and ochre	11	3

CHAMBA.

1900-2. *Queen's Head. Overprinted.*

1 a., carmine (No. 36) used 0 6

FRANCE.

1907. *As Type 17, but with thicker figures of value.*

10 c., vermilion	0	2
20 c., brown-lake	0	3
35 c., deep violet	0	5

NEPAUL.

1907. *Pictorial type. Reduced prices.*

2 pice, brown	0	1
4 pice, green	0	2
8 pice, carmine	0	2
16 pice, purple	0	3

NORTHERN NIGERIA.

1905. *King's Head. Multiple wmk.*

½d., purple and green	used	0 2
1d., ,, carmine	..	0 3

SALVADOR.

Cat. No. *Various types. Revised prices.*

177. 20 c., green	0	6
179. 30 c., deep blue	20	0
187. 1 c., blue	0	3
193. 15 c., bright violet	2	0
194. 15 c., deep violet	2	0
194a. 15 c., blue-violet	2	0
201. 1 p., rose-lake	1	0
202. 1 p., lake	0	6
208. 12 c., slate	2	0
210. 20 c., aniline rose	1	0
211. 24 c., purple	1	0
212. 30 c., green	1	0
213. 50 c., orange	0	6
215. 100 c., dull blue	2	0
222. 12 c., grey	2	0
226. 30 c., green	0	6
227. 50 c., orange	0	6
227a. 50 c., pale orange	1	0
240. 12 c., ultramarine	5	0

SUDAN.

1903-4. *Type 2, with inverted surcharge.*

5 m. on 5 p., brown and green 25 0

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

British Guiana Philatelic Society

President: Hon. B. Howell Jones.
Secretary: A. D. Ferguson, Georgetown.
Meetings: Christ Church Vicarage, Georgetown.

Annual Meeting

On 29 November last the annual meeting of the British Guiana Philatelic Society was held at the residence of Mr. A. D. Ferguson. In the unavoidable absence of the President the chair was taken by the Vice-President, the Rev. Canon Josa. Also present were: Messrs. T. A. Pope, L. M. Hill, W. A. Abraham, J. Williams, G. T. Manly, A. B. Anderson, and A. D. Ferguson. Mr. Manly was elected a member of the Society.

The Report

The Honorary Secretary then submitted his report and financial statement for the year under review. The season, Mr. Ferguson said, had been one of the most successful during the short period of the Society's existence, and the accounts and statements would show that in the Exchange Department, as well as in the finances, the results were better than during the past two years. The year had been a memorable one in so far as philatelists were concerned. First came the Society's very successful exhibition, which, he claimed, was one of the largest and best arranged exhibitions ever held in this part of the world. Ten general meetings and six committee meetings were held during the year, the attendances being quite up to the average of the previous year, and the sociability, the presenting of interesting and varied exhibits, and the reading of attractive papers on the subject of stamps were maintained as formerly. And as a reminder, the Secretary mentioned that visitors were welcome at all meetings of the Society. Twelve new members had been elected during the period, and three had resigned, thus showing an increase to the membership of nine, bringing the total number of members to fifty-one.

Exchange Receipts

It had been decided to include corresponding members in the Society, such membership to embrace those non-resident in the colony. Six papers had been read during the season. With deep regret it was recorded that Mr. F. P. Stubbs, Honorary Assistant Secretary of the Society, who had left the colony on vacation early in the month of April, had decided not to return. He would prove a great loss to the Society, being an enthusiastic collector who had succeeded in getting together a really representative collection of British Colonials in a very short time. Several important works of reference, catalogues, and papers had been added to the Society's library during the year, thus enhancing its comprehensiveness. Dealing with the cash account of the Society, Mr. Ferguson reported that up to 30 September there was a small decrease in the amounts received compared with the corresponding period in the previous year. The cash balance in favour of the Society at the end of the year was £28.75, which he considered very satisfactory in view of the large expenditure.

On the motion of Canon Josa the report and statement were adopted.

Officers

The election of the office-bearers and committee for 1907-8 took place and resulted thus: President, Hon. B. Howell Jones; Vice-President, Canon Josa; Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. A. D. Ferguson; Assistant Secretary, Mr. A. B. Anderson; members of Committee, Messrs. T. A. Pope, Luke M. Hill, and W. A. Abraham.

Exhibits

An interesting and unique collection of stamps was then exhibited by the Honorary Secretary, to whom it was sent by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. It represented a superb mint collection of British Colonial stamps, from Antigua to the Cape of Good Hope, and contained many rarities of high value. Especial mention must be made of the Cape collection, which included a unique set of triangular stamps: four blocks of eight, six pairs, and twelve singles. The exhibit included an almost complete collection of British Guiana stamps: from 1860, also specimens of British East Africa, Barbados, Bahamas, etc. The value of this collection is estimated at \$5,000. Mr. Ferguson also showed a book sent by the same firm with a rare collection of the circular Guianas—four cents, yellow, printed on pelure paper, on the original letter sheet; eight cents, green, and twelve cents, blue, pale and deep. Most of these circular stamps are part of the famous Breitfuss Collection purchased recently by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.
Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 7 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.
Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.
Annual Subscription: 5s.

At the usual fortnightly meeting of this Society, held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, 3 December, Mr. Herbert Wade gave a display of the postage stamps of St. Vincent and of the Falkland Islands. Mr. W. V. Morten (President) was in the chair.

There are many rare stamps of St. Vincent, the first issue of which was made in May, 1861, and chief amongst these rarities are some of the provisionals. Mr. Wade showed a fine range of shades, and some of the rarities, such as the 2½d. on 4d. of 1890 without bar; 4d., deep blue, of 1866, unused, and of others several strips and pairs, besides singles, some being unused. In Falkland Islands there was a bisected 1d., each half surcharged 4d., used on original envelope, and all the issues complete since 1878, mostly in mint state; several mint blocks of the earlier stamps were also shown.

At the meeting of this Society held in the Leeds Institute, on 17 December, there was a display of British Colonial stamps by the members of the Bradford Philatelic Society. Mr. W. V. Morten was in the chair, and there was a good attendance. Mr. Foulger showed a fine lot of mint stamps of British Africa, in addition to his fine collection of Hayti, with a good copy of the rare 20c. imperforate stamp. Mr. White showed the later postal issues of New Zealand, rich in shades and varieties of perforation. A vote of thanks was cordially given to the Bradford members for their exhibition, which had been much enjoyed.

Novelties shown were as follows: By Mr. P. M. Knight—Two new booklets of 24 Swiss stamps, being the 5 and 10 centimes just issued. Unlike the English booklets of 18c. stamps, no extra charge is made in Switzerland for these stamps so made up.

By Mr. Harding—Caricature of the 1d. Mulready envelope, with the Truro postmark, 10 November, 1840.

By Mr. H. M. Hepworth—Fourteen envelopes used by the Expeditionary Force in China, some very interesting.

Montreal Philatelic Association

President: Mr. P. van Guilder.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. W. F. Stanton.

The regular fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held at their rooms on 27 November, at 8.15 p.m. Donations of stamps for the Society's Forgery Collection were received from Messrs. O. Ballaragon and Hougout. After the transaction of the regular business, the Society were shown some stamps from the collection of Mr. O. Barwick, and a stamp auction was held, at which numerous lots changed hands. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Mr. Barwick, and to Mr. Stanton who acted as auctioneer.

Sheffield Philatelic Society

President: F. Athin.
Hon. Sec.: H. E. Standfield, 22 Parker's Road, Sheffield.

A MEETING of the members of this Society was held in their rooms at the King's Head Hotel on Wednesday evening, the Vice-President (Mr. W. C. Fox) being in the chair.

The Secretary read a letter from the Town Clerk, intimating that the City Council had granted permission for the Society to hold a conversazione and exhibition of stamps at the Mappin Art Gallery in February next. The Postmaster (Mr. J. Chambers) was elected an honorary member of the Society, and the Secretary was requested to express the members' sympathy with him in his recent bereavement.

The rest of the evening was devoted to a discussion as to the respective merits of collecting unused or used stamps. Mr. Chapman contended that from an artistic point of view unused stamps looked much better in a collection; further, it was easier to detect forgeries in unused ones; whilst financially they were a better investment, as unused stamps increased in value to a far greater extent than used ones. Mr. Sneath was of opinion that stamps were not in reality postage stamps until they had done their duty by passing through the post, and that there was an amount of interest and sentiment connected with those which bore on their face the source of origin.

Stanley Gibbons Priced Catalogue.

Nineteenth Edition. 1907-8.

Part II. Foreign Countries.

NOW READY.

The new Part II contains 640 pages, being 56 more than in the previous edition.

An important feature in this new Catalogue is that of the PRICES, and here we are stronger and more complete than ever before, owing to the fact that in the Breitfuss Collection we secured hundreds of stamps of which we never had sufficient in hand to price, and we still adhere to the rule of pricing only stamps in stock and on sale at the moment of going to press.

The following are a few among the many improvements which have been introduced:—

Bosnia.—Later part revised, and all varieties of perforation separated and priced.

Finland.—New list simplified, and based upon the articles of M. Hanciau, published in the *M. J.*

Montenegro.—Entirely new list and revised prices, based upon Mr. Phillips' article in the *M. J.*, and some later information.

Nicaragua.—Later half of list rewritten and made very complete from special information at our disposal.

Salvador.—Entirely new list, based upon the article by Mr. J. B. Leavy, now appearing in the *M. J.* In this article the discovery is for the first time made public of the numerous REPRINTS in the "Secbeck" stamps of Salvador. Our own stock has been carefully examined, and every stamp we sell is guaranteed to be an original.

Switzerland.—The "silk thread" stamps have been correctly classified, and the later issues divided into correct lists of perforations and shades.

Siam.—Entirely new list, based on the articles of Mr. Poole.

Venezuela.—New and correct lists have been written of the provisionals of 1903, showing the various printings and errors.

Wenden.—Entirely new list, based on the pamphlet of Mr. Svenson, of which a translation is appearing in the *M. J.*

Throughout the Catalogue the dates have been carefully revised and, where possible, the method and place of printing the stamps have been stated.

PRICE 2/6, or POST-FREE 2/10.

Part I. In the Press. Orders can now be booked on receipt of 2/9 to cover postage.

Answer to DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 1 of Series. Must be sent only on this Form.

1	.....	5
2	.....	6
3	.....	7
4	.....

Signature

Initials or Pseudonym for acknowledging.

Address

or Post Town for recognition in case two of same name. (Not for Publication).

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

GRAND COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL READERS OF

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

£ 100 in Prizes

WE have decided to give away the sum of one hundred pounds in prizes for those who succeed in getting us the largest number of new subscribers from 1 January to 30 June, 1908.

The conditions of this competition will be as follows:—

1. The competition is open to every one except to employes of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.
2. The Competitors sending in the highest number of new subscriptions will win, however small the number may be.
3. Subscriptions for a half-year cost 3s. 3d. and will reckon as one vote; a subscription of 6s. 6d. for a year will reckon as two votes.
4. Competitors should at the end of each month send in a list of new subscribers, together with the proper amount of the subscriptions, addressed to

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.,
391 STRAND, LONDON,

with the words "G.S.W. Competition" written on lower left corner of envelope.

5. All lists must be sent in by 30 July, 1908, and the names of the winners will be announced in *G.S.W.* about the end of August.

6. In case of any disputes they will be settled by Messrs. C. J. Phillips and G. Hamilton-Smith, whose decision will be final.

The prizes offered will be as follows:—

1st prize. Stamps to be selected by the winner from our Catalogue or approval sheets to the value of		£	s.	d.
2nd	" " " "	40	0	0
3rd	" " " "	20	0	0
4th	" " " "	7	10	0
5th	" " " "	5	0	0
6th	" " " "	2	10	0
7th	Packet of stamps value	4	0	0
8th	Imperial Album, bound in 3 vols., No. 8 quality	3	15	0
9th	" " " " " 7	2	7	6
10th	" " " " " 6	1	12	0
11th	Facile Oriel Album	1	10	0
12th	Ideal Album, No. 2	1	15	0
13th	Century Album, No. 21	1	2	6
14th	Strand Album, No. 15	5	0	0
15th	Improved Album, No. 2	3	6	0

Any of our readers who intend to compete for these prizes can have sample bundles of our paper to distribute to their friends free of all charge on receipt of a post card stating how many copies they can use.

We hope many subscribers will compete; those with a large circle of friends may get several dozen subscriptions, but some of the smaller prizes may be won with a very small number of subscriptions.

The attached form must be used by all entering in this competition.

I hereby enter my name as a competitor in the above competition, and agree to abide by the regulations set forth above.

Name

Address

I send the following names of new subscribers to G. S. W. and enclose

£..... "..... ".....

.....

To STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391, STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391, STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 15.

A MAGNIFICENT SPECIALISED COLLECTION OF THE

PICTORIAL ISSUES OF

NEW ZEALAND

1898-1907.

WE believe this is one of the finest Collections of these Stamps in existence; nearly all the Stamps are in blocks of four, and in this form there are nearly all known shades and varieties. It is impossible to describe such a Collection, the colours must be seen to be appreciated, but to give some little idea of the contents we mention the following, all mint and unused:—

3d., yellow-brown	. 37	blocks of four.
4d., blue and brown	37	” ”
5d., chocolate	. 27	” ”
6d., red	. 59	” ”
1/-, red	. 47	” ”
2/-, green	. 18	” ”
5/-, vermilion	. 6	” ”

The Collection also contains a fine selection of the Stamps of AITUTAKI, NIUE, and PENRHYN.
The total number of Stamps is about 3100.

This is an opportunity of securing a superb Collection which might never occur again.

— Price £170. —

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 4, Vol. VII.

25 JANUARY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

(Whole No. 100.)

Contents.

PAGE

1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: France. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	49
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	51
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	53
4. NATIVE STAMP DEALERS. <i>By George Cecil</i>	54
5. PHOTOGRAPHY AS APPLIED TO STAMPS. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	56
6. SPECIALISM <i>By R. E. R. Dalwigh</i>	58
7. ABYSSINIA <i>By Frederic C. Luthy</i>	59
8. PORTRAITS ON STAMPS <i>By Boswell Junior</i>	60
9. FORGERIES AND REPRINTS: How to Detect Them. <i>By Rev. Robert B. Earée</i>	60
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	62
11. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	64
12. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.



AUSTRALIAN

COMMONWEALTH

1902-4.

UNPAID LETTER STAMP

Type 2.

With space at foot filled in.

Perf. 11½, 12 compound with 11

5s., emerald-green (Cat. No. 130).

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the above, used,

1s. 3d., post-free.

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 " rarer	5 1
9.	200 " rare	5 1
66.	500 "	4 1
67.	1000 "	15 0
68.	1500 "	35 0
69.	2000 "	60 0
69A.	3000 "	170 0
69B.	4000 "	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, G. S. W.,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or

Italian postmarks, additional time will be required to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. V of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gr. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order G. S. W. from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL. BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	s. d.	Out of print	s. d.
Vol. 3	7 6	post-free	5 0
" 4	5 6		5 0
" 5	5 0		4 0
" 6	6 6		4 0
" 7	6 0		4 0
" 8	6 0		4 0
" 9	5 0		4 0
Vol. 10	post-free		5 0
" 11			5 0
" 12			4 0
" 13			4 0
" 14			4 0
" 15			4 0
" 16			4 0
" 17			4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

GREAT BRITAIN

½d. & 1d. Control or Account Letters.

PRICE LIST

OF THE VARIETIES IN STOCK, ALL UNUSED.

QUEEN VICTORIA.

		s.	d.
½d. vermilion lettered	E . . .	1	6
" "	F . . .	0	4
" "	G . . .	0	6
" "	H . . .	0	4
" "	I . . .	0	3
" "	J . . .	0	6
" "	K . . .	0	9
" "	L . . .	1	0
" "	M . . .	1	6
" "	N . . .	0	6
" "	O . . .	0	4
" "	P . . .	0	4
" "	Q . . .	0	3
½d. blue-green	R . . .	0	6
1d. purple	S . . .	1	6
" "	T . . .	1	3
" "	U . . .	0	6
" "	V . . .	0	6
" "	W . . .	0	4
" "	X . . .	0	5

KING EDWARD VII.

		s.	d.
½d. blue-green, lettered	A . . .	0	9
" "	B . . .	0	9
" "	C . . .	1	6
" "	C4 . . .	0	8
" "	D4 . . .	0	4
½d. yellow-green	D4 . . .	0	3
" "	D5 . . .	0	4
" "	E5 . . .	0	3
" "	E6 . . .	0	3
" "	F6 . . .	0	3
" "	G7 . . .	0	3
1d. scarlet	A . . .	0	8
" "	B . . .	0	9
" "	C . . .	1	0
" "	C4 . . .	0	8
" "	D4 . . .	0	6
" "	D5 . . .	0	6
" "	E5 . . .	0	4
" "	E6 . . .	0	3
" "	F6 . . .	0	3
" "	G7 . . .	0	3

The above prices are for single stamps with letter attached. In many cases pairs or strips of three can be supplied at the rate of 1d. for each additional ½d. stamp, and 2d. for each additional 1d. stamp.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NOW READY. The following popular series of

PACKETS OF FOREIGN Postage Stamps

GRAND NEW VARIETY PACKETS

In order to meet the wishes of a great number of our customers, we have prepared a series of packets, as under, entirely different from one another, no stamp in any one packet being in any of the rest of the series; and the purchaser of the series of eight packets will have 1305 extra good varieties, and no duplicates.

These packets do NOT contain any Post Cards, cut Envelopes, Fiscals, or Reprints, and are well recommended as good value, and are only a small proportion of the Catalogue value of the single stamps contained in them.

No. 70 contains

500 Stamps of EUROPE, all different.

Price 7/6; post-free, 7/8.

No. 71 contains

125 Stamps of ASIA, all different.

Price 7/6; post-free, 7/7

No. 72 contains

125 Stamps of AFRICA, all different.

Price 7/6; post-free, 7/7.

No. 73 contains

**105 Stamps of AUSTRALIA,
all different.**

Price 7/6; post-free, 7/7.

No. 74 contains

**125 Stamps of WEST INDIES,
all different.**

Price 7/6; post-free, 7/7.

No. 75 contains

**125 Stamps of SOUTH AMERICA,
all different.**

Price 7/6; post-free, 7/7.

No. 76 contains

**100 Stamps of NORTH AMERICA,
all different.**

Price 7/6; post-free, 7/7.

No. 77 contains

**100 Stamps of CENTRAL AMERICA,
all different.**

Price 7/6; post-free, 7/7.

The set of eight packets, containing 1305 varieties, if all bought at one time, will be supplied at the special reduced price of 65/-. Postage abroad 2½d. extra for each 125 stamps.

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Cat. No.	1902-4.	Type 2.	(a).	Perf.	11½, 12.	s. d.
114.	5d.	emerald-green	.	.	used	0 4
117.	10d.	"	.	.	"	1 9
118.	1s.	"	.	.	"	0 6
119.	2s.	"	.	.	"	1 0
120.	5s.	"	.	.	"	5 0

(b). Perf. 11½, 12 comp. with 11.

123.	½d.	emerald-green	.	.	used	0 2
126.	3d.	"	.	.	"	0 4
129a.	10d.	"	.	.	"	0 8
129b.	1s.	"	.	.	"	0 9
129c.	2s.	"	.	.	"	0 9

(c). Perf. 11.

135.	6d.	emerald-green	.	.	used	1 6
135a.	5s.	"	.	.	"	2 0

CEYLON.

Various issues. Revised prices.

196.	3 c.	on 4 c., lilac-rose	.	.	used	0 6
223.	30 c.	violet and green	.	.	"	0 6
233.	15 c.	blue	.	.	"	0 2
234.	25 c.	pale brown	.	.	"	0 4
235.	30 c.	violet and green	.	.	"	0 8
236.	75 c.	dull blue and orange	.	.	"	1 3
237.	1 r.	50 c., grey	.	.	"	3 0
238.	2 r.	25 c., brown and green	.	.	"	4 0

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

1905. Arms. Type 32.

½ c.	black and orange	.	.	.	0 1
------	------------------	---	---	---	-----

HONG KONG.

1907. King's Head. Multiple wmk.

6d.	orange-red and purple (ch)	.	.	.	0 3
30 c.	grey-green and black (ch.)	.	.	.	1 0
50 c.	" " magenta (ch.)	.	.	.	1 9
5s.	lilac and sage-green (ch.)	.	.	.	3 3

JAPAN.

1907. Type 27. Perf. 11½, 12.

6 sen.	marone (No. 203a)	.	.	.	0 3
--------	-------------------	---	---	---	-----

MALDIVE ISLANDS.

1906. Stamp of Ceylon overprinted.

5 c.	lilac	.	.	.	used 2 0
------	-------	---	---	---	----------

PARAGUAY.

1906-7. Type 39. New colour.

20 c.	green (No. 116)	.	.	.	0 3
-------	-----------------	---	---	---	-----

SWITZERLAND.

1907. Type 10. Wmk. Multiple Cross.

20 c.	orange	.	.	.	0 3
30 c.	light-brown	.	.	.	0 5
40 c.	pearl-grey	.	.	.	0 6

1907. New Type.

2 c.	olive-yellow	.	.	.	0 1
------	--------------	---	---	---	-----

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

City of London Philatelic Society

President: W. B. Edwards, B.Sc.

Hon. Sec.: James L. Eastwood, 169 Ferme Park Road, Crouch End, London, N.

Meeting Place: Mills's Restaurant, 14 Broad Street Place, E.C.
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (October to May).

Subscription: 2s. 6d. yearly (No Entrance Fee).

THE 43rd ordinary monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, 20 December, at Mills's Restaurant, 14 Broad Street Place, E.C.

The President called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and the minutes of the 42nd meeting were read and duly confirmed.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:—Messrs. J. W. Willgoos, Drayton Park, N.; W. Simpson, London Wall, E.C.; E. Kühl, Leyton; H. A. Fulcher, West Hampstead, W.

Votes of thanks were accorded to Mr. J. Hoffmann for a donation to the Forgery Collection, and to Mr. E. J. Home-wood for donations to the Library.

Several new issues of stamps were exhibited by members and also a half-panne of Sarawak 3c., brown on yellow, of the 1971 issue, and a specimen of the same stamp with a dot after THREE.

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

(1) Paper and Display, "Chili," by J. Read Burton.

This was a very fine collection, containing practically all the known varieties, used and unused, and included a lot of the imperforate stamps used on entire originals, and dated and other postmarks altering hitherto accepted dates of issue in numerous cases. The display also included a collection of War stamps used during the Chilean war with Peru. At the conclusion of Mr. Burton's highly interesting paper the President proposed a very hearty vote of thanks, which was seconded by Mr. Harris and unanimously agreed to.

(2) An exhibition (with notes) of Mr. Heginbottom's collections of the stamps of British Bechuanaland, British Central, East, and South Africa, British Somaliland (Uganda), Mauritius (from 1854), Natal (from 1850) (Zululand). At the conclusion of this very instructive display, Mr. D. H. Jackson moved and Mr. H. W. Westcott seconded a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Heginbottom, which was carried with acclamation.

The Hon. Sec. was pleased to supply any information to intending members on receipt of a post card at the above address.

Junior Philatelic Society Brighton Branch

Chairman: W. Mead.

Hon. Sec.: J. Corner-Spokes, 22 Denmark Terrace, Brighton.

A SPECIAL meeting was held on 2 January, 1908, when, to the great regret of the members, Baron Anthony de Worms was prevented from giving his promised display of Ceylon. His place was, however, most ably taken by Mr. J. W. Gillespie, who very kindly consented at the last moment to show his collection of Norway, Belgium, and Straits Settlements. These made a most interesting show, the condition being very fine, and the notes on Norway, which Mr. Gillespie read for the edification of the members, were very interesting. Mr. Mead proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer for his interesting display and notes; this was seconded by Mr. Streete and carried unanimously.

Lieut.-Col. Pearson was elected a member, and a generous donation of Japanese for the forgery collection was acknowledged from Mr. Victor James.

Junior Philatelic Society Manchester Branch Conversazione

THE second annual conversazione of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society was held at the Deansgate Hotel on Thursday, 19 December. Messrs. Taylor and Bernstein are once more to be complimented upon their tact and managerial abilities. Many local artists of more than "local" repute and talent were engaged.

The "Social" Committee, which also included Messrs. Higgins and Ward, had secured the large drawing-room, a most admirable hall, that gave the vocalists every scope. Miss Sedgwick and Messrs. H. H. McCarthy and F. Sedgwick opened with the overture at 7.30, giving a trio from *Norma*. Mr. Lilleywhite followed with "Sentinel o' Mine." The humorous numbers included a

song by Mr. Spencer and a recitation, "Michael's Breeches," by Mr. Sutcliffe, the latter being received with loud echoes. Miss Bernstein, the daughter of the Junior Philatelic Society's President, made her debut as a reciter, her energies producing an enthusiastic response. Probably the humorous feature of the evening was Mr. J. Spencer's Lancashire dialect dialogue of "A Visit to Blackpool," which literally brought the "house down." Miss S. H. Taylor rendered "The Rose," "Eileen, alannah," and other numbers, which evinced the experienced singer, and whose efforts were appreciated by the audience (which numbered over eighty), as was due. The daughter of Mr. Brooke recited "The Owl," which gave much amusement. Miss Sedgwick was the pianist, and worked hard throughout the evening, her playing receiving applause. Mr. Bernstein (the President) proposed a vote of thanks in his usual apt manner. Councillor Horrocks seconded, in a few well-selected words, the eulogic proposition of the chairman. Mr. Spencer replied upon behalf of the artists, and so concluded a most successful evening.

Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society

President: Dr. F. E. Ackerley.

Hon. Sec.: J. H. M. Savage, 56 Bevington Road, Higher Tranmere.

Meetings: Mondays at 6 Colquitt Street, Liverpool.

At the meeting held on 23 December, 1907, at 6 Colquitt Street, Liverpool, 24 members were present. Messrs. James and Hill were duly elected members, and Mr. Paterson was put up for nomination. The Membership now stands at 81, which includes 6 ladies; 30 new members have already been elected this season. There was an exhibition of stamps of Northern Nigeria, and Miss Phelps showed a very fine and almost complete collection.

Miss Phelps read a most interesting and well got together paper on the stamps of Northern Nigeria, and expressed her doubts about the necessity of such a high value stamp as £25, and was suitably thanked by the President, Dr. Ackerley, and the Hon. Secretary.

It is believed that this is the only Philatelic Society, anyhow in the district, at which a lady has given a paper, and it is to be hoped that her good example will be followed by other ladies.

The Scottish Philatelic Society Junior Branch

Hon. Secretary: Frank Chalmers, 24 Bruntsfield Gardens, Edinburgh.

THIS Society gave an "At Home" in the Edinburgh Café, Princes Street, Edinburgh, on the evening of Saturday, 7 December.

On arrival the guests were received by Mr. Norman M. Berrie, the President. While they were assembling those present had an opportunity of inspecting a choice selection from the valuable and extensive collection of Mr. John Walker, President of the senior branch.

After the guests had assembled the President addressed to them a few suitable words of welcome, at the same time commenting on the progress of the Society and its claims on the attention of junior collectors in and outside of Edinburgh.

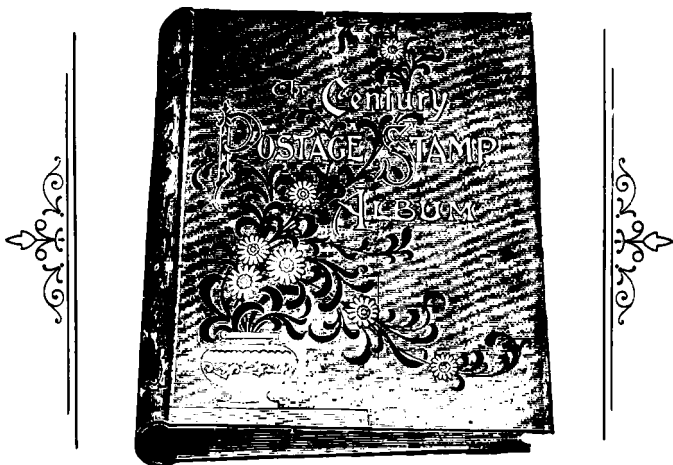
Tea and coffee were served, and opportunity was given to the members to become better acquainted with one another. Thereafter a most enjoyable musical programme, provided by the members, was proceeded with.

During an interval light refreshments were served in the Café's most approved style, and in the course of the evening nine new ordinary members were unanimously admitted on the motion of the Hon. Secretary, seconded by the President.

Mr. Bonnar proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to all those who had so successfully carried through the arrangements, and to the performers whose efforts had so largely contributed to the success of the evening. The vote was passed with acclamation. The Hon. Secretary suitably replied, and expressed the hope that the "At Home" would become an annual if not a biennial event in the history of the Society. He also mentioned that it had been more than once suggested that the Society should have an auction sale during the session, and it was remitted to Mr. Snell, the Assistant Secretary, and Mr. R. M. Stewart to consider the necessary arrangements and report to the Committee on an early date.

The meeting terminated shortly before 11 p.m., and the generally expressed opinion was that it had been a great success which should soon be repeated.

SECOND EDITION
OF THE
CENTURY ALBUM
(PUBLISHED 1903.)



IN TWO QUALITIES.

- No. 21.—On extra stout highly glazed paper, strongly bound in cloth, gilt lettered and artistically designed cover, coloured edges.
Price 12/6; post-free in Great Britain, 13/2.
- No. 22.—As last, but half bound in morocco, plain sides, raised bands, and gilt lettering on back, gilt edges; supplied in strong box.
Price 25/-; post-free in Great Britain, 25/8.
- Extra Blank Leaves for this Album, 8d. per dozen, plain; or 1/- per dozen with gilt edges.**

THIS Album is produced in a very large edition at a cost of between £2000 and £3000, and will be found to fulfil a long-felt want for an Album in One Volume, of high-class style, and on thoroughly good and highly surfaced paper, well and strongly bound.

The Century Album is 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.

Two pages of watermarks, with a list of countries in which they may be found, are also provided.

Among the chief alterations made in this the second edition of the Album may be noted the arrangement of the countries, which now follow in the same order as in the two parts of the current Catalogue—British Empire first, and Foreign Countries last.

In the previous edition, numbers were placed beneath the line to mark the vertical line of each stamp, corresponding to the numbers in the detailed description on the left-hand page. This method was found to have many objections in practice, and the new system now adopted, whereby compartments for every stamp are marked off by dots placed above the dotted lines, will, we believe, be much preferred and prove more convenient. In many countries owing to the varying heights of the stamps, it is impracticable—with the limited space at disposal—to place them in the order in which they are set forth on the opposite page, but by taking a little trouble in finding the place, the collector should have no difficulty in properly placing his stamps.

Throughout the Album additional rows have been provided, as well as a large number of blank pages, for new issues. As it is impossible to forecast where new issues are most likely to appear, these extra pages should be sufficient for the collector's wants for a long time ahead. There are over 15,500 marked-off places for stamps, besides space to accommodate several hundreds in addition.

All new issues down to the time of going to press have been included, and most of them illustrated.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

The "IDEAL" PERFORATION GAUGE


The Best, Most Reliable, and in every way the most convenient Perforation Gauge ever invented.

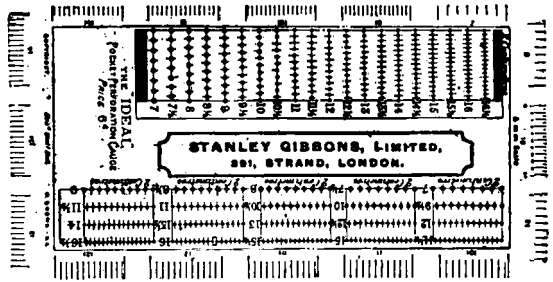
It is portable, being of a convenient size to be carried in the breast pocket.

It is accurate, every gauge having been carefully measured, and the Gauge itself is printed from an engraved copper plate.

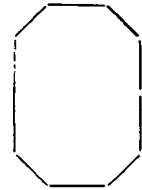
It has three sets of gauges (vertical and horizontal) on the same card, by which plan the perforations of stamps arranged in Albums on the hinge system can be measured without taking them from the book; also stamps gummed down can be accurately tested without removal from the book. These are advantages that can be claimed by few, and being printed on stout cardboard, they will not easily crack. In this respect it is superior to those printed on thin paper or any transparent substance. It will not cockle, and damp has but little effect on it.

It has twenty different gauges, from 7 to 16½, and includes 7½, 8, and 8½, not often found in gauges now before the Philatelic public, but which are required more especially for some of the Japanese and Turkish Stamps.

Each dot is bisected by a small vertical line, thus  By this arrangement accurate measurement is guaranteed. Price, post-free, 7d.



THE "S. G." STAMP HINGES.



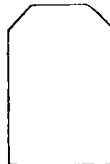
Exact Size.

We have prepared a NEW STAMP HINGE, size as above, put up in AIR-TIGHT TIN BOXES, each containing 1000 hinges of good tough paper, doubly gummed, and thus easily peelable. Price, post-free, 7d. per Box. abroad extra.

BEST STAMP HINGES.

FOR affixing Stamps in Collections neatly and expeditiously. Far superior to the old plan of gumming the Stamps, and inserting them so that it is only with great difficulty they can be withdrawn. These Mounts are made of a thin strong white paper, and are ready gummed. By their use, Stamps can be removed at any time without injuring them, or in any way disfiguring the Collection. They are invaluable to those who collect watermarks. They should be used on the hinge system; thus, Moisten the Stamp, attaching the back of it to one third of the mount, the other two thirds being fastened to the Album. The Stamp will then be facing the page; but do not turn it over until perfectly dry. A Collection with the Stamps mounted in this manner is far more valuable, if at any time a sale is desired. Three sizes are kept in stock: No. 2, medium size, suitable for ordinary-sized adhesives; No. 1, smaller size; No. 3, large size—for such Stamps as old Portuguese, or for cut Envelopes. PRICES: No. 1, 2, or 3 size, 3d. per 100; 1/8 per 1000, post-free; 5000, 8/8; 10,000, 12/-

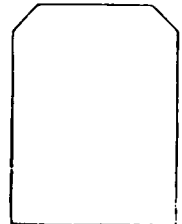
ACTUAL SIZE AND SHAPE.



No. 1.



No. 2.



No. 3.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

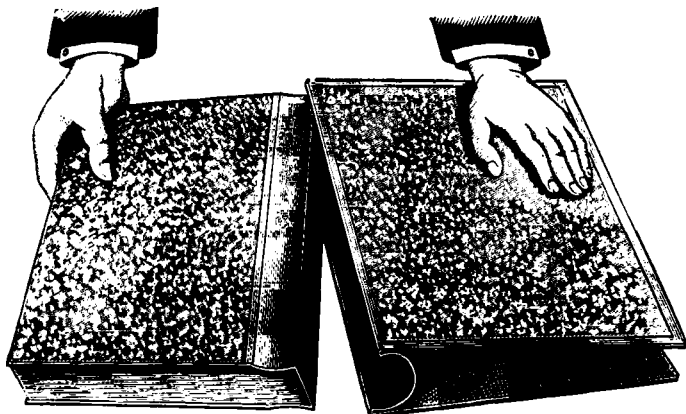
"SIMPLEX"

BLANK ALBUMS

For Postage Stamps.

SPRING BACK.

MOVABLE LEAVES.



In response to numerous demands we have just produced a new **BLANK ALBUM** at a popular price.

It contains 150 specially prepared leaves of **stout highly glazed paper**, printed with grey border, *quadrillé* background, and tablet for name of country, secured in place, together with a protecting wrapper, by a **spring-back** cover.

The leaves can be easily removed or replaced by taking them and their wrapper in one hand, and with the other hand pressing back the cover until its two edges meet, as shown in the illustration.

"SIMPLEX." 150 leaves, cloth cover, bevelled boards, lettered on back, with blank panel in which particulars of contents can be inserted.

Price 12/6; post-free in U.K. 13/1; abroad extra.

LOOSE LEAVES, 10d. per dozen; 5/- per 100, post-free.

Bound in dark green or marone. When ordering mention colour desired.

• STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 5, Vol. VII.

1 FEBRUARY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

(Whole No. 161).

Contents.

PAGE

1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: France. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	65
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	67
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	68
4. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nissen</i>	70
5. SPECIALISM. <i>By R. E. R. Dalwigh</i>	71
6. PHOTOGRAPHY AS APPLIED TO STAMPS. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	73
7. THE EVOLUTION OF THE POSTAGE DUE. <i>By H. M. Howard</i>	74
8. TRIAL ACROSTIC	75
9. FORGERIES AND REPRINTS: How to Detect Them. <i>By Rev. Robert B. Earée</i>	75
10. AMERICAN NOTES. <i>By Eustace B. Power</i>	76
11. CORRESPONDENCE	77
12. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	79
13. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.	s.	d.
7.	100, all different		2	1
8.	100 " rarer	5	1	
9.	200 " rare	5	1	
66.	500 "	4	1	
67.	1000 "	15	0	
68.	1500 "	35	0	
69.	2000 "	60	0	
69A.	3000 "	170	0	
69B.	4000 "	280	0	

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.

The Collector's Outfit

No. 2.

	s.	d.
3000 S. G. Stamp Hinges . Regular price	1	6
Perforation Gauge	0	6
Ivory Pocket Rule	3	6
The Philatelist's Vade Mecum	2	6
Surcharge Measurer	7	6
Magnifying Glass, 2 lenses	7	6
Tweezers No. 3	2	0
500 Transparent Envelopes, 4 sizes	3	6
Watermark Detector	1	0
Fifty Years of Philately	1	0
Price Catalogue, 2 vols., 1908	5	0
Stamps and Stamp Collecting, bound	4	0
"Reprints" and how to tell them	4	0
"Album Weeds," how to know forgeries, 2 vols.	15	0
Subscription to G. S. W. 6 months	3	3

The above very complete OUTFIT, forming a grand present for a Collector, is offered at the

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

£2 10s.

Post-free in Great Britain,
abroad extra.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or

Italian postmarks, additional time will be required to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. V of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s.	d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s.	d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7	6	" 11	"	5	0
" 4	"	5	6	" 12	"	4	0
" 5	"	5	0	" 13	"	4	0
" 6	"	6	6	" 14	"	4	0
" 7	"	6	0	" 15	"	4	0
" 8	"	6	0	" 16	"	4	0
" 9	"	5	0	" 17	"	4	0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

GREATER BRITAIN PACKETS OF British Colonial Stamps.

NO DUPLICATES.

Every Packet of this Series contains different varieties, no Stamp being included in two Packets, and purchasers will by this novel method be saved the inconvenience of acquiring duplicates, which is as a rule the bane of most packet buying.

No.	contains	varieties	of Stamps	of	Price.
111	20	varieties	of	Asia	6d.
112	25	"	"	"	2/-
113	40	"	"	"	3/6
114	40	"	"	"	6/6
115	50	"	"	"	16/6
116	45	"	"	"	12/-
117	30	"	"	"	4/-
118	40	"	"	"	21/-
121	20	"	"	Africa	6d.
122	25	"	"	"	2/6
141	20	"	"	West Indies	9d.
142	20	"	"	"	2/-
151	25	"	"	Australasia	6d.
152	30	"	"	"	1/6
153	30	"	"	"	4/6

GRAND NEW VARIETY PACKETS.

IN order to meet the wishes of a great number of our customers, we have prepared a series of packets, as under, entirely different from one another, no stamp in any one packet being in any of the rest of the series; and the purchaser of the series of eight packets will have 1305 extra good varieties, and no duplicates.

These packets do NOT contain any Post Cards, cut Envelopes, Fiscals, or Reprints, and are well recommended as good value, and are only a small proportion of the Catalogue value of the single stamps contained in them.

No. 70	contains	500	Stamps of	Europe, all different	Price	7/6
71	"	125	"	Asia	"	7/6
72	"	125	"	Africa	"	7/6
73	"	105	"	Australia	"	7/6
74	"	125	"	West Indies	"	7/6
75	"	125	"	South America, all different	"	7/6
76	"	100	"	North America	"	7/6
77	"	100	"	Central America	"	7/6

The set of eight packets, containing 1305 varieties, if all bought at one time, will be supplied at the special reduced price of 55/-.

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

NOW READY.

THE FOLLOWING

GREATER BRITAIN PACKETS OF BRITISH Colonial Stamps

NO DUPLICATES.

EVERY Packet of this series contains different varieties, no Stamp being included in two Packets, and purchasers will by this novel method be saved the inconvenience of acquiring duplicates, which is as a rule the bane of most packet buying.

STAMPS OF ASIA.

No. 111	contains	20	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 112	"	25	"	"	2/1
" 113	"	40	"	"	3/7
" 114	"	40	"	"	6/7
" 115	"	50	"	"	16/7
" 116	"	45	"	"	12/1
" 117	"	30	"	"	4/1
" 118	"	40	"	"	21/1

STAMPS OF AFRICA.

No. 121	contains	20	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 122	"	25	"	"	2/7

STAMPS OF WEST INDIES.

No. 141	contains	20	varieties.	Price, post-free,	10d.
" 142	"	20	"	"	2/1

STAMPS OF AUSTRALASIA.

No. 151	contains	25	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 152	"	30	"	"	1/7
" 153	"	30	"	"	4/7

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

ITALY.

1906. Type 38.	s. d.
10 c., rose (No. 126)	used 0 1
1908. New Type. King's Head.	
25 c., blue	0 4

NEW ZEALAND.

Cat. No.	Various issues.	Revised prices.
2966.	8d., steel-blue (p. 14)	used 0 8
298.	2s., green (p. 14)	" 2 0
312.	6d., pink (small size)	" 0 2

PARAGUAY.

1907. Type 40. Government Buildings.	
2 pesos, black and blue	2 3
5 " " orange-red	5 6
10 " " orange-brown	10 6
20 " " olive-green	20 0

1907. Lion Type. New colour.

1 peso, black and olive-black	1 3
---	-----

1907. Official. Type 66.

20 c., purple	used 0 3
-------------------------	----------

PUTTIALLA.

Cat. No.	Various issues.	Revised prices.
62.	1 a., carmine	used 0 1
63.	2 a., purple	" 0 2
64.	3 a., orange-brown	" 0 4
65.	4 a., olive-bistre	" 0 5
112.	2 a., blue	" 0 2
121.	1 a., plum	" 0 1
125.	3 a., brown-orange	" 0 4
145.	1 a., carmine	" 0 2
147.	1 a., carmine	" 0 1
150.	4 a., olive-green	" 0 6

SUDAN.

1898. Type 2. Revised prices.	
2 m., green and brown (No. 11)	0 3
3 m., mauve and green (" 12)	0 4

TASMANIA.

1905-7. Wmk. Crown A. Perf. 12½.	
1s., rose and green	used 0 8

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Cat. No.	Various issues.	Revised prices.
137.	5d., olive-yellow	used 5 0
143.	5d., "	" 0 2
153.	3d., brown	" 2 0

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

Herts Philatelic Society

President: Franz Reichenheim, Esq.
Hon. Secretary: H. A. Slade, Esq., Ninefields, St. Albans.
Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.
Annual Subscription, 6s.

A GENERAL meeting was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, 17 December, 1907, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. F. Reichenheim, H. L. Hayman, A. H. L. Giles, T. H. Harvey, R. Frenzel, L. E. Bradbury, Baron Anthony de Worms, Baron Percy de Worms, Harvey R. G. Clarke, W. T. Standen, W. A. Boyes, F. Read, E. Bounds, T. F. Stafford, E. W. Arnold, A. G. Wane, H. Wills, D. Thomson, M. Simons, M. Z. Kuttner, M. Weinberg, H. A. Slade, and three visitors—Messrs. W. C. Gunner, C. Dendy Marshall, and C. R. Sutherland.

The President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 November, 1907, were read and signed as correct.

Dr. W. Dewey Duncombe and Mr. F. G. Peplow were elected ordinary members of the Society.

The following donations were received and duly acknowledged at the meeting by votes of thanks:—

For the Library: Books and publications from the President, the Vice-President, M. Jules Bernichon, Mr. D. Field, and the Berliner Philatelisten Club.

For the Society's Collection: Stamps from the President, Messrs. Frenzel, Giles, Golodnoff, Read, Boyes, and the Hon. Secretary.

For the Society's Forgery Collection: Forgeries from the Vice-President and Mr. Bradbury.

Mr. Harvey Clarke then gave a display of his collection of the stamps of Ceylon, accompanied with explanatory notes. The collection, which is deservedly celebrated for its completeness and for the philatelic knowledge that is displayed in its arrangement, was examined with keen interest by the members, and earned to the full the vote of thanks that was proposed by Mr. Wills, seconded by Mr. Standen, and carried with acclamation.

Mr. Clarke suitably replied, and the proceedings terminated at 8.30 p.m.

[This notice was received on 2 January—*sixteen days* after the above meeting took place. We do not care to publish state news, and ask Secretaries of Societies to let us have reports within two or three days of each meeting.]

The Imperial Philatelic Society (N. London)

President: C. M. C. Symes.
Vice-President: C. J. Phillips.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.: Mr. C. S. Muratori, 29 Fletching Road, L. Clapton, N.E.

Meetings: Central Y.M.C.A., 7 Highbury Place, Highbury Station, N.

Subscription: 2s. 6d. per annum.

The first meeting of this newly formed Society was held at its head-quarters on 2 January, at 8 p.m. The evening was a social one, and lent itself entirely to social intercourse. The evening served a very useful purpose, as it gave each visitor an excellent opportunity of knowing his fellow-member and making philatelic friendships. The meeting-room is very large and luxuriously furnished, and great satisfaction was expressed. Several gentlemen brought portions of their collections up for view, an opportunity that was taken advantage of, and also a very fair number of stamps changed hands.

Mr. Symes announced that there would be no auction as indicated in the programme, but the Society had been very fortunate in having Mr. Chas. Nissen with them, who had arranged to give a display of philatelic curiosities. Mr. Nissen then displayed his stamps, amongst them being a fine copy of the rs. Queen bicoloured Government Parcels with the surcharge inverted, a very rare stamp and one very few are fortunate enough to see. Another interesting stamp was a forgery of the 1d., black, V.R., apparently very well executed.

Mr. Nissen supplemented his display with some very useful information which was greatly appreciated by those present; he also very kindly presented the library with a complete set of the *Stamp Collector's Annual*, at the conclusion of which Mr. C. J. Phillips proposed and Mr. Rock seconded a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Nissen for so generously entertaining the meeting.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.

Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.

Entrance fee: 2s. 6d. No Entrance fee for ladies or for Juniors.

ON Saturday, 21 December, the above Society held a very successful conversation at 3 Bedford Street, Strand. The hall, which had been tastefully decorated during the afternoon by members of the Committee, was filled to its utmost capacity by members and their friends. The entertainment provided was an excellent one. Mr. Astley Weaver, the famous society entertainer, gave a most amusing musical monologue. Miss P. Davies sang "In sympathy" and "If I built a world," which were greatly applauded. Miss M. Engleman favoured us with two violin solos. Mr. H. C. Mills sang in imitable style "I'm going to sing a song" and "Dearly beloved brethren"; and amongst our own members to oblige mention should be made of Miss Giles, who gave us a pianoforte solo, Mr. D. S. Darkin, Mr. C. H. Harte-Lovelace, and Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge. During the interval refreshments were handed round by members of the Committee. Altogether the evening proved a most enjoyable one in every respect, and a hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Melville, was unanimously accorded to those ladies and gentlemen who had so kindly provided us with such a splendid evening's entertainment.

Pretoria Philatelic Society

ANNUAL REPORT

THERE have been twenty-two general meetings and one committee meeting, and the average attendance at the general meetings has been eight.

Considering that the membership is only twenty-one and that several new members only joined the Society rather late in the year, the average must be considered fairly good. From the balance sheet it will be seen that there is a credit balance of £11. rs. 6d., besides which the Secretary has on hand a small number of post cards and collecting cards.

There are also a few subscriptions still outstanding.

The following papers have been given:—

"Cape of Good Hope," Mr. Hudd; "Griqualand West," Mr. Haupt; "Fiscal Stamps," Mr. Klagsbrun; "Mafeking Besieged Stamps," Mr. Levitt; "1d. on 2d. Transvaal," Mr. Levitt; "Zanzibar," Mr. Jackson; "Seybelle," Lieut. Wildman; "British South Africa," Mr. Levitt; "Two Sides of the Question," Mr. Levitt; "1d. and 3d. V.R. Transvaal, 1879," Mr. Haupt; "The Engraving of the 1d. black, English," Mr. Levitt; "Stamp Collecting as a Hobby and for Profit," Lieut. Wildman; "Transvaal Forgeries," Mr. W. B. Giovanetti; "Philatelic Studies," Mr. Levitt; "Stamps of the First Republic of the Transvaal," Mr. Haupt.

One feature of the period under review has been the Exhibition Competition, which has been keenly contested for by the members.

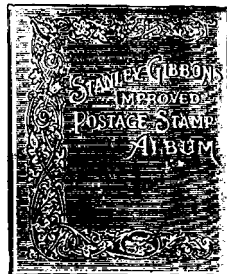
The Committee are glad to report that the Library has made some very useful additions, thanks to the donations of several of the members, and it also includes Parts I, II, III *Africa*, and *Album Weeds*.

The Society's thanks are due to Mr. Maynard for his kindness in placing this room at the disposal of the members.

The Auctions have been very successful, and it is to be hoped that the same will continue during the next year.

The Committee would like to urge upon the members the advisability of co-operating and getting the Exchange Department in working order.

THE NINTH EDITION OF
**The Improved
 Postage Stamp
 Album, No. 0**



ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH THOUSAND.

The Best and Largest Album ever Published at the Price.

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, 1/3.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

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 again next day for 1/9, 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 2/6 for it. Please send me another."

C. A. W. writes: "Please send me one of your marvellous 1/- Albums, with packet of stamps, in order that I may convince my incredulous friends that such a thing is possible."

Miss M. R. writes from Piccadilly: "I was greatly pleased with the Album I received this morning, which all my friends admired, and thought it very cheap."

J. P., West Norwood: "A friend of mine has one, and *directly* I saw it I offered to buy it; but he would not sell it, so please send one."

E. A. T., Gampole, Ceylon: "The Improved Postage Stamp Album, together with the packet of stamps, reached me quite safe. It is fully worth the amount, viz., 1/-, I paid for it. I wonder how you can sell it so cheap as that, for when I received it a friend of mine saw it and offered 7 rs. 50 cts. (equal to 1cs. 4d) for it."

F. E. R. L., Trinidad: "Your Album is the best I have seen for even 2/-, so it is indeed cheap for 1/-."

W. J. E. B., Newcastle, Natal: "Your No. 0 Album to hand, with thanks. I must again compliment you on its excellence, as I can out here sell it for at least 3/-, and the stamps for another 9d. or so. I will take an early opportunity of sending for half a dozen."

R. D., Evan's City, Pa., U.S.A.: "Please find enclosed 35 c. for one Improved Stamp Album and 50 stamps. I have a friend who has one, and said that he would not take a dollar for it."

W. H. B., Fairhaven, Mass.: "I have received the Album and am much pleased with it. I would not sell it for 50 cents if I could not get another. If I can turn any trade your way I shall try to do so, for I believe you to be a good square man to deal with."

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

The most popular Album
ever published is
admitted to be

THE IMPERIAL

It extends to three fine volumes. The size of the page is 8½ × 11 inches. On the left-hand page is a full, illustrated, descriptive catalogue, and on the right are numbered spaces for the stamps comprised in the catalogue opposite.

VOL. I.—STAMPS OF BRITISH EMPIRE.

VOL. II.—STAMPS OF EUROPE AND COLONIES, & POSSESSIONS OF EUROPEAN STATES.

VOL. III.—FOREIGN COUNTRIES, EXCEPT EUROPE AND ITS POSSESSIONS.

Vol. I.—Great Britain and Colonies. 526 pages. About 1800 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. 1700 illustrations.

- No. 65.—Cloth, 12/-; post-free, 12/9.
- No. 67.—Half-bound, 17/6; post-free, 18/3.
- No. 68.—Half green morocco, 27/6; post-free, 28/6.
- No. 69.—Half-bound, finest green Levant morocco, patent expanding lock, 50/-; post-free, 51/-.

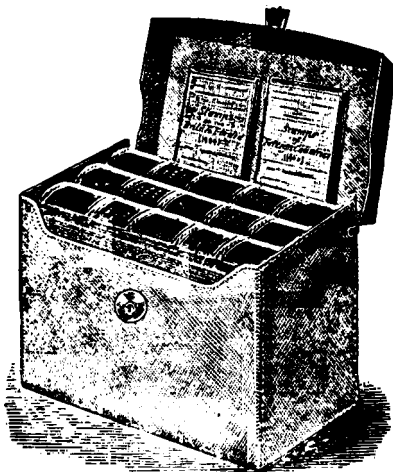
Vol. III.—Foreign Countries, except Europe and its Possessions. 412 pages. 1500 illustrations.

- 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.

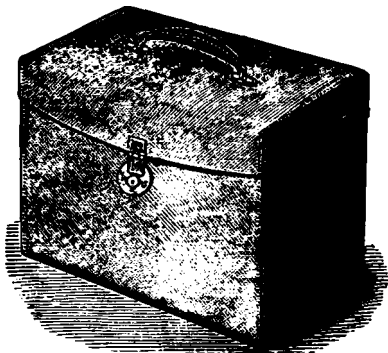
PORTABLE CASES

TO HOLD THE SET OF

IMPERIAL STAMP ALBUMS



IN response to the request for a strong case in which to keep the Set of Three Volumes of IMPERIAL STAMP ALBUMS, we have introduced the above. It is made of best solid hide, lined with baize, with handle for carrying. It will be found indispensable, both for preserving the covers of the Albums and keeping dust from the Stamps, also for carrying one's collection to Philatelic Meetings and friends' houses. Space is allowed for Vols. I. and II. Stamp Catalogue. It has a double-action Lever Lock fastening, and affords that absolute privacy which cannot be attained with ordinary locks fastened on the books themselves.



Price 30s. Carriage extra.

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

NOW READY.

NEW PRICED CATALOGUE, 1908
OF
Stamps of the British Empire.

WE regret that Part I. of our 1908 Catalogue could not be published earlier in the season, but owing to pressure of other business the delay was unavoidable.

In this new edition we have made a few alterations that will, we think, be much appreciated by those constantly using the Catalogue.

One little alteration is to do away with the former description of perforations in such countries as New South Wales. This used to read:—

a.	Perf.	12½-13
b.	„	10
c.	„	11
d.	„	a × c
e.	„	b × a

and so on. This necessitated constant reference to see what a, b, or c stood for, but now we specify the actual perforation to each set of stamps.

The more important alterations have been in the following countries:—

GREAT BRITAIN.

We have made a somewhat considerable alteration here, by removing the list of “plate numbers” from their position after the general issues and including them in the general list under their particular issues. It seems to us that this is a simpler arrangement, and that it will facilitate prompt reference. Our new stock books and albums will be arranged to agree with this new form of classification.

INDIA.

This country has been practically rewritten and arranged by means of the mass of new information given in the Handbook on India, which we recently published for the Philatelic Society of India. The list of the 1854 issue has been considerably extended, and the varieties of dies, retouches, etc., are now correctly listed, and throughout the later issues many new varieties have been catalogued for the first time.

QUEENSLAND.

The list of this country has been extended by including the two forms of watermark in the issues of 1868-79 and 1879-81, and also in the large stamps of 1882-86.

VICTORIA.

The 1850 issues have been somewhat rearranged and corrected and brought up to latter-day knowledge.

DURING the year 1907 we purchased the celebrated general collection of postage stamps formed by Mr. F. Breitfuss, of St. Petersburg, and the result is that we are enabled to price *many* hundreds of stamps for the first time, and in our 1908 Catalogues we shall certainly have far more stamps priced than has ever previously been the case, and this while still adhering to our rule of only pricing such stamps as we have in stock as we go to press.

The question of the *prices* quoted in this Catalogue has received our most careful attention. These have been most carefully revised, and our Catalogue prices are for stamps in FINE CONDITION. Inferior copies can be supplied at much lower rates.

An important point to remember is that *all prices* quoted in our Catalogue are in every case based upon *stock in hand* at the time of going to press. We do not believe in “guess-work prices,” or those based upon the average of other catalogues.

Price 2/9 post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited,
391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 6, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 162).

8 FEBRUARY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: France. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	81
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	83
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	85
4. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nissen</i>	86
5. SPECIALISM. <i>By R. E. R. Dalwigh</i>	87
6. PHOTOGRAPHY AS APPLIED TO STAMPS. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	89
7. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	90
8. THE GREAT RARITY. <i>By R. E. James</i>	91
9. A WORKING-MAN'S COLLECTION. <i>By "Uncle Tom"</i>	92
10. BRITISH POST OFFICES IN MOROCCO. <i>By Novice</i>	93
11. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	93
12. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	94
13. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.

PUBLICATIONS.

THE STANLEY GIBBONS PHILATELIC HANDBOOKS.

- No. 1. PORTUGUESE INDIA.
- „ 2. SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
- „ 3. SHANGHAI.
- „ 4. ST. VINCENT.
- „ 5. BARBADOS.
- „ 6. REPRINTS.
- „ 7. GRENADA.
- „ 8. SICILY.

The complete set of EIGHT BOOKS, all well bound, is offered at the

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

OF

£3.

The regular retail price is £4 6s. the set.

BARGAINS IN

PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 „ rarer	5 1
9.	200 „ rare	5 1
66.	500 „	4 1
67.	1000 „	15 0
68.	1500 „	35 0
69.	2000 „	60 0
69A.	3000 „	170 0
69B.	4000 „	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or

Italian postmarks, additional time will be required to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. V of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologists.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Now Ready. Entirely Revised and Greatly Enlarged.

THE
THIRD EDITION
OF
ALBUM WEEDS

By The Rev. R. B. EARÉE.

Vol. I.—AFGHANISTAN TO LUXEMBURG.

About 580 pages, demy 8vo.

Vol. II.—MADEIRA TO ZULULAND.

About 720 pages.

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. " " " " 7/6 " 8/-

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED

391 STRAND (Opposite Hotel Cecil), LONDON, W.C.

NOW READY.

THE FOLLOWING

GREATER BRITAIN PACKETS OF BRITISH Colonial Stamps

NO DUPLICATES.

EVERY Packet of this series contains different varieties, no Stamp being included in two Packets, and purchasers will by this novel method be saved the inconvenience of acquiring duplicates, which is as a rule the bane of most packet buying.

STAMPS OF ASIA.

No. 111	contains	20	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 112	"	25	"	"	2/1
" 113	"	40	"	"	3/7
" 114	"	40	"	"	6/7
" 115	"	50	"	"	16/7
" 116	"	45	"	"	12/1
" 117	"	30	"	"	4/1
" 118	"	40	"	"	21/1

STAMPS OF AFRICA.

No. 121	contains	20	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 122	"	25	"	"	2/7

STAMPS OF WEST INDIES.

No. 141	contains	20	varieties.	Price, post-free,	10d.
" 142	"	20	"	"	2/1

STAMPS OF AUSTRALASIA.

No. 151	contains	25	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 152	"	30	"	"	1/7
" 153	"	30	"	"	4/7

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

HOLLAND.

1907. Postage Due. De Ruyter series overprinted.			
			<i>s. d.</i>
5 c.	on 2½ c.,	vermilion	. . . 0 2
6½ c.	on 2½ c.,	"	. . . 0 3
7½ c.	on ½ c.,	blue	. . . 0 3
10 c.	on ½ c.,	"	. . . 0 4
12½ c.	on ½ c.,	"	. . . 0 5
15 c.	on 2½ c.,	vermilion	. . . 0 6
25 c.	on ½ c.,	blue	. . . 0 9
50 c.	on ½ c.,	"	. . . 1 6
1 g.	on ½ c.,	"	. . . 3 0

NABHA.

1887-1900. Stamp of India overprinted.			
9 p.,	carmine (No. 15)		. . . 2 6

SIERRA LEONE

Cat. No. Various issues. Revised prices.			
25.	1d.,	carmine	. . . used 0 2
44.	2d.,	lilac and orange	. . . " 0 4
49.	6d.,	lilac	. . . " 1 0
72.	½d.,	purple and green (K.S.)	. . . " 0 4
85.	½d.,	"	. . . " 0 2
87.	2d.,	" orange-brown	. . . " 0 3
89.	3d.,	" grey	. . . " 0 5
92.	6d.,	" purple	. . . " 0 9
93.	1s.,	green and black	. . . " 1 4
94.	2s.,	" ultramarine	. . . " 2 8
97.	½d.,	green	. . . " 0 1
98.	1d.,	carmine	. . . " 0 1

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

1904-5. King's Head. Multiple wmk.			
2d.,	orange-brown (No. 22)		. . . used 0 4
1s.,	black and green (No. 26)		. . . " 1 6

SWITZERLAND.

1908. Type 10. Granite paper.			
Wmk. Multiple Cross.			
50 c.,	grey-green		. . . 0 8
1908. New types.			
3 c.,	red-brown		. . . 0 1
15 c.,	mauve		. . . 0 2

TRINIDAD.

Various types. Revised prices.			
6d.,	olive-black (No. 100)		. . . used 1 6
2½d.,	lilac and blue on blue (No. 118)		. . . " 0 6

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

The International Philatelic Union

Hon. President: Judge Philbrick, K.C.
 Secretary: T. H. Hinton, 26 Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.
 Meetings: Essex Hall, Essex Street, London, W.C.
 Annual Subscription: 5s.; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

THE fourth meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall on Thursday, 9 January. Present: W. Schwaite (chair), L. W. Fulcher, A. B. Kay, P. P. Burke, E. W. Wetherell, J. C. Sidebotham, J. E. Joselin, W. S. King, F. F. Lamb, P. L. Pemberton, H. Atharley, R. W. Whapham (visitor), and the Honorary Secretary.

Mr. E. W. Wetherell gave a display with notes of the stamps of Spain, 1870, and Victoria, 1885. A very careful study of these stamps had been made, and many interesting points were explained. In addition to the 1870 issues the display included some fine blocks of other issues of Spain, and some of the forgeries made to deceive the Government, also some sheets of Cuba, illustrating how the dies had been utilized for Cuban stamps. In addition to Mr. Wetherell's Victorian stamps of 1885, he displayed some fine unused blocks, kindly lent by Mr. L. L. K. Hausburg, and showed how the dies of former issues had been altered for that of 1885. An interesting and enjoyable evening was spent, and Messrs. J. C. Sidebotham and J. E. Joselin, in moving and seconding a vote of thanks, which was unanimously carried, complimented Mr. Wetherell on the careful and painstaking philatelic research shown by him. The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Thursday, 13 February, at 8 p.m., when Mr. A. Marsh will give a display of the Envelope stamps of Great Britain, with notes. All members and any visitors are cordially welcomed.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.
 Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.
 Entrance fee: 2s. 6d. No Entrance fee for ladies or for Juniors.

THE sixth ordinary meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, 4 January, at 3 Bedford Street, Strand. Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge conducted a very successful auction in the earlier part of the evening. Mr. Melville, who had to leave the meeting early, spoke of the work yet to be done in connection with the forthcoming Exhibition; he said that the Committee were working hard in arranging it, and asked the members to assist them as far as lay in their power in making the Exhibition known to all their friends, and he also asked for volunteers for the office of stewards during the Exhibition.

In the absence of the President, Mr. Douglas Ellis, Vice-President of the Society, occupied the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Messrs. A. Rosenthal, Trice, T. L. Grimes, and W. H. Tarrant were unanimously elected members of the Society. A donation to the Library was acknowledged from Mr. Giles, and to the Forgery Collection from Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge.

Mr. H. L. Giles next gave us two papers and displays of the stamps of New South Wales and Victoria. Both the displays were exceptionally fine, that of New South Wales containing a large number of the very interesting Sydney Views. Mr. Giles in his papers explained fully the various issues, besides giving particulars of the errors and minor varieties that exist in the stamps of these countries. At the close a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Giles for his very interesting papers and displays was proposed by Mr. Douglas Ellis, seconded by Mr. Gibson, and carried with acclamation.

Next on the programme came a paper from Mr. W. E. Imeson, which, in the absence of the writer, was read by Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge. It was entitled "A Stamp Paper in Verse," otherwise "Stamp Verse on Paper," and caused a good deal of laughter by its humorous remarks on the Exhibition and other topical philatelic subjects. At its close a vote of thanks to Mr. Imeson for his very amusing paper, and to Mr. Lodge for his kindness in reading it, was proposed by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Gibson, and carried with acclamation.

The following donations have been received towards the Exhibition Expenses Fund:—

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	10	17	0
Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.	5	0	0
L. L. R. Hausburg, Esq.	1	1	0
H. L. Hayman, Esq.	1	1	0
Frantz Reichenheim, Esq.	1	1	0
W. Darwin, Esq.	1	1	0
H. J. Lee, Esq.	1	1	0
W. Allan Harmer, Esq.	10	6	
S. Chapman, Esq.	10	6	
W. H. Tarrant, Esq.	10	6	
G. H. Browne, Esq.	10	6	
Vivian Miles, Esq.	5	0	
W. Tunstall, Esq.	3	0	
A. H. L. Giles, Esq.	2	6	
Miss Newman	2	6	
Mrs. E. Thatcher	2	6	
G. H. Wells, Esq.	2	6	
E. H. F. Salt, Esq.	2	0	
	<u>62</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

Further donations to this fund are solicited, and will be thankfully received by

Mr. H. F. JOHNSON,
 Exhibition Offices,
 44 Fleet Street, E.C.

Junior Philatelic Society

Brighton Branch

Chairman: W. Mead.
 Hon. Sec.: J. Corner-Spokes, 22 Denmark Terrace, Brighton.

THE sixth meeting of the season was held on 9 January, 1908, presided over by the Chairman.

A letter was read from Mrs. Field regretting her inability to be present, but sending a display of Sarawak, which was much appreciated.

Mr. Herbert Clark, Vice-Chairman, read a most interesting and instructive paper on "Queens and their Stamps," accompanied by a display, and votes of thanks were passed to both him and Mrs. Field for providing the evening's enjoyment.

There will be no meeting on 12 March, as previously announced, owing to the Exhibition in London.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.
 Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 1 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.
 Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.
 Annual Subscription: 5s.

THE tenth meeting of the season was held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, 7 January, when Mr. J. W. Duffield (Junior Vice-President) gave a display of the postage stamps of Canada. The President, Mr. W. V. Morten, was in the chair.

Some fine used copies of the early issues, with a wide and interesting range of shades, were noticeable in Mr. Duffield's collection, which also included a nice lot of unused and two sheets of the 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 8 cents of the 1868-76 issues, *imperforate*, all being postally used and extremely rare. Varieties of paper, laid, ribbed, and wove, on which some part of the earlier stamps were printed, were shown by Mr. Duffield, who read a few instructive notes on the stamps, and was the recipient of hearty thanks for these and for his successful display.

In reference to the map stamp issued in 1899, it was mentioned that the quotation printed on it—"We hold a vaster Empire than has been"—is from a verse of a poem by Lewis Morris:—

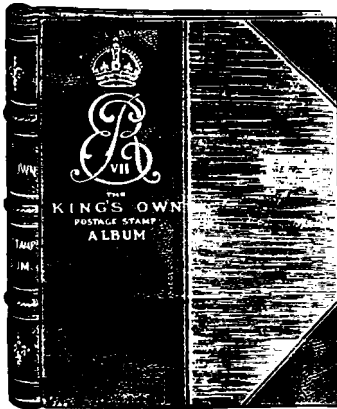
"We love not war, but only peace,
 Yet never shall our England's power decrease,
 Whoever guides our helm of state,
 Let all men know it, England shall be great;
 We hold a vaster Empire than has been."

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 top of each page.



Exact size of Leaves from the outer edge,
7½ by 9½ inches;
available for mounting Stamps,
6½ by 8¼ inches.

The Title Page is printed in the
ROYAL COLOURS, with the
KING'S CYPHER MONOGRAM & CROWN.

PRICES.

K.O. I.—Strongly bound in cloth, bevelled boards, with the Official Cypher Monogram and Crown in gold on cover.

Price 7/6 ; post-free, 8/- ; abroad, 8/9.

K.O. II.—Handsomely bound in three-quarter Levant morocco, art vellum sides, bevelled boards, with Official Cypher Monogram and Crown in gold on cover, extra gilt back and edges.

Price 21/- ; post-free, 21/6 ; abroad, 22/3.

Either quality can be supplied in Royal Red or Royal Blue, and the colour desired should be stated when ordering.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

JUST PUBLISHED.

JUST PUBLISHED.

PART I.

CATALOGUE

1908.

STAMPS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

The more important alterations have been in the following countries :—

GREAT BRITAIN.

We have made a somewhat considerable alteration here, by removing the list of "plate numbers" from their position after the general issues and including them in the general list under their particular issues. It seems to us that this is a simpler arrangement, and that it will facilitate prompt reference. Our new stock books and albums will be arranged to agree with this new form of classification.

INDIA.

This country has been practically rewritten and arranged by means of the mass of new information given in the Handbook on India, which we recently published for the Philatelic Society of India. The list of the 1854 issue has been considerably extended, and the varieties of dies, retouches, etc., are now correctly listed, and throughout the later issues many new varieties have been catalogued for the first time.

QUEENSLAND.

The list of this country has been extended by including the two forms of watermark in the issues of 1868-79 and 1879-81, and also in the large stamps of 1882-86.

VICTORIA.

The 1850 issues have been somewhat rearranged and corrected and brought up to latter-day knowledge.

DURING the year 1907 we purchased the celebrated general collection of postage stamps formed by Mr. F. Breitfuss, of St. Petersburg, and the result is that we are enabled to price *many* hundreds of stamps for the first time, and in our 1908 Catalogues we shall certainly have far more stamps priced than has ever previously been the case, and this while still adhering to our rule of only pricing such stamps as we have in stock as we go to press.

Price 2/9 post-free.

Answer to DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 2 of Series. Must be sent only on this Form.

1.....	5
2.....	6
3.....	7
4.....	

Signature

Initials or Pseudonym for acknowledging.

Address

or Post Town for recognition in case two of same name. (Not for Publication.)

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

Best Books for Stamp Collectors.

A good library of the best and most reliable Philatelic Publications is a prime necessity to the Stamp Collector who wishes to thoroughly study the Stamps he collects. The most successful collectors pride themselves upon the range of their philatelic libraries. Handbooks and other works by writers of established reputation are, in fact, indispensable to supplement the Stamp Catalogue, which at best is only a Dealer's Price List of what he has to sell.

PRICES QUOTED ARE ALL POST-FREE.

- STANLEY GIBBONS CATALOGUE.** Part I, British Empire. Cloth, 2/9. Part II, Foreign Countries, 2/10.
- STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING.** By MAJOR E. B. EVANS. A glossary of terms used in Stamp Collecting. Invaluable as a reference book. Full of information as to the various kinds of paper used, methods of printing, embossing, perforating, etc. Fully illustrated. Paper cover, 2/3; cloth, 4/3.
- STAMP COLLECTING AS A PASTIME.** By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL. A peep behind the scenes, explaining how it is that, after nearly half a century, Stamp Collecting has never been more popular than it is to-day. Contents: The Charm of Stamp Collecting—Stamps with a History—Great Rarities—Romance of Stamp Collecting—Stamp Collecting as an Investment—What to Collect and how to Collect, etc. Cloth, 1/3.
- ALBUM WEEDS.** By REV. R. B. EARÉE. Forgeries and how to detect them. Fully illustrated. New and Revised Edition, greatly enlarged. Vol. I now ready, cloth, 8/-; Vol. II, cloth, 8/-.
- THE STAMP COLLECTOR.** By W. J. HARDY and E. D. BACON. Contents: Collecting, its Origin and Development—Stamps made for Collectors—Art in Postage Stamps—Stamps with Stories—History in Postage Stamps—Famous Collections, etc. Cloth, 4/9.
- REPRINTS of Postal Adhesives and their Characteristics.** By E. D. BACON. A guide to the Collector to enable him to separate Reprints from originals, with a history and detailed description of all known Reprints. With 426 illustrations. Paper cover, 4/3; cloth, 5/9.
- PORTUGUESE INDIA.** By the late GILBERT HARRISON and LIEUT. F. H. NAPIER, R.N. A Handbook for Specialists, full of notes and explanations of all the issues. Two full-page plates. Paper cover, 4/9; cloth, 6/3.
- SOUTH AUSTRALIA.** By LIEUT. NAPIER and the late GORDON SMITH, M.A. A most exhaustive work on the issues of South Australia; indispensable to the Specialist and useful to the General Collector. Three full-page plates of photographic illustrations, showing the various types of surcharge on the 10d. stamps, etc. Cloth, 9/9.
- SHANGHAI.** By W. B. THORNHILL. An important handbook, with eight full plates of photographic illustrations, showing the varieties of the early issues and the later surcharges, etc. Paper cover, 5/3; cloth, 7/9.
- ST. VINCENT.** By LIEUT. F. H. NAPIER, R.N., and E. D. BACON. Illustrated with two full-page autotype plates, one of which shows illustrations of the stamps and surcharges, and the other the various perforations found in the stamps of the colony. Paper cover, 5/3; cloth, 7/9.
- BARBADOS.** By E. D. BACON and LIEUT. F. H. NAPIER, R.N. Illustrated with three autotypes of stamps, specially showing all the varieties on the 1d. on half of 5/-, three facsimile reproductions of the Star watermarks, and a list of the number of stamps of each value printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. and Messrs. De La Rue & Co. Paper cover, 7/9; cloth, 10/9.
- GRENADA.** By E. D. BACON and LIEUT. F. H. NAPIER, R.N. An exhaustive history of the stamps of this colony with their many intricate and minor varieties. Illustrated with nine full-page autotype plates. Paper cover, 7/9; cloth, 9/9.
- SICILY.** By DR. EMILIO DIENA, translated by MAJOR EVANS. A complete history of the exceptionally interesting series of stamps of this country, with a brief history of Sicily, a biography of the celebrated artist by whom the fine portrait of King "Bomba" was engraved, a full account of the circumstances under which the stamps were issued, of the difficulties in the production of the plates, of the various essays and proposals for subsequent issues, and a description of the postmarks and obliterations. Illustrated with twenty full-page autotype plates, showing seven complete or reconstructed sheets, varieties of retouches, etc., and various illustrations in the text. Paper cover, 21/5; half morocco, 30/5.
- THE MULREADY ENVELOPE and its Caricatures.** By MAJOR E. B. EVANS. With 45 full-page illustrations of the most curious varieties of these interesting caricatures. Cloth, 6/4
- AFRICA.** Compiled by the Philatelic Society of London. Part I, comprising British Bechuanaland, British East Africa, British Central Africa, British South Africa, and the Cape of Good Hope. Many full-page plates. Price 40/3. Part II, comprising Gambia, Gold Coast, Griqualand, Lagos, Madagascar, Matabeleland, Mauritius, and Natal. With thirteen full-page illustrations, and one sheet of coloured autotype illustrations. Paper cover, 16/4. Part III., completing the African Colonies. Price 40/6.
- INDIA AND CEYLON.** Compiled by the Philatelic Society of London. With twenty-four full-page autotype illustrations. Paper cover, 25/4.
- GREAT BRITAIN.** By HASTINGS E. WRIGHT and A. B. CREEKE, JUNR. A complete history of the stamps of our own country. With many full-page plates and numbers of illustrations in the text. Paper cover, 24/6; supplement, paper cover, 2/7.
- STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.**

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 7, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 163.)

15 FEBRUARY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: France. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i> . . .	97
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i> . . .	99
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i> . . .	101
4. PHOTOGRAPHY AS APPLIED TO STAMPS. <i>By Frank Phillips</i> . . .	102
5. HARD U S. PROBLEMS MADE EASY. <i>By Eustace B. Power</i> . . .	103
6. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i> . . .	105
7. STAMP COLLECTING. <i>By H. R. Brancher</i> . . .	106
8. NEWFOUNDLAND. <i>By W. Ward</i> . . .	108
9. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i> . . .	110
10. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES . . .	Page 5 of Cover

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.	
		s.	d.
7.	100, all different . . .	2	1
8.	100 " rarer . . .	5	1
9.	200 " rare . . .	5	1
86.	500 " . . .	4	1
67.	1000 " . . .	15	0
68.	1500 " . . .	35	0
69.	2000 " . . .	60	0
69A.	3000 " . . .	170	0
69B.	4000 " . . .	280	0

These PACKETS contain stamps in **FINE** CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargain

For G.S.W. Readers.

THE YOUNG COLLECTOR'S OUTFIT, No. 1.

	Regular Price.	
	s.	d.
2000 S. G. Stamp Hinges . . .	1	1
Perforation Gauge . . .	0	7
New Magnifying Glass . . .	5	3
Tweezers, No. 3 . . .	2	1
Watermark Detector . . .	1	1
Transparent Envelopes for Duplicates, 100 each, size A, B, C, D . . .	2	9
"Fifty Years of Philately" . . .	1	0
Price Catalogues, two Vols., 1908 . . .	5	7

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the above useful OUTFIT No. 1,

14s. 6d.

Post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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.* Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; *R.* Reprint; *W.* Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.

Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.

New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.

Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.

Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.

"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.

Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.

Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s.	d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s.	d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7	6	" 11	"	5	0
" 4	"	5	6	" 12	"	4	0
" 5	"	5	0	" 13	"	4	0
" 6	"	6	6	" 14	"	4	0
" 7	"	6	0	" 15	"	4	0
" 8	"	6	0	" 16	"	4	0
" 9	"	5	0	" 17	"	4	0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a **SPECIAL BARGAIN** for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

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 4700 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 x 7½ 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, 4/-; abroad, 4/7.

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, 8/10.

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, 8¾ x 11¼ 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 1800 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. 1700 illustrations.

No. 65.—Cloth, 12/-; post-free, 12/9.

No. 67.—Half-bound, 17/6; post-free, 18/3.

No. 68.—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. 1500 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, 9½ x 7½.

Price 7/6; post-free, 8/-; abroad, 8/9.

No. 32.—Bound in two colours—marone or dark green, 150 leaves, 11½ x 8½.

Price 10/6; post-free, 11/3; abroad, 12/3.

THE ORIEL.—Well known as the Castle Album. Size, 10 x 10¼ inches. Fifty movable leaves, hand-made paper, bound in red morocco, fitted into a drop-in case lined with lamb's-wool.

Price 30/-; post-free, 30/7.

LEAVES, either plain or with quadrillé background, 4/6 per dozen, or 32/6 per 100.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

NOW READY.

THE FOLLOWING

GREATER BRITAIN PACKETS OF

BRITISH Colonial Stamps

NO DUPLICATES.

EVERY Packet of this series contains different varieties, no Stamp being included in two Packets, and purchasers will by this novel method be saved the inconvenience of acquiring duplicates, which is as a rule the bane of most packet buying.

STAMPS OF ASIA.

No.	contains	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 111	"	20	"	2/1
" 112	"	25	"	3/7
" 113	"	40	"	6/7
" 114	"	40	"	16/7
" 115	"	50	"	12/1
" 116	"	45	"	4/1
" 117	"	30	"	21/1
" 118	"	40	"	

STAMPS OF AFRICA.

No.	contains	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 121	"	20	"	2/7
" 122	"	25	"	

STAMPS OF WEST INDIES.

No.	contains	varieties.	Price, post-free,	10d.
" 141	"	20	"	2/1
" 142	"	20	"	

STAMPS OF AUSTRALASIA.

No.	contains	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 151	"	25	"	1/7
" 152	"	30	"	4/7
" 153	"	30	"	

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

ECUADOR.

1904. Portrait of Captain Calderon.		s.	d.
1 c., red (No. 317)	used	0	2
2 c., blue (No. 318)		11	0
5 c., yellow (No. 319)		11	0
10 c., red (No. 320)		11	0
20 c., blue (No. 321)		11	1

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

Various issues. Revised prices.

Cat. No.		unused.	used.
10.	10 c., lilac and orange	17	6 .. 12 6
20.	50 c., black and orange-brown		.. 2 0
21.	\$1, green and pale green	6	0 ..
22.	\$2, ,, carmine	12	0 ..

MAURITIUS.

1907. Types 36 and 44. Multiple wmk.

1 c., grey and black (ch.)		0	1
15 c., black and blue on blue (ch.)		0	4
1 r., grey-black and carmine (ch.)		1	9

NEW ZEALAND.

1905-6. Type 40, used in penny-in-slot machines. Imperf.

1d., carmine (No. 306)		6	0
------------------------	--	---	---

PAHANG.

1899. Surcharge Type 6. Reduced price.

4 c. on 5 c. lilac and olive-yellow (No. 27)		10	0
--	--	----	---

PERAK.

1891. Surcharged stamps. Revised prices.

	unused.	used.
Perak One Cent on 6 c., lilac (No. 53)	15	0 .. 12 0
" " " " 24 c., green (No. 54)	6	0 .. 2 0

ST. KITTS-NEVIS.

1903. Type 2. Single C.A. Reduced price.

1d., grey-black and carmine		used	0 2
-----------------------------	--	------	-----

SALVADOR.

Various issues. Revised prices.

Cat. No.			
275.	3 c., pale yellow-green		1 0
276.	5 c., blue-green		0 10
277.	10 c., pale ultramarine		6 0
278.	12 c., purple		0 6
279.	13 c., brown-lake		0 4
280.	20 c., deep blue		0 10
281.	20 c., bright blue		0 10
282.	24 c., slate blue		0 6
288.	26 c., brown		0 6
285.	1 p., yellow		0 6
582.	6 c., carmine	used	0 4

SELANGOR.

188a. Wmk. Crown C.A. Reduced price.

	unused.	used.
2 c., brown	15	0 .. 15 0

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

1907. King's Head. Multiple wmk.

1d., grey-green (all one colour)		0	1
2d., pale grey and red-brown (new shade)		0	3
1s., green and black (ch.)		1	4

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

1883-91. Type 6. Reduced price.

96 c., olive-grey		used	4 0
-------------------	--	------	-----

SUNGEI UJONG.

1881-83. Overprinted with Type 2. Variety (e)

2 c., brown (should be No. 8)		20	0
-------------------------------	--	----	---

N.B.—No. 3a is wmkd. C.A. and should be No. 16. No. 43a should be omitted.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

City of London Philatelic Society

President : W. B. Edwards, B.Sc.

Hon. Sec. : James L. Eastwood, 169 Ferme Park Road, Crouch End, London, N.

Meeting Place : *Mills's Restaurant, 14 Broad Street Place, E.C.*

Meetings : 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (October to May).

Subscription : 2s. 6d. yearly (No Entrance Fee).

THE forty-fourth ordinary monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, 15 January, and was well attended, seventeen members and four visitors having signed the roll.

Mr. W. B. Edwards, President, opened the meeting and the minutes of the forty-third meeting were read and confirmed.

Votes of thanks were passed to the following members for donations to the Society's Collection of Forgeries—Messrs. Constantinides, Hoffmann, Neddien, and Willgoos. Mr. Rotberg, of London, N.W., was elected a member of the Society.

The initial item on the programme was a display, accompanied by very interesting notes, of the stamps of Mexico, by Mr. R. Frenzel, F.R.N.S., F.R.P.S.L. The display consisted of 18,624 stamps, and included the very early issues with overprints and without overprints, entires, "splits," franked stamps, essays, and numerous errors.

Amongst the latter class the following were conspicuous:—

1856.	2 reales, rose.
2 "	blue.
1861.	1 real, on rose (used).
3 "	on rose (unused).
1 "	on rose.
1 "	on yellow.

Mr. Frenzel also exhibited some very valuable "locals," including many of the "Chiapas" issue, and a large number of "Guadalajara" frank stamps. Several Cuban stamps with Mexican postmarks were shown.

Keen interest was evinced in the display by the members and visitors present, and at its conclusion Mr. Frenzel was the recipient of a very hearty vote of thanks.

The second item was one of the Competitive Displays which have now become a regular feature of the Society.

On this occasion the competition was for the best exhibition of the Colonial stamps of either France, Germany, Holland, Portugal, or Spain. It resulted as follows:—

1. Mr. D. H. Jackson, 666 marks (Dutch Colonies).
2. Mr. A. H. L. Giles, 428 marks (Spanish Colonies).

The concluding item was a display of the stamps of Switzerland and Italian States of Modena, Naples, Parma, Sicily, Tuscany, etc., by Mr. A. H. L. Giles, R.N. The display was a very fine one and included many valuable stamps. Mr. Giles also read some interesting notes on the stamps of Sicily.

A very cordial vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Giles for his very entertaining display.

Any information relating to the aims and conduct of the Society will be gladly furnished on application to the Hon. Secretary as above.

IMPORTANT.—Will members be good enough to note that the dates of the meetings for the months of March, April, and May will be as follows:—Wednesdays, 4 and 18 March; 1 and 15 April; 6 and 20 May?

Junior Philatelic Society

Manchester Branch

MEETING held Thursday, 16 January, the President (Mr. I. J. Bernstein) in the chair. After the usual proceedings a member of the Manchester Society, Mr. C. H. Coote, gave a few notes on Roumania, illustrating with his fine collection that gained the silver medal at the 1906 London Exhibition.

His collection starts with the second issue (1858). He explained that these stamps were printed in sheets of thirty-two, but by a mono-process, with the result that many of them overlap each other. The succeeding issue of the same design were, however, machine-impressed, so that they are more even in typography. Mr. Coote said that the sheets of these stamps were not printed in blocks, rectangular or square, since one or two clichés in the bottom row are missing. This was done in order to make the total value of the sheet a round sum of money, whereas if the row had been completed, the total value would have been an irregular amount. Mr. Coote further gave many interesting particulars of the later issues.

His work in the completion of a practically little-known country shows what can be effected by the ardent philatelist.

Afterwards Mr. Selinger, the Show Secretary of the

1908 J.P.S. Exhibition, gave a few interesting particulars of the forthcoming Exhibition, and informing that arrangements have been made for a Manchester Branch Display Section, for which many notable collections had been entered. This closed one of the best meetings the Manchester Branch has had.

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 the Y. M. C. A., Newcastle, on Thursday evening, 9 January.

The Vice-President, Mr. T. D. Hume, took the chair at 7.30, and there was a good attendance of members.

After formal business, Miss Owen, the first lady member, and Mr. H. K. Wiatt were elected to the membership.

The auction sale on 20 February was discussed, and final arrangements were left to the Vice-President and Secretary.

Mr. Heginbottom's collection of Used Barbados and Jamaica was then passed round, and proved very interesting.

At the close a hearty vote of thanks was unanimously awarded Mr. Heginbottom for the instructive display, which was accompanied by copious notes.

Scottish Philatelic Society

Junior Branch

President : N. M. Berris.

Hon. Sec. : Frank Chalmers, 24 Bruntsfield Gardens, Edinburgh.

Meetings : Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh.

THE monthly meeting of this Society was held in Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh, on the evening of Saturday, 4 January. Mr. Norman M. Berris, President, in the chair. Twenty-three members were present.

The minutes of the monthly meetings held on 2 November and 6 December were read, approved, and signed. The President made a few remarks on the success that attended the "At Home" on 6 December, and a vote of thanks was awarded to the Honorary Secretary for the manner in which the arrangements had been carried through. Four new members were admitted.

Mr. Small and Mr. Stewart were appointed Visiting Members to the next meeting of the Senior Branch on 13 January.

The Chairman announced that the Committee had decided to have a stamp auction on the second Saturday in April, if the necessary arrangements were in progress, and that the Assistant Secretary, Mr. W. D. Small, 10 Glenorchy Terrace, Edinburgh, would receive and arrange the lots sent in for disposal. He also intimated that a Prize Fund was being got up and that prizes would be awarded, as was done last year, for the best displays by junior members and the best sheets sent in to the exchange packets during the session.

The members then had an opportunity of examining a choice selection from the West Indian collection of Mr. Ernest Heginbottom.

Mr. J. M. Weir delivered some notes on "The New Specialism," giving his views as to how stamp collecting might be limited in various ways, and expressing the view that junior collectors might take the dies as the groundwork on which to build up their collections. He read quotations from the recent articles in the *P. J. of G. B.*, and displayed sheets showing how, by limiting a collection to the dies used, the number was materially reduced, and in some expensive countries restricted to only a few stamps, and pointed out that there was really no need for the beginner to regard varieties of colour, value, perforation, or watermark, one specimen of each die being all that was necessary as a beginning. An interesting discussion followed, in which the Chairman, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Mr. Walker, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Mackenzie, and others took part. The generally expressed opinion was that the New Specialism had not come to stay, and that the best interests of Philately would undoubtedly suffer from any such attempted restriction. It was felt that the wider the basis of collection the better, as the interest was more actively maintained and more easily stimulated, and that the best system of collecting was to follow one's own inclination, and in whatever direction it pointed, whether attracted by form, colour, or process of manufacture. The hope was expressed that the so-called New Specialism would soon die a natural death.

New Edition, 1908.

Illustrated.

The IMPROVED POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM



Cover of No. 3.

SIXTEENTH EDITION.

Greatly Enlarged and Re-written.

Size of Page, 10 × 7½ in.

One hundred Stamps, all different, are presented with each Album sold.

THIS new Edition is printed on a *superior* quality paper, especially made for it, and is now profusely illustrated. About 700 full-sized types of stamps are shown, which will be of great use to the collector in correctly placing the stamps.

The shape is oblong, and spaces are provided according to the different requirements of the various countries.

A large number of guards have been provided so that the Album shall not bulge when full.

The Album is divided into Continents, and the name of the country only is given at the head of each section.

Eighty different watermarks are illustrated in actual size, and lists are given of the various watermarks of the different countries.

Special attention has been paid to the binding, which is exceptionally strong, and the covers are artistically designed.

PRICES (all well packed):

- No. 2.**—Strongly and neatly bound in Plain Cloth, gilt lettered back and sides, 304 pages.
Price 3/6; post-free, 4/-; abroad, 4/7.
- No. 3.**—Well bound in Art Vellum, as illustration, blocked in gold and colours, 304 pages.
Price 5/-; post-free, 5/6; abroad, 6/2.
- No. 4.**—Handsomely half bound, Art Vellum sides, gold lines and gilt letters on back, gilt edges, with extra leaves after each Continent, for new issues, making in all 368 pages.
Price 7/6; post-free, 8/-; abroad, 8/10.

EXTRA LEAVES

Can be supplied to this and the older small sizes, as under:

14th or 15th Edition ...	Plain edges, for Nos. 2 or 3	...	...	POST-FREE.	9d. per doz.; 5/- per 100
	Gilt " " No. 4	...	...	1/3 "	8/6 "
12th or 13th Edition (smaller size)					
	Plain edges, for Nos. 2 or 3	...	...	6d. "	3/9 "
	Gilt " " No. 4	...	...	1/- "	7/- "

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

GRAND COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL READERS OF

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

£ 1 0 0 in Prizes

WE have decided to give away the sum of one hundred pounds in prizes for those who succeed in getting us the largest number of new subscribers from 1 January to 30 June, 1908.

The conditions of this competition will be as follows:—

1. The competition is open to every one except to employes of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.
2. The Competitors sending in the highest number of new subscriptions will win, however small the number may be.
3. Subscriptions for a half-year cost 3s. 3d. and will reckon as one vote; a subscription of 6s. 6d. for a year will reckon as two votes.
4. Competitors should at the end of each month send in a list of new subscribers, together with the proper amount of the subscriptions, addressed to

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.,
391 STRAND, LONDON,

with the words "G.S.W. Competition" written on lower left corner of envelope.

5. All lists must be sent in by 30 July, 1908, and the names of the winners will be announced in *G.S.W.* about the end of August.

6. In case of any disputes they will be settled by Messrs. C. J. Phillips and G. Hamilton-Smith, whose decision will be final.

The prizes offered will be as follows:—

1st prize.		Stamps to be selected by the winner from our Catalogue or approval sheets to the value of	£	s.	d.
2nd	"	"	40	0	0
3rd	"	"	20	0	0
4th	"	"	10	0	0
5th	"	"	7	10	0
6th	"	"	5	0	0
7th	"	"	2	10	0
8th	"	Packet of stamps value Imperial Album, bound in 3 vols., No. 8 quality	3	15	0
9th	"	" " " " " 7	2	7	6
10th	"	" " " " " 6	1	12	0
11th	"	Facile Oriel Album	1	10	0
12th	"	Ideal Album, No. 2	15	0	0
13th	"	Century Album, No. 21	12	8	0
14th	"	Strand Album, No. 15	5	0	0
15th	"	Improved Album, No. 2	3	6	0

Any of our readers who intend to compete for these prizes can have sample bundles of our paper to distribute to their friends free of all charge on receipt of a post card stating how many copies they can use.

We hope many subscribers will compete; those with a large circle of friends may get several dozen subscriptions, but some of the smaller prizes may be won with a very small number of subscriptions.

The attached form must be used by all entering in this competition.

I hereby enter my name as a competitor in the above competition, and agree to abide by the regulations set forth above.

Name

Address

I send the following names of new subscribers to G.S.W. and enclose

£

.....

To STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 22.

A COLLECTION OF
BRITISH COLONIALS

AND
UNITED STATES,

In two of Scott's Blank Albums.

THIS Collection has been made in Canada, and therefore the Canadian stamps are exceptionally fine. In the Pence issue of Canada there is a 6d., green, unused; four 6d., purple, used; 6d., perf., very fine, and 10d., thin paper. The later issues are exceedingly fine and include a number of blocks, unused; in the used there are many good shades, e.g. 10 c., 1859, 29 stamps including the scarce black-brown. Nova Scotia includes one 1d., unused, and five used, 3d.; 6d., yellow and deep green. In West Indies there are a very fine lot unused of the modern issues. United States include a fair lot of the early issues, and a nice assortment of the 1869 issue; the later issues unused in pairs and strips of three. Falkland Isles, nearly complete collection. Cyprus, King C A Single, complete all but the 4 p. Lagos, King C A Single, complete set, in perfect condition. South Australia, very fine lot of the modern issues. New Zealand, ditto. Tasmania, some nice pairs of the old issues. Orange River, a fine lot of the V.R.I. surcharges. Cape of Good Hope, good page of Triangulars, later issues very complete. East Africa and Uganda, sets of single and multiple watermarks. Southern and Northern Nigeria, nearly complete sets. Niger Coasts, good sets, including a number of blocks of four. Maldives, complete.

The owner states the Catalogue price is over £400 by the old Catalogue, and the collection contains 3100 stamps, a very large proportion being unused. The net price for the collection is

£193.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 8, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 164).

22 FEBRUARY, 1908.

ONE

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: France. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	113
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	115
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	118
4. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nilsen</i>	119
5. NEWFOUNDLAND. <i>By W. Ward</i>	121
6. CONTROL LETTERS OF GREAT BRITAIN. <i>By J. F. B.</i>	122
7. AMERICAN NOTES AND NEWS. <i>By Eustace B. Power</i>	123
8. THINGS GRAVE AND GAY. <i>By "Uncle Tom"</i>	124
9. CORRESPONDENCE	124
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	126
11. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	128

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 ,, rarer	5 1
9.	200 ,, rare	5 1
66.	500 ,,	4 1
67.	1000 ,,	15 0
68.	1500 ,,	35 0
69.	2000 ,,	60 0
69A.	3000 ,,	170 0
69B.	4000 ,,	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE
CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value
offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargain

For G.S.W. Readers.

GUATEMALA

1898.

Large Fiscal Stamp,
overprinted "Correos
Nacionales," for use
as a Postage Stamp.
Perf. compound of
12 and 14.

1 c., indigo (Catalogue No. 164).

The Catalogue Price of this Stamp is
15s. unused.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

Unused and Mint,

2s. 6d.

Post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to

The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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.* Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; *R.* Reprint; *W.* Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907, 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.

Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.

New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.

Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.

Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.

"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.

Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.

Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	Vol. 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the **LOW PRICES** at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used. Unused.† Used and 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.		No. in Set.	s. d.
ABYSSINIA.			
1†	1901-06. Amharic and European overprints, including bisected Provisional	9	12 0
AFGHANISTAN.			
4‡	1873-1903. Circular, large and small and several oblong on coloured paper	24	40 0
5†	1893-1903. Oblong on coloured paper. 1 a. and 2 a.	6	18 6
AITUTAKI.			
6†	1903. New Zealand (pictorial, birds, etc.), overprinted ½d., 1d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., and 1s.	6	2 8
ANGOLA.			
8†	1871-85. Crown type. 5 r., 10 r. (2), 25 r. (2), 40 r., 100 r., and 200 r.	8	2 6
9‡	1876. Embossed head, 5 r., 10 r., 20 r., 25 r., and 50 r.	5	0 6
10†	1893-94. King Carlos. 5 r., 10 r., 15 r., 20 r., 25 r., and 50 r.	6	2 0
11*	" " " 5 r., 10 r., 20 r., 25 r., 50 r., and 100 r.	6	1 6
12†	1898-1905. Colonial type. 2½ r., 5 r., 10 r., 15 r., 20 r., 25 r., 50 on 65 r., 65 r., 75 r., 115 r., and 130 r.	11	3 6
13*	1808-1905. Colonial type. 2½ r., 5 r., 10 r., 15 r., 20 r., 25 r. (2), and 50 r.	8	0 9
14†	Postage Due. 1904. Complete set, 5 r. to 500 r.	10	6 6
ANGRA.			
15†	1892. King Carlos. 5 r., 10 r., 75 r., 80 r., and 100 r.	5	2 6
16†	1897-1905. Colonial type. 2½ r., 5 r., 10 r., 15 r. (2), 50 r. (2), 65 r., 75 r., 100 r., 115 r., 130 r., 150 r., 180 r., 200 r., and 300 r.	16	9 6
17*	1897-1905. Colonial type. 2½ r., 5 r., 10 r., 15 r., 25 r. (2), and 50 r.	7	0 6
ANTIGUA.			
20†	1882-86. Queen's Head. ½d., 1d. (two perf.), 2½d., and 4d.	5	5 6
ANTIOQUIA.			
23†	1869-85. Various issues and values; imperf.	11	8 0
24†	1886-88. Arms type on coloured paper, imperf.; 1 c. (2), 2½ c. (2), 5 c. and 10 c.	6	1 0
25†	1889. " perf.; 1 c., 2½ c., 5 c., 10 c., 50 c., and 1 peso	6	3 3
26†	1892. " " 1 c., 2½ c. (2), 5 c. (2), and 10 c.	6	0 10
27†	1896. Two issues, all values 2 c. to 50 c. (except 20 c.)	12	4 0
28†	1899. Portrait Cordova. ½ c., 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 50 c.	8	1 9
29†	1901. Type set. Provisionals, five varieties of 1 c.	5	0 6
30†	1902. Figure and Arms type, including 1 c., on <i>Laid</i> paper	8	1 3
31†	" Portraits. 10 c., 20 c., 30 c., 40 c., 50 c., 1 p., and 5 p.	7	3 0
32†	1903. Upright oblong. 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., 30 c., 40 c., and 50 c.	7	0 9
33†	1896-1903. Stamps for Supplementary Services, including Registration, Too Late, and A. R. stamps	7	1 0

GRAND COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL READERS OF

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

£ 100 in Prizes

See particulars in last week's number.

NOW READY.

THE FOLLOWING

GREATER BRITAIN PACKETS OF

BRITISH Colonial Stamps

NO DUPLICATES.

EVERY Packet of this series contains different varieties, no Stamp being included in two Packets, and purchasers will by this novel method be saved the inconvenience of acquiring duplicates, which is as a rule the bane of most packet buying.

STAMPS OF ASIA.

No. 111	contains	20	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 112	"	25	"	"	2/1
" 113	"	40	"	"	3/7
" 114	"	40	"	"	6/7
" 115	"	50	"	"	16/7
" 116	"	45	"	"	12/1
" 117	"	30	"	"	4/1
" 118	"	40	"	"	21/1

STAMPS OF AFRICA.

No. 121	contains	20	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 122	"	25	"	"	2/7

STAMPS OF WEST INDIES.

No. 141	contains	20	varieties.	Price, post-free,	10d.
" 142	"	20	"	"	2/1

STAMPS OF AUSTRALASIA.

No. 151	contains	25	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 152	"	30	"	"	1/7
" 153	"	30	"	"	4/7

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

1902-4. Type 2. Perf. 11½, 12 compound with 11. s. d.
5d., emerald-green 1 0

CHAMBA.

1900-2. Stamps of India overprinted.
3 pies, grey (No. 34) used 0 3
3 pies, ,, (No. 129) Service " 0 3

GWALIOR.

1885-1903. Stamps of India overprinted.
4 a., slate-green (No. 52) used 0 6
4 a., olive-green (No. 106) Service " 1 0

HONG-KONG.

Cat. Various issues. Revised prices.
No. 15. 8 c., dull orange used 0 8
108. 50 c., grey-green and magenta " 1 6
109. \$ 1, lilac and sage-green " 1 6
118. \$ 10, grey-black and orange on blue " 15 0
119. 10 c., lilac and ultramarine on blue " 0 2

JAIPUR.

1905-6. Type 3. Chariot.
½ a., olive-yellow used 0 1
½ a., blue " 0 1
2 a., green " 0 0

LAGOS.

Cat. 1887-94. Queen's head. Revised prices.
No. 36a. 6d., lilac and carmine used 1 0
37. 10d., ,, yellow " 1 0
38. 1s., yellow-green and black " 1 6
38a. 1s., blue-green and black " 1 6

SIRMOOR.

Cat. 1885-99. Various types. Revised prices.
No. 18. 2 annas, pink used 0 6
18a. 2 ,, red " 0 6
14. 3 pies, orange-brown (Elephant) " 0 2
15. 6 pies, green (,,) " 0 2
17. 2 annas, rose (,,) " 0 6

TASMANIA.

1905-7. Wmk. Crown A. Perf., Compound of 12½ and 12.
1d., rose-red (No. 245) 10 0

TUNIS.

1901-3. Postage due. Reduced prices.
1 c., black 0 1
2 c., orange 0 1
5 c., blue 0 1
10 c., brown 0 2
20 c., blue-green 0 3
30 c., carmine 0 5
50 c., lake 0 8
1 fr., olive 1 3
2 fr., red on green 2 3
5 fr., black on yellow 5 6

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Philatelic Society

THE usual monthly meeting was held within the rooms of the Society, 562 Sauchiehall Street, on Tuesday, 14 January, at 8 p.m., the President, Mr. Jex Long, F.R.P.S.L., presiding. The usual business having been transacted, an auction sale was held, which proved to be very successful, fifty lots being disposed of. There was a large turn-out of members, and on the conclusion of the sale a hearty vote of thanks was awarded the auctioneer.

A most interesting display of the stamps of U.S.A. was then given by several of those members present. The stamps shown were in excellent condition. The customary votes of thanks having been awarded, the meeting adjourned.

Herts Philatelic Society

President: Franz Reichenheim, Esq.
Hon. Secretary: H. A. Slade, Esq., Hinefields, St. Albans.
Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.
Annual Subscription, 5s.

THE fourth meeting of the session was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Tuesday, 21 January, 1908, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), T. H. Harvey, W. G. Cool, W. A. Boyes, R. Frenzel, A. H. L. Giles, L. E. Bradbury, W. T. Standen, W. Simpson, F. J. Peplow, F. J. Melville, S. Chapman, H. Wills, J. E. Lincoln, P. Ashley, C. H. Garnett, D. Thomson, A. B. Kay, W. Hadlow, J. E. Booth, W. A. Gunner, Erland A. Clark, P. L. Pemberton, Frank Phillips, E. Hounds, C. Nissen, W. Jacoby, J. C. Sidebotham (Hon. Librarian), H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and four visitors.

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 December, 1907, were read and signed as correct.

The election of Mr. W. A. Gunner as a life member, and of Mr. G. Hardy as an ordinary member, was duly confirmed.

The receipt of New Year's wishes from the Swedish Philatelic Society was notified with pleasure, and cordially reciprocated, and duly entered on the minutes.

It was proposed and carried:—

"That the Society do form a collection of entires and adhesives on originals, and Mr. R. Frenzel be appointed curator of the said collection, and Dr. E. Webster's offer of his collection of entires be accepted by the Society, with a due acknowledgment of thanks."

Donations to the ordinary and forgery collections were received from the Vice-President and Mr. Frank Neck, and acknowledged with thanks.

The Hon. Librarian gave notice of several donations to the Library, among which may be mentioned: *Les Timbres de Brème*, by Georges Brunel; *The Forgeries of the Cantonal Stamps of Switzerland*, by A. de Reuterskiöld; *South African Provisional War Stamps*, by B. W. H. Poole, presented by the President; and *Postage Stamps and their Collection*, by Warren H. Colson, Vol. 1, presented by the author.

At the conclusion of business the Chairman stated that he had to inform the meeting, with much regret, that Mr. Charles J. Phillips had that day been prostrated with influenza and confined to his bed. Consequently he could not attend the meeting, but had deputed his son, Mr. Frank Phillips, to exhibit his collection of Forgeries, Reprints, etc., and to read the paper which he had compiled on the subject. He was sure the members would join with him in expressing their condolence with Mr. Charles J. Phillips, with wishes for his speedy recovery.

Mr. Frank Phillips was then introduced, and while the volumes were being handed round for the inspection of the members, read a very instructive and interesting paper on "Forgeries and their Collection."

The Vice-President proposed and Mr. W. G. Cool seconded a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Charles J. Phillips for the instructive paper he had compiled for the benefit of the Society and for the interesting display of his collection, and to his son, Mr. Frank Phillips, for his kindness in taking his father's place. The vote of thanks was passed with acclamation and suitably responded to by Mr. Frank Phillips in the name of his father.

After a few further remarks by the Chairman, a very successful meeting was brought to a close at 8.30 p.m.

Imperial Philatelic Society (N. London)

President: C. M. C. Symes.
Vice-President: C. J. Phillips.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.: Mr. C. S. Muratori, 29 Fletching Road, L. Clapton, N.E.
Meetings: Central Y.M.C.A., 7 Highbury Place, Highbury Station, N.
Subscription: 2s. 6d. per annum.

A MEETING of the above Society took place on Thursday, 16 January, at the meeting place, when Mr. A. H. L. Giles, R.N., gave a very interesting paper and display on Mexico. This collection was very complete, especially in the early issues, 1856 containing portrait of Hidaigo, and overprinted with the names of the issuing postal districts, and also in the 1866 issue, containing portrait of the Emperor Maximilian, and the 1867 and 1872 issues. After Mr. Giles had read his paper, and given the members a suitable time in which to examine and be explained many of the issues, Mr. C. S. Muratori proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Giles, which was most enthusiastically accorded to him. Mr. C. J. Phillips then gave a display of new issues of British Colonials, and also of New South Wales Officials, which was also very much appreciated. Mr. C. S. Muratori then made a report that additions to the Library had been received from Mr. C. M. C. Symes, and also from Mr. Charles Nissen, for which he thanked them on behalf of the Committee.

Four new members were also elected.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 20 February, when all intending members are invited.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.
Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 1 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.
Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.
Annual Subscription: 5s.

At a meeting of this Society, held in the Leeds Institute, on Tuesday, 21 January, there was a display by the members of the Stamps of the Republic of Chile, an ideal country for and well within the reach of the young collector, as, notwithstanding its first postal issue was made as far back as 1852, the stamps, used and unused, are still plentiful and cheap, the exceptions being, perhaps, the 5c. and 20c., unused, of the imperforate issue of 1852, which are becoming rather scarce.

Mr. E. Egly showed his fine collection of all the issues to date, including many superb used blocks of four and six, and all the fiscal and Telegraph stamps used postally, as well as the Postage Due stamps.

Well deserving mention was a large specialized collection, "housed" in several volumes, of the postal issues of France, sent to the President for the inspection of members. The scarce lithographed issue of Bordeaux, including the four types of the 20c., was represented by grand copies, in shades, and of these and the earlier and regular issues for the Empire there were no less than five *telles-bêches* pairs of extreme rarity.

Perhaps, however, the greatest interest centred in the stamp auction, which preceded the display, and which was the second of the session. Sixty-five lots were offered, and the sales were over 90 per cent; they included several small collections in albums, Mulready envelopes, rare stamps on original letters, and a great variety of medium and rare stamps of the British Colonies and of foreign countries. The bidding was of a spirited nature, and many undoubted bargains were secured. The next auction will take place on 21 April.

Mr. Morten (President) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Hon. Auctioneer (Mr. J. E. Kitchen) for his good offices, which was carried with acclamation.

Novelties shown were: by the President, the so-called "Stock Exchange" Forgery of the 1s., green, plate 5, used with genuine 3d., plate 8, on piece of telegraph form; by Mr. P. M. Knight, Cyprus, 5 paras, bistre and black, new value; France, 20 centimes, chocolate, Sower type, new issue; Papua 4d., of the new permanent series, inscribed "Papua," watermark Crown over A.

NOW READY

*The Postage and Telegraph
Stamps of*

**BRITISH
INDIA** 

With 23 full-sized Plates and numerous other Illustrations.

Part I. POSTAGE STAMPS.

By L. L. R. HAUSBURG.

Part II. TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

By C. STEWART-WILSON and C. S. F. CROFTON.

THIS is the first handbook that we have produced for the Philatelic Society of India, and we trust that it will be considered a credit both to the Society and to our own firm.

The volume contains 215 pages, similar in size and get-up to the publications of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

The important plates have been produced by the **photogravure** process; this is very costly, but gives the most magnificent results. The cost of the plates and other illustrations has exceeded £400.

There is an immense amount of new information in this volume, and especially important are the numerous **retouches** discovered by Mr. Hausburg in the stamps of the first issue.

Important chapters are those dealing with the Essays, Reprints, and Forgeries.

PRICE 40/-

Post-free in Great Britain, 40/6; abroad, 41/6.

**STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391 STRAND, LONDON, ENGLAND,
And 198 Broadway, New York.**

JUST PUBLISHED.

STAMP CATALOGUE

1908.

**Most varieties have our selling prices quoted
for unused and used Stamps.**

POCKET SIZE, in Two Volumes.

VOL. I. contains all

Postage Stamps of Great Britain and the British Colonies.

Price 2/6; post-free, 2/9.



VOL. II. contains the

Postage Stamps of the rest of the World.

Price 2/6; post-free, 2/10.

This Catalogue is the most reliable guide to Stamps and their values.

THE Collector will find in this Catalogue a mass of useful information given by no other catalogue known to us. We divide and price separately all minor varieties of perforation, watermark, and type, and thus enable the Collector to discover the value of rare varieties he may possess, and which are not given in any other catalogue.

NONE OF OUR PRICES ARE GUESS-WORK; they are all based on our stock of Stamps, and all Stamps priced are in stock as we go to press.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10 %) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 23.

A COLLECTION OF

BRITISH

AND

COLONIAL STAMPS

Contained in an Imperial and another plain book, the latter being devoted to Stamps issued during the present reign, and containing a very good lot, chiefly unused, of the single and multiple watermarks. Amongst the countries in the Imperial may be mentioned Great Britain—a good series of all issues in fine condition. All the countries are fairly represented. The collection contains 3055 Stamps, and is priced according to catalogue value at £130.

THE PRICE ASKED FOR THE COLLECTION IS

————— **£45.** —————

And at this figure should prove a good and profitable investment to anyone desiring a really good Collection as a basis for the formation of a large and serious Collection.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 9, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 165.)

29 FEBRUARY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: France. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	129
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	131
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	133
4. CALCUTTA PHILATELIC EXHIBITION	134
5. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	139
6. ROMANIAN EXHIBITION STAMPS, and the 25 bani, green, error. <i>By Rudolf Zoscsük</i>	140
7. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	142
8. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	144
9. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	<i>Page 5 of Cover</i>

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.			Post-free.
			s. d.
7.	100, all different		2 1
8.	100 " rarer	5	1
9.	200 " rarer	5	1
66.	500 "	4	1
67.	1000 "	15	0
68.	1500 "	35	0
69.	2000 "	60	0
69A.	3000 "	170	0
69B.	4000 "	280	0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE ROYAL
PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON

AFRICA

Parts I, II, and III, complete with all Plates and Illustrations. *o o o*

These superb books should be in the library of every Collector of the Stamps of the British Colonies in Africa.

VOL. I has been obsolete for a long time, and is now very difficult to obtain.

VOL. II will soon be exhausted.

VOL. III was only produced in a very limited edition.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the set of THREE VOLUMES is

£3 12s. 6d.

Only four complete sets are in stock.

The regular price for the three books is **£4 16s.**

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 105 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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.* Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; *R.* Reprint; *W.* Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907, 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s.	d.	Vols. 10	post-free	s.	d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7	6	" 11	"	5	0
" 4	"	5	6	" 12	"	4	0
" 5	"	5	0	" 13	"	4	0
" 6	"	6	6	" 14	"	4	0
" 7	"	6	0	" 15	"	4	0
" 8	"	6	0	" 16	"	4	0
" 9	"	5	0	" 17	"	4	0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the **LOW PRICES** at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used. Unused.† Used and 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.	ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.	No. in Set.	s. d.
34†	1858-60. Argentine Confederation, including two varieties of 5 c.	4	1 6
35*	1873-90. Good selection of portrait types	16	3 0
36†	1889-97. Various issues, including portraits, two provisionals, the Columbus stamp, and the two types of wmk.	18	4 0
37*	1889-97. All portraits, and including two types of wmk.	25	2 3
38†	1899-1903. Seated figure, 1 c., 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 6 c., 10 c., 12 c. (2), and 15 c.	11	2 0
39*	" " " 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., 6 c., 10 c., 15 c., and 30 c., and 1 peso (tall upright)	9	0 9
40*	1901. Official, Head of Liberty, 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 30 c., and 50 c.	5	3 6

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

42*	1902-4. Postage Due, various perms., 1/2d., 2d., 4d., 10d., 1s., 2s., and 5s.	7	3 6
-----	---	---	-----

AUSTRIA.

43*	1850-64. Selection early issues, including different perms., types, and papers	16	1 0
44*	1867-83. Emperor and Eagle types, nearly all values	15	1 3
45*	1890-6. Numerals in all corners, kreuzer and gulden values, various perms. and colours, including two guld. green	24	2 0
46†	1899-1902. Same type, heller values, with and without shiny bars	10	1 6
47*	" " " " and including one krone	17	1 0
48†	1904. Numerals altered, shiny bars, all values except 3 h., 30 h., 40 h., and 60 h.	10	3 6
49*	1904-6. " " with and without shiny bars	10	0 6
50†	1904-7. " " no bars, and including all values with further alteration of numerals	8	1 4
51†	1907. Jubilee Issue. A handsome set all values to 60 h.	13	3 0
52*	1851-1900. Newspaper and Imperial Journal stamps	13	0 9
53†	1894-1900. Postage Due, including kreuzer and heller values and imperf. varieties	10	1 0
54*	" " including 100 h.	13	1 6

AUSTRIAN ITALY.

56*	1850-64. Representative lot of all issues	14	1 6
-----	---	----	-----

AUSTRIAN POST OFFICE IN THE LEVANT.

57*	1867-92. Several issues, including Soldi and Eagle types	11	3 0
58†	1888-92. Surcharged on kreuzer values, 8 pa., 10 pa., three types, 20 pa., and 1 pi. (2)	7	1 6
59†	1900-2. Surcharged on heller and kronen value, including 5 pi., and 20 pi.	6	2 0

AUSTRIAN POST OFFICES IN CRETE.

61†	1903-7. 5 c. (2) 10 c. (2), and 15 c.	5	0 9
-----	---------------------------------------	---	-----

AZORES.

63†	1875-85. Embossed head. Several types of overprint	5	5 6
64†	1883-95. Full face with small overprint, also 15 c., navigation type and 10 c. Prayer stamp	6	2 0
65*	1894. Navigation Commemoration issue, 15 r., 25 r., 50 r., 150 r., and 500 r.	5	4 0
66†	1891-1906. Vasco da Gama, set complete	8	3 6
67*	1898. " " " " " " " "	8	2 9
68†	1876-1904. Newspaper and Postage Due stamps	9	1 0

NOW READY.

THE FOLLOWING

GREATER BRITAIN PACKETS OF

BRITISH Colonial Stamps

NO DUPLICATES.

EVERY Packet of this series contains different varieties, no Stamp being included in two Packets, and purchasers will by this novel method be saved the inconvenience of acquiring duplicates, which is as a rule the bane of most packet buying.

STAMPS OF ASIA.

No.	contains	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
111	20	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
112	25	"	"	2/1
113	40	"	"	3/7
114	40	"	"	6/7
115	50	"	"	16/7
116	45	"	"	12/1
117	30	"	"	4/1
118	40	"	"	21/1

STAMPS OF AFRICA.

No.	contains	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
121	20	varieties. <td>Price, post-free, <td>7d.</td> </td>	Price, post-free, <td>7d.</td>	7d.
122	25	"	"	2/7

STAMPS OF WEST INDIES.

No.	contains	varieties.	Price, post-free,	10d.
141	20	varieties. <td>Price, post-free, <td>10d.</td> </td>	Price, post-free, <td>10d.</td>	10d.
142	20	"	"	2/1

STAMPS OF AUSTRALASIA.

No.	contains	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
151	25	varieties. <td>Price, post-free, <td>7d.</td> </td>	Price, post-free, <td>7d.</td>	7d.
152	30	"	"	1/7
153	30	"	"	4/7

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

CRETE.

1908. Officials. New Type. Perf. 14.	s. d.
10 l., dull claret	0 2
30 l., slate-blue	0 5

DOMINICA.

1907. Type 9. Wmk. Multiple C.A.	
3d., mauve and grey-black	0 5

GWALIOR.

1907. King. Inscribed "Postage and Revenue."	
½ a., pea-green	0 1

HONG-KONG.

1904-7. King's Head. Multiple watermark.	
52. grey-black and vermilion (No. 125)	used 6 6

INDO-CHINA.

Various Issues. Revised Prices.	
75 c., brown or orange (No. 21)	used 0 6
10 c., rose (.. 38)	0 1
25 c., blue (.. 41)	0 1

LABUAN.

1900. Type 39. Orangoutan.	
4 c., black and yellow-brown (No. 112)	used 0 2

Cat.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

No. 1877-80. Various types. Revised prices.	
41. 2 c., green (fish)	used 4 0
42. 3 c., blue (Queen)	1 6
44. 1 c., grey-purple (Prince)	0 5
45. 1 c., brown-lilac (..)	0 5
45a. 1 c., reddish-brown (Prince)	0 5

NEW ZEALAND.

1908. Type 23. Perf. 14 × 13½ (New Machine).	
½ d., green	0 1

NICARAGUA.

1908. Official. Type 40 overprinted OFFICIAL and surcharged.	
10 c. on 1 c., green	0 3
15 c. on 1 c., "	0 4
20 c. on 1 c., "	0 6
50 c. on 1 c., "	1 0
1 p. on 1 c., "	1 0
2 p. on 1 c., "	3 6

PERSIA.

1908. Type 37. Blue paper. Perf. 14.	
1 ch., violet on blue	0 1
2 ch., bluish-grey on blue	0 1
3 ch., deep green	0 2
6 ch., crimson	0 3
9 ch., ochre	0 4
10 ch., sepia	0 4

SARAWAK.

1899. Type 7, surcharged in red. Revised price.	
4 c. on 8 c., blue on blue	used 1 6

SEYCHELLES.

1893-1901. Type 1. Revised prices.	
15 c. on 16 c. (No. 11)	used 1 6
3 c. on 36 c. (No. 48)	1 0

SIAM.

1907. Fiscals. Type 51. Overprinted.	
10 l., olive-green	used 12 6
20 l., "	25 0
40 l., "	40 0

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

1904-6. King's Head. Multiple wmk.	
8 c., purple on blue (No. 122)	used 0 4

SWITZERLAND.

1882-99. Type 10. Revised prices.	
3 fr., pale bistre-brown (No. 155)	5 0
3 fr., bistre-brown (No. 177)	7 6

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

Junior Philatelic Society Brighton Branch

President : F. J. Melville.

Hon. Sec. and Treas. : J. Corner-Spokes, 22 Denmark Terrace, Brighton.

THE seventh meeting of the season was held on 23 January, presided over by the Chairman, Mr. Mead.

Colonel A. H. Nourse was elected a member of the branch, and letters of regret at non-attendance were read from Mr. Clark and Miss Dunkley.

The Secretary proposed that a very hearty vote of thanks should be sent to the Stamp Trade Protection Association for their recent successful prosecution of the Brighton stamp forger, a matter of especial interest to local philatelists; this was seconded by Mr. Thomas Smith and responded to by Mr. Charles Smith, a member of the S.T.P.A.

Mr. Ireland then read a most interesting paper on "The Coloured C.A. Papers," illustrating the same by his collection, and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

North London Philatelic Society

President : Charles M. C. Symes.

Hon. Secretary : C. S. Muratori, 29 Fletching Road, Lower Clapton, N.E.

Meetings : 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Central Y.M.C.A., 7 Highbury Place, Highbury Station, N.

Subscription : 2s. 6d. per annum.

THE usual fortnightly meeting was held on Thursday, 6 February, at head-quarters.

Mr. C. M. C. Symes occupied the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

The subjects for the evening included a debate on the old controversy, "Specialism versus General Collecting." Mr. J. M. Morton opened the debate on Specialism, stating what advantages the specialist had over a general collector, what interesting discoveries specialists had made as regards methods of printing, different papers, etc., discoveries that might never have been made but for the diligent search of the specialist. Mr. C. S. Muratori then replied to Mr. Morton's plea for Specialism, enlarging on the generalist's advantage in regard to the cost of getting together a representative collection, and also showing that a general collection might be made interesting to even those who were not collectors, whereas with a specialized collection only those who had studied the country could see anything more than an accumulated stock of the stamps. Mr. A. B. Creeke, Mr. C. J. Phillips, Mr. P. J. Deverell, Mr. M. K. Clarke, and several other gentlemen also spoke on the subject. All, while admitting the usefulness of the specialist, seemed inclined to favour generalism. Another discussion arose in regard to stamps postmarked to order, through the statement that at some post offices stamps could be postmarked with any date desired. Mr. P. J. Deverell considered that the Postmaster-General should be approached to put a stop to this practice, as many stamps were more valuable used than unused, and, after all, it was only fair that only stamps that had legitimately passed through the post and had served their purpose should be cancelled.

Mr. H. S. Wymer was elected a member of the Society.

It was unanimously resolved, after a little discussion, to alter the title of the Society from "The Imperial Philatelic Society" (North London) to "The North London Philatelic Society," as the former title was considered a little misleading.

Additions to the Library were announced from Mr. A. R. Maisey, who was accorded a vote of thanks.

Prahran Philatelic Society, Victoria, Australia

President : C. E. Lovett.

Secretary : G. W. Miny, Kooyong Road, Armadale.

Meetings : Prahran Coffee Palace, Chapel Street.

THE monthly meeting of the Prahran Philatelic Society of Victoria was held on Friday, 20 December, 1907.

Mr. H. W. Johnston presided, owing to the unavoidable absence of the President, Mr. C. E. Lovett.

Correspondence and minutes of previous meeting were confirmed as read. Mr. G. Riendall was proposed as a member and elected unanimously. Mr. Barnard exhibited

a first-class collection of Australian Official stamps, which were very tastefully arranged, and a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Barnard for the exhibits, together with the exceedingly interesting information which he gave concerning the various rarities his collection included.

The meeting then proceeded to discuss the recommendations of the Board which was appointed some while back to deal with the matter of a uniform issue of Commonwealth postage stamps. After considerable debate the meeting agreed on the following points, and a resolution was passed instructing the Secretary to forward a copy of the decisions to the philatelic representative of the Committee:—

- (1) 1½d., 8d., 10d., and 4cs. should be omitted.
- (2) Stamps, ½d. to 1s., of King's Head design, central, black and coloured borders.
- (3) Stamps over 1s., design some national emblem or picture.
- (4) Stamps with King's Head to be same size as present Victorian penny stamps, and those over 1s. to be about same size as present Tasmanian penny stamp.
- (5) Perforations uniform throughout (12½).
- (6) Watermark, Multiple C.A.
- (7) Postage Dues similar to present Victorian Dues.
- (8) Printing to be done from steel plates.

The ballot for the December Exchange Book was then drawn by Messrs. Hull, senior and junior, and the Chairman, after wishing the members the compliments of the season, brought the meeting to a close.

Scottish Philatelic Society Junior Branch

President : N. M. Berrie.

Hon. Sec. : Frank Chalmers, 24 Bruntsfield Gardens, Edinburgh.

Meetings : Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh.

THE monthly meeting of this Society was held in Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh, on the evening of Saturday, 1 February, at 7 p.m., Mr. N. M. Berrie, President, in the chair. There was a good turn-out of members, twenty-six being present.

After a general exchange of duplicates the Hon. Secretary read the minutes of last meeting, which were approved.

Three new members were admitted.

The Hon. Secretary reported the sales from the Exchange Packets in circulation, which were considered very satisfactory.

The Librarian reported gifts to the Library from the President, and to the Forgery Collection from Miss Mackenzie and the Hon. Secretary, and the collection was on view.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the arrangements for the stamp auction on 11 April were in progress, that about three hundred lots had already been promised, and that Mr. Dowell had very kindly offered, free of charge, the services of an auctioneer. Lots to be included must be sent in by the end of March.

The Hon. Secretary also stated that the Prize Fund already exceeded the amount available last year, and that a definite announcement on the subject would be made at next meeting.

The meeting had an opportunity of examining a very fine collection of the stamps of Great Britain, mostly in mint condition, sent by Mr. J. J. Knowles, Wednesday, one of the best-known collectors in the Midlands. It contained a number of rarities and many scarce stamps of the Queen's reign, including £1 I.R. Official; strips of the 1d. black, in one case with Large Crown inverted; blocks of the old 1½d. on *bleut*; £1 brown, strips and blocks of £1 green; block of 3d. on orange paper; 1d. red on Dickinson paper; 2s., brown, and many other very scarce stamps, all in mint condition.

There were also some curios in the shape of ½d. and 1d. with printing on both sides, and a block of the 4½d. showing the stamp with dot.

Mr. Walker, President of the Senior Branch, gave an interesting account of the early issues of India and the history of the various dies, accompanied by an excellent display, including blocks in mint condition of the ½ and 1 anna, 1854 issue, and a specially fine display of the long Service stamps in superb condition.

Very hearty votes of thanks were awarded to Mr. Knowles and Mr. Walker for their contributions to a very enjoyable meeting.

GRAND COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL READERS OF

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

£ 100 in Prizes

WE have decided to give away the sum of one hundred pounds in prizes for those who succeed in getting us the largest number of new subscribers from 1 January to 30 June, 1908.

The conditions of this competition will be as follows:—

1. The competition is open to every one except to employes of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.
2. The Competitors sending in the highest number of new subscriptions will win, however small the number may be.
3. Subscriptions for a half-year cost 3s. 3d. and will reckon as one vote; a subscription of 6s. 6d. for a year will reckon as two votes.
4. Competitors should at the end of each month send in a list of new subscribers, together with the proper amount of the subscriptions, addressed to

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.,
391 STRAND, LONDON,

with the words "G.S.W. Competition" written on lower left corner of envelope.

5. All lists must be sent in by 30 July, 1908, and the names of the winners will be announced in *G.S.W.* about the end of August.

6. In case of any disputes they will be settled by Messrs. C. J. Phillips and G. Hamilton-Smith, whose decision will be final.

The prizes offered will be as follows:—

1st prize.		Stamps to be selected by the winner from our Catalogue or approval sheets to the value of	£	s.	d.
2nd	"	"	40	0	0
3rd	"	"	20	0	0
4th	"	"	10	0	0
5th	"	"	7	10	0
6th	"	"	5	0	0
7th	"	"	2	10	0
8th	"	"	4	0	0
		Packet of stamps value			
		Imperial Album, bound in 3 vols., No. 8 quality	3	15	0
8th	"	"	2	7	6
10th	"	"	1	12	0
11th	"	Facile Oriel Album	1	10	0
12th	"	Ideal Album, No. 2	1	5	0
13th	"	Century Album, No. 21	1	2	6
14th	"	Strand Album, No. 15	5	0	0
15th	"	Improved Album, No. 2	3	6	0

Any of our readers who intend to compete for these prizes can have sample bundles of our paper to distribute to their friends free of all charge on receipt of a post card stating how many copies they can use.

We hope many subscribers will compete; those with a large circle of friends may get several dozen subscriptions, but some of the smaller prizes may be won with a very small number of subscriptions.

The attached form must be used by all entering in this competition.

I hereby enter my name as a competitor in the above competition, and agree to abide by the regulations set forth above.

Name

Address

I send the following names of new subscribers to G.S.W. and enclose

£..... "..... ".....

.....

To STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

GRAND COLLECTION PACKETS.

New and Greatly Reduced
Prices for 1908. * * * *

No. 64 contains 100 Varieties, including used and unused. Price 6d.; post-free, 7d.

No. 65 contains 250 Different Varieties, both used and unused Stamps, Envelopes, □ and Post Cards □, and is well recommended as a capital start for a Collector. Price 2s.; post-free, 2s. 1d.

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, &c., are clean, picked specimens fit for any collection. The best 500 varieties in the trade. Price 4s.; post-free, 4s. 1d.

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. Price 15s., post-free and registered.

No. 68, 1500 Varieties. Each specimen is in perfect condition, and the 1500 different Stamps form a noble start for anyone. 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 we purchase such. Satisfaction is guaranteed. Price **£1 15s.**, post-free and registered.

No. 69, 2000 Varieties. A grand packet for a dealer or collector, every stamp being different and genuine, and thus forming a choice collection in itself, or a stock to make up sheets or for exchange purposes. Price **£3**, post-free and registered.

No. 69a, 3000 Varieties. A very fine packet, containing many rare stamps, all arranged in order, and mounted ready to price or remove to a collection. Price **£8 10s.**, post-free and registered.

No. 69b, 4000 Varieties. A valuable collection, all mounted on sheets in order. Really good value; being sold by us to collectors at less than the price usually charged in the trade. Price **£14**, post-free and registered.

The prices for postage are those for Great Britain only.

Answer to DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 3 of Series. Must be sent only on this Form.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

Signature

Initials or Pseudonym for acknowledging.

Address

or Post Town for recognition in case two of same name. (Not for Publication.)

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W. C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 24.

A COLLECTION OF UNUSED

BRITISH AND COLONIAL STAMPS

IN A NEW KING'S OWN ALBUM.

The Stamps are nearly all in **BLOCKS OF FOUR**, in perfect mint condition, and would form a fine investment for the future.

Among others we draw attention to **Great Britain, Army Official, KING'S 6d. STRIP OF THREE, UNUSED, TYPE II**, a great rarity and possibly unique, also the following, all in blocks of four, mint.

CYPRUS. Single CA, 30 p., $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 18, and 45 pi.

CAYMAN. „ $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 6d., and 1/-.

HONG KONG. 2, 4, 8, 10, 12, 20, and 50 c.

LAGOS. 1d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and 3d.

MOROCCO AGENCIES. 1 and 2 pes.

NATAL. $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 1/-, and 2/6.

B. C. A. 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE. $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 3, 6, and 8 annas.

Multiple watermark, both ordinary and chalky paper, many blocks of four in mint condition.

There is also included a small Collection of **South African** Stamps on letters, mostly varieties used during the Boer War.

— Price £130. —

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 10, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 160).

7 MARCH, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: French Consular Offices <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	145
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	147
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	148
4. SPECIALISM. <i>By R. E. R. Dalwigh</i>	150
5. NEWFOUNDLAND. <i>By W. Ward</i>	151
6. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i>	153
7. STAMP FRAUDS. <i>By Paul Howard</i>	154
8. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	156
9. CORRESPONDENCE	157
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	158
11. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.

MONTENEGRO

July, 1902.

Stamps with value in
hellers and Krone.

Type 4.

1	heller, ultramarine.
2	„ mauve.
5	„ green.
10	„ rosine.
25	„ blue.
50	„ grey-green.
1	krona, purple-brown.
2	„ bistre.
5	„ orange.

Full set of NINE values, as above.

CATALOGUE PRICE, 11s. 2d.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the set of NINE STAMPS,
Unused and Mint,

5s., post-free.

BARGAINS IN

PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 „ rarer	5 1
9.	200 „ rare	5 1
66.	500 „	4 1
67.	1000 „	15 0
68.	1500 „	35 0
69.	2000 „	60 0
69A.	3000 „	170 0
69B.	4000 „	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL. BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the **LOW PRICES** at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used, Unused,† Used and 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.		No. in Set.	s. d.
BADEN.			
70	1851-68. Selection of all issues	9	2 0
71†	1862-8. 1 kr., 3 kr., 6 kr., 7 kr. (two shades), 9 kr., and 30 kr.; also 3 kr. Rural post	8	1 9
BAHAMAS.			
72†	1863-84. Showing the three types of "Queen," including two 1s., and a scarce 1d. first type	5	10 0
73†	1902-7. "King." ½d., 1d., 2½d. mult., and 4d. single	4	1 0
BARBADOS.			
76†	1892-1906. Including Kingston Relief Stamp	7	1 0
77†	1906. Nelson Centenary, ½d., 1d., 2d. and 2½d.	4	1 6
78*	1856-1906. Various issues, including scarce imperf. and three of Nelson Centenary	12	3 6
BAVARIA.			
80†	1870-5. Kreuzer values, two wmk.	7	0 9
81†	1888-1904. Pfennig value on toned and white paper	7	0 9
82*	1849-1904. All issues, including the figure types, and examples of the various watermarks and papers	36	2 0
BECHUANALAND.			
83†	1886-9. Early issues and provisionals	7	4 6
84†	1891-1901. Surcharged on British stamps	7	1 8
BELGIUM.			
85*	1849-61. Imperf. issues	6	1 0
86*	1863-91. Perf. Selection of all issues, of smaller sized stamps	25	2 0
87†	1893-1907. Large-size stamps, with Sunday label, including full set of special series for exhibitions	17	2 6
88*	1893-1907. Similar to last, and including 2 frs. lilac	16	1 6
89:	1870-1902. Postage Due. Three issues, including two 1 fr.	8	1 6
90*	1870-1902. Parcel Post. Representative lot of all types	23	2 6
BELGIAN CONGO.			
91†	1885-7. "King." 5 c. (2), 10 c. (2), and 25 c. (2)	6	2 6
92†	1894-1901. Pictorial. 5 c. (2), 10 c., 40 c., and 50 c. (2).	6	3 0
BENIN.			
94†	1893-4. Inscribed "Golfe de Benin," and "Benin," low values	9	1 9
BERGEDORF.			
95†	1861. ½, 1½, 3, and 4 sch.	4	3 0
BERMUDA.			
97†	1865-1904. "Queen," including early issues	11	4 6
98†	1902-6. "Dock," ½d. and 1d., both wmk., 2½d. and 3d.	6	1 3
BHOPAL.			
99†	1877-1903. Selection of all issues	17	4 6
BOLIVAR.			
100†	1863-82. Various issues, including 1 p., 1863, the smallest issued stamp and the bicolored high values of 1882	11	11 6
101†	1882-91. Portrait Bolivar, 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 40 c., varying dates	16	5 0
102†	1903-4. Portrait Series, etc., including three 5 pesos and 10 pesos	12	6 0
103†	1903-4. Supplementary Services, Registration, Too Late, and A. R. stamps	6	0 9

NOW READY.

THE FOLLOWING

GREATER BRITAIN PACKETS OF

BRITISH Colonial Stamps

NO DUPLICATES.

EVERY Packet of this series contains different varieties, no Stamp being included in two Packets, and purchasers will by this novel method be saved the inconvenience of acquiring duplicates, which is as a rule the bane of most packet buying.

STAMPS OF ASIA.

No. 111 contains	20 varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 112 "	25 "	" "	2/1
" 113 "	40 "	" "	3/7
" 114 "	40 "	" "	6/7
" 115 "	50 "	" "	16/7
" 116 "	45 "	" "	12/1
" 117 "	30 "	" "	4/1
" 118 "	40 "	" "	21/1

STAMPS OF AFRICA.

No. 121 contains	20 varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 122 "	25 "	" "	2/7

STAMPS OF WEST INDIES.

No. 141 contains	20 varieties.	Price, post-free,	10d.
" 142 "	20 "	" "	2/1

STAMPS OF AUSTRALASIA.

No. 151 contains	25 varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 152 "	30 "	" "	1/7
" 153 "	30 "	" "	4/7

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.

1897-1904. Various issues. Revised prices.

Cat. No.			
45.	4d., carmine and black (Arms),	s. d.	
	used	0	9
61.	4d., grey-green and black (King),		
	used	0	8
62.	6d., grey and buff (King)	0	9
62a.	1s., black and blue (King)	1	0
63.	2s. 6d., grey-green and green (King)	2	6
	used		
64.	4s., lilac and mauve (King)	4	0
65.	10s., grey-green and black (King)	7	6
	used		

CAYMAN ISLANDS.

1907. Type 2, surcharged.

½d. on 1d., carmine	2	6
---------------------	---	---

EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA.

1908. King's Head. Value in cents.

6 c., carmine	0	2
6 c. "	used	0 2
12 c., dull lilac and carmine	0	4
25 c., grey-green and black	1	0

LUXEMBURG.

1908. Type 11. New values.

30 c., olive-green	0	5
87½ c., slate-blue	1	0
1 fr., lavender	1	3

PHILIPPINE ISLES (U.S.).

1903. Stamp of U.S.A. overprinted.

2 c., carmine (No. 29)	used	0	6
------------------------	------	---	---

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

1907. Type 2. King's Head.

3d., orange-brown and lilac	used	0	6
-----------------------------	------	---	---

SWITZERLAND.

1908. New type. Head of Helvetia.

10 c., carmine	0	2
----------------	---	---

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

Birmingham Philatelic Society

Hon. President: Sir W. B. Avery, Bart.
Hon. Secretary: G. Johnson, B.A., 308 Birchfield Road,
 Birmingham.
Meetings: Thursdays, at 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.
Annual Subscription: 5s. *Entrance Fee:* 5s.

JANUARY 2.—Lantern Display. Mr. J. A. Margoschis, T. Groom, n.s.c., F.G.S., was elected a member. Rev. W. N. Usher and F. C. Henderson were thanked for donations to the Permanent Collection.

Mr. J. A. Margoschis then gave, by means of the aphengescope, an interesting lantern display of varieties, oddities, and forgeries, supplied by himself and most of the members present.

A number of junior collectors had been invited, and the President (Mr. R. Hollick) in a happily worded speech gave them a very cordial welcome.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. G. Johnson) showed a series of stamps photographed in colour by the new direct printing (Lumiere process). It was a matter of interest and surprise that even the most delicate colours were faithfully copied.

The slides were afterwards shown at the Midland Institute conversazione to the 6500 members and friends who attended on the four evenings which this important social event covers.

JANUARY 23.—Paper: "Argentine." Mr. F. T. Collier, Messrs. J. H. Lewes, F. Hayward, J. Vidal, J. Spibey, and J. J. Knowles were elected members.

Mr. F. T. Collier then gave his paper on "Argentine, 1838-1877," with a very complete account of the types of the early issues and their arrangement in the sheet. The varieties of perforation, to which little attention is given in some catalogues, were fully dealt with.

It was decided that the subsequent issues should be dealt with on another occasion.

FEBRUARY 6.—Display: Tasmania. Mr. W. Pimm, Messrs. D. S. Charles, J. Sargant, and G. B. Harrington were elected members.

Mr. W. Pimm's very fine collection of Tasmania was then displayed by its owner, who gave notes, wherever necessary, on the various plates, perforations, and oddities.

The next auction will be held on 5 March, at 6 p.m., at the Acorn Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham. Nearly three hundred lots have been sent in by the English and Colonial members of the Society.

Any one who has not received a catalogue may have one on application to the Hon. Secretary.

[The above report was received on 18 February, and could not appear until this number! I trust the Hon. Secretary will not again withhold reports until he can send *three* at once. Stale matter is never interesting.—*Ed. G.S.W.*]

Junior Philatelic Society

Brighton Branch

Chairman: W. Mead.
Hon. Sec.: J. Corner-Spokes, 22 Denmark Terrace, Brighton.

The ninth meeting of the season was held on 13 February, presided over by the Chairman, Mr. Mead.

Further generous donations to the Library were acknowledged from Mr. Clark.

The resignation of Mr. G. C. Colman from the Committee was announced with much regret, and the vacancy is to be filled at the next meeting.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. A. H. L. Giles, k.n.s., Mr. Clark gave a display of his magnificent collection of Germany and States. Although they constitute one of the most interesting groups of countries in the whole world, they seem to be much neglected by the majority of collectors, but Mr. Clark has, with his usual foresight, got together a splendid lot of what must one day become the fashion again.

Mr. Mead proposed a very hearty vote of thanks, which was seconded by Mr. Owen and carried with acclamation.

Manchester Branch

A MEETING held at the Deansgate Hotel on Thursday, 6 February, brought together a good number of members. Mr. J. J. Bernstein presided. Mention was made of the London Exhibition of the Society, and several members

promised to send exhibits for the Manchester Section. Mr. Hart Lovelace kindly sent his fine collection of China down for the view of the members. Mr. Homer read an admirable paper on "China and its Posts." He spoke of the difficulties of carrying the mails, owing to hordes of robbers and brigands infesting the badly governed country. China does not belong to the Postal Union, so the stamps have only carrying powers in the Celestial dominions. The dragon was a "popular" evil god dating back as far as the twentieth century before the Christian era, the Chinese believing that by worshipping this mythical spirit it would not descend with its evil contemporaries upon the faithful. The third issue in 1895 was to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the Dowager Empress. He further mentioned that the carp is a symbol of literary talent, and is to be found illustrated upon several values of Chinese stamps. Mr. Homer further described the various issues of the Chinese Empire. His address was received with acclamation. Mr. Ward then added a few interesting facts as to the Japanese 1897 and London 1898 prints; also giving an instance of how careful a Chinaman has to be in case he may offend the Imperial Court. A high mandarin and a missionary had prepared a set of stamps, one of which was printed in blue, the Imperial colour. The mandarin lost his head, but the clergyman escaped afterwards. Mr. James Taylor gave a humorous Lancashire dialect reading. The members were kept in roars of laughter, and it was voted the best bit of philatelic humour ever given at any of the meetings.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.
Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 7 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.
Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.
Annual Subscription: 5s.

At the fortnightly meeting, held in the Society's Rooms at the Leeds Institute, on Tuesday, 4 February, Mr. H. Weydt and Mr. J. W. Duffield (Junior Vice-Presidents) gave a joint display of the interesting postal issues of the French Colonies, and of the special issues for the use of the Consular and Post Offices abroad, viz. in the Levant, Crete, Egypt, China, Zanzibar, the Indian Settlements, etc.

These issues of late years have multiplied tremendously, and a great task is imposed on the collector to keep pace with them, so that considerable credit is due to Mr. Weydt, and in no lesser degree to Mr. Duffield, for having got together such a representative lot of both the old and the new issues, the latter practically complete. Some fine specimens, used and unused, were shown of the higher values, many being obsolete, and a fairly large number of the provisional stamps for Djibouti, Obok, French Congo, Gaboon, Guadeloupe, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Martinique, New Caledonia, Reunion, etc., were in evidence, whilst the stamps of Tunis and the general issues for the Colonies, dating from 1850, formed separate sections of much interest. The picturesque stamps of the French Somali Coast, with views of mosques, Somali-warriors, etc., printed in two colours, included several values with the centre inverted, and there were many other stamps in the collections with inverted surcharges—all very rare.

Amongst the novelties shown Mr. W. Denison Roeluck brought a strip of six unused stamps for letting "Post Horses per mile" of the reign of William IV.

North of England Philatelic Society

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

The usual monthly meeting of the Society was held at the Y.M.C.A., Newcastle, on Thursday, 6 February.

The Vice-President (Mr. T. D. Hume) took the chair at 7.30, and there were seventeen members and one visitor present.

The display was given by Mr. S. C. Graham, who showed his Asiatic, African, and American Colonies, many of them being well represented; but his Ceylon proved a highly interesting lot, including as it did such stamps as tol., orange-vermilion, Star, imperf., and 1s. od., green, unused. At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Graham was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, on the motion of Mr. Wilkinson, to which he suitably replied.

TWEEZERS FOR HANDLING STAMPS.

These are invaluable to every Philatelist. They are of the best obtainable quality, with points very slightly milled, so as not to damage the Stamps.

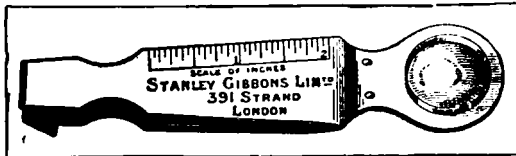
They can be put into water without rusting, and can therefore be used in soaking Stamps.

No. 1.—LARGE SIZE, blunt ends, 5 inches long. Price, post-free, 2/7; abroad, 3/-.

No. 2.—SMALL SIZE, 4½ inches long. Newest size, rounded ends. Price, post-free, 2/1; abroad, 2/5.



No. 3.—SMALL SIZE, 4½ inches. Newest size, pointed ends. *Highly recommended.* Price, post-free, 2/1; abroad, 2/5.



THE "PHILATELISTS' VADE MECUM"

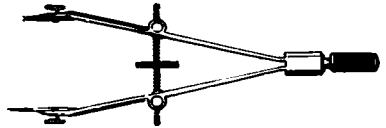
(SECURED BY LETTERS PATENT)

Is an entirely New and Original Invention for enabling Collectors to Mount Stamps without handling them, and is a *multum in parvo* of Philatelic requisites.

It consists of a pair of broad-headed flat metal tongs, one of which is fitted with a solid wedge. The object of this is to permit the free end of a mount held by the tongs to be bent over, moistened, applied to the back of the stamp, and pressed down, and the mount can then be released, the stamp lifted, the other end of the mount moistened, and the stamp fastened thereby on the page. In the handle is inserted a glass of high magnifying power. On one side of the middle part is a millimetre scale (divided to half millimetres), and on the other a two-inch scale (divided to sixteenths), both accurately marked off. The stamp can be firmly held along either scale by the tongs. The tongs are made of solid nickel, polished, and fit into a handsome velvet-lined case, the size of which, when closed, is slightly less than 6 inches long, 1½ inches wide, and only ¼ inch thick.

Price, with case complete, post-free, 2/7; abroad, 3/9.

SURCHARGE MEASURER.



The accompanying illustration will give the best idea of what this is. It consists of a pair of needle-pointed spring compasses, capable, by means of an adjusting screw, of measuring with the greatest accuracy all surcharges up to 40 millimetres in length. In addition to the measure a millimetre gauge is obtained by running the head of the screw along a piece of paper, a series of lines exactly a millimetre apart being thus indented in the paper. For measuring surcharges on such stamps as Natal, Straits Settlements, &c., this will be found invaluable, and also in the detection of forgeries—a forgery or forged surcharge very seldom being *exactly* the same size as the original. Price, post-free, 7/7; abroad, 7/11.

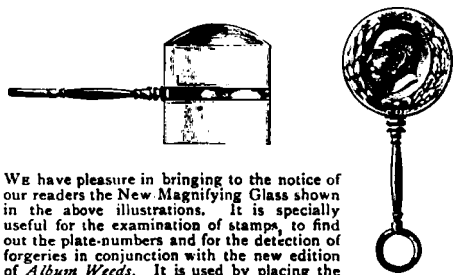
POCKET MAGNIFYING GLASSES.



AFTER examining some scores of different sorts, we have been able to get one combining the greatest power with the largest field obtainable for pocket use. These glasses are mounted in handsome vulcanite frames, and are very compact. There are two lenses in each, which may be used singly, or if a very strong power is desired, may be combined.

Price, post-free, 7/7; abroad, 8/4.

NEW STAMP MAGNIFYING GLASS.



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.

Price, post-free in Great Britain, 5/1; abroad, 6/-

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

GRAND COLLECTION PACKETS.

New and Greatly Reduced
Prices for 1908. * * * *

No. 64 contains 100 Varieties, including used and unused. Price 6d.; post-free, 7d.

No. 65 contains 250 Different Varieties, both used and unused Stamps, Envelopes, and Post Cards, and is well recommended as a capital start for a Collector. Price 2s.; post-free, 2s. 1d.

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, &c., are clean, picked specimens fit for any collection. The best 500 varieties in the trade. Price 4s.; post-free, 4s. 1d.

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. Price 15s., post-free and registered.

No. 68, 1500 Varieties. Each specimen is in perfect condition, and the 1500 different Stamps form a noble start for anyone. 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 we purchase such. Satisfaction is guaranteed. Price £1 15s., post-free and registered.

No. 69, 2000 Varieties. A grand packet for a dealer or collector, every stamp being different and genuine, and thus forming a choice collection in itself, or a stock to make up sheets or for exchange purposes. Price £3, post-free and registered.

No. 69a, 3000 Varieties. A very fine packet, containing many rare stamps, all arranged in order, and mounted ready to price or remove to a collection. Price £8 10s., post-free and registered.

No. 69b, 4000 Varieties. A valuable collection, all mounted on sheets in order. Really good value; being sold by us to collectors at less than the price usually charged in the trade. Price £14, post-free and registered.

The prices for postage are those for Great Britain only.

GRAND COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL READERS OF

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

£100 in Prizes

See particulars in last week's number.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 25.

A COLLECTION OF

4860 STAMPS

OF THE

BRITISH EMPIRE

ISSUED DURING THE REIGN OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

THE Stamps are carefully selected specimens, and a large proportion are unused. The Collection is mounted in Five BLANK ALBUMS, contained in a special locked wooden box. This is a General Collection of the COLONIES, and as the owner wishes to sell at once he offers it as an exceptional bargain. The owner, having lived in India for many years, has an exceptionally good lot of the Stamps of India and States, in this section there being a considerable number of blocks of four.

The owner states, according to our 1904 Catalogue, the Collection prices to over £400. His price is

————— **£80.** —————

This Collection can be recommended as being especially cheap.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 11, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 167.)

14 MARCH, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: French Consular Offices <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	161
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	163
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	166
4. SPECIALISM. <i>By R. E. R. Dalwich</i>	168
5. NEWFOUNDLAND. <i>By W. Ward</i>	169
6. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	170
7. OUR PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION. <i>By W. Ward</i>	170
8. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nissen</i>	172
9. CORRESPONDENCE	173
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	175
11. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	176
12. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

BARGAINS IN

PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different . . .	2 1
8.	100 " rarer . . .	5 1
9.	200 " rare . . .	5 1
66.	500 " . . .	4 1
67.	1000 " . . .	15 0
68.	1500 " . . .	35 0
69.	2000 " . . .	60 0
69A.	3000 " . . .	170 0
69B.	4000 " . . .	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargain

For G.S.W. Readers.

VENEZUELA

1902.

Type 36, in new colour,
without overprint.

50 c., orange (Cat. No. 268a).

Catalogued at Ten Shillings.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the above Stamp,
Unused and Mint,

9d., post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
39, Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907, 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s.	d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s.	d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7	6	" 11	"	5	0
" 4	"	5	6	" 12	"	4	0
" 5	"	5	0	" 13	"	4	0
" 6	"	6	6	" 14	"	4	0
" 7	"	6	0	" 15	"	4	0
" 8	"	6	0	" 16	"	4	0
" 9	"	5	0	" 17	"	4	0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a **SPECIAL BARGAIN** for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

NOW READY.

THE FOLLOWING

GREATER BRITAIN PACKETS OF

BRITISH Colonial Stamps

NO DUPLICATES.

EVERY Packet of this series contains different varieties, no Stamp being included in two Packets, and purchasers will by this novel method be saved the inconvenience of acquiring duplicates, which is as a rule the bane of most packet buying.

STAMPS OF ASIA.

No.	contains	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 111	"	20	"	2/1
" 112	"	25	"	3/7
" 113	"	40	"	6/7
" 114	"	40	"	16/7
" 115	"	50	"	12/1
" 116	"	45	"	4/1
" 117	"	30	"	21/1
" 118	"	40	"	

STAMPS OF AFRICA.

No.	contains	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 121	"	20	"	2/7
" 122	"	25	"	

STAMPS OF WEST INDIES.

No.	contains	varieties.	Price, post-free,	10d.
" 141	"	20	"	2/1
" 142	"	20	"	

STAMPS OF AUSTRALASIA.

No.	contains	varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 151	"	25	"	1/7
" 152	"	30	"	4/7
" 153	"	30	"	

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

CAMEROONS.

1906-7.	Watermarked Lozenges.	s.	d.
5 pf., green (No. 27)	.	.	0 1
10 pf., carmine (No. 28)	.	.	0 2

GERMAN CHINA.

1906-7.	Watermarked Lozenges.	s.	d.
1 c on 3 pf., brown (C 40)	.	.	0 1
½ dol. on 1 m., carmine (C 46)	.	.	1 6
1 dol. on 2 m., blue (C 47)	.	.	2 9
2½ dol. on 5 m., lake and black (C 49)	.	.	6 6

GERMAN LEVANT.

1906-7.	Watermarked Lozenges.	s.	d.
10 pia. on 2 m., blue (T 44)	.	.	3 0

GERMAN MOROCCO.

1906-7.	Watermarked Lozenges.	s.	d.
6 p. 25 c. on 5 m., lake and black (M 46)	.	.	5 6

JHIND.

Cat. No.	Various issues.	Revised prices.	s.	d.
125.	½ a., green (Q.)	used	0	5
126.	1 a., brown-purple (Q.)	"	0	3
152.	3 pies, grey (K.)	"	0	1
153.	½ a., pea-green (K.)	"	0	1
154.	1 a., carmine (K.)	"	0	2
155a.	2 a., mauve (K.)	"	0	3
156.	3 a., orange-brown (K.)	"	0	6
531.	1 a., carmine (K.S.)	"	0	2
533.	4 a., olive-green (K.S.)	"	0	8

KIAUTCHOU.

Catalogue correction. No. 7.	.	.	70	0
------------------------------	---	---	----	---

LUXEMBURG.

1908.	Type 11. New value.	s.	d.
2½ fr., orange-vermilion	.	.	2 9

MAURITIUS.

1902.	Stamp overprinted POSTAGE AND REVENUE.	s.	d.
15 c., green and orange	used	0	3

PATIALA.

Cat. No.	Various issues.	Revised prices.	s.	d.
42.	4 a., olive-green	used	0	4
127.	4 a., slate-green	"	0	4
148.	2 a., purple	"	0	2
149.	3 a., orange-brown	"	0	4
152.	8 a., magenta	"	0	9

SPAIN.

1905.	Don Quixote Commemoration.	s.	d.
5 c., deep green	used	0	2

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

THE JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT - FRED. J. MELVILLE.

*The President, Officers, and Committee request the honour of
your Company at the*

Exhibition of the Stamps of the British Empire,

*To be held in CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER (nearly opposite Arms
and Navy Stores),
March 12th-14th, 1908.*

— Orchestra Daily. —

Open

Thursday, March 12th, 3.30-10 p.m.

Friday, March 13th, 10 a.m.—10 p.m.

Saturday, March 14th, 10 a.m.—9 p.m.

HERBERT F. JOHNSON

(Hon. Exhibition Sec.),

44 Fleet Street, E.C.

WITH COMPLIMENTS OF STANLEY GIBBONS LTD.



Philatelic Societies

Herts Philatelic Society

President : Franz Reichenheim, Esq.
 Hon. Secretary : H. A. Slade, Esq., Ninefields, St. Albans.
 Meetings : 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.
 Annual Subscription, 5s.

THE fifth general meeting of the Society was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, 18 February, 1908, at 6.30 p.m.

Present : Messrs. Franz Reichenheim (President), H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), T. H. Harvey, W. G. Cool, R. Frenzel, W. T. Standen, M. Simons, L. E. Bradbury, R. A. Boyes, E. W. Arnold, H. Wills, E. Bound, F. Read, D. Thomson, W. H. Eastwood, M. Weinberg, J. E. Lincoln, Dr. Dewey Buncombe, A. G. Wane, W. Gunner, P. Ashley, J. C. Sidebotham (Hon. Librarian), H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and two visitors (L. E. Hall and C. W. Bressley).

The President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 January, 1908, were read and signed as correct.

Messrs. Warren H. Colson, and A. J. Warren were elected ordinary members of the Society.

Donations to the Forgery Collection were received from Messrs. C. C. Tall, F. W. Arnold, and H. A. Kice; to the Ordinary Collection from the President. These were duly acknowledged with thanks.

Several contributions to the Library were announced by the Hon. Librarian.

Mr. Frenzel informed the members that the Webster Collection of Entires received by the Society consisted of:—

Europe	470 pieces.
Asia	200 "
Africa	101 "
America	217 "
Australia	137 "
Duplicates	170 "
Total	1295 pieces.

A special vote of thanks to Dr. Webster for his liberality was proposed by the President, seconded by the Vice-President, and carried with acclamation.

The following resolutions were proposed and carried:—

"That the Herts Philatelic Society become a member of the Philatelic Literature Society, and that the Hon. Librarian be appointed the representative of the Society at the meetings."

"That a donation of £2 2s. be given to the Junior Philatelic Society as a contribution towards their Exhibition expenses."

"That at the general display at the March meeting the exhibits of each member be limited to twenty-five stamps."

In the absence of Mr. T. W. Hall, who was unavoidably prevented from attending, Mr. L. E. Hall exhibited his father's collection of the stamps of Danish West Indies, and, as the stamps were being banded round, read explanatory notes on the different issues, printings, etc.

At the conclusion Mr. G. Wane proposed and Mr. H. Wills seconded a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hall, sen., for sending his stamps for display, and to Mr. Hall, jun., for reading the notes, etc. Carried with enthusiasm and suitably acknowledged.

Mr. R. Frenzel then passed round a part of his wonderful collection containing "the most interesting stamps of the surcharged issues of Mexico from 1856 to 1883." As Mr. Boyes, in proposing a vote of thanks, truly said, this collection is one of the most monumental and complete in existence, and great appreciation was shown by the members at the opportunity afforded them of examining its wonderful details.

Mr. F. Read seconded the vote of thanks, which was passed with acclamation.

Mr. Frenzel returned thanks, and the proceedings of the meeting terminated at 8.20 p.m.

Stamp Trade Protection Association

THE annual general meeting of the Association was held on 20 February, 1908, at 7 p.m.

There were present Messrs. F. H. Oliver, W. Hadlow, E. J. Bridger, B. E. Martin, D. Campbell, J. J. Coates, F. B. Turpin, G. Loverius, J. Waite, and J. H. Telfer (in the chair).

Proxies were also received from Messrs. C. J. Phillips, H. Griebert, H. E. Haworth, W. T. Wilson, W. Jacoby, T. D. Willson, W. Brown, E. J. Moffat, A. B. Kay, W. Windrath, and W. U. Heierle.

The minutes of the last annual general meeting were read and confirmed.

The following Directors for the current year were duly balloted for and elected:—Messrs. F. H. Oliver, E. J. Bridger, J. H. Telfer, W. Hadlow, P. L. Pemberton, and B. E. Martin.

The Secretary's Report for the last year was read and approved.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. J. H. Telfer for his services as Chairman for the past year was unanimously carried.

J. S. G. TELFER, Secretary.

63-4 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1906-7.

THERE are at present fifty subscribing active members of this Association, of whom seven were elected during the year, five old members retiring.

The current year is opening very well, two new members having been elected, and several gentlemen having applied for particulars of membership.

The expenses are rather heavier this year, owing to an arrangement for English and foreign inquiries with an inquiry office of the highest standing and reliability; included is also the honorarium voted to the Secretary at the last annual general meeting.

The Secretary has to thank the members generally for the aid they now afford him in advising any doubtful applications or transactions. It often enables him to know how to deal with one of those individuals if he has succeeded in imposing on any member.

The number of cases placed in the hands of the Secretary for the recovery of stamps or debts totalled 265 during the past year, of which 97 have been settled in full, over 40 being still in the hands of solicitors or the police, and in 17 cases the time limit for the possible settlement has not yet expired.

The greater proportion of the unsuccessful cases were due to the fact of the removal of the parties and inability to trace them, and to the use of letter-call offices, this last evil showing signs of continued increase.

The amount in cash and stamps recovered amounted to £402 8s., out of a total value of £1022.

The prosecution of Treherne at Brighton absorbed so much time that some of the matters in hand have stood over longer than they would otherwise have done; this case, full reports of which have appeared in the Philatelic Press, has cost the Association so far £34, and there are at present further claims amounting to £27.

Included in these expenses are the expenditures paid by the Association in obtaining evidence and preparing the case for the Inland Revenue authorities.

Particulars of membership will be gladly sent on application to the Secretary,

J. S. G. TELFER,
 63 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

GRAND COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL READERS OF

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

£ 1 0 0 in Prizes

WE have decided to give away the sum of one hundred pounds in prizes for those who succeed in getting us the largest number of *new subscribers* from 1 January to 30 June, 1908.

The conditions of this competition will be as follows:—

1. The competition is open to every one except to employes of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.
2. The Competitors sending in the highest number of new subscriptions will win, however small the number may be.
3. Subscriptions for a half-year cost 3s. 3d. and will reckon as one vote; a subscription of 6s. 6d. for a year will reckon as two votes.
4. Competitors should at the end of each month send in a list of new subscribers, together with the proper amount of the subscriptions, addressed to

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.,
391 STRAND, LONDON,

with the words "*G.S.W. Competition*" written on lower left corner of envelope.

5. All lists must be sent in by 30 July, 1908, and the names of the winners will be announced in *G.S.W.* about the end of August.

6. In case of any disputes they will be settled by Messrs. C. J. Phillips and G. Hamilton-Smith, whose decision will be final.

The prizes offered will be as follows:—

1st prize.	Stamps to be selected by the winner from our Catalogue or approval sheets to the value of	£	s.	d.
		40	0	0
2nd	" " "	20	0	0
3rd	" " "	10	0	0
4th	" " "	7	10	0
5th	" " "	5	0	0
6th	" " "	2	10	0
7th	Packet of stamps value	4	0	0
8th	Imperial Album, bound in 3 vols., No. 8 quality	3	15	0
9th	" " " 7 "	2	7	6
10th	" " " 6 "	1	12	0
11th	Facile Oriol Album	1	10	0
12th	Ideal Album, No. 2	15	0	
13th	Century Album, No. 21	12	6	
14th	Strand Album, No. 15	5	0	
15th	Improved Album, No. 2	3	6	

Any of our readers who intend to compete for these prizes can have sample bundles of our paper to distribute to their friends free of all charge on receipt of a post card stating how many copies they can use.

We hope many subscribers will compete; those with a large circle of friends may get several dozen subscriptions, but some of the smaller prizes may be won with a very small number of subscriptions.

The attached form must be used by all entering in this competition.

I hereby enter my name as a competitor in the above competition, and agree to abide by the regulations set forth above.

Name

Address

I send the following names of new subscribers to G.S.W. and enclose

£,

.....

**To STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited,
391 Strand, London, W.C.**

JUST PUBLISHED.

STAMP CATALOGUE, 1908.

Most varieties have our selling prices quoted for unused and used Stamps.

POCKET SIZE, in Two Volumes.

Vol. I. contains all

Postage Stamps of Great Britain and the British Colonies.

Price 2/6; post-free, 2/9.

Vol. II. contains the

Postage Stamps of the rest of the World.

Price 2/6; post-free, 2/10.

This Catalogue is the most reliable guide to Stamps and their values.

THE Collector will find in this Catalogue a mass of useful information given by no other catalogue known to us. We divide and price separately all minor varieties of perforation, watermark, and type, and thus enable the Collector to discover the value of rare varieties he may possess, and which are not given in any other catalogue.

NONE OF OUR PRICES ARE GUESS-WORK; they are all based on our stock of Stamps, and all Stamps priced are in stock as we go to press.

FREE to readers of GIBBONS STAMP WEEKLY.

Catalogue Part I, 1907.

WE have a few of the above left on hand, and we shall be pleased to present a copy to any reader who makes an early application at our stall (No. 1) in the JUNIOR PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, Caxton Hall, Westminster, 12th, 13th, and 14th March.

Answer to DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 4 of Series. Must be sent only on this Form.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

Signature

Initials or Pseudonym for acknowledging.

Address

or Post Town for recognition in case two of same name. (Not for Publication.)

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 26.

A FINE COLLECTION OF

BRITISH

COLONIAL STAMPS

In an Imperial Album, Vol. I, containing 1450 stamps,
of which 1300 are unused.

In many countries there are no common stamps, but only some of the rarer varieties; among the better countries we might mention **British Guiana**, with 1853 r.c., vermilion, unused, and a fine lot of stamps of the issues 1860-75, many unused. **Canada** pence issue, ½d., 3d., 6d., 6½d., and 10d. **Cape**, a few triangulars, and a fine lot of later issues. **Ceylon**, some good pence issues. **Cyprus**, a fine page, including several complete sets. **Dominica**, good page. **Gambia, Gold Coast, Hong Kong**, a fine lot. **Jamaica**, nearly all unused, including some fine wmk. Pineapple. **New Brunswick**, 6d., yellow, used. **Newfoundland**, a good lot of the old issues. **Northern Nigeria**, good set. **St. Christopher**, a fine lot of unused, including the 1d., lilac-rose C.A. **St. Helena**, two fine pages of unused. **Seychelles**, a good lot. **Sierra Leone**, a fine lot of unused, including 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., and 1/-, perf. 1½, and 6d. on blue paper. **Trinidad**, a good collection of old issues, mostly used. **Victoria**, a fine lot, mostly unused.

The owner states that by the 1908 Catalogue the value is £450; to effect an immediate sale for cash he offers it at the very low price of

— **£120.** —

At which price we strongly recommend it.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 12, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 165).

21 MARCH, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: French Consular Offices <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	177
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By "The Sub"</i>	179
3. THE INFLUENCE OF QUEEN'S HEAD POSTAGE STAMPS. <i>By J. W. H. Heslop</i>	180
4. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	181
5. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i>	183
6. JAMAICA <i>By Eustace B. Power</i>	185
7. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	186
8. HISTORICAL PHILATELY. The Stamps of the Carlist Rising <i>By Norman Thornton</i>	187
9. NEWFOUNDLAND. <i>By W. Ward</i>	189
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	190
11. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	191
12. CORRESPONDENCE	191
13. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	192
14. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 " rarer	5 1
9.	200 " rare	5 1
66.	500 "	4 1
67.	1000 "	15 0
68.	1500 "	35 0
69.	2000 "	60 0
69A.	3000 "	170 0
69B.	4000 "	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE
CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value
offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.

BRITISH GUIANA

1900-2.

Type 28. Watermark Crown
CA Single.

48 c., grey and brown-lilac.

The above Stamp is now obsolete, the current 48 c.
having the multiple watermark.

Catalogue Price, Six Shillings

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the above Stamp,

Unused and Mint,

3s., post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to The Editor, *G. S. W.*, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL. BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10 . . .	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3 . . .	post-free	7 6	" 11 . . .	"	5 0
" 4 . . .	"	5 6	" 12 . . .	"	4 0
" 5 . . .	"	5 0	" 13 . . .	"	4 0
" 6 . . .	"	6 6	" 14 . . .	"	4 0
" 7 . . .	"	6 0	" 15 . . .	"	4 0
" 8 . . .	"	6 0	" 16 . . .	"	4 0
" 9 . . .	"	5 0	" 17 . . .	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the **LOW PRICES** at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used. Unused.† Used and 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.			No. in Set.	s. d.
BRITISH NEW GUINEA.				
145†	1906.	Surcharged Papua (large) ½d., 1d., 2d., and 2½d.	4	3 0
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.				
146†	1907.	Native Canoe. Full set, ½d. to 1s.	7	3 0
BRITISH SOMALILAND.				
148†	1903.	"Queen" overprinted. ½ a. to 12 a.	9	6 6
149†	"	"King" " 1 a., 2 a., 3 a., 4 a., and 8 a.	5	2 9
BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.				
151†	1890-5.	½d., 1d., 3d., 4d., and 8d.	5	5 0
153†	1896-7.	½d., 1d., 4d., 6d., 8d., and 1s.	6	3 9
154†	"	2s., 2s 6d., 3s., and 4s.	4	13 6
155†	1897.	Redrawn. 3d., 4d., 6d., and 8d.	4	2 6
156†	1898-1907.	½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	7	2 9
157†	"	2s. 6d., 5s., and 7s. 6d.	3	17 3
158†	1905.	Victoria Falls. 1d., 2½d., 5d., and 1s.	4	2 3
159†	"	" 2s. 6d. and 5s.	2	9 0
BRUNEI.				
160†	1906.	Surcharged on Labuan. 1 c., 2 c. on 3 c., 3 c., 8 c., and 10 c. on 16 c.	5	4 6
161†	1907.	View of river. 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 8 c., 10 c., and 25 c.	7	1 9
BULGARIA.				
163†	1882-1901.	"Lion." Various issues and provisionals	15	2 0
164*	"	" " " "	21	1 3
165†	1901-7.	War and Accession Commemorative issues	5	1 0
166*	1902.	Ferdinand. 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 10 on 15, 15, 25, and 30 stot	9	0 6
BUNDI.				
168†	1898-1900.	½ a., 1 a., 2 a., and 8 a.	4	2 0
CANADA.				
172*	1868-97.	Queen. 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c. (2), 8 c., 20 c., and 50 c.	8	0 9
173†	1897.	Jubilee. 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., and 10 c.	5	2 3
174†	1897-9.	Maple. ½ c., 1 c., 2 c., 2 c. on 3 c., and 3 c.	5	0 8
175†	1898-9.	Figures. ½ c., 1 c., 2 c., 2 c. on 3 c., 3 c., and 10 c.	6	1 3
176†	1903.	King. 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 7 c., and 10 c.	5	1 4
177*	1897-1903.	Various issues, including three Jubilee, Map and King	23	1 3
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.				
179*	1855-82.	4d., Triangular. 1d., 3d., 4d. (2), and 6d., Hope. CC and CA.	6	3 0
180†	1874-93.	Provisionals. 1d. on 1s., ½d. on 3d., 2½d. on 3d., and 1d. on 2d.	4	12 0
181†	1884-98.	"Hope" seated. Wmk. Anchor. ½d. (2), 1d., 2d. (2), 2½d., 3d., and 4d. (blue).	8	5 0
182*	1884-1900.	Three types. ½d. (3), 1d. (3), 1d. on 2d., 2d. (2), 2½d. (2), 3d., 4d. (2), 6d., 1s., and 5s.	17	1 6
183*	1902.	King. ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	7	0 9
CAPE VERDE ISLANDS.				
185†	1893.	Full face. 5 r., 15 r., 20 r., and 25 r.	4	2 0
186*	1886-1903.	Three issues, including 25 r., and 50 r., embossed	12	1 0
CAUCA.				
188	1901.	Tumaco provisionals. 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c.	3	5 0

NOW READY.

THE FOLLOWING

GREATER BRITAIN PACKETS OF

BRITISH Colonial Stamps

NO DUPLICATES.

EVERY Packet of this series contains different varieties, no Stamp being included in two Packets, and purchasers will by this novel method be saved the inconvenience of acquiring duplicates, which is as a rule the bane of most packet buying.

STAMPS OF ASIA.

No. 111 contains	20 varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 112 "	25 "	" "	2/1
" 113 "	40 "	" "	3/7
" 114 "	40 "	" "	6/7
" 115 "	50 "	" "	16/7
" 116 "	45 "	" "	12/1
" 117 "	30 "	" "	4/1
" 118 "	40 "	" "	21/1

STAMPS OF AFRICA.

No. 121 contains	20 varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 122 "	25 "	" "	2/7

STAMPS OF WEST INDIES.

No. 141 contains	20 varieties.	Price, post-free,	10d.
" 142 "	20 "	" "	2/1

STAMPS OF AUSTRALASIA.

No. 151 contains	25 varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 152 "	30 "	" "	1/7
" 153 "	30 "	" "	4/7

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUBED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

AUSTRIA.

1908. Newspaper stamps.			
<i>Head of Mercury. Imperf.</i>			
2 h., deep blue	.	.	0 1
6 h., orange	.	.	0 1
10 h., rose-carmine	.	.	0 2
20 h., chocolate	.	.	0 3

GERMAN EAST AFRICA.

1906-7. Ship Type. Watermarked Lozenges.			
2½ h., brown	.	.	0 1
4 h., green	.	.	0 2
7½ h., carmine	.	.	0 3
60 h., black and carmine on rose	.	.	1 0

GERMAN LEVANT.

1906-7. Stamps of Germany surcharged.			
<i>Wmk. Lozenges.</i>			
10 paras on 5 pf., green (No. T 47)	.	.	0 1
20 paras on 10 pf., carmine (No. T 48)	.	.	0 2
1 pi. on 20 pf., ultramarine (No. T 49)	.	.	0 4
1½ pi. on 30 pf., black and orange on buff (No. T 51)	.	.	0 5
2 pi. on 40 pf., black and carmine (No. T 52)	.	.	0 6
2½ pi. on 50 pf., black and lilac on buff (No. T 53)	.	.	0 8
10 pi. on 2 m., blue (No. 56)	.	.	2 6
25 pi. on 5 m., lake and black (No. T 58)	.	.	6 6

GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA.

1906-7. Ship Type. Watermarked Lozenges.			
3 pf., brown	.	.	0 1
5 pf., green	.	.	0 1

JAPAN.

1899-1907. Type 26. Perf. 13 to 14 or 13 × 13½.			
½ sen, slate (No. 211)	.	.	0 6

KIAUTCHOU.

1906-7. Ship Type. Watermarked Lozenges.			
1 c., brown	.	.	0 1
2 c., green	.	.	0 1
½ dol., carmine	.	.	1 6
1 dol., blue	.	.	2 9
1½ dol., violet-black	.	.	4 0
2½ dol., carmine and black	.	.	6 6

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

City of London Philatelic Society

President: W. B. Edwards, B.Sc.
Hon. Sec.: James L. Eastwood, 169 Farms Park Road,
 Crouch End, London, N.
Meeting Place: Mills's Restaurant, 14 Broad Street Place, E.C.
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (October to May).
Subscription: 2s. 6d. yearly (No Entrance Fee).

The forty-fourth monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, 19 February, at Mills's Restaurant, 14 Broad Street Place, E.C.

The President, Mr. W. B. Edwards, occupied the chair. The minutes of the previous monthly meeting were read and duly confirmed.

Mr. G. F. M. Camroux, of Woking, Mr. T. H. Nicolle, of Sydney, New South Wales, and Mr. A. H. Williams, of Stroud Green, N., were elected members of the Society.

The Hon. Counterfeit Detector proposed and Mr. F. A. Meggy seconded a very hearty vote of thanks to the following gentlemen for donations to the Society's Forgery Collection: Messrs. Constantinides, Hoffmann, Stirling, and Willgoos.

A very handsome volume, entitled *College Stamps: Oxford and Cambridge*, was presented to the Library by the author, the Rev. Hayman Cummings.

Mr. E. J. Homewood also presented the following books:—*Sarawak*, by B. W. H. Poole; *South African Provisional War Stamps*, by B. W. H. Poole; and *Countries and Stamps*.

Both the above gentlemen were accorded the best thanks of the Society for their donations.

The first item on the programme was entitled "The Limitations of the Minor Variety," by Mr. W. B. Edwards, which proved to be a very entertaining and instructive paper, dealing with the division of stamps in the numerous catalogues into groups under the headings of Gum, Watermark, Perforation, Colour, Paper, and Design.

Space will not permit of dealing with the address under its various b-adings, but in the discussion which followed Mr. J. Read Burton and Mr. H. A. Fulcher considered and controverted some of the points raised by Mr. Edwards.

Mr. Westcott also made a few remarks, and concluded with moving a hearty vote of thanks to the President for his paper, which was seconded by Mr. D. H. Jackson and passed with acclamation.

The programme concluded with a further display of a portion of Mr. J. E. Heginbottom's well-known collection of stamps, which on this occasion consisted of Cape of Good Hope, Grenada, Gold Coast, Lagos, and Orange River Colony.

The sheets contained some very fine and rare stamps of these several colonies, and the vote of thanks which was subsequently proposed and seconded was a slight mark of the members' appreciation of Mr. Heginbottom's kindness.

The Hon. Secretary will be pleased to supply any information respecting the Society to intending members on receipt of a post card to the above address.

Herne Bay Philatelic Society

Hon. Sec.: T. F. Newton, 8 Promenade Central, Herne Bay.

At the meeting of this Society held on Wednesday, 5 February, the President was in the chair. The chief item on the programme was a paper read by Mr. Christian Kräuter on "Sale Prices," which proved to be of great interest, showing as it did the trend of prices of some well-known stamps. An interesting discussion ensued, several novelties were shown, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Kräuter ended a very pleasant evening.

The next meeting was held on Wednesday, 19 February. Owing to the unavoidable absence of the President, who is on the Continent, Vice-President H. J. Bignold occupied the chair. After the preliminary business had been concluded, a paper was read by Mr. F. H. Barwood on "The Stamps of British Central Africa," with display. The subject was treated historically, etc., and presented Philately in its most interesting form. The display had been specially mounted for the occasion, and showed the majority of the stamps in splendid condition. A well-deserved vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Barwood.

The meetings continue to be well attended, the Society steadily growing, and doing good work towards keeping Philately alive in this corner of Kent.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.
Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.
Entrance fee: 2s. 6d. No Entrance fee for ladies or for Juniors.

The ninth ordinary meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, 15 February, at 3 Bedford Street, Strand. The President took the chair at 8 p.m. The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Society: Messrs. T. C. H. Shard, E. M. Carpenter, A. W. Batchelder, F. Wigston, H. F. Crohn, T. Sykes, jun., T. D. Willson, S. Fox, H. L. Powell.

Donations to the Forgery Collection were acknowledged from Messrs. W. G. Cambell and A. E. Heather.

The President announced that the football match between the Exhibition Committee and members of the Society, played during the afternoon, had resulted in a win for the Committee, the score being six goals to four.

Mr. Melville said that it gave him great pleasure to welcome so many ladies at the meeting on this "Ladies' Night," and he hoped they would continue to come in large numbers to the remaining meetings of the season.

Mr. Edgar Nelson, an American member of the Society, next gave us a short account of the progress of Philately on the other side of the Atlantic. He spoke of the good feeling existing between American and English philatelists, and said that in a large number of things English Philately was far in advance of American. At the close Mr. Melville proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Nelson for his very interesting address. Mr. Lodge seconded, and it was unanimously carried.

Mrs. D. Field next gave us a display of a portion of her fine collection of British Colonials, among which one noticed large panes and sheets of early Transvaals and a splendid collection of Sudan, containing a very large number of errors of overprint and other interesting varieties. The collection was greatly admired by all, not only because of the rarity of the stamps, but also on account of their fine condition. At the close Mr. Melville proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Field, which was seconded by Mrs. Holland and carried with enthusiasm.

The following donations have been received towards the Exhibition expenses:—

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	25	11	6
The Royal Philatelic Society	25	0	0
The Kent and Sussex Philatelic Society	2	2	0
The City of London Philatelic Society	1	1	0
The Junior Philatelic Society of Scotland	0	10	6
W. H. Peckitt, Esq.	5	5	0
Glendening and Co.	2	2	0
Major Evans	2	2	0
Mrs. Collins	1	1	0
Francis Ransom, Esq.	1	1	0
Harvey R. G. Clarke, Esq.	1	1	0
R. B. Yardley, Esq.	1	1	0
E. D. Bacon, Esq.	1	1	0
F. Juare, Esq.	1	1	0
B. W. H. Poole, Esq.	0	10	6
F. Shulski, Esq.	0	10	6
Victor Marsh, Esq.	0	10	6
A. H. Clarke, Esq.	0	10	6
C. H. Mannouch, Esq.	0	10	0
Willy Jacoby, Esq.	0	10	0
Miss Cassels	0	5	0
A. H. Bridson, Esq.	0	5	0
G. H. Holland, Esq.	0	5	0
P. Clare, Esq.	0	5	0
J. C. Sidebottom, Esq.	0	5	0
H. W. Westcott, Esq.	0	5	0
Capt. F. F. Freeman	0	5	0
Miss E. Salkeld	0	2	6
A. T. Granger, Esq.	0	2	6
Edmund Strode, Esq.	0	2	6
C. D. Hotwright, Esq.	0	2	6
G. W. B. Maggs, Esq.	0	2	6
F. J. Hewitt, Esq.	0	2	6
H. F. Crohn, Esq.	0	2	6
F. B. Smith, Esq.	0	2	6
J. F. Sowerby, Esq.	0	2	6
Mark Easton, Esq.	0	2	0
E. G. Hunnell, Esq.	0	1	6
L. H. White, Esq.	0	1	0
J. H. Hillebrand, Esq.	0	1	0
A Well-wisher	0	1	0
	£76	6	0

Further donations to this Fund are requested, and will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged by

H. F. JOHNSON,

Exhibition Offices, 44 Fleet Street, E.C.

The Sectional Imperial Album.

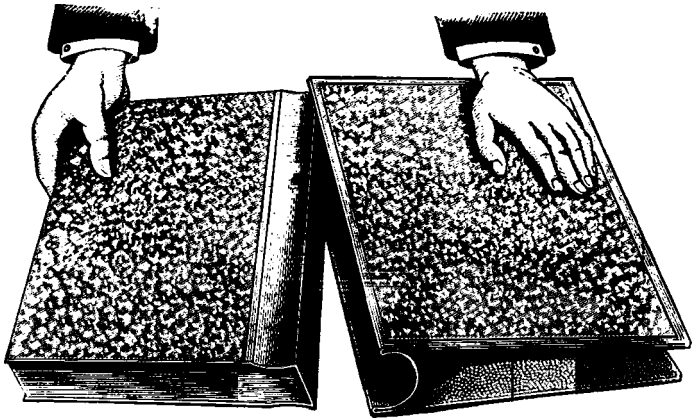
THIS NEW ALBUM IS FULLY DESCRIBED ON THE
OPPOSITE PAGE.

Now Ready. SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN

(86 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it.



THE BINDERS

have been specially made and are of the simplest description; you only have to bend back the cover with one hand and remove the leaves with the other. (*See above.*)

These Binders will hold from twenty to nearly two hundred leaves.

They are in two qualities, as follows:—

No. 33.—Handsomely bound in marone cloth, bevelled boards, lettered on sides and also in gold on back, with sunk panel on back for insertion of particulars of contents. Price 6/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 6/6; abroad, 7/-.

No. 34.—Superbly half-bound in green Levant Morocco, cloth sides, bevelled boards, gold lettering on back, with sunk panel for contents. Price 15/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 15/6; abroad, 16/-.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

The Sectional Imperial Album.

FOR many years past collectors have asked us for an Album on the well-known principle of the Imperial Albums, but having movable leaves, and this want will be fully supplied by the new Album we now have in the press.

There was great objection to the last Imperial Album, as it consisted of three large books, and young collectors with 2000 or 3000 varieties found their stamps lost in so large a space. In addition to this we have found by long experience that very few collectors want to collect the stamps of the whole World, but prefer to take up certain Continents, Countries, or Groups of Countries.

We are providing for all requirements by means of THE SECTIONAL IMPERIAL ALBUM. As its name implies, the Album will be in Sections, and each Section will be sold separately.

Each Country will constitute a Section, and collectors can thus decide what countries they will take up, and buy those sections only. When they want to add fresh countries to their collections they can do so at a very low cost.

The leaves of the Album will all be loose, and special cheap binders are being made to hold them. These binders will each hold any number of leaves from twenty up to nearly two hundred.

On the left-hand page there is a full description of all stamps, with illustrations of all types and watermarks. Each stamp is numbered, and on the right-hand page there is a corresponding number under a square or rectangle of the correct size of the stamp; so the beginner will have no difficulty in placing the stamps in the correct spaces.

The numbers to the stamps and squares correspond in all cases to those given in the 1908 Edition of our Catalogues; so collectors who want to fill up certain spaces can turn to the Catalogue to see the price, and if they decide to buy, can send us a want list consisting only of the name of the Country and the number of the square. All stamps given in our 1908 Catalogues will have spaces provided for them in THE SECTIONAL IMPERIAL ALBUM.

Some collectors may not want to collect such things as Postal Fiscals, Official, or Unpaid Stamps, etc. etc. Therefore this new Album has been so arranged that the pages for these are quite separate from those of the ordinary Postage Stamps, and can be removed without interfering with the rest of the Section.

Collectors will not have to wait until the whole Album is printed, as each Section will be put on sale immediately it is ready.

The Sections will be issued in the following order:—

Great Britain.	Europe, Foreign Countries.
West Indies.	Asia " "
North American Colonies.	Africa " "
Colonies in Africa.	America " "
Australia.	Rest of the World, Foreign
All other Colonies.	Countries.

The price of a Section will vary, according to the number of pages occupied, from a few pence to several shillings each. As each Section is ready it will be advertised in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, to which we refer our readers for further particulars as the Album appears.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 39, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 27. A SUPERB COLLECTION OF MODERN

BRITISH

AND

COLONIAL STAMPS

All in blocks of four, unused, mint, consisting only of multiple watermarks on ordinary and chalky paper, and the Australian stamps, consisting only of those watermarked Crown and A.

THE collection fills two of the fine G.H.S. Albums, and contains 718 blocks of four. It also includes a few Straits Settlements, used.

No stamps of higher face value than 20 rupees are included. Among the better things are the following, all in blocks of four, mint.

Great Britain, 2/6, 5/, 10/-, and £1. Morocco Agencies, 3, 6, and 12 pesetas. Levant, 12 and 24 piastres. Cyprus, 5 p. to 45 piastres. Gambia, ½d. to 2/-. Gold Coast, ½d. to 2/6. Lagos, ½d. to 10/-, ordinary; ½d. to 10/-, chalky. Southern Nigeria, ½d. to £1. Sierra Leone, ½d. to 5/-. Cape, ½d. to 5/-. Seychelles, 2 c. to 2/25 r. East Africa and Uganda, ½ a. to 20 r. Zanzibar, ½ a. to 5 r. Ceylon, 2 c. to 2/25 r. Straits Settlements, 1 c. to \$5. Brunei on Labuan, 1 c. to \$1; (Picture), 1 c. to \$1. Hong Kong, 2 c. to \$10. Jamaica, ½d. to 5/-. British Honduras, 1 c. to \$5. British Guiana, 1 c. to \$2.40. Grenada, ½d. to 10/-. Falkland Isles, ½d. to 5/-.

The owner states that the face value is over £140, and as the collection includes many rarities, such as the double sets of Lagos, Brunei low values, and many other things which have become very scarce, we can strongly recommend this collection as a really fine investment at the price of

£175.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 13, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 169).

28 MARCH, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: French Consular Offices <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	193
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By "The Sub"</i>	195
3. STAMP EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1908. <i>Notes by Frank Phillips</i>	196
4. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	203
5. PORTRAITS ON STAMPS. <i>By Boswell Junior</i>	205
6. SPECIALISM <i>By R. E. R. Dalwigh</i>	206
7. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	206
8. BRITISH LEVANT AND MOROCCO. <i>By W. W.</i>	207
9. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	207
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	208
11. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.	
		s.	d.
7.	100, all different	2	1
8.	100 „ rarer	5	1
9.	200 „ rare	5	1
66.	500 „	4	1
67.	1000 „	15	0
68.	1500 „	35	0
69.	2000 „	60	0
69A.	3000 „	170	0
69B.	4000 „	280	0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.

VENEZUELA

1900.

Type 33. Error, overprint omitted.

5 c., orange (Catalogue No. 277).

Catalogue Price, 20s.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the above Stamp,

Unused and Mint,

9d., post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 108 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to The Editor, *G. S. W.*, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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.* Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; *R.* Reprint; *W.* Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907, 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

- The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
- Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
- New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
- Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
- Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
- "Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
- Philatelic Societies' Reports.
- The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
- Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
- Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gr. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s.	d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s.	d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7	6	" 11	"	5	0
" 4	"	5	6	" 12	"	4	0
" 5	"	5	0	" 13	"	4	0
" 6	"	6	6	" 14	"	4	0
" 7	"	6	0	" 15	"	4	0
" 8	"	6	0	" 16	"	4	0
" 9	"	5	0	" 17	"	4	0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the LOW PRICES at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used.* Unused.† Used and 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.			No. in Set.	s. d.
GAYMAN ISLANDS.				
189f	1907-2.	Single wmk. Queen, ½d., and 1d. King, ½d., 1d., 2½d., and 6d.	6	5 6
CEYLON.				
192f	1872-1900.	Queen. 2c. (2), 3c. (2), 4c. (2), 5c., 6c., 25c., and 28c.	10	4 6
192*	"	2c. (2), 3c. (2), 4c. (2), 5c., 6c., 15c. (2), 25c., and 30c.	12	1 0
193f	1885-99.	Provisionals, including 5c. on 4c. rose	8	2 6
194*	"	"	7	1 6
195f	1903.	King. Single wmk. 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 6c., 12c., and 30c.	7	3 9
196f	1904.	" Multiple wmk. 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 6c., 12c., 15c., and 30c.	8	1 3
197*	Service, 1895-1900.	Queen. 2c., 5c., 15c. (2), and 30c.	5	0 6
CHAMBA.				
199f	1886-1903.	Queen, 3 p. (2), ½ a., 1 a., and 4 a. King, 3 p., ½ a., 1 a., and 2 a.	9	1 6
CHILI.				
201*	1857-67.	Early issues, imperf. and perf.	7	1 0
202*	1877.	All values, 1c. to 50c.	6	0 9
203*	1881-1900.	1c. and 2c., both types. 5c., two colours, 5c. on 30c., 10c., 15c., 20c., 25c., and 1 peso.	12	1 0
204f	1900-2.	1c., three varieties. 2c. (2), 5c., and 10c. on 30c.	7	1 3
205*	"	Including 10c. and 30c., bicolored	13	1 3
206f	1904.	Provisionals on Telegraph Stamps. 1c., 2c., 5c., 10c., and 12c.	5	1 3
207*	"	"	5	0 8
208f	1905-7.	1c., 2c., 3c., 5c., 15c., 20c., and 50c.	7	2 0
209*	"	" and 10c.	8	0 9
210*	1883-1900.	Postal fiscals and telegraphs	6	1 0
CHINA.				
212f	1878-94.	Early issues, including 3 and 5 cand., first type	6	5 0
213f	1897.	Provisionals. Small and large figures	12	2 6
214f	1897.	Japanese Plates. ½ c., 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 20 c.	7	2 6
215f	1898-1907.	London plates. ½ c., 1 c., 2 c. (2), 4 c., 5 c. (2).	7	1 0
216*	"	" ½ c., 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c. (2), 10 c., 20 c., and 30 c.	9	0 8
COCHIN.				
227f	1892-7.	Small stamps, with and without wmk., ½ p., 1 p. (2), and 2 p. (2).	5	1 3
228f	1898.	Large stamps, all values	4	1 0
229*	1898-1903	" on both papers	8	1 3
COLOMBIA.				
222*	1867-81.	Various issues U.S. of Colombia. Imperf.	10	3 0
222f	1881.	1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 20 c.	5	1 6
223f	1886-91.	Republic issues, arms and portraits	7	1 6
224*	"	"	7	0 6
225f	1892-7.	Tinted papers. 1 c., 2 c., 5 c. (2), 20 c., 50 c., 1 p., 5 p., and 10 pesos	9	5 0
226*	"	" 1 c., 2 c., 5 c. (2), 10 c., 20 c., 50 c., and 1 p.	8	0 9
227f	1898-1901.	1 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 50 c.	4	0 6
228f	1899-1902.	Cartagena provisionals, with various controls	15	4 0
229f	1902-3.	On coloured paper. 2c., 4c. (2), 5c. (2), 10c. (2), 20c. (2), 50c., and 1 peso	11	1 3
230*	"	" 2c., 4c., 5c. (2), 10c. (2), 20c. (2), and 1 peso	9	1 3
231f	1902-4.	Baranquilla issue. Pictorial	10	1 6
232f	1903-4	" Portraits. Five 50 c. and three 1 peso	8	1 9
233f	"	" Arms. Three 5 pesos and two 10 pesos	5	6 6
234f	1904	" Pictorial, on coloured papers	5	0 9
235f	"	Regular issue, thin paper, 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., and 10 c.	4	1 6
236*	"	" thin paper and small figure types	8	0 10
237f	1886-1904.	Supplementary Services. Too Late. Registration and A.W.	7	0 10

NOW READY.

THE FOLLOWING

GREATER BRITAIN PACKETS OF

BRITISH Colonial Stamps

NO DUPLICATES.

EVERY Packet of this series contains different varieties, no Stamp being included in two Packets, and purchasers will by this novel method be saved the inconvenience of acquiring duplicates, which is as a rule the bane of most packet buying.

STAMPS OF ASIA.

No. 111 contains 20 varieties.	Price, post-free, 7d.
" 112 " 25 " " "	2/1
" 113 " 40 " " "	3/7
" 114 " 40 " " "	6/7
" 115 " 50 " " "	16/7
" 116 " 45 " " "	12/1
" 117 " 30 " " "	4/1
" 118 " 40 " " "	21/1

STAMPS OF AFRICA.

No. 121 contains 20 varieties.	Price, post-free, 7d.
" 122 " 25 " " "	2/7

STAMPS OF WEST INDIES.

No. 141 contains 20 varieties.	Price, post-free, 10d.
" 142 " 20 " " "	2/1

STAMPS OF AUSTRALASIA.

No. 151 contains 25 varieties.	Price, post-free, 7d.
" 152 " 30 " " "	1/7
" 153 " 30 " " "	4/7

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

CAMEROONS.

1900-7. <i>Ship type. Revised prices.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>
5 pf., green (No. 14)	used	0 4
25 pf., black and red on yellow (No. 17)	"	0 8
30 pf., " " orange on buff (No. 18)	"	0 6
40 pf., " " carmine (No. 19)	"	0 9
5 pf., green (watermarked)	"	0 2

CAROLINE ISLES.

1900. <i>Ship type. No watermark.</i>		
3 pf., brown	used	0 2
5 pf., green	"	0 2
10 pf., carmine	"	0 4
20 pf., ultramarine	"	0 7
25 pf., black and red on yellow	"	0 9
30 pf., " " orange on buff	"	0 10
40 pf., " " carmine	"	1 0
50 pf., " " violet on buff	"	1 4
80 pf., " " carmine on rose	"	2 0

CYPRUS.

1908. <i>King's head. Multiple Watermark.</i>		
5 paras, ochre and black		0 1

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

1907. <i>Type 32. Watermark "Crosses and Circles."</i>		
2 c., black and chestnut		0 2
10 c., " " purple		0 7

GERMAN CHINA.

1905. <i>Stamp of German Empire surcharged.</i>		
1 c., on 3 pf., brown (No. C30)		0 1

GERMAN LEVANT.

1906-7. <i>German stamp surcharged. Wmk. Lozenges.</i>		
10 pa. on 5 pf., green (No. T47)	used	0 2

GERMAN MOROCCO.

1906-7. <i>Stamps of Germany surcharged. Wmk. Lozenges.</i>		
3 c. on 3 pf., brown		0 1
3 c. on 3 pf., " "	used	0 1
5 c. on 5 pf., green	"	0 1
5 c. on 5 pf., " "	"	0 1
10 c. on 10 pf., carmine	"	0 2
35 c. on 30 c., black and orange on buff (No. 30)	"	0 6
1 p. 25 c. on 1 m., carmine	"	1 3
2 p. 50 c. on 2 m., blue	"	2 3
6 p. 25 c. on 5 m., lake and black	"	5 6

GWALIOR.

1903-5. <i>King's head.</i>		
4 a., olive-green (No. 80)	used	0 6

NICARAGUA.

1908. <i>Type 40, variously surcharged. With overprint Z3 in red.</i>		
15 c., olive		0 8
<i>With Z3 in black and 41 (downwards) in blue.</i>		
10 c. on 2 c., red (thick O)		0 8
10 c. on 50 c., orange (")		0 8
<i>With Z3 as above and 42 (downwards) in blue.</i>		
10 c. on 2 c., red (thin O)		1 3
10 c. on 50 c., orange (")		1 3
<i>With Type 41 (downwards) in blue, only.</i>		
10 c. on 50 c., orange (thick O)		0 4
10 c. on 50 c., " (thin O)		0 8

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

Junior Philatelic Society

Brighton Branch

Chairman: *W. Mead.*

Hon. Sec.: *J. Corner-Spokes, 22 Denmark Terrace, Brighton.*

The tenth meeting of the season was held on 27 February, 1905.

Donations to the Library were acknowledged from Messrs Herbert Clark and E. C. Stephens, with many thanks.

Mesrs. W. Cyril Owen and E. H. Type were elected upon the Committee.

The Chairman (Mr. Mead) then showed his fine collection of stamps issued from 1840 to 1886, which was much admired, and at the conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was passed to him.

The last packet which returned showed that 20 per cent had been sold.

Manchester Branch

MEETING held Thursday, 5 March, at the Deansgate Hotel, Mr. I. J. Bernstein, the President, in the chair. Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, the President of the Manchester Philatelic Society, gave a highly interesting paper on "Stamps and Stamp Collecting." So many incidents of interest were given by Mr. Beckton that space permits of giving only a few.

Members of Parliament were allowed to autograph their correspondence, which was then carried free by His Majesty's Post Office previous to the use of adhesive stamps.

This privilege, however, was cancelled upon the introduction of penny postage. Various methods were already known previous to the introduction or invention of stamps to signify the prepayment of postage, namely, the Sardinian letter sheets of 1813 to 1836; the envelopes of Sydney, N.S.W., the latter being used during the Postmaster-Generalship of Sir D. Cooper, afterwards President of the London Philatelic, now the Royal Society; also the free posts of Batavia, Dutch East Indies.

The earliest Press notice of the collecting of stamps was a letter to *News and Notes* by S. F. Cresswell, of Tonbridge Schools, calling attention to the collection of some three hundred to four hundred stamps made by a boy in his class, who quoted the authority of Rowland Hill that there were already some five hundred varieties in existence.

A Mr. Moody issued the first catalogue in 1862, listing about three hundred distinct varieties, but probably ignoring many.

Mr. Beckton caused much amusement by giving a few details of his own initiation into the mysteries and fascinations of Philately by the finding of a Porto Rican stamp during a game of cricket, about the year 1879. From then to the time he first purchased an album, that, by the way, he never filled, fearing that by so doing he would spoil the newness and appearance of the book. In those days of Lallier's and Oppen's, Mr. Beckton said, he often feared any one stealing his philatelic gems, so he carefully fixed them to the albums by means of an adhesive called "coaguline," which one had to place in heat before it became a liquid, and once it stuck anything there was no removing that object.

His earliest recollections of purchasing stamps were from a Mr. Ranck, who was the first dealer established in Manchester, and who died about 1868 or 1899. From this dealer he bought his earliest album for any serious purpose of collecting. It was of German make (Mr. Beckton did not know the meaning of Protection in those days!) and published by a firm whose name started with a "Sch—" and ended with something like a sneeze. The stamps were provided for on the right-hand side of the opened book, and the description was given on the left-hand page; this was about 1881, so since then we can assume Mr. Beckton has never forsaken his hobby. In closing, he advised all not to specialize unless they felt they knew the seriousness of that branch of collecting. That the Manchester President knew what he was talking about was evinced from the fine collections of Western Australia, Fiji, Tasmania, Sardinia, and the French "Paris Prints" he banded round for the members' perusal. A hearty vote of thanks brought to a close a more than usually interesting evening—probably more so on account of the lecturer's no mean conversational art.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: *W. V. Morton, F.R.P.S.L.*

Hon. Secretary: *C. W. Harding, 1 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.*

Meetings: *Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.*

Annual Subscription: *5s.*

At the meeting of this Society held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, 18 February, a display was given by the members of the Huddersfield Philatelic Society.

The Vice-President (Mr. C. W. Harding) occupied the chair, and there was a representative gathering of the kindred societies. The visitors exhibited some very fine collections of stamps worthy of a Society much older than the Huddersfield one, which, it may be mentioned, is of quite recent date and thoroughly progressive.

Mr. Reynolds's collection of English stamps is a very large one, and such good things as the 2½d. lilac "I. R. Official," the 1s. Queen, green and scarlet, overprinted "Board of Education," and all the King's Head stamps overprinted for official use, viz. "Inland Revenue," "Government Parcels," "Admiralty," etc., were fully represented by superb used and unused copies. Several books of his contained the early English stamps, fully or partially plated, beginning with the 1d. black of 1840, the whole constituting a valuable lot. Then Dr. Adair's interesting collection of Spain was distinctly attractive, consisting, as it does, of the rare first issues. Dr. Adair does not collect the Spanish or any other European colonies excepting British, and confines himself to continental countries first and foremost; consequently he has been able to do justice to the fine earlier postal issues of Spain. Amongst other rarities were the Madrid 1 cuarto, bronze, of 1853; 10 reales, green, of 1850, and of 1851; the 6 cuartos, 1 real, and 2 reales of 1854 on bluish paper; also the 2 reales, red, of 1852, a very rare stamp. There were also some equally fine copies of the 10 cuartos stamps of 1860, 1862, 1864, and 1865, and also of the 2 escudos, blue, of 1870.

Miss Wrigley's general collection was very interesting, and contained stamps of all countries. The collection was begun many years ago, and some good stamps (oh, the pity of it!) were gummed down by the original collector, who would be a great sinner in philatelic circles were he to practise such barbarous methods nowadays. Siam is a country not much sought after, but Mr. Haigh had evidently devoted attention to this country, and wisely so, for there are many varieties of these stamps, and a specialized collection such as this is, in embryo it may be, well worth the time and money spent on it. There were included some nice copies, used and unused, of the rarer provisional and trial values of 1885 and several curiosities of surcharge in the later issues. Mr. Greenwood's collection of Jamaica, used and unused, was also greatly admired.

North London Philatelic Society

President: *Charles M. C. Symes.*

Hon. Secretary: *C. S. Muratori, 29 Fitching Road, Lower Clapton, N.E.*

Meetings: *1st and 3rd Thursdays, Central Y.M.C.A., 7 Highbury Place Highbury Station, N.*

Subscription: *2s. 6d. per annum.*

The usual fortnightly meeting took place on Thursday, 5 March, when sixteen members were present.

In the unavoidable absence of the President, Mr. A. W. Merrington occupied the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The programme for the evening consisted of a competitive display, limited to the stamps of one country, the award being a diploma; but owing to there being only five collections entered, namely, a finely specialized collection of Great Britain in two volumes, also one each of Chili, Haiti, Italy, and Siam, it was deemed advisable to postpone the competition until Thursday, 4 April, when several other collections have been promised. It was also decided to give two diplomas on that occasion—one for the best display of Great Britain or one of its colonies, and one for the best display of any foreign country. Will members please note this? Mr. A. R. Maisey gave a very interesting paper and display on "Assaninated Rulers, as Depicted on Postage Stamps," for which he was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks.

GRAND COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL READERS OF

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

£ 100 in Prizes

WE have decided to give away the sum of one hundred pounds in prizes for those who succeed in getting us the largest number of new subscribers from 1 January to 30 June, 1908.

The conditions of this competition will be as follows:—

1. The competition is open to every one except to employes of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.
2. The Competitors sending in the highest number of new subscriptions will win, however small the number may be.
3. Subscriptions for a half-year cost 3s. 3d. and will reckon as one vote; a subscription of 6s. 6d. for a year will reckon as two votes.
4. Competitors should at the end of each month send in a list of new subscribers, together with the proper amount of the subscriptions, addressed to

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.,
391 STRAND, LONDON,

with the words "G.S.W. Competition" written on lower left corner of envelope.

5. All lists must be sent in by 30 July, 1908, and the names of the winners will be announced in *G.S.W.* about the end of August.

6. In case of any disputes they will be settled by Messrs. C. J. Phillips and G. Hamilton-Smith, whose decision will be final.

The prizes offered will be as follows:—

1st prize. Stamps to be selected by the winner from our Catalogue or approval sheets to the value of		£	s.	d.
2nd	" " "	40	0	0
3rd	" " "	20	0	0
4th	" " "	10	0	0
5th	" " "	7	10	0
6th	" " "	5	0	0
7th	" " "	2	10	0
8th	Packet of stamps value	4	0	0
	Imperial Album, bound in 3 vols., No. 8 quality	3	15	0
9th	" " " 7 "	2	7	8
10th	" " " 6 "	1	12	0
11th	Facile Oriel Album	1	10	0
12th	Ideal Album, No. 2	1	5	0
13th	Century Album, No. 21	1	2	8
14th	Strand Album, No. 15	5	0	0
15th	Improved Album, No. 2	3	6	0

Any of our readers who intend to compete for these prizes can have sample bundles of our paper to distribute to their friends free of all charge on receipt of a post card stating how many copies they can use.

We hope many subscribers will compete; those with a large circle of friends may get several dozen subscriptions, but some of the smaller prizes may be won with a very small number of subscriptions.

The attached form must be used by all entering in this competition.

I hereby enter my name as a competitor in the above competition, and agree to abide by the regulations set forth above.

Name

Address

I send the following names of new subscribers to G.S.W. and enclose

£ " "

.....

To STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

THE JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Annual Subscription 2s. 6d.
Entrance Fee (for Gentlemen over 21 years of age) 2s. 6d.
No Entrance Fee for Juniors under 21 years of age or for Ladies.
Life Membership (No Entrance Fee) **Two Guineas.**

(Every Member shall be considered a subscriber for the ensuing year, unless his resignation in writing is received by the Hon. Sec. by the 1st October.—*Rule III.*)

I beg to offer myself for admission as a ^{MEMBER}_{LIFE MEMBER} of the Junior Philatelic Society, London. I agree to conform to the rules governing the Society, and undertake to give the Hon. Secretary due notice if at any time I should desire to resign my membership of the Society.

Name in full (Mr., Mrs., or Miss).....

Residence

State age if under 21 (Gentleman only)

I want a { Nickel (3d.), Bronze (6d.), } Badge.
 { Silver (1/3), or Gold (10/6) }

I { Want } to receive the Exchange Packets.
 { Do not want }

Signature

Date

For Applicant's use—ENCLOSURES.

	£	s.	d.
Entrance Fee			
Annual Subscription			
Life Subscription			
Badge			
Total			

TO ARTHUR SELINGER,
 Honorary Secretary,
 5 PAPER STREET,
 REDCROSS STREET, LONDON, E.C.

FOR SECRETARY'S USE ONLY.

Rec'd	Ent'd Fo.
Am't	Elected
Membership No.	

THE JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Annual Subscription 2s. 6d.
 Entrance Fee for Gentlemen over 21 years of age 2s. 6d.
 No Entrance Fee for Juniors under 21 years of age or for Ladies.
 Life Membership (No Entrance Fee) Two Guineas.
 Every Member shall be considered a subscriber for the ensuing year, unless his resignation in writing is received by the Hon. Sec. by the 1st October. (Wks. W.V.)

I beg to offer myself for admission as a **MEMBER** of the Junior Philatelic Society, London.
 I agree to conform to the rules governing the Society, and undertake to give the Hon. Secretary due notice if at any time I should desire to resign my membership of the Society.

Name in full (Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Residence

State age if under 21 (Gentleman only)

I Want Do not want to receive the Exchange Packets.

Signature

Date

I want a Nickel (3d.), Bronze (6d.), Silver (1s.), or Gold (10s.) Badge.

FOR SECRETARY'S USE ONLY.

Membership No.	
Am. t.	
Electd.	
Ent'd For	

REDGROSS STREET, LONDON, E.C.
 & PAPER STREET,
 TO ARTHUR SELINGER,
 Honorary Secretary.

For Applicant's use - ENCLOSURES

Total	
Badge	
Life Subscription	
Annual Subscription	
Entrance Fee	

The Sectional Imperial Album.

A full description of this Album will be sent post-free on application.

Now Ready. SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN

(86 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it.

THE BINDERS

have been specially made and are of the simplest description; you only have to bend back the cover with one hand and remove the leaves with the other.

• These Binders will hold from twenty to nearly two hundred leaves.

They are in two qualities, as follows:—

No. 33.—Handsomely bound in marone cloth, bevelled boards, lettered on sides and also in gold on back, with sunk panel on back for insertion of particulars of contents. Price 6/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 6/6; abroad, 7/-.

No. 34.—Superbly half-bound in green Levant Morocco, cloth sides, bevelled boards, gold lettering on back, with sunk panel for contents. Price 15/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 15/6; abroad, 16/-.

Answer to DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 5 of Series. *Must be sent only on this Form.*

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7

Signature

Initials or Pseudonym for acknowledging.

Address

or Post Town for recognition in case two of same name. (Not for Publication.)

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 29.

PERU

A small collection of early issues and provisionals, all in fine condition.

Among the better Stamps here we note:—

1857. P.S.N.C. 1 real, blue, used.

2 reals, red-brown, unused.

1858. The error half peso, rose-red, and the half peso, yellow, two exceptionally fine specimens.

A nice series of used, of the issues 1858-63, a few scarce unpaid Stamps, and a small lot of the local issues.

————— Price £45. —————

We have now issued this REGISTER in pamphlet form, and shall be pleased to send it to any reader on receipt of 1d. for postage. Full particulars are given of all collections still on hand.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 14, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 170).

4 APRIL, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: French Consular Offices <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	209
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By "The Sub"</i>	211
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	212
4. HISTORICAL PHILATELY: The Austro-Prussian Occupation of Schleswig- Holstein. <i>By Norman Thornton</i>	213
5. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	215
6. CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS. <i>By "Semicolon"</i>	216
7. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i>	218
8. REMARKS AT RANDOM. <i>By Paul Howard</i>	219
9. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	221
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	222
11. CORRESPONDENCE	224
12. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	224
13. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	224

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.

PERU

1905-7.

PICTORIAL STAMPS

- 2 c., violet and red.
- 5 c., black and blue.
- 10 c. " brown.
- 12 c. " blue.
- 20 c. " green.
- 50 c., black.
- 1 sol, green and violet.

The Set of Seven Stamps, as above,
we sell separately at 3s. 5d. for the
Seven, used.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the Set of Seven,

1s. 9d., post-free.

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.	s. d.
7.	100, all different		2 1
8.	100 " rarer		5 1
9.	200 " rare		5 1
66.	500 " 		4 1
67.	1000 " 		15 0
68.	1500 " 		35 0
69.	2000 " 		60 0
69A.	3000 " 		170 0
69B.	4000 " 		280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE
CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value
offered by any stamp dealer.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907, 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsgent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL. BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the LOW PRICES at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used.* Unused.† Used and 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.		CONFEDERATE STATES.	No. in Set.	s. d.
240†	1861-3.	General issues, 2 c., 5 c., 20 c. and four varieties of 10 c.	7	2 6
COOK ISLANDS.				
241†	1893-1902.	Queen Maken. 1d. (2), 1½d., 2½d. (2), 5d., and 10d.	7	3 9
242†	"	Bird. ½d. (2), 2d., 6d., and 1s.	5	3 0
COREA.				
244†	1885-95.	10 mons., 10 and 25 poon	3	0 8
245†	1900-1.	2 re., 1, 2, 3 (2), 4, 5, 6, and 10 cheun	9	1 6
COSTA RICA.				
247†	1863-82.	½ r., 2 r., 4 r., and two provisionals	5	1 3
248*	1883-9.	Portraits of Fernandez and Soto	10	1 3
249†	1889.	Portrait, Soto. 1 c. to 2 pesos	8	1 6
252*	1892.	Arms. 1 c. to 5 pesos	9	1 0
251†	1901-5.	1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., and provisional	5	1 0
253*	1881-9.	Postal Fiscals and Provisionals on Fiscals	5	1 3
254†	Official, 1886-9.	Portrait types overprinted	8	1 6
255†	"	1892-1903. 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 20 c., and 50 c.	6	1 3
GUANACASTE.				
256†	1885-9.	Portrait types overprinted	8	1 9
CRETE.				
257†	1898.	British Sphere. 10 and twenty parales	4	0 10
258†	1900.	Permanent series, no overprint. 1, 5, 10, and 20 lepta	4	0 10
259*	1900-5.	" including provisional and 25 l., overprinted	12	1 6
260†	1905.	Revolutionary. "Crete enslaved." 5, 10, and 20 lepta	3	0 8
261†	1907-8.	New series and Official. 10, 25, 30 lepta, and 1 dr.	4	1 8
CUBA.				
263†	1855-7.	Queen, including ½ r. and 1 r., rare loops, wmk.	6	4 0
264†	1862-4.	" ½, 1, and 2 rl. plata.	4	1 8
265†	1866.	" 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 40 c.	4	3 3
266†	1867.	" "	4	2 0
267†	1868.	" "	4	1 6
268†	1869.	" "	4	5 0
269†	1871-4.	Allegorical. 12 c., 12½ c., 25 c. (2), 50 c. (3), and 1 peseta	8	4 9
270†	1873.	Amadeus. 12½ c., 25 c., and 50 c.	3	0 10
271†	1875.	Arms. 12½ c., 25 c., 50 c., and 1 peseta	4	0 9
272†	1876.	Alfonso XII. Cuba and date. Inscription ULTRAMAR, all values	5	1 6
273†	1877-9.	" Cuba and date	12	2 3
274†	1880-1.	" large head with date	10	1 8
275†	1882.	" no date	10	2 4
276†	1882.	Provisionals, most values	10	4 0
277†	1890-7.	Alfonso XIII. "Baby King."	15	2 0
278*	"	" "	8	0 10
279†	1898	" 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., 10 c., and 40 c.	8	3 3
280†	Stamps for Printed Matter. 1888.	½ to 4 mils.	5	0 5
281†	"	1890. All values	6	0 8
282†	"	1892. "	6	0 8
283†	"	1894-6. "	12	0 10
284†	"	1898. " including scarce 4 mils.	5	2 0
285†	1899.	U.S. Administration. U.S. stamps overprinted 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., and 10 c.	4	1 6
286†	1899-1907.	Republic Cuba. 1 c., 1 c. on 3 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 50 c.	7	4 6

NOW READY.

THE FOLLOWING

GREATER BRITAIN PACKETS OF

BRITISH Colonial Stamps

NO DUPLICATES.

EVERY Packet of this series contains different varieties, no Stamp being included in two Packets, and purchasers will by this novel method be saved the inconvenience of acquiring duplicates, which is as a rule the bane of most packet buying.

STAMPS OF ASIA.

No. 111 contains	20 varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 112 "	25 "	" "	2/1
" 113 "	40 "	" "	3/7
" 114 "	40 "	" "	6/7
" 115 "	50 "	" "	16/7
" 116 "	45 "	" "	12/1
" 117 "	30 "	" "	4/1
" 118 "	40 "	" "	21/1

STAMPS OF AFRICA.

No. 121 contains	20 varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 122 "	25 "	" "	2/7

STAMPS OF WEST INDIES.

No. 141 contains	20 varieties.	Price, post-free,	10d.
" 142 "	20 "	" "	2/1

STAMPS OF AUSTRALASIA.

No. 151 contains	25 varieties.	Price, post-free,	7d.
" 152 "	30 "	" "	1/7
" 153 "	30 "	" "	4/7

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

AUSTRIA.

1908. Jubilee issue. Handsome stamps. s. d.

1 h., black	.	.	.	.	.	0	1
2 h., lilac	.	.	.	.	.	0	1
3 h., purple	.	.	.	.	.	0	1
5 h., yellow-green	.	.	.	.	.	0	1
6 h., buff	.	.	.	.	.	0	2
10 h., rose-carmine	.	.	.	.	.	0	2
12 h., vermilion	.	.	.	.	.	0	2
20 h., reddish-brown	.	.	.	.	.	0	3
25 h., blue	.	.	.	.	.	0	4
30 h., pale olive-green	.	.	.	.	.	0	5
35 h., slate-blue	.	.	.	.	.	0	6
50 h., olive-green	.	.	.	.	.	0	8
60 h., deep carmine	.	.	.	.	.	0	9

1908. Newspaper stamps. Head of Mercury.

2 h., deep blue	.	.	.	.	.	0	1
6 h., orange	.	.	.	.	.	0	1
10 h., rose-carmine	.	.	.	.	.	0	2
20 h., chocolate	.	.	.	.	.	0	3

CRETE.

1908. Officials. New type.

10 l., dull claret	.	.	.	.	.	0	2
30 l., slate-blue	.	.	.	.	.	0	5

CYPRUS.

1908. King's head. Multiple wmk.

5 paras, ochre and black	.	.	.	.	.	0	1
5 paras, " " "	.	.	.	.	used	0	1

GWALIOR.

1908. Stamp of India inscribed POSTAGE AND REVENUE, overprinted.

½ a., pea-green	0	1
-----------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

HONG-KONG.

1908. King's head. Multiple wmk.

6c., orange-red and purple	0	3
----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

ITALY.

1908. New type. King's head. Wmk. Crown.

25 c., blue	0	4
-------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LUXEMBURG.

1908. Type 11.

30 c., olive-green	.	.	.	.	.	0	5
87½ c., slate-blue	.	.	.	.	.	1	0
1 fr., lavender	.	.	.	.	.	1	3
2½ fr., orange-vermilion	.	.	.	.	.	2	9

SWITZERLAND.

1907-8. New type "Tell." Wmk. Cross.

2 c., olive-yellow	.	.	.	.	.	0	1
3 c., red-brown	.	.	.	.	.	0	1
5 c., green	.	.	.	.	.	0	1

1907-8. New Helvetia type.

10 c., carmine	.	.	.	.	.	0	2
12 c., ochre	.	.	.	.	.	0	2
15 c., mauve	.	.	.	.	.	0	3

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

GIBBONS STAMP WEEKLY

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.
Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.
Entrance fee: 2s. 6d. No Entrance fee for ladies or for Juniors.

The tenth ordinary meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, 7 March, at 3 Belford Street, Strand. The earlier part of the evening was occupied by an auction, all the lots having been given towards the expenses of the Exhibition.

Mr. Melville occupied the chair at 8 p.m., when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Society: Messrs. J. F. Smith, W. F. Smith, F. C. Graham, C. W. Care, H. G. Jobson, T. K. Jarvis, H. Oppenheim, R. J. Rumsey, L. Weeks, and Miss Garwood. Mr. E. A. Smart acknowledged a donation of £1 from Mr. H. H. Harland towards purchasing a bookcase for the Library. Mr. H. Lee acknowledged donations to the Forgery Collection from Mr. Bluett and Mr. W. W. Hughes.

Mr. Douglas Ellis, Vice-President of the Society, next gave us a paper and display of the stamps of Seychelles. In his paper Mr. Ellis gave a lot of useful advice to the collector of these stamps. Varieties and errors of surcharge of the later Queen's Head issues, he said, may with advantage be neglected by all but the advanced specialist; particulars were also given of the various plates and of the cancellations employed. The collection was a very fine one, containing only copies in the finest condition. A vote of thanks to Mr. Ellis for his splendid display and most interesting notes was proposed by Mr. Melville, seconded by Mr. Shepherd, and carried with enthusiasm.

Mr. A. J. Sefi followed with a paper entitled "Imperial Philately," in which he strongly advocated the collection of British or British Colonial stamps; even if one specializes in the stamps of a foreign country he considered it advisable to have a collection of Colonials, as no finer specimens of stamp engraving can be found than some of our early Colonial issues. For these, among other reasons, Mr. Sefi said we should not only think imperially, but collect stamps imperially. At the close of Mr. Sefi's very interesting remarks Mr. Melville proposed a hearty vote of thanks, which Mr. Patman seconded, and which was unanimously carried.

The following donations have been received towards the Exhibition Expenses Fund:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged				Rev. Francis A. Minty	5	0	
Herts Philatelic Society	76	3	6	F. A. Denny, Esq.	5	0	
H. A. Boyes, Esq.	2	2	0	Andrew Wallace, Esq.	5	0	
F. M. Rideout, Esq.	1	1	0	G. E. Wells, Esq.	3	0	
T. W. Hall, Esq.	1	1	0	E. Duntun, Esq.	2	6	
T. Gray, Esq.	1	1	0	T. H. Munn, Esq.	2	6	
W. Moore, Esq.	1	1	0	F. G. Graham, Esq.	2	6	
E. J. Nankivell, Esq.	1	1	0	E. Hammetton, Esq.	2	6	
R. Halliday, Esq.	10	6		Anon.	2	0	
T. H. Regan, Esq.	10	6		M. A. Mabile, Esq.	2	0	
H. H. Haworth & Co.	10	0		Chas. W. Care, Esq.	2	0	
Miss Green	5	0		R. H. V. Archibald, Esq.	2	0	
S. G. Brown, Esq.	5	0		M. Oppenheim, Esq.	1	0	
T. C. Cartwright, Esq.	5	0		R. A. L. Wigmore, Esq.	1	0	
W. T. Roycroft, Esq.	5	0		P. M. Stewart, Esq.	1	0	
				Anon.	1	0	

The amount of £5 14s. 10d. resulting from the auction and made up as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Mrs. H. H. Harland	1	3	3
Mrs. Blarney	2	0	0
G. Fearnley, Esq.	14	6	0
— Norris, Esq.	11	0	0
— Gibson, Esq.	14	0	0
White Heather	10	0	0
— Collins, Esq.	7	9	0
— Willgoos, Esq.	4	4	0
P. Beaumont, Esq.	3	0	0
— Strickland, Esq.	2	6	0
— Freeman, Esq.	1	9	0
Douglas Ellis, Esq.			9
			5 14 10
			£94 19 10

Further donations towards this Fund are asked for, and will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged by

H. F. JOHNSON,
Exhibition Offices,
44 Fleet Street, E.C.

Scottish Philatelic Society Junior Branch

President: N. M. Berrie.
Hon. Sec.: Frank Chalmers, 24 Bruntsfield Gardens, Edinburgh.
Meetings: Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh.

The monthly meeting of this Society was held in Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh, on the evening of Saturday, 7 March, when Mr. N. M. Berrie, the President, presided over a large attendance, over thirty members being present.

The minute of the monthly meeting on 1 February was read, approved of, and signed, new members were admitted, and the Hon. Secretary reported the sales from the Exchange Packets in circulation.

The Hon. Secretary read a letter from Mr. Fred J. Melville, President of the Junior Philatelic Society, London, in which he explained his inability to be present owing to the pressure of work caused by the Imperial Philatelic Exhibition in London, and intimated a donation of a set of his works to the Society's Library. A gift of books to the Library from Mr. Field, London, was also intimated. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to convey to these gentlemen the thanks of the Society. Contributions to the Forgery Collection have also been received from Mr. Stewart and Mr. Nightingale.

The Assistant Secretary (Mr. W. D. Small, 10 Glenorchy Terrace, Edinburgh) reported progress in connection with the arrangements for the auction sale on Saturday, 11 April, for which lots to be included must reach him not later than the end of March. He also reported with regard to the Prize Competition Scheme for the best collections from members and the best sheets sent in to the Exchange Branch.

The members then had an opportunity of examining a choice selection of 110 sheets from the famous collection of the postage stamps of Ceylon belonging to Baron A. de Worms, Hon. Vice-President of the Society and a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London. Baron de Worms' collection is generally admitted to be the finest collection of Ceylon stamps in existence, and the treat afforded was thoroughly enjoyed. An exceptional feature of the display was the remarkably fine condition of the used specimens. Baron de Worms' collection is practically complete, and contains many very great rarities. Among its outstanding features, a few of special interest may be noted, especially the superb specimens of the 4d., 8d., 9d., 1s. 9d., and 2s., imperforate 1859 issue, including a pair of each of the last two; the 6d. (rough perforation) and 5d., purple-brown. The 1862 issues included 8d., yellow-brown (watermark Star); a very fine block of four 2s. (rough perforation); 1d., no wmk. (perf. 114); 5d., rich yellow-brown (perf. 13); a unique block of 18 of the 6d., CC (perf. 13); beautiful specimens of the 1s., lilac, with no wmk.; 2d., yellow-green, and strip of four of the 5d., CC, brown. A pair of the rate 16 cents, Crown CA, in mint condition was noticeable among the cent issues, which were remarkable for the very complete representation of the errors, and especially the inverted and double surcharges, the double surcharges being specially interesting.

Mr. F. I. Gregory, a member of the Society, delivered some interesting and original notes on the stamps of the Sudan, accompanied by an excellent display, including panes of many of the values and some of the rare errors, such as the Army Official, 1 millieme, single wmk., of which only 120 were issued, including the very scarce error OFFICIAL, one of which occurs in each block of thirty. The inverted surcharges of the 5 millimes and 5 piastres, 1903 issue, were also represented, and many others. Mr. Gregory referred to the absence of any publications on the stamps of the Sudan, and pointed out the happy hunting-ground they afforded to the specialist of moderate means.

Cordial votes of thanks were, on the motion of Mr. Walker, President of the Senior Branch, awarded to Baron de Worms and Mr. Gregory for their kindness in providing a most interesting and enjoyable evening.

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.

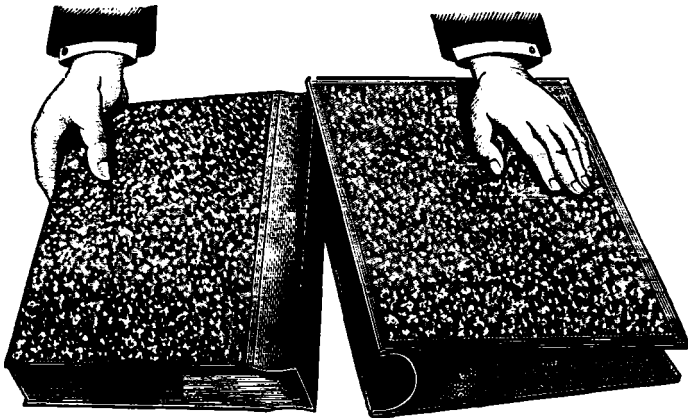
Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

“SIMPLEX”

BLANK ALBUMS *For Postage Stamps.*

SPRING BACK.

MOVABLE LEAVES.



In response to numerous demands we have just produced a new **BLANK ALBUM** at a popular price.

It contains 150 specially prepared leaves of **stout highly glazed paper**, printed with grey border, *quadrillé* background, and tablet for name of country, secured in place, together with a protecting wrapper, by a **spring-back** cover.

The leaves can be easily removed or replaced by taking them and their wrapper in one hand, and with the other hand pressing back the cover until its two edges meet, as shown in the illustration.

“SIMPLEX.” 150 leaves, cloth cover, bevelled boards, lettered on back, with blank panel in which particulars of contents can be inserted.

Price 12/6; post-free in U.K. 13/1; abroad extra.

LOOSE LEAVES, 10d. per dozen; 5/- per 100, post-free.

Bound in dark green or marone. When ordering mention colour desired.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

The Sectional Imperial Album.

A full description of this Album will be sent post-free on application.

Now Ready. SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN (86 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it.

THE BINDERS

have been specially made and are of the simplest description; you only have to bend back the cover with one hand and remove the leaves with the other.

These Binders will hold from twenty to nearly two hundred leaves.

They are in two qualities, as follows:—

No. 33.—Handsomely bound in marone cloth, bevelled boards, lettered on sides and also in gold on back, with sunk panel on back for insertion of particulars of contents. Price 6/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 6/6; abroad, 7/-.

No. 34.—Superbly half-bound in green Levant Morocco, cloth sides, bevelled boards, gold lettering on back, with sunk panel for contents. Price 15/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 15/6; abroad, 16/-.

GRAND COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL READERS OF

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

£ 100 in Prizes

See particulars in last week's number.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 30.

A FINE COLLECTION OF

KING'S HEADS

BRITISH COLONIALS

IN SINGLES AND PAIRS.

With a few older issues in Straits Settlements, St. Vincent, etc.

Among the better sets we mention Gambia, Natal, Cyprus, Straits Settlements, Somaliland, Northern Nigeria, Cayman Isles, Transvaal, Hong Kong, Maldives, Grenada, Southern Nigeria, Papua, Levant, Gold Coast, East Africa and Uganda, etc. etc.

A NICE DESIRABLE LOT OF STAMPS IN THE
KING'S OWN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM.

Price £105.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 15, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 171).

11 APRIL, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: French Consular Offices <i>By W. Percy Barnadall</i>	225
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By "The Sub"</i>	227
3. CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS. <i>By "Semicolon"</i>	229
4. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	230
5. THE BLACK REPUBLICS. <i>By W. W.</i>	231
6. A PHILATELIC BYPATH	233
7. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	235
8. HARD U.S. PROBLEMS MADE EASY—1869 <i>By Eustace B. Power</i>	235
9. SPECIALISM <i>By R. E. R. Dalwigh</i>	237
10. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	238
11. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	239
12. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.

PERU

1896-1900. Type 31.

2 Soles, lake

(No. 166).

The Catalogue price
of the above Stamp
is 6s., used.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For this high-value Stamp,

3s.

Post-free.

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 " rarer	5 1
9.	200 " rare	5 1
66.	500 "	4 1
67.	1000 "	15 0
68.	1500 "	35 0
69.	2000 "	60 0
69A.	3000 "	170 0
69B.	4000 "	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in *FINE*
CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value
offered by any stamp dealer.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 108 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsgent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL. BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a **SPECIAL BARGAIN** for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Have you tried our — APPROVAL SHEETS?

**IF NOT, LET US SEND YOU
A SAMPLE SHEET OF YOUR
FAVOURITE COUNTRY.**

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 more than 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 every sheet a collector has had.

On these sheets we allow a discount of 10%.

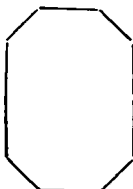
Now the next step is that of the collector who has been through these sheets and wants something better, and this we provide by a selection of

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.

Discount on the "blue books" same as on approval sheets. Hundreds of selections sent out daily.

STAMP HINGES.



EXACT SIZE.

We have prepared a **NEW STAMP HINGE**, put up in air-tight tin boxes, each containing 1000 hinges of good tough paper, doubly gummed, and thus easily peelable.

Price 7d. per box, post-free.

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

BARBADOS.

1907. *Nelson Commemoration.*

Cat. No.	<i>Multiple Watermark.</i>	s. d.
162.	2½d., black and ultramarine (obsolete)	0 8

BRITISH HONDURAS.

1905-7. *King's Head. Multiple Watermark.*

84.	1 c., bluish green	0 1
85.	2 c., lilac and black on red	0 2
86.	5 c., grey-black and blue on blue	0 4
87.	10 c., lilac and emerald-green	0 7
89.	25 c., lilac and orange	1 4
90.	50 c., grey-green and carmine	2 8
91.	81 " "	5 3
92.	82 " blue	10 6
93.	85 " black	25 0

HAYTI.

1908. *Type 16 overprinted with Type 17 in black.*

1 c. on 5 c., deep blue	0 1
-------------------------	-----

PARAGUAY.

1908. *Type 39. Change of colour.*

1 c., pale greenish blue	0 1
--------------------------	-----

1908. *Official Stamps. Type 66 overprinted HABILITADO for postal use.*

5 c., pale greenish blue	0 2
5 c., deep blue	0 2

PERSIA.

1908. *Type 37. Blue paper. Perf. 14.*

1 ch., violet on blue	0 1
2 ch., bluish grey on blue	0 1
3 ch., deep green	0 2
6 ch., crimson	0 3
9 ch., ochre	0 4
10 ch., sepia	0 4

1908. *New type. Head of Shah.*

13 ch., indigo-blue	0 7
26 ch., orange-brown	1 0

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

Birmingham Philatelic Society

Hon. President: Sir W. B. Avery, Bart.
Hon. Secretary: G. Johnson, B.A., 308 Birchfield Road,
Birmingham.
Meetings: Thursdays, at 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.
Annual Subscription: 5s. Entrance Fee: 5s.

FEBRUARY 27.—Inspection of auction lots and adjourned annual meeting.

It was decided to hold an Exhibition of stamps at the Midland Institute Conversation in January next. The Press show would be on January 11 and the Exhibition January 22-25 inclusive. As the average attendance for many years past has been over six thousand for the four nights, it was thought to be a very favourable opportunity for such an exhibition.

It was resolved that the following additions be made to the Rules:—

"*Property*.—The whole of the assets of the Society shall be vested in the Officers and Committee as Trustees, who shall take all reasonable care of the said assets, but be exempt from any personal liability.

"In case of winding up the Society, the assets shall be disposed of according to the wishes of a majority of the whole of the members. Every member shall be supplied with a voting paper at least seven days before the meeting called for the purpose. If not filled up and returned, the member not voting shall be considered neutral."

MARCH 5.—Auction. Three hundred and twenty-seven lots belonging to members of the Society were disposed of at fair prices.

Messrs. Bright and Son were thanked for a copy of their complete Catalogue for 1908, and Mr. C. Nissen for his 1908 *Stamp Collectors' Annual*.

MARCH 19.—Paper: Turkey. Mr. P. T. Deakin.

Messrs. F. C. Hender-on, Colonel G. H. Robinson, H. L. Hayman, and J. H. Lewes were thanked for donations to the Permanent Collection.

In view of the Exhibition, it was decided to postpone Messrs. Hollick and Stephenson's display of Victoria from next meeting (April 2) till next session, and invite members to bring their collections of those colonies they would prefer to exhibit, with a view to selecting those required.

Mr. P. T. Deakin then gave a paper illustrated by his own collection and enlarged illustrations, on (a) the types of Turkey, 1890, provisional (Gibbons No. 139); (b) the varieties, catalogued and otherwise, of Turkey, 1869-73.

International Philatelic Union

Hon. President: Judge Philbrick, K.C.
Secretary: T. H. Hinton, 26 Cromford Road, East Putney,
London, S.W.

Meetings: Essex Hall, Essex Street, London, W.C.
Annual Subscription: 5s.; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

THE sixth meeting of the season took place at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Thursday, 12 March. Present: Messrs. W. Schwabacher (chairman), J. W. Fulcher, W. Schwarz, E. W. Wetherell, J. C. Sidebotham, W. S. King, and the Hon. Secretary. Mr. Sidebotham displayed a portion of his collection, comprising France, Montenegro, Tonga, and Guatemala. He was followed by Mr. Wetherell, who displayed Spain and Cuba 1855-6-7 issues, a fine and highly specialized collection, accompanied by exhaustive notes. Hearty votes of thanks to both gentlemen and the chairman closed a pleasant evening. The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall on Thursday, 9 April, at 8 p.m., when Mr. Wetherell will give a display of Mauritius and some other African colonies. All members and any visitors are cordially welcomed.

Junior Philatelic Society Manchester Branch

MERTING held at the Deansgate Hotel on Thursday, 19 March. The President in the chair. After the usual business, Dr. Floyd read an interesting paper on the stamps of Hayti. He mentioned the use of British, French, and German stamps in the Black Republic owing to the inefficiency of the Haytian Post Office. The occupation of Hayti by the Emperor Napoleon naturally results still in a predominance of the language and characteristics of the Gaul. It was originally intended that the head of the then officiating President should be embodied upon the stamps; but this was never carried out on account of the opposition of the anti-Presidential party,

and the head of Liberty took the foremost position on the stamps. The first issues are given in catalogues as being lithographed, but such is not the case, since the stamps in question were typographed on paper coloured by a lithographic transfer tint. The speaker mentioned the great number of forgeries being sold of the 1904 issue—their "birthplace" being probably Paris, since it is from that quarter that they are being offered in large numbers. The 1891 issue, imperforate, are "waste" stolen from the printers, Messrs. Waterlow, in London. An interesting pair of stamps, the 2c. and 5c. of the 1898 issue, overprinted "Nord Alexis" and "21 December 1902," were shown by the philatelic doctor, and which up to the present have not been catalogued. Afterwards Mr. J. Maling gave a paper on "Collecting to Illustrate Philatelic Magazines" by interleaving them by blank pages, and mounting the various stamps opposite their descriptions in the periodicals. The President (Mr. Bernstein), in thanking the lecturers, complimented Mr. Maling upon the excellence of his original idea. In conclusion, the Hon. Secretary gave an interesting collection of incidents of his visit to the London J.P.S. Exhibition, which in several cases caused no little amusement.

Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society

President: Dr. F. E. Ackerly.
Hon. Sec.: J. H. M. Savage, 56 Bevington Road, Higher
Tranmere.

Meetings: Mondays at 8 Colquhitt Street, Liverpool.

THE fourteenth meeting of the above Society was held at 6 Colquhitt Street, Liverpool, on 23 March, when a paper on "Sudan" should have been given by Mr. H. Eaton. This gentleman having resigned from the Society, his place was taken by Mr. A. W. Brown, who read a paper on "Notes on the Stamp Designs of Turkey." The chair was taken by Mr. A. S. Allender, and about twenty members were present. At the conclusion of the paper a very hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. A. W. Brown for his excellent paper, and several members, including the following, spoke in support of it: Messrs. Allender, Bate, Clissold, and Savage; and some very interesting remarks were made by these gentlemen on Turkish stamps, at the conclusion of which Mr. A. W. Brown briefly thanked the members for their hearty vote of thanks. At the conclusion of the paper, a display of Egypt and Sudan was given, Mr. Allender displaying a very fine collection of Sudan practically complete. Other members displayed Sudan. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. Savage) displayed a very fine collection of Italy, strong in the early issues, whilst Mr. A. W. Brown displayed a collection of U.S.A. cardboard proofs, which were much admired, all being in perfect condition. He also displayed U.S.A. Colonies, including Cuba, Guam, Canal Zone, and Philippine Islands, all practically complete.

North of England Philatelic Society

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

THE usual monthly meeting of this Society was held at the Y.M.C.A., Newcastle, on Thursday, 5 March.

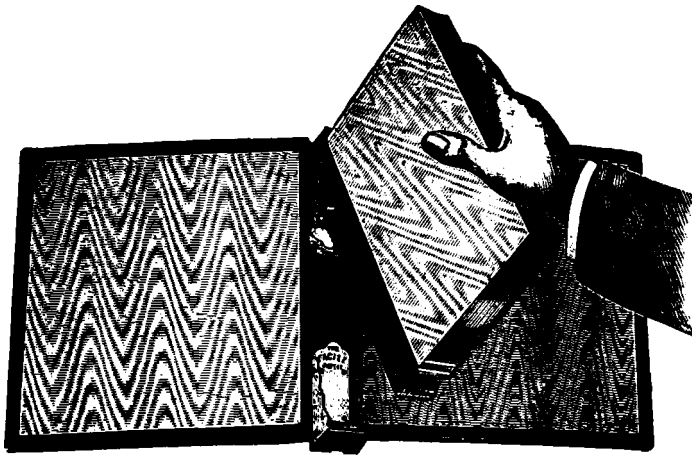
The Vice-President (Mr. T. D. Hume) took the chair at 7.30, and there were seventeen members and one visitor present. After formal business, Messrs. Louis Zollner, William Handysides, C. C. Burney, Fred, and J. E. G. Atkinson were elected members.

Mr. R. W. Wilkinson then showed his specialized collection of France. Among a number of very good stamps special mention must be made of a strip of three and one of four of the 1 franc, first issue, and a complete set on entires. The Presidency included a pair of 10c. on entires. The Empire, all shades in pairs and blocks of four, Roulettes on pieces and Suisse pers., including scarce pair of the 20c. A fine set of siege of Paris and Bordeaux lithographs, many of which were unused; enlarged photographs of these, showing the different types of the 20c., were distributed among those present. The issues from 1876 were well represented by singles, pairs and blocks, used and unused. Drawings showing how the types of the 1876 issue occurred were passed round, and many forgeries were shown and described. A large number of scarce postmarks added considerably to the enjoyment of an instructive evening.

Mr. Graham moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Wilkinson, which was carried with enthusiasm, and the recipient suitably replied.

The "FACILE" Postage Stamp Albums.

PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.)



A—SHOWING LEAVES RELEASED.

THESE Albums present externally the same appearance as our well-known

**"ORIEL" and
"PHILATELIC"**
Blank Albums,

and are identical in all respects except as regards the method of holding the detachable leaves, which is

now a vast improvement upon the old system.

The leaves instead of being threaded upon pegs have a groove cut across each end of the linen joint (see A), and, together with a protecting cover, are held in position by means of two "V"-shaped projections, the whole being securely fastened by an ingenious spring.



B—SHOWING LEAVES SECURED.

When it is desired to remove the leaves it is only necessary to release the spring, when the "V"-shaped projections open automatically, and the contents can be removed with one hand. A great feature of this improvement is that a single leaf can be inserted or detached without disturbing the contents of the Album. Collectors already using the "ORIEL" and "PHILATELIC" can conveniently continue with the **"FACILE."**

Leading Features of the "FACILE."

1. It is undoubtedly the "acme" of loose-leaf albums.
2. Changing position of, or adding to the number of the leaves can be effected instantly and without disturbing contents of Album.
3. The binding of cover being rigid, all possibility of friction between the leaves is prevented.
4. The patent binder has no loose or detachable parts, and therefore cannot get out of order.
5. The action of the patent binder is automatic, and can be perfectly understood the moment it is seen.

The "Facile" Oriel Album

Containing fifty detachable leaves (10 ins. x 10½ ins.), of the best handmade paper, faced with Japanese tissue paper and bound in half red morocco with cloth sides, finished in gold.

Each Album is contained in a cloth drop-in case lined with lamb's-wool.

Price 30s.; post-free in U.K. 30s. 6d.

The "Facile" Philatelic Albums

Each containing 100 leaves of a very fine quality white card paper, and strongly bound in half-morocco, gilt ornaments and lettering, and packed in a box.

A—Size, 12½ in. x 10½ in. *Price 30s.; post-free U.K. 30s. 9d.*

E " 11 " x 9½ " " 25s.; " " 25s. 7d.

Handsomely bound in full Persian morocco and with lock and key.

B—Size, 12½ in. x 10½ in. *Price 50s.; post-free U.K. 50s. 9d.*

The "Facile G.H.S." Album

Each containing eighty leaves, best handmade paper, backed Japanese tissue and bound, whole padded morocco, finished in gold, rounded corners.

Each Album is contained in a specially designed cloth-covered case, lined swan's-down.

Price 40s.; post-free in U.K. 40s. 7d.

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

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

We shall be glad to receive some more Collections for the above Register. A Pamphlet giving particulars of Collections still unsold will be sent on application. Postage 1d.

Answer to DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 6 of Series. *Must be sent only on this Form.*

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Signature

Initials or Pseudonym for acknowledging.

Address

or Post Town for recognition in case two of same name. (Not for Publication.)

GRAND COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL READERS OF

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

£ 100 in Prizes

See particulars in previous numbers.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 16, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 172).

18 APRIL, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: French Consular Offices <i>By W. Peroy Barnsdall</i>	241
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By "The Sub"</i>	243
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	244
4. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	246
5. CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS. <i>By "Semicolon"</i>	247
6. CONVEYANCE OF MAILS DURING THE SIEGE OF PARIS, 1870-1. <i>By W. Ward</i>	249
7. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i>	250
8. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nissen</i>	252
9. PORTRAITS ON STAMPS. <i>By Boswell Junior</i>	254
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	255
11. CORRESPONDENCE	256
12. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	256
13. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 " rarer	5 1
9.	200 " rare	5 1
86.	500 " "	4 1
87.	1000 " "	15 0
88.	1500 " "	35 0
89.	2000 " "	60 0
89A.	3000 " "	170 0
89B.	4000 " "	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargains

For U.S.W. Readers.

THIS WEEK we have prepared a Special Bargain Packet for our readers, containing **FIFTY USED STAMPS**, all different, including high value oblong French, also Semeuse, Chili (Columbus), Jamaica (Llandoverly Falls), U. S. of America (Columbus), Canada (King), Italy (Arms, &c.), Natal (King), Egypt (Pyramids), India (set of seven, including Service), New Zealand (Universal Postage), &c. &c.

The above fine packet of FIFTY STAMPS,
all different,

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

5d.

Post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, G. S. W.,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order G. S. W. from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the LOW PRICES at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used.* Unused.† Used and 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.	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.	No. in Set.	s. d.
321†	1880. Without network, 2 c., 5 c., 20 c., 25 c., 50 c., and 1 peso	6	4 9
322†	1881. With network, 1 c., 2 c., 10 c., 20 c., 50 c., and 1 peso	6	5 0
323†	1883. Provisionals, 5 c. on 1 c., 10 c. on 2 c. (2), and 25 c. on 5 c.	4	3 0
324†	1885-1900. Three issues, low values	5	0 8
325*	" Four issues, including two map stamps	10	1 4
326†	1900. Map stamp, all values	9	3 0
327†	1901. Arms type, lilac centres, ½ c. to 20 c.	6	3 0
328†	" " " 50 c. and 1 peso	2	8 3
329*	1901-6 " lilac and black centres	8	1 0
330†	1902. Commemorative issue, all values	7	1 9
331†	1905. Arms type, black frames, ½ c. to 50 c.	7	6 0
332†	1906. " " centres, ½ c., 2 c., 10 c., and 20 c.	4	2 4
333†	" " " 50 c. and 1 peso	2	9 9
334†	1902. Official. Picture of bastion, all values	4	2 0

DUTCH INDIES.

335†	1875-87. King, 1 c., 2 c. (2), 5c., and 12½ c.	5	1 9
336*	" " " 1 c., 10 c., 12½ c., 15 c., 25 c., and 30 c.	6	0 10
337†	1883-1902. Figure type, 1 c. to 5 c., and two provisionals	7	0 9
338*	" " " provisionals, and Queen	13	0 10
339†	1899. Stamps of Holland, overprinted, 10 c. to 50 c.	6	3 0
340*	" " " " " "	6	0 5
341*	1902-5. 1 c., 2 c., 2½ c., 5 c., 10 c. (2), 12½ c., 20 c. (2), 25 c., 50 c., and large 1 gulden	12	2 3
342†	Postage Due. 1874-82. Including scarce first issue	5	2 0

DUTTIA.

343†	1899. Inscribed Duttia, ½ a., ½ a., and 1 a.	3	0 10
------	--	---	------

EASTERN ROUMELIA AND SOUTH BULGARIA.

344†	1881-5. 10 pa. (2), 20 pa., and 1 piás	4	1 10
------	--	---	------

EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA PROTECTORATES.

346†	1907. "Cents" issue, 1 c., 3 c., 6 c., 10 c., 12 c., and 15 c.	6	1 0
------	--	---	-----

EQUADOR.

348†	1865-72. ½ rl. (2), 1 rl., and 1 peso	4	0 9
349†	1881. Arms, 1 c. to 50 c.	6	0 6
350*	1881-95. Arms and portraits	15	1 6
351†	1887. 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., and 80 c.	4	0 6
352†	1892. Flores, 1 c. to 5 sucres	8	1 6
353†	1894. Rocafuerte "	8	2 0
354†	1895. " "	8	2 0
355†	1895. Commemorative, 1 c. to 1 s., large stamps	7	1 6
356†	1896. Arms, 1 c. to 5 sucres	8	1 6
357†	1897-8. Various issues, overprinted with date	4	1 3
358†	1897. Arms, 1 c. to 5 sucres	4	5 0
359†	1899-1901. Portraits	8	2 6
360*	1899-1907. " "	11	1 2

Have you tried our — APPROVAL SHEETS?

**IF NOT, LET US SEND YOU
A SAMPLE SHEET OF YOUR
FAVOURITE COUNTRY.**

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 more than 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 every sheet a collector has had.

On these sheets we allow a discount of 10%.

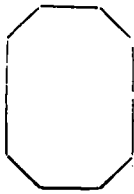
Now the next step is that of the collector who has been through these sheets and wants something better, and this we provide by a selection of

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.

Discount on the "blue books" same as on approval sheets. Hundreds of selections sent out daily.

STAMP HINGES.



EXACT SIZE.

We have prepared a **NEW STAMP HINGE**, put up in air-tight tin boxes, each containing 1000 hinges of good tough paper, doubly gummed, and thus easily peelable.

Price 7d. per box, post-free.

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

CAYMAN ISLANDS.

1907. Types 2 and 3.

Cat. No.	King's Head. Multiple Wmk.	s.	d.
13.	4d., brown and blue	2	0
15.	1s., violet and green	2	6
16.	5s., vermilion and green	12	6

1907-8. As above, but inscribed

POSTAGE & REVENUE.

½d., green	0	1
1d., carmine	0	2

CHINA

EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

1904. Stamp of India, King's Head,

overprinted C. E. F.

Cat. No.			
611.	1 a., carmine	0	3

DUTCH INDIES.

1905. Type 11, surcharged.

110.	10 c. on 20 c., greenish slate	used	0	3
------	--	------	---	---

1905. Type 11. Change of Colour.

113.	20 c., olive	used	0	3
------	------------------------	------	---	---

EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA.

1907. King's Head. Value in cents.

33.	1 c., brown	0	1	
34.	3 c., grey-green	0	1	
35.	6 c., carmine	0	2	
35.	6 c., ,,	used	0	2
36.	10 c., lilac and pale olive	0	3	
37.	12 c., dull lilac and purple	0	3	
38.	15 c., ultramarine	0	4	
39.	25 c., grey-green and black	0	6	
40.	50 c., grey and orange-brown	1	0	
41.	75 c., ,, pale blue	1	4	

FRENCH MOROCCO.

1908. Type 4, surcharged. New values.

1 c. on 1 c., grey	0	1
2 c. on 2 c., claret	0	1
3 c. on 3 c., orange-red	0	1
4 c. on 4 c., brown	0	1

ICELAND.

Cat. No. 1908. Type 12. New value.

144a.	1 eyrir, salmon and yellow-green	0	1
-------	--	---	---

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

City of London Philatelic Society

President: W. B. Edwards, B.Sc.
Hon. Sec.: James L. Eastwood, 169 Ferns Park Road,
Crouch End, London, N.
Meeting Place: Millie's Restaurant, 14 Broad Street Place, E.C.
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (October
to May).
Subscription: 2s. 6d. yearly (No Entrance Fee).

The forty-fifth monthly meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday, 18 March, at the head-quarters. Mr. W. B. Edwards occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. D. H. Jackson, Vice-President. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Messrs. Constantinides, Home-wood, and Willgoos for donations to the Official Forgery Collection. Mr. G. E. Antonisz, of Colombo, Ceylon, was elected a member.

Mr. P. L. Pemberton's paper, entitled "The New Specialism," was the first item on the agenda. Mr. Pemberton's theory for specialists to confine themselves to the collection of stamps produced and printed by one firm of printers only was very ably dealt with, and the sheets of stamps with which he illustrated his paper certainly showed that the question was one well worthy of consideration. As Mr. Pemberton's ideas have appeared so recently in the philatelic Press, further details of the paper are unnecessary. At the conclusion the President proposed a very hearty vote of thanks, which Mr. Arnold, with a few apt remarks bearing on the paper, seconded, and the resolution was carried with enthusiasm.

Part 2 of the evening's programme was a display of the stamps of Holland. The whole collection was conspicuous for its artistic arrangement, its completeness, and for the very fine condition of every stamp shown. As sheet after sheet of used and unused stamps, blocks, pairs, errors, proofs, and also a unique collection of postmarks, was passed from hand to hand, the remarks of the members and visitors present were sufficient testimony to the care and trouble taken by the exhibitor. The notes which accompanied the display were lucid and very interesting. At the conclusion Mr. Jackson was the recipient of a very hearty vote of thanks, which was but a slight recognition of the pleasant hour he had given the Society.

A third item was down on the programme, but owing to the lateness of the hour Mr. H. W. Westcott, the Hon. Counterfeit Detector, promised to display the Society's Official Collection of Forgeries at the next meeting on Wednesday, 15 April.

After a very pleasant evening the meeting dispersed at ten o'clock.

Junior Philatelic Society

Manchester Branch

MEETING held Thursday, 2 April, the President in the chair.

A very cross discussion held the floor for quite a long time as to the advisability of extending the meetings throughout the summer season. A couple of amendments muddled the majority of the members, some voting for and against the same point. Eventually it was decided to leave the subject over until the annual meeting in May, when it is hoped some definite decision may be arrived at. It is, however, peculiar that enthusiasts should be compulsorily divorced from their fascinations, and probably only pastime, because a limited number of individuals are fortunate enough to be holidaying at Blackpool-Blackpool, Brighton-Brighton, or even Baden-Baden.

At the conclusion of the general an extraordinary meeting was held to discuss the advisability of holding an Exhibition in Manchester in 1909. With two neutral minds, the majority fell in with the idea, and a committee was formed to investigate the financial costs of floating same.

It is to be hoped that other northern as well as southern societies will fall in with the idea and show their enthusiasm by help.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, C.R.P.S.L.
Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 1 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.
Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Oorhridge Street.
Annual Subscription: 5s.

At the meeting of this Society held in the Leeds Institute, on 17 March, Mr. W. G. Findlater gave a most interesting display of the postal issues of British South Africa

and of Malta. The President (Mr. W. V. Morten) was in the chair.

All the stamps of British South Africa bear the designation of the Company, and the first issue, made in December, 1900, bears an heraldic design which is a veritable *multum in parvo*. There are gold discs representing the gold to come; ears of wheat foretelling the agricultural development of the country; oxen as beasts of burden, wavy lines typifying the Zambesi, Limpopo, and other rivers; and the galleys the shipping to be employed thereon. The creatures on either side of the shield represent the wild animals of the country the lion being, of course, of the British Dominion variety; and other portions indicate a reference to the heraldic bearings of the Duke of Abercorn, the first President of the Chartered Company.

Mr. Findlater's collection was complete, all the greatest rarities being seen in perfect mint state. A fine block of four 8d. of 1866 imperforate, all the rare provisionals and high values up to £10, and many large blocks of four, eight, and twelve, all in mint state, embracing plates and 2 of the 1866 issue, and a and 4 of the redrawn stamps of 1867, were good for some eyes! Mr. Findlater's supplementary display of Malta was also very fine, and contained some superb mint blocks of the earlier issues, shades in variety of the 4d. values, the error "Pnney" for "Penny" used and unused, and a particularly fine block of four of the rare 4d., buff, of 1861 on blued paper in mint state.

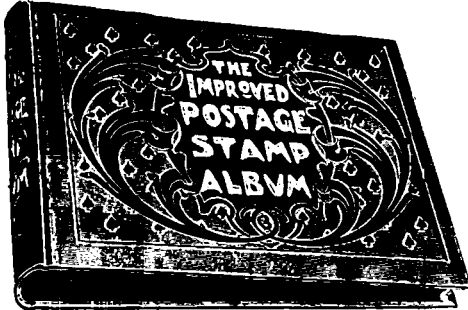
Mr. Herbert M. Hepworth gave a short but interesting lecture on his recent visit to the West Indies, some of the places visited being Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent, Dominica, and St. Lucia (Castries), and he passed round a large number of photographs, some of which were very curious.

Manchester Philatelic Society

President: W. Dornin Beckton.
Hon. Sec.: G. Fred. H. Gibson, Fairfield, Crumpsall
Manchester.
Meetings: Grand Hotel, Manchester, Weekly: Fridays
at 7 p.m.

At the meeting of the Manchester Philatelic Society yesternight week Mr. I. J. Bernstein read a paper on "The Universal Postal Union," which is described as the Parliament of the World's Post. Prior to its advent every country had its own system (or lack of system) in dealing with its correspondence or that of other countries it handled. The charges were high, service bad, and the unit of weight varied in different countries, so that it was almost impossible to frank an international letter to its destination. In August, 1862, Postmaster-General Blair, of the United States of America, suggested a conference of post office delegates to discuss the simplification of international postal relations. This resulted in a conference which met at Paris on the 11th of May, 1863, fifteen leading countries being represented. At this meeting thirty-one articles were drawn up, and formed the basis on which future conferences worked. An endeavour was made in 1866 to bring a congress together, but the war between France and Germany interrupted negotiations. The second conference met on the 12th September, 1874, and adopted certain principles which were embodied in a treaty. The treaty was signed by all the European Powers, Asiatic Russia, Turkey, Egypt, and the U.S.A., and took effect from the 1st July, 1875. On the 1st January, 1876, France and Algeria joined. Every country in the world except China and Abyssinia now belongs to the union, and even these had delegates at the last congress. An important clause gave every member of the convention the right of concluding treaties for restricted union in view of an amelioration of postal relations. Thus it was possible for Great Britain to arrange for the uniform penny post with its colonies. Switzerland, as the most neutral Power in the world, was chosen to work the bureau under the supervision of its postal administration. In 1878 a second full congress was held in Paris, and the union was renamed the "Universal Postal Union," the doors being thrown open to the whole world by a revision of the treaty, under which any country or colony could claim admission by simply giving assurance that it was prepared to carry out the terms of the convention as revised at Paris.—*Manchester City News*, 14.3.08.

The IMPROVED POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM



Cover of No. 3.

SIXTEENTH EDITION.

Greatly Enlarged and Re-written.

Size of Page, 10 x 7½ in.

One Hundred Stamps, all different, are presented with each Album sold.

THIS new Edition is printed on a *superior* quality paper, especially made for it, and is now profusely illustrated. About 700 full-sized types of stamps are shown, which will be of great use to the collector in correctly placing the stamps.

The shape is oblong, and spaces are provided according to the different requirements of the various countries.

A large number of guards have been provided so that the Album shall not bulge when full.

The Album is divided into Continents, and the name of the country only is given at the head of each section.

Eighty different watermarks are illustrated in actual size, and lists are given of the various watermarks of the different countries.

Special attention has been paid to the binding, which is exceptionally strong, and the covers are artistically designed.

PRICES (all well packed):

- No. 2.—Strongly and neatly bound in Plain Cloth, gilt lettered back and sides, 304 pages.
Price 3/6; post-free, 4/-; abroad, 4/7.
- No. 3.—Well bound in Art Vellum, as illustration, blocked in gold and colours, 304 pages.
Price 5/-; post-free, 5/6; abroad, 6/2.
- No. 4.—Handsomely half bound, Art Vellum sides, gold lines and gilt letters on back, gilt edges, with extra leaves after each Continent, for new issues, making in all 368 pages.
Price 7/6; post-free, 8/-; abroad, 8/10.

EXTRA LEAVES

Can be supplied to this and the older small sizes, as under:

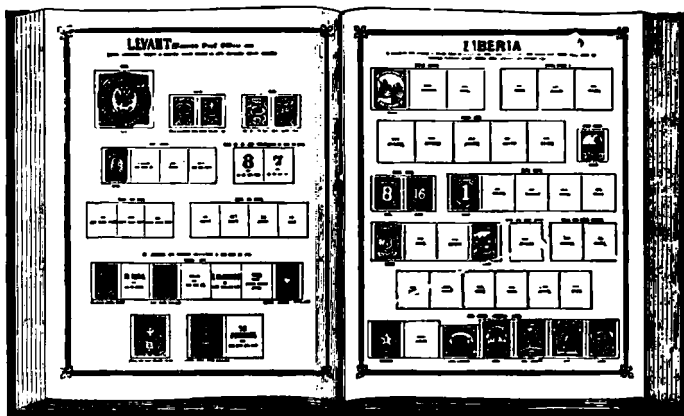
		<small>POST-FREE.</small>	
14th or 15th Edition ...	Plain edges, for Nos. 2 or 3	...	9d. per doz.; 5/- per 100
	Gilt " " No. 4	...	1/3 " 8/6 "
12th or 13th Edition (smaller size)			
	Plain edges, for Nos. 2 or 3	...	6d. " 3/9 "
	Gilt " " No. 4	...	1/- " 7/- "

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

THE IDEAL ALBUM.

**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.



600 pages. Size—9½×11½ inches. 5200 Illustrations.

A NEW AND THOROUGHLY UP-TO-DATE ALBUM.

FOR some years past we have had a great demand for a simple Album, fully illustrated, with a square for each Stamp, and omitting all minor varieties, and we trust that collectors and the trade will be pleased with this our latest production.

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.

IDEAL I.—*On extra stout paper, strongly bound in cloth, artistically designed cover in assorted colours, sprinkled edges, gold lettered on back, 600 pages.*

Price, post-free, U.K., 10/7; abroad, extra.

IDEAL II.—*As last, but INTERLEAVED to prevent any chance of Stamps rubbing, and in superior and stronger binding.*

Price, post-free, U.K., 15/10; abroad, extra.

IDEAL III.—*Sumptuously bound in half-morocco, gilt edges and lettering, and INTERLEAVED as Ideal II.*

Price, post-free, U.K., 25/9; abroad, extra.

IDEAL Nos. I. and II. can be supplied bound in blue, green, or red.

IDEAL No. III., bound in half red or green morocco only.

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

GRAND COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL READERS OF

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

£ 100 in Prizes

WE have decided to give away the sum of one hundred pounds in prizes for those who succeed in getting us the largest number of new subscribers from 1 January to 30 June, 1908.

The conditions of this competition will be as follows:—

1. The competition is open to every one except to employes of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.
2. The Competitors sending in the highest number of new subscriptions will win, however small the number may be.
3. Subscriptions for a half-year cost 3s. 3d. and will reckon as one vote; a subscription of 6s. 6d. for a year will reckon as two votes.
4. Competitors should at the end of each month send in a list of new subscribers, together with the proper amount of the subscriptions, addressed to

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.,
391 STRAND, LONDON,

with the words "G.S.W. Competition" written on lower left corner of envelope.

5. All lists must be sent in by 30 July, 1908, and the names of the winners will be announced in *G.S.W.* about the end of August.

6. In case of any disputes they will be settled by Messrs. C. J. Phillips and G. Hamilton-Smith, whose decision will be final.

The prizes offered will be as follows:—

1st prize.		Stamps to be selected by the winner from our Catalogue or approval sheets to the value of	£	s.	d.
			40	0	0
2nd	"	"	20	0	0
3rd	"	"	10	0	0
4th	"	"	7	10	0
5th	"	"	5	0	0
6th	"	"	2	10	0
7th	"	Packet of stamps value	1	0	0
8th	"	Imperial Album, bound in 3 vols., No. 8 quality	3	15	0
9th	"	" " " " 7 "	2	7	6
10th	"	" " " " 6 "	1	12	0
11th	"	Facile Oriel Album	1	10	0
12th	"	Ideal Album, No. 9	1	15	0
13th	"	Century Album, No. 11	1	2	6
14th	"	Strand Album, No. 15	5	0	0
15th	"	Improved Album, No. 8	3	6	0

Any of our readers who intend to compete for these prizes can have sample bundles of our paper to distribute to their friends free of all charge on receipt of a post card stating how many copies they can use.

We hope many subscribers will compete; those with a large circle of friends may get several dozen subscriptions, but some of the smaller prizes may be won with a very small number of subscriptions.

The attached form must be used by all entering in this competition.

I hereby enter my name as a competitor in the above competition, and agree to abide by the regulations set forth above.

Name

Address

I send the following names of new subscribers to G.S.W. and enclose

£.....

.....

To STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 17, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 173).

25 APRIL, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD:	
French Consular Offices <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	257
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	259
3. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	263
4. THE BLACK REPUBLICS. <i>By W. W.</i>	264
5. BAD COPIES. <i>By J. W. H. Heslop</i>	266
6. OUR SOUTH AMERICAN LETTER	267
7. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	269
8. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	272

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.

YCTAB
Constitution
1905
HEROISM

MONTENEGRO

December, 1905.

Commemorative of the granting of a Constitution.

Type 4, overprinted with Type 5, as above.

- 1 heller, ultramarine and red (p. 12½).
- 2 " mauve and black (p. 13 × 12½).
- 5 " green and red (p. 13).
- 10 " rosiné and black (p. 13).
- 25 " blue and red (p. 13).
- 50 " grey-green and red (p. 13).
- 1 kr., purple-brown and red (p. 13).
- 2 " bistre and red (p. 13).
- 5 " orange and black (p. 13).

The Catalogue price of the above Stamps is 11s. 2d.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the Set of Nine Stamps, unused and mint,

6s., post-free.

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.			Post-free.
			s. d.
7.	100, all different	.	2 1
8.	100 " rarer	.	5 1
9.	200 " rare	.	5 1
66.	500 " .	.	4 1
67.	1000 " .	.	15 0
68.	1500 " .	.	35 0
69.	2000 " .	.	60 0
69A.	3000 " .	.	170 0
69B.	4000 " .	.	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in **FINE** CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, G. S. W.,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a **SPECIAL BARGAIN** for 28 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the **LOW PRICES** at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used. Unused.† Used and 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.	ECUADOR—continued.		No. in Set.	s. d.
361*	Postal Fiscals.	1881-1906. Large and small Stamps	8	1 0
362†	"	1898-1906. Small upright	9	2 9
363*	Postal Telegraphs.	1893-8. Various issues	5	0 10
364†	"	1893. Pictorial, 10 c., 20 c., and 40 c.	3	1 4
365†	Postage Due.	1896. 1 c. to 100 c.	7	1 6
366†	Official.	1892. 1 c. to 1 sucre	7	1 6
367†	"	1894. "	7	1 6
368†	"	1895. "	7	1 6
369†	"	1896. 1 c. to 5 sueres	8	1 6
370†	"	1899. 2 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 50 c.	4	1 3

EGYPT.

372†	1872-47.	Lithographed, 5 pa. (error), 10 pa. (2), 10 on 2½, 20 pa., 1 and 2 piastres	7	2 0
373*	1879-1902.	Engraved. Several issues	12	0 8
374†	Postage Due.	1886-98. Including 1 and 2 pi of 1886	6	2 3
375*	Official.	1892-1907. Including 5 pias.	6	1 0

ELOBEY, ANNOBON, AND CORISCO.

376†	1903.	King. ½ c., 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., and 5 c.	6	1 4
------	-------	--	---	-----

ERITREA.

378†	1893.	1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., 25 c., and 45 c.	7	1 9
379†	1895-1905.	1 c. (2), 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 15 c. on 20 c.	7	0 9

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

381†	1891-1904.	Queen, 1d., 2d., and 2½d. King, ½d. and 1d.	5	1 6
------	------------	---	---	-----

FARIDKOT.

382†	1879-86.	1 folus and 1 paisa, Native issue, ½ a. and 1 a., Convention issue	4	1 0
------	----------	--	---	-----

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

384†	1900.	Protected States overprinted, 2 c., 5 c., and 1 dollar	3	5 6
385†	1901.	Leading Tiger. Single wmk., 1 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., and 10 c.	5	1 0
386*	1901-6.	" both wmk., including 8 c. single and all varieties of 1 c. and 3 c.	12	1 8
387†	1904-7.	" Mult. wmk., 1 c. (2), 3 c. (2), 4 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 50 c.	8	3 3

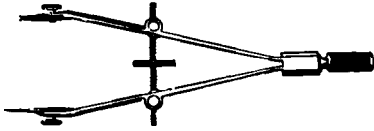
FERNANDO PO.

388†	1880-99.	10 c., and three provisionals, different types	4	7 6
389†	1894-6.	Baby King, 2 c., 5 c., 6 c., and 10 c.	4	2 0
390†	"	" 12½ c., 20 c., and 25 c.	3	4 6
391†	1899.	King, 1 to 5 mils., 3 c., and 5 c.	7	2 6
392*	"	" 1 to 5 mils.	5	1 8
393*	1900.	" 1 to 5 mils.	5	3 0
394†	"	" 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 15 c.	4	2 6
395*	"	" 1 c. to 15 c.	8	2 3
396†	1901.	" 5 c., 10 c., 25 c., and 50 c.	4	1 6
397†	1903.	" ½ c., 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., and 4 c.	6	1 9
398†	1907.	" 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., and 5 c.	5	1 0

FIJI ISLANDS.

399†	1872-7.	C. R. Stamps, overprinted or surcharged	3	8 0
400†	1879-83.	"V.R." Engraved, 1d., 2d., and 2d. on 3d.	3	2 3
401†	1881-1900.	½d., 1d. (2), 2d., 5d., 6d., and 1s.	7	4 6
402†	1903-6.	King, ½d. and 1d., obsolete, 1d., 2d., and 2½d.	5	0 10

SURCHARGE MEASURER.



THE accompanying illustration will give the best idea of what this is. It consists of a pair of needle-pointed spring compasses, capable, by means of an adjusting screw, of measuring with the greatest accuracy all surcharges up to 40 millimètres in length. In addition to the measure a millimètre gauge is obtained by running the head of the screw along a piece of paper, a series of lines exactly a millimètre apart being thus indented in the paper. For measuring surcharges on such stamps as Natal, Straits Settlements, &c., this will be found invaluable, and also in the detection of forgeries—a forgery or forged surcharge very seldom being *exactly* the same size as the original.

Price, post-free, 7/7; abroad, 7/11.

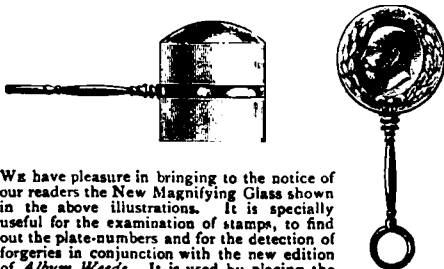
POCKET MAGNIFYING GLASSES.



AFTER examining some scores of different sorts, we have been able to get one combining the greatest power with the largest field obtainable for pocket use. These glasses are mounted in handsome vulcanite frames, and are very compact. There are two lenses in each, which may be used singly, or if a very strong power is desired, may be combined.

Price, post-free, 7/7; abroad, 8/4.

NEW STAMP MAGNIFYING GLASS.



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.

Price, post-free in Great Britain, 5/1; abroad, 6/-

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA. (FRESH SUPPLY.)

1891. *Stamps of British South Africa overprinted B.C.A.*

Cat. No.		s.	d.
2.	2d., sea-green and vermilion	0	6
3.	4d., chestnut and black	0	6
5.	6d., deep blue	0	8
6.	8d., rose-lake and ultramarine	1	0
7.	1s., grey-brown	1	4

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA. (FRESH SUPPLY.)

1896-7. *Type 5. Large Arms Type.*

27.	½d., slate and violet	0	2
28.	1d., scarlet and emerald	0	3
31a.	4d., blue and deep lilac	0	8
32a.	6d., purple and bright rose	0	9
33.	8d., olive-green and violet on buff	1	6
34.	1s., green and blue	1	6
35.	2s., indigo and green on buff	2	9
36.	2s. 6d., brown and purple on yellow	3	3
37.	3s., green and mauve on blue	4	0
38.	4s., red and deep blue on green	5	0
39.	5s., chestnut and green	6	6
40.	10s., slate and vermilion on rose	12	6

1897. *Redraun Arms Type.*

54.	3d., brown-red and ultramarine	0	5
55.	4d., ultramarine and mauve	0	6
56.	6d., purple and pink	0	8
57.	8d., green and violet on buff	1	6

1898-1907. *Small Arms Type.*

59.	½d., green	0	1
60.	1d., rose	0	2
61.	2d., brown	0	3
62.	2½d., cobalt	0	4
63.	4d., olive	0	6
64a.	6d., lilac	0	8
65.	1s., ochre	1	4
65a.	2s. 6d., bluish grey	3	3
66.	5s., orange	6	6
67.	7s. 6d., black	9	0

1905. *View of Victoria Falls.*

71.	1d., red	0	2
72.	2½d., ultramarine	0	4
73.	5d., claret	0	7
74.	1s., blue-green	1	4
75.	2s. 6d., black	3	3
76.	5s., mauve	6	6

COSTA RICA.

1907. *Statue of Juan Santa Maria.*

58.	1 c., indigo and chestnut	used	0	1
-----	-------------------------------------	------	---	---

ECUADOR.

1901. *Portrait of Montcayo.*

168.	5s., grey-black	used	6	0
------	---------------------------	------	---	---

1907. *Portrait Types.*

326.	5 c., lilac-rose (Urvina)	used	0	1
327.	10 c., indigo (Moreno)	„	0	2
328.	20 c., pale green (Carrion)	„	0	3

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 108 BROADWAY.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.
Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.
Entrance fee: 2s. 6d. No Entrance fee for ladies or for Juniors.

THE eleventh ordinary meeting of the season was held on Saturday, 21 March, at 3 Bedford Street, Strand. The President took the chair at 8 p.m.

The following ladies and gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Society: Captain M. W. Coope (life member), Mrs. Shrengger, Miss L. Juffs, J. J. Lloyd, R. Service, R. Lederey, Captain J. R. Clark, A. G. White, J. W. Hooker, L. Loeske, A. Grellier, R. S. Lienham, L. de Jersey Harvard, H. P. Ereant, W. J. Short, W. B. Ward, A. Wallace, E. D. Turnley, Cadet P. N. Rogers, & N., C. H. Rushton, R. Roberts, L. M. Loder, C. W. Licence, J. Holmes, A. T. Granger, H. C. Elwell, R. C. Cyriax, W. Dawes, G. H. Brown, M. L. Llewelyn.

Donations to the Permanent Collection were acknowledged from H. Oppenheim, to the Forgery Collection from E. W. B. Maggs and A. J. Sefi, and to the Library from Mrs. Field, W. E. Lincoln, and Messrs. Bright and Son.

Mr. Melville then mentioned what an unqualified success the Exhibition had been; no less than 27,500 people passed through the Hall during the three days the Exhibition was open: on several occasions on Saturday the main Hall was so full that it became necessary to temporarily close the doors. Perhaps one of the most gratifying things in connection with it was the notice taken of it in the Press; in fact, Mr. Melville said our office in Fleet Street was almost entirely papered with Press cuttings relating to the Exhibition, the great publicity it gained causing it to be probably the greatest advertisement stamp collecting had ever had. These announcements were received with applause. Mr. Melville went on to state how very largely the success of the Exhibition was the result of the untiring energy of Mr. H. F. Johnson, the Secretary, who had devoted the whole of his time for the last six months entirely to it. The meeting showed its appreciation of Mr. Johnson's services in very hearty applause.

Mr. Melville next called upon Mr. E. M. Gilbert Lodge to open the debate "Stamp Collecting: Hobby or Science?" Mr. Lodge said that a hobby was a pastime, something that offered a pleasant change from the dull round of our customary duties. Such a thing was stamp collecting; we collect stamps because they attract us by their varieties of design, perforation, watermark, and the errors caused by printers' mistakes. Science was something far deeper, research into little-known subjects with a view to solving the various mysteries connected with life or nature. A scientist is honoured by his fellow-men for the varied benefits resulting from his discoveries; surely, said Mr. Lodge, a philatelist is not this; no. He considered that stamp collecting was a hobby, and nothing deeper, and he hoped the members present would consider it as such.

Mr. Purdom then spoke in favour of stamp collecting as a science. He said he quite agreed that stamp collecting was a hobby. The fact of its being a science does not of necessity rule it out as a hobby. Anything that needs study, whether it be stamps, the heavens, or beetles, is science. It is not a case of what stamp collecting should be called, but what it is. Everything went to prove that his contention was correct. Look at the vast literature of Philately and the enormous amount of research it was the result of. He confidently expected that members would agree with him that there is as much science in the study of stamps as in any of the forces of nature.

Mr. Nelson said that after such a splendid debate he found it difficult to vote for either side. He said he thought he preferred to call Philately a fine art. Mr. Lodge was wrong in stating that errors were the mistakes of printers. This was not always so, as in the case of the 1902 issue of Dominican Republic the mistake was not the printer's, but rather the purchaser's. Mr. Lovelace said that science was natural phenomena, and not the work of men. He should, therefore, vote for stamp collecting as a hobby. Mr. Douglas Ellis said that he considered true Philately begins where the catalogue ends. Mr. Westcott said that Philately was a hobby carried out on scientific lines. As long as you follow the catalogues it is a hobby, but when you leave them it becomes a scientific hobby. After several other gentlemen had spoken, and Mr. Lodge and Mr. Purdom had suitably replied, a vote

was taken, and it was found that the large majority were in favour of stamp collecting as a hobby.

Mr. Melville proposed a vote of thanks to both the gentlemen who had conducted such a splendid debate. Mr. Nelson seconded, and it was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Edgar Nelson next gave a display of his collection of Nova Scotia, and at the same time a display of types of Queen's Heads was given by a member of the Manchester branch of the Society. Mr. Nelson's collection contained a large number of the pence issue, many on entire envelope, his copies of the 1s. being particularly fine. In the cents issue one noticed some finely engraved forgeries which Mr. Nelson said had for some time deceived him; and in this, as in the previous issue, the collection was rich in stamps on entire. The collection of Queen's Heads shown was arranged on a very ingenious plan. The stamps were taken from all the colonies and were arranged in order of date of issue, the date being written under each stamp. The collection presented a very novel and interesting appearance. Mr. Melville proposed, and Mr. Lodge seconded, a very hearty vote of thanks to these two gentlemen for their splendid displays, and it was unanimously carried.

**Junior Philatelic Society
 Brighton Branch**

Chairman: W. Mead.
Hon. Sec.: J. Garner-Spokes, 22 Denmark Terrace, Brighton.

THE eleventh meeting of the season was held on 26 March, presided over by the Chairman.

Donations to the Library were acknowledged from Mr. Herbert Clark and Mr. J. C. Long, and a vote of thanks was passed to them.

Mr. Douglas Ellis, who was unfortunately unable to be present, very kindly sent his fine collection of Gambia, accompanied by a most interesting paper, the latter being very kindly read by Mr. Type.

The Secretary proposed, and Mr. Clark seconded, a most hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Ellis and Mr. Type, which was carried with acclamation.

North London Philatelic Society

President: C. M. C. Symes.
Vice-President: C. J. Phillips.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.: C. S. Muratori, 29 Fletching Road, L. Clapton, N.E.
Meetings: Central Y.M.C.A., 7 Highbury Place, Highbury Station, N.
Subscription: 2s. 6d. per annum.

THE usual fortnightly meeting was held on Thursday, March 19, at head-quarters. Mr. C. M. C. Symes (President) occupied the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 March were read and signed as correct. The Chairman then introduced Mr. C. J. Rix, B.A., F.R.P.S.L., to the members, who then proceeded to read his paper on the stamps of Egypt, giving its postal history, and explaining the various issues, the difference between what, as he explained, he called the European printings and the native printings of the 1867 issue, although he could not trace any authentic record of the two printings, the "European" having a very clear impression, clean-cut perforations, and a plain edging, whereas the "Native" printing had a much coarser impression, coarser perforations, and a decorative border to the edging of the sheet. Mr. Rix then proceeded to show his collection, consisting of all issues, which were in unused pairs and blocks, also large corner blocks, showing the margins of the two printings of the 1867 issue, and also blocks of four of each value of the 1872 issue, showing the four types. There was also a fine pair, unused, of the 1884 issue 5 piastres, surcharged 20 paras in black, with inverted surcharge. All the remaining issues being well represented.

Mr. Rix then displayed his collection of Sudan, of which he had the six varieties of type of each of the values of the overprint 1897 issue, and some fine sheets of the Camel Post issues.

The President then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Rix for coming from Tunbridge Wells specially to give his very interesting paper and display to the members of the Society, which, he was sure, was very much appreciated.

Another very interesting paper was also read by Mr. C. J. Phillips on "The Real Market Value of Postage Stamps."

STANDARD GUIDES FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

STANLEY GIBBONS PRICED CATALOGUE of the Postage Stamps of the World.

Vol. I. Great Britain and Colonies.

Price, post-free, 2/9.

Vol. II. The Rest of the World.

Out of print.

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.

Price 2/9 in Paper Cover, or 4/3 strongly bound in Cloth.

A COLOUR DICTIONARY.

By B. W. WARHURST.

Specially prepared for stamp collectors, and illustrated in fifty-eight colours.

Price 2/8 in Paper Cover, or 4/8 bound in Cloth.

THE STAMP COLLECTOR.

By BACON & HARDY.

All about Collecting—its Origin and Development, History in Stamps, the Stamp Market, Famous Collections, List of Philatelic Societies, etc. etc.

247 Illustrations. 294 pages.

Price 4/10 post-free.

REPRINTS.

By E. D. BACON.

Will be found of the greatest use to collectors, and explains how to detect reprints and official imitations from genuine stamps.

Price 4/3 in Paper Cover, or 5/9 bound in Cloth.

THE "IDEAL" PERFORATION GAUGE.

Can be carried in the pocket, and stamps measured without removing them from the album.

Price 7d. post-free.

GUMMED STAMP MOUNTS.

The "S.G." Stamp Mounts, in tin boxes, per 1000,
7d. post-free.

Better quality, in three sizes, per 1000,
1/- post-free.

TWEEZERS

For Handling and Sorting Stamps.

No. 1.—Blunt ends, post-free, 2/7.

No. 2.—Round ends, post-free, 2/1.

No. 3.—Pointed ends (in use in our offices, and highly recommended), post-free, 2/1.

STANLEY GIBBONS HANDBOOKS.

	Paper	Bound
	Cover.	in Cloth.
	s. d.	s. d.
Portuguese India	4 9	6 3
South Australia	7 9	9 9
Shanghai	5 3	7 9
Saint Vincent	5 3	7 9
Barbados	7 9	10 9
Reprints	4 3	5 9
Grenada	7 9	9 9
Sicily	21 5	30 5

"MY DUPLICATES"

A small but handy pocket-book, with slips to contain duplicates or new purchases. Very useful.

Post-free, 1/1.

A larger Pocket Collecting-Book,

with large pocket at back and patent fastening on flap.

Post-free 2/7.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

GRAND COMPETITION

OPEN TO ALL READERS OF

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

£ 100 in Prizes

See particulars in previous numbers.

Answer to DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 7 of Series. *Must be sent only on this Form.*

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

Signature

Initials or Pseudonym for acknowledging.

Address

or Post Town for recognition in case two of same name. (Not for Publication.)

Stamp Collections Register

A Pamphlet, giving particulars of Collections still unsold, will be sent on application. Postage 1d.

Now Ready. SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN

(85 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it.

In the Press.

Ready about April 20th.

Section		s.	d.	s.	d.
2. ANTIGUA	4 pages, price	0	3	post-free	0 5
3. BAHAMAS	8 " "	0	4	"	0 6
4. BARBADOS	12 " "	0	6	"	0 8
5. BERMUDA	6 " "	0	4	"	0 6
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	"	0 5
7. DOMINICA	10 " "	0	6	"	0 8
8. GRENADA	12 " "	0	6	"	0 8
9. JAMAICA	12 " "	0	6	"	0 8

The above rates of postage are for single sections, per book post; if three or more sections are ordered at one time, they can be sent per parcel post in the U.K., and postage should be remitted at the rate of 1d. per section, with a minimum of 4d.

In Preparation.

Ready in May.

10. LEEWARD ISLANDS.
11. MONTSERRAT.
12. NEVIS.
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER.
14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS.
15. ST. LUCIA.
16. ST. VINCENT.
17. TOBAGO.
18. TRINIDAD.
19. TURKS ISLANDS.
20. TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.
21. VIRGIN ISLANDS.

N.B.—Each page measures 11½ x 8 in. clear of binding.

BLANK PAGES can be supplied to match the printed pages, and will be found of use for those who want to include pairs, blocks, or stamps on covers.

Price 9d. per doz.; post-free, 11d. per doz.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 18, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 174).

2 MAY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: French Consular Offices <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	273
2. TOPICAL NOTES <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	275
3. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	276
4. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. S. Armstrong</i>	277
5. MY LIFE STORY. The Autobiography of a Penny Black. <i>By C. Raymond Ferguson</i>	279
6. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i>	280
7. THE INSTRUCTIVE SIDE OF STAMP COLLECTING. <i>By W. J. W.</i>	281
8. PORTRAITS ON STAMPS <i>By Boswell Junior</i>	282
9. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nissen</i>	284
10. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	285
11. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	286
12. CORRESPONDENCE	288
13. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	288
14. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.

THIS WEEK we have got ready another **SPECIAL BARGAIN PACKET**, made up *exclusively* for readers of G.S.W. There are the same number of Stamps as in our ordinary 6d. packet, but the quality of the Stamps is *far superior* and bound to give satisfaction to every purchaser.

This packet contains one hundred Stamps, all different, including France (Semeuse), Chili (four Columbus), India (set of ten), Germany (high values), set of nine Canada, U.S.A. (Webster), Dutch Indies (Queen), set of seven Japan, etc. etc.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

7d., post-free.

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 " rarer	5 1
9.	200 " rare	5 1
66.	500 "	4 1
67.	1000 "	15 0
68.	1500 "	35 0
69.	2000 "	60 0
69A.	3000 "	170 0
69B.	4000 "	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in **FINE CONDITION**, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to

The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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.* Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; *R.* Reprint; *W.* Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gr. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	4s. 0c.	fr. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	8s. 0c.	fr. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fr. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

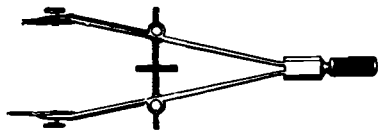
SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the **LOW PRICES** at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used. Unused.† Used and 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.		No. in Set.	s. d.
FINLAND.			
403*	1866-92. Various issues, including 20 and 40 pen. of 1866	16	2 0
404†	1891. 1, 2, 3 and 4 kop.	4	0 8
405†	1901-2. Lithographed 2, 10 and 20 pen., surface printed 2 and 5 pen.	5	1 6
406*	" 2, 5, 10 and 20 p., both issues, and 1 mk.	9	0 6
FRANCE.			
408*	1749-71. Early issues, including Ceres type and Empire, imperf.	14	1 9
409*	1862-76. Laureated, 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 10 c., 20 c., 30 c., 40 c., and 80 c.	8	0 10
410*	1870-75. "Ceres," including 10 c., and 20 c., Bordeaux	16	2 0
411*	1876. "Peace and Commerce," 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., 25 c. (2), 30 c. (2), 40 c., 75 c., and 1 fr.	12	0 9
412*	1877-1900. " " including 2 fr.	18	1 4
413†	1900. "Blanc" and "Mouchon," 1 c. to 30 c.	10	2 0
414*	1900-4. " " all values and varieties, and two "F.M." stamps	0	1 3
415†	1900-5. "Merson," 40 c. to 5 fr.	6	9 0
416*	" " " " " " " " " "	6	1 4
417*	1903-7. "Sower," all values, and including two "F.M." stamps	13	0 9
418†	Postage Due. 1859-1906. Including 10 c. and 15 c., imperf.	6	1 2
419*	" " " " " " " " " "	10	0 10
FRENCH CONSULAR OFFICES.			
CHINA.			
General Issues.			
420†	1894-1901. French stamps, 5 c., 10 c., 25 c., and 30 c.	4	1 3
421†	1904-5. Indo-China, Tablet type, 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 25 c.	8	1 8
422†	" " " " 40 c., 50 c., 75 c., 1 fr. and 5 fr.	5	13 6
423†	1904-5. "Grasset type, 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 25 c.	7	2 6
424*	Postage Due. 1901. 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 30 c., and 50 c.	5	1 0
Canton.			
425†	1901. Tablet type, 1 c. to 25 c., red overprint	10	2 8
426†	" " " " 30 c. to 1 fr. " " " " " "	5	6 6
427†	1903-4. " " 1 c. to 25 c., black overprint	8	2 6
428†	1906. Grasset type, 1 c. to 35 c.	9	4 3
429†	" " " " 40 c., 50 c., 1 fr., and 2 fr.	4	14 0
Hoi-Hao.			
430†	1902. Tablet type, 1 c. to 25 c., red overprint	8	4 0
431†	1903-4. " " 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., and 25 c., black overprint	7	2 0
Mongtze.			
432†	1903. Tablet type, 2 c., 4 c., and 5 c.	3	0 9
Packhoi.			
433†	1903-4. Tablet type, 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 3 c.	8	2 0
Tchongking.			
434†	1903. Tablet type, 2 c., 4 c., and 5 c.	3	0 9
Yunnansen.			
435†	1903. Tablet type, 2 c., 4 c., and 5 c.	3	0 9
EGYPT.			
Alexandria.			
436†	1899-1902. Overprinted 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., and 15 c. No overprint 1 c., and 20 c.	8	1 0
Port Said.			
437†	1899-1902. Overprinted 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., and 10 c. No overprint, 1 c., 4 c., 15 c., and 30 c.	8	1 0

SURCHARGE MEASURER.



THE accompanying illustration will give the best idea of what this is. It consists of a pair of needle-pointed spring compasses, capable, by means of an adjusting screw, of measuring with the greatest accuracy all surcharges up to 40 millimetre in length. In addition to the measure a millimetre gauge is obtained by running the head of the screw along a piece of paper, a series of lines exactly a millimetre apart being thus indented in the paper. For measuring surcharges on such stamps as Natal, Straits Settlements, &c., this will be found invaluable, and also in the detection of forgeries—a forged or forged surcharge very seldom being *exactly* the same size as the original.

Price, post-free, 7/7; abroad, 7/11.

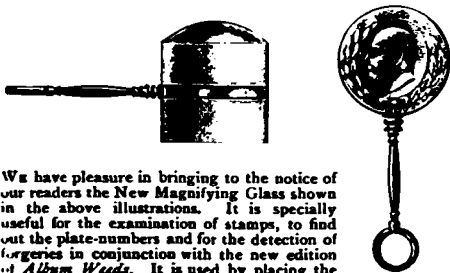
POCKET MAGNIFYING GLASSES.



AFTER examining some scores of different sorts, we have been able to get one combining the greatest power with the largest field obtainable for pocket use. These glasses are mounted in handsome vulcanite frames, and are very compact. There are two lenses in each, which may be used singly, or if a very strong power is desired, may be combined.

Price, post-free, 7/7; abroad, 8/4.

NEW STAMP MAGNIFYING GLASS.



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.

Price, post-free in Great Britain, 5/1; abroad, 6/-

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

Cat. No. MONTENEGRO.

1905.	Type 4 overprinted with Type 5.	s. d.
175.	1 h., ultramarine and red (perf. 12½)	0 1
176.	2 h. mauve and black (,, 13 × 12½)	0 1
177.	5 h., green and red (,, 13)	0 1
178.	10 h., rosine and black (,, 13)	0 2
179.	25 h., blue and red (,, 13)	0 4
180.	50 h., grey-green and red (,, 13)	0 8
181.	1 kr., purple-brown and red (,, 13)	1 3
182.	2 kr., bistre and red (,, 13)	2 6
183.	5 kr., orange and black (,, 13)	6 0

1905. Postage Due stamps, Type 52, overprinted with Type 5.

325.	5 h., orange and black	0 1
326.	10 h., sage-green and red	0 2
327.	25 h., pale mauve and black	0 4
328.	50 h., emerald and black	0 8
329.	1 kr., grey and black	1 3

1905. Acknowledgment of Receipt stamp overprinted with Type 5.

406.	25 h., orange, rosine, and black	0 4
------	----------------------------------	-----

PANAMA.

1906. Type 52. Arms.

293.	2½ c., pale red	used 0 2
------	-----------------	----------

SUDAN.

1902. Camel Type surcharged.

23.	5 m. on 5 p., brown and green	used 0 4
-----	-------------------------------	----------

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

1900-5. Types 1 and 2. Pictorial.

103.	2d., sepia (Single)	0 3
104a.	2½d., greyish blue (,,)	0 4
105.	4d., orange (,,)	0 6
106.	6d., violet (,,)	0 8
107.	1s., purple-brown (,,)	1 4
108.	2s., violet (CC)	2 8
109.	3s., lake (,,)	4 0
110.	½d., green (Mult.)	0 1
111.	1d. carmine (,,)	0 2

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

British Guiana Philatelic Society

President: Hon. B. Howell Jones.

Vice-President: Rev. Canon Josa.

Council: J. A. Pope, B.A., Luke M. Hill, C.F., W. J. Abraham.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: A. D. Ferguson, Georgetown.

Hon. Assistant Secretary: A. B. Anderson.

Meetings: Christ Church Vicarage, Georgetown.

At the February meeting of the British Guiana Philatelic Society, held at the residence of the Hon. Secretary, the Hon. B. Howell Jones presided, while also present were Mrs. Barnes, Rev. Canon Josa, and Messrs. T. A. P. Pe, J. K. D. Hill, L. V. Vaughan, G. T. Manly, J. H. Field, A. D. Ferguson (Hon. Secretary), and A. B. Anderson (Assistant Secretary).

Mr. J. K. D. Hill was unanimously elected a member of the Society.

The Chairman then delivered some interesting and instructive remarks with respect to the "Adhesives on Stamps." He referred to the importance of the gums on stamps, as modern collectors recognized that an unused issue of a stamp was not absolutely perfect unless it retained its original gum. He had been handling recently a large number of stamps given by the Government for addition to the collection of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society, and he had observed therefrom that the gums on the stamps of France and her colonies were the most suitable for damp climates; they did not stick together, yet retained their adhesive properties. On the other hand, the worst stamps in that connection, he considered, were those of South American countries, the United States and Canada, which were all produced in America. The gums on these stamps were so tenacious that the stamps stuck together, and in many instances could not be separated. He suggested valuable hints in dealing with such stamps.

The Hon. Secretary then reported the addition of several volumes to the Society's Library, including catalogues, several works on the postage stamps of various countries, and other volumes dealing with matters of philatelic interest. The books were exhibited to the members.

Afterwards Mr. Vaughan made an excellent display of stamps, exhibiting a unique collection of stamps of the British colonies; and it was considered the most up-to-date British colonial collection in the colony. It aroused general admiration among the members, as also an album, which he also exhibited, containing duplicate complete sheets of colonial stamps, principally British Guiana and Barbados issues, showing the various shades and plate numbers. This very valuable and interesting collection was extolled, the magnificent condition of the stamps and the excellent manner in which they were mounted being especially attractive features.

Mr. Howell Jones also exhibited one of the albums belonging to the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society, containing the stamps of British Guiana and Great Britain, the collections of which, he said, were both poor, the other British colonies, and then France. This was also another interesting collection, and contained many admirable specimens.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Vaughan for his exhibition terminated the meeting.

Herne Bay Philatelic Society

Hon. Sec.: T. F. Newton, 8 Promenade Central, Herne Bay.

The fortnightly meeting was held at 8 Promenade Central on Wednesday, 1 April, at 8.15 p.m., Vice-President G. Dukes being in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Mr. Christian Kräuter then gave a discourse on the stamps of Heligoland, based on the researches of Mr. Arthur Wülbern, of Hamburg. A large amount of new information was imparted. Especially interesting was the history of the transactions concerning the various prints, and the list of numbers issued of same.

A display of Heligoland stamps annotated by Mr. Wülbern was shown, by means of which the various details were made clear.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Kräuter terminated a very instructive meeting.

Leicester Philatelic Society

President: Dr. R. Milbourne West.

Hon. Sec.: P. V. Sansome, Tennyson Street, St. James' Road, Leicester.

Meetings: Winchester House, Welford Place, Leicester.

The April meeting of this Society was held on the first of the month at Winchester House before a good gathering of members. The chair was taken by the President, Dr. R. M. West, who gave the members an opportunity of examining his collections of Gibraltar and Morocco Agencies. While the history of these stamps was being read the sheets were handed round. Both collections were admirably arranged, practically complete, and mostly in mint condition. A lecture on "Paper" was given by Mr. Thomas B. Widdowson. He brought with him samples of different papers made in Germany, Belgium, Norway, Japan, and other countries, and photographs of the latest machines and their action were also examined. On the proposition of Mr. J. Edwards, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. R. M. West for his interesting display, and to Mr. Thomas B. Widdowson for his lecture. Mr. Gadsby seconded, and an enjoyable evening terminated.

Philatelic Society of India

The annual meeting of this Society was held at Mr. Larmour's residence, Calcutta, on Friday, 20 March, 1908. There was a very small attendance, and the proceedings were of a purely formal character. Mr. Hoffmann, on taking the chair at 6.15 p.m., called on Mr. Corfield to present the Treasurers' accounts, and these disclosed a prosperous financial position, and were passed unanimously. Approval was given to the final arrangements for the early publication of an elaborate and fully-illustrated handbook on the stamps of Afghanistan, a work which, from the nature of the stamps it deals with from the student's point of view, will meet a long-standing need of the stamp-collecting world. It will be necessarily costly, as the demand for a monograph on the issues of this difficult and expensive country can only be expected to be a limited one. The authors, Sir David Masson and Mr. B. Gordon Jones, each recognized experts in Afghan Philately, have, it is understood, spared no pains to prepare an exhaustive and reliable work, which will form a notable addition to the standard library of the pursuit. Since the last annual meeting the Society's Handbook on the Postal and Telegraph issues of British India has been published by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London, and has met with the widest approval. The success of the Calcutta Philatelic Exhibition of January last was reported upon and its Committee dissolved. Certain arrangements were ordered to be entered into with the management of the *London Philatelist*, the official organ of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, of advantage to Indian collectors, and after the discussion and settlement of other business matters of a routine nature the following honorary officers were appointed for 1908-9:—

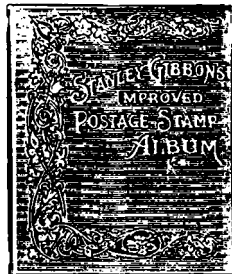
Honorary President: Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, i.c.s. President: The Hon. Sir David Masson, c.i.e., Lahore. Vice-Presidents: The Right Hon. the Earl of Crawford, k.t.; Mr. Wilmot Corfield (Calcutta), Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg (Weybridge, England), the Hon. Mr. C. F. Larmour (Calcutta), Mr. E. W. Wetherell (Bangalore). Hon. Secretary: Mr. W. Corfield (Calcutta). Hon. Treasurers: The Punjab Banking Company, Ltd., Lahore. Librarian: Mr. Th. Hoffmann (Calcutta). Editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India*: Mr. B. Gordon Jones. Committee: Mr. J. A. E. Burrup (Calcutta), the Hon. Mr. A. G. Cardew, i.c.s. (Madras), Mr. J. T. Chamberlain, i.c.s. (Klichipur, Berar), Mr. C. S. F. Crofton, i.c.s. (Ahmednagar), Lieut.-Col. F. H. Hancock (Jhansi), Lieut.-Col. G. F. A. Harris, i.m.s. (Calcutta), Prof. O. V. Muller (Bombay), and Mr. J. O'B. Saunders (Calcutta).

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. 10d.

THE NINTH EDITION OF
The Improved
Postage Stamp
Album, No. 0



ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH THOUSAND.

The Best and Largest Album ever Published at the Price.

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 Islands, 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, 1/3.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

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 again next day for 1/9, 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 2/6 for it. Please send me another."

C. A. W. writes: "Please send me one of your marvellous 1/- Albums, with packet of stamps, in order that I may convince my incredulous friends that such a thing is possible."

Miss M. R. writes from Piccadilly: "I was greatly pleased with the Album I received this morning, which all my friends admired, and thought it very cheap."

J. P., West Norwood: "A friend of mine has one, and directly I saw it I offered to buy it; but he would not sell it, so please send one."

E. A. T., Gampole, Ceylon: "The Improved Postage Stamp Album, together with the packet of stamps, reached me quite safe. It is fully worth the amount, viz., 1/-, I paid for it. I wonder how you can sell it so cheap as that, for when I received it a friend of mine saw it and offered 7 rs. 50 cts (equal to 1cs. 4d.) for it."

F. E. R. L., Trinidad: "Your Album is the best I have seen for even 2/-, so it is indeed cheap for 1/-."

W. J. E. B., Newcastle, Natal: "Your No. 0 Album to hand, with thanks. I must again compliment you on its excellence, as I can out here sell it for at least 3/-, and the stamps for another 9d. or so. I will take an early opportunity of sending for half a dozen."

R. D., Evan's City, Pa., U.S.A.: "Please find enclosed 35 c. for one Improved Stamp Album and 50 stamps. I have a friend who has one, and said that he would not take a dollar for it."

W. H. B., Fairhaven, Mass.: "I have received the Album and am much pleased with it. I would not sell it for 50 cents if I could not get another. If I can turn any trade your way I shall try to do so, for I believe you to be a good square man to deal with."

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

The Stamp Collectors' Library.

A good library of the best and most reliable Philatelic Publications is a prime necessity to the Stamp Collector who wishes to thoroughly study the Stamps he collects. The most successful collectors pride themselves upon the range of their philatelic libraries. Handbooks and other works by writers of established reputation are, in fact, indispensable to supplement the Stamp Catalogue, which at best is only a Dealer's Price List of what he has to sell.

PRICES QUOTED ARE ALL POST-FREE.

- STANLEY GIBBONS CATALOGUE.** Part I, British Empire. Cloth, 2/9. Part II, Foreign Countries, 2/10.
- STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING.** By MAJOR E. B. EVANS. A glossary of terms used in Stamp Collecting. Invaluable as a reference book. Full of information as to the various kinds of paper used, methods of printing, embossing, perforating, etc. Fully illustrated. Paper cover, 2/3; cloth, 4/3.
- STAMP COLLECTING AS A PASTIME.** By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL. A peep behind the scenes, explaining how it is that, after nearly half a century, Stamp Collecting has never been more popular than it is to-day. Contents: The Charm of Stamp Collecting—Stamps with a History—Great Rarities—Romance of Stamp Collecting—Stamp Collecting as an Investment—What to Collect and how to Collect, etc. Cloth, 1/3.
- ALBUM WEEDS.** By REV. R. B. EARÉE. Forgeries and how to detect them. Fully illustrated. New and Revised Edition, greatly enlarged. Vol. I now ready, cloth, 8/-; Vol. II, cloth, 8/-.
- THE STAMP COLLECTOR.** By W. J. HARDY and E. D. BACON. Contents: Collecting, its Origin and Development—Stamps made for Collectors—Art in Postage Stamps—Stamps with Stories—History in Postage Stamps—Famous Collections, etc. Cloth, 4/9.
- REPRINTS of Postal Adhesives and their Characteristics.** By E. D. BACON. A guide to the Collector to enable him to separate Reprints from originals, with a history and detailed description of all known Reprints. With 426 illustrations. Paper cover, 4/3; cloth, 5/9.
- PORTUGUESE INDIA.** By the late GILBERT HARRISON and LIEUT. F. H. NAPIER, R.N. A Handbook for Specialists, full of notes and explanations of all the issues. Two full-page plates. Paper cover, 4/9; cloth, 6/3.
- SOUTH AUSTRALIA.** By LIEUT. NAPIER and the late GORDON SMITH, M.A. A most exhaustive work on the issues of South Australia; indispensable to the Specialist and useful to the General Collector. Three full-page plates of photographic illustrations, showing the various types of surcharge on the 10d. stamps, etc. Cloth, 9/9.
- SHANGHAI.** By W. B. THORNHILL. An important handbook, with eight full plates of photographic illustrations, showing the varieties of the early issues and the later surcharges, etc. Paper cover, 5/3; cloth, 7/9.
- ST. VINCENT.** By LIEUT. F. H. NAPIER, R.N., and E. D. BACON. Illustrated with two full-page autotype plates, one of which shows illustrations of the stamps and surcharges, and the other the various perforations found in the stamps of the colony. Paper cover, 5/3; cloth, 7/9.
- BARBADOS.** By E. D. BACON and LIEUT. F. H. NAPIER, R.N. Illustrated with three autotypes of stamps, specially showing all the varieties on the 1d. on half of 5/-, three facsimile reproductions of the Star watermarks, and a list of the number of stamps of each value printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. and Messrs. De La Rue & Co. Paper cover, 7/9; cloth, 10/9.
- GRENADA.** By E. D. BACON and LIEUT. F. H. NAPIER, R.N. An exhaustive history of the stamps of this colony with their many intricate and minor varieties. Illustrated with nine full-page autotype plates. Paper cover, 7/9; cloth, 9/9.
- SICILY.** By DR. EMILIO DIENA, translated by MAJOR EVANS. A complete history of the exceptionally interesting series of stamps of this country, with a brief history of Sicily, a biography of the celebrated artist by whom the fine portrait of King "Bomba" was engraved, a full account of the circumstances under which the stamps were issued, of the difficulties in the production of the plates, of the various essays and proposals for subsequent issues, and a description of the postmarks and obliterations. Illustrated with twenty full-page autotype plates, showing seven complete or reconstructed sheets, varieties of retouches, etc., and various illustrations in the text. Paper cover, 21/5; half morocco, 30/5.
- THE MULREADY ENVELOPE** and its Caricatures. By MAJOR E. B. EVANS. With 45 full-page illustrations of the most curious varieties of these interesting caricatures. Cloth, 6/4.
- AFRICA.** Compiled by the Philatelic Society of London. Part I, comprising British Bechuanaland, British East Africa, British Central Africa, British South Africa, and the Cape of Good Hope. Many full-page plates. Price 40/3. Part II, comprising Gambia, Gold Coast, Griqualand, Lagos, Madagascar, Matabeleland, Mauritius, and Natal. With thirteen full-page illustrations, and one sheet of coloured autotype illustrations. Paper cover, 16/4. Part III, completing the African Colonies. Price 40/6.
- INDIA AND CEYLON.** Compiled by the Philatelic Society of London. With twenty-four full-page autotype illustrations. Paper cover, 25/4.
- GREAT BRITAIN.** By HASTINGS E. WRIGHT and A. B. CREEKE, JUN. A complete history of the stamps of our own country. With many full-page plates and numbers of illustrations in the text. Paper cover, 24/6; supplement, paper cover, 2/7.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

The Sectional Imperial Album

A full description of this Album will be sent post-free on application.

NOW READY.

SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN

(86 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it.

<i>Section</i>		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
2. ANTIGUA	4 pages, price	0	3	post-free	0	5
3. BAHAMAS	8 " "	0	4	" "	0	6
4. BARBADOS	12 " "	0	6	" "	0	8
5. BERMUDA	6 " "	0	4	" "	0	6
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	" "	0	5
7. DOMINICA	10 " "	0	6	" "	0	8
8. GRENADA	12 " "	0	6	" "	0	8
9. JAMAICA	12 " "	0	6	" "	0	8

The above rates of postage are for single sections, per book post; if three or more sections are ordered at one time, they can be sent per parcel post in the U.K., and postage should be remitted at the rate of 1d. per section, with a minimum of 4d.

In Preparation.

Section

- 10. LEEWARD ISLANDS.
- 11. MONTSERRAT.
- 12. NEVIS.
- 13. ST. CHRISTOPHER.
- 14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS.
- 15. ST. LUCIA.
- 16. ST. VINCENT.

Ready in May.

Section

- 17. TOBAGO.
- 18. TRINIDAD.
- 19. TURKS ISLANDS.
- 20. TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.
- 21. VIRGIN ISLANDS.

N.B.—Each page measures 11½ × 8 in. clear of binding.

BLANK PAGES can be supplied to match the printed pages, and will be found of use for those who want to include pairs, blocks, or stamps on covers.

Price 9d. per doz.; post-free, 11d. per doz.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

39i STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 19, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 175).

9 MAY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: French Colonies: General Issues. <i>By W. Percy Barnadall</i>	289
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	291
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	292
4. THE STAMPS OF CRETE. <i>By D. C. G.</i>	294
5. SOME NOTES ON THE STAMPS OF BRITISH NEW GUINEA. <i>By R. Anthrobus</i>	295
6. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nilsen</i>	298
7. THE STAMP PARLIAMENT	299
8. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	301
9. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	301
10. FINLAND LETTER	302
11. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	303
12. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

Special Bargains

For U.S.W. Readers.

YCTAB
Constitution
HEROICISM
1905

MONTENEGRO

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS.

December, 1905. Stamps of 1902 issue
overprinted with Type 5, as above.

5 h., orange and black.
10 h., sage green and red.
25 h., pale mauve and black.
50 h., emerald and black.
1 kr., grey and black.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT STAMP.

December, 1905. Stamp of 1902 issue
overprinted with Type 5.

25 h., orange, rosine, and black.

Set of Six Stamps, as above,
unused and mint,

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

2s., post-free.

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 " rarer	5 1
9.	200 " rare	5 1
66.	500 " "	4 1
67.	1000 " "	15 0
68.	1500 " "	35 0
69.	2000 " "	60 0
69A.	3000 " "	170 0
69B.	4000 " "	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE
CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value
offered by any stamp dealer.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.

Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.

New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.

Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.

Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.

"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.

Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.

Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gr. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s.	d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s.	d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7	6	" 11	"	5	0
" 4	"	5	6	" 12	"	4	0
" 5	"	5	0	" 13	"	4	0
" 6	"	6	6	" 14	"	4	0
" 7	"	6	0	" 15	"	4	0
" 8	"	6	0	" 16	"	4	0
" 9	"	5	0	" 17	"	4	0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the LOW PRICES at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used.* Unused.† Used and 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.	FRENCH CONSULAR OFFICES—continued.		No. in Set.	s. d.
MOROCCO.				
438†	1891.	5 c. (2), 10 c. (2), and 25 c.	4	1 0
439*	1891-1902.	5 c. (2), 10 c. (2), 25 c. (2), and 50 c.	7	1 0
440†	1902-8.	1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 10 c., and 25 c.	6	0 6
TURKISH EMPIRE.				
441†	1885-1900.	1 pias. (2), 4 pias., and 8 pias.	4	4 3
442†	1902.	1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 1 pi. on 25 c.	8	0 10
ZANZIBAR.				
443†	1894-7.	½ a. (2), 1 a. (2), 2½ a., 3 a., and 10 a.	7	5 6
444†	1902.	½ a., 1 a., 2½ a., 4 a., and 5 a.	5	2 3
FRENCH COLONIES.				
445*	General Issues.	1859-76. "Ceres" and "Eagle" types	6	1 6
446†	"	1876-9. "Peace and Commerce," 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 15 c., and 20 c.	5	2 6
447*	"	1887. "Commerce." 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., 25 c., 30 c., and 40 c.	10	1 6
448†	Postage Due.	1884-94. 5 c., 10 c. (2), 15 c. (2), 20 c., and 30 c. (2).	8	1 6
449†	Tablet type.	1892-4. Low values of 26 colonies	79	3 6
FRENCH CONGO.				
450†	1892-1900.	"Tablet" and "Panther," 1 c. (2), 2 c. (2), 4 c. (2), and 5 c.	7	0 6
FRENCH GUIANA.				
452†	1892-1900.	"Tablet," 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c. (2), 10 c. (2), and 1 fr.	8	1 0
453†	1904.	"Anteater," &c., 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., and 20 c.	7	0 9
FRENCH GUINEA.				
455†	1892-1904.	"Tablet" and "Native," 1 c. (2), 2 c. (2), 4 c. (2), 5 c. (2), and 10 c.	9	0 9
456†	1906.	"Portrait," &c., 1 c. to 25 c.	7	1 0
457†	Postage Due.	1904-6. 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., and 20 c.	4	0 7
FRENCH OCEANIA (OCEANIC ESTABLISHMENTS).				
459†	1892-1900.	"Tablet," 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c. (2), and 20 c.	8	1 2
FRENCH SOMALI COAST.				
460†	1902-3.	"Mosque" and "Somalis," 1 c. (2), 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., and three varieties of 25 c.	10	1 6
FUNCHAL.				
462†	1892-3.	King Carlos, 5 r., 10 r., 25 r., 50 r., and 100 r.	5	1 3
463†	1897-9.	Colonial type, 2½ r., 15 r., 25 r., 65 r., 115 r., and 130 r.	6	2 6
464*	"	" 2½ r., 5 r., 10 r., 15 r., 25 r. (2), 50 r., 65 r., and 100 r.	9	1 3
GAMBIA.				
465†	1880-6.	Embossed head, C C, ¼d., 1d., 1d.; C A, 3d. and 4d.	4	3 3
466†	1902-6.	King, single wmk., ¼d., ¼d., and 6d., mult., 2d., and 2½d.,	5	3 3
GERMAN EAST AFRICA.				
468†	1896.	Overprinted, 2, 3, 5, and 10 pesa.	4	1 6
469†	1900.	"Ship," 2, 3, 5, 10 and 15 pesa.	5	2 0
470†	1905-7.	" 2½ (2), 4 (2), and 7½ heller	5	0 9

TWEEZERS FOR HANDLING STAMPS.

These are invaluable to every Philatelist. They are of the best obtainable quality, with points very slightly milled, so as not to damage the Stamps. They can be put into water without rusting, and can therefore be used in soaking Stamps.

No. 1.—LARGE SIZE, blunt ends, 5 inches long. Price, post-free, 2/7; abroad, 3/-.
 No. 2.—SMALL SIZE, 4½ inches long. Newest size, rounded ends. Price, post-free, 2/1; abroad, 2/5.



No. 3.—SMALL SIZE, 4½ inches. Newest size, pointed ends. Highly recommended. Price, post-free, 2/1; abroad, 2/5.



THE "PHILATELISTS' VADE MECUM"

(SECURED BY LETTERS PATENT)

Is an entirely New and Original Invention for enabling Collectors to Mount Stamps without handling them, and is a *multum in parvo* of Philatelic requisites.

It consists of a pair of broad-headed flat metal tongs, one of which is fitted with a solid wedge. The object of this is to permit the free end of a mount held by the tongs to be bent over, moistened, applied to the back of the stamp, and pressed down, and the mount can then be released, the stamp lifted, the other end of the mount moistened, and the stamp fastened thereby on the page. In the handle is inserted a glass of high magnifying power. On one side of the middle part is a millimetre scale (divided to half millimetres), and on the other a two-inch scale (divided to sixteenths), both accurately marked off. The stamp can be firmly held along either scale by the tongs. The tongs are made of solid nickel, polished, and fit into a handsome velvet-lined case, the size of which, when closed, is slightly less than 6 inches long, 1½ inches wide, and only ½ inch thick.

Price, with case complete, post-free, 2/7; abroad, 3/9.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

HAYTI.

1908. Type 16 overprinted with Types 17 and 18 in black.
 1 c. on 10 c., orange-brown 1 d.
 2 c. on 20 c., orange 0 1

NICARAGUA.

1908. Type 37 overprinted with Type Z 3 in red, and Type 41 in black, reading up.
 15 c. on 1 c., green 0 8
 Type 40 overprinted with Type Z 3 in black, and Type 41 or 42 in black, reading down.
 10 c. on 20 c., claret (wide O type 41) 0 6
 10 c. on 20 c. ,, (narrow O type 42) 0 9

NORWAY.

Cat. No. 1907. Portrait of King Haakon VII.
 188. 1½ kr., blue used 1 0
 189. 2 kr., rose-carmine " 1 6

PARAGUAY.

1908. Type 39. Lion. New colour.
 30 c., bluish-purple 0 5
 1908. Type 41 surcharged with Type 46.
 5 c. on 30 c., blue-slate 0 2

PERSIA.

1908. Large portrait type.
 1 kr., vermilion 0 9
 2 kr., deep grey-green 1 6
 3 kr., pale blue 2 0
 4 kr., yellow 3 0
 5 kr., deep grey-brown 3 6

VENEZUELA.

Cat. No. 2904. Type 53. General Sucre.
 888. 5 c., green 0 2
 889. 10 c., carmine 0 3

IN PRICING OUR STOCK BOOKS OF THE STAMPS OF THE ITALIAN STATES

we find a few alterations are necessary, and the following corrections should be made.

Cat. No. MODENA.
 8. Price unused should be 80s., no price used.
 32. This variety should be cut out.
 58. Prices should be 6 0 7 6

NEAPOLITAN PROVINCES.

Nos. 41a and 49a should be omitted.

ROMAN STATES.

40. Unused price should be 0 6
 42. This variety should be omitted.
 After No. 49 add "Prepared for use, but not issued."
Unsurfaced Paper.
 10 c., vermilion unused 0 1
 20 c., solferino " 0 4
 20 c., magenta " 0 2
 69a. Unused price should be 0 6
 70. " " " " 0 4
 71. " " " " 8 0

SARDINIA.

81. Unused price should be 0 1
 82a. " " " 0 2

Philatelic Societies

International Philatelic Union

Hon. President: Judge Philbrick, K.C.
Secretary: T. H. Hinton, 26 Cromford Road, East Putney,
London, S.W.
Meetings: Essex Hall, Essex Street, London, W.C.
Annual Subscription: 5s.; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

THE seventh meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall on Thursday evening, 9 April, when there were present Messrs. W. Schwabacher (in the chair), F. W. Wetherell, L. W. Fulcher, J. C. Sidebotham, P. P. Brown, A. B. Kay, and F. F. Lamb, Captain Perrin, Lieut. Stewart, and the Hon. Secretary. Mr. Wetherell gave a display of his collection of Mauritius, including many varieties in fine condition, amongst others a reconstructed sheet of twelve of the 1d. "Post Paid," pairs of 1d. and 2d., Greek border, and many other pairs, strips, and blocks of the early issues, many on original envelopes, the whole forming a fine and interesting lot. This was followed by a further selection of his specialized collection of Spain; and an interesting evening was concluded with a hearty vote of thanks, moved by Mr. Sidebotham, seconded by Mr. Fulcher.

The annual general meeting will be held at Essex Hall on Thursday, 14 May, when a general display by members will be given of the stamps of Great Britain used abroad, Chili, Victoria, and Holland. All members are invited to bring their collections for comparison, and all members and any visitors will be welcome.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Malville.
Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.
Entrance fee: 2s. 6d. No Entrance fee for ladies or for Juniors.

The Stamp Parliament

THE Stamp Parliament, which proved so successful at the Junior Philatelic Society's last meeting, is to be repeated at an extra meeting, which has been arranged for Saturday, 9 May, at 3 Bedford Street, Strand.

The new (Unionist) Government will consist of Mr. Fred J. Malville (Prime Minister), Mr. H. H. Harland (Chancellor of the Exchequer), Mr. G. H. Holland (Secretary of State for War), Mr. E. A. Smart (Board of Trade), Mr. Gibson (Minister of Education), Mr. D. S. Darkin (Secretary of State for the Colonies), Mr. Owen Fearnley (Admiralty), and Mr. D. B. Armstrong (Postmaster-General).

The Leader of the Opposition will be the ex-Prime Minister, Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge.

Mr. D. B. Armstrong (Postmaster-General) will introduce a Bill for the creation of the office of Secretary of State for the Post Office, to deal with the postal affairs of the Empire, involving the abolition of separate postmasters-general in all the various colonies, and providing for a uniform series of postage stamps for use throughout His Majesty's dominions.

All stamp collectors who care to attend the sitting of the Stamp Parliament (whether members of the Junior Philatelic Society or not) will be heartily welcome. The Speaker will take the chair promptly at 7.30.

Remember the day—Saturday, 9 May; and the place—3 Bedford Street, Strand. The hall will be open from 6 p.m. for private exchanging.

North London Philatelic Society

President: Charles M. C. Symes.
Hon. Secretary: C. S. Muratori, 29 Fletching Road, Lower Clapton, N.E.
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Central Y.M.C.A., 7 Highbury Place, Highbury Station, N.
Subscription: 2s. 6d. per annum.

THE usual fortnightly meeting took place on Thursday, 2 April, with seventeen members present and one visitor. Mr. C. M. C. Symes occupied the chair. Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

Miss Merrington and Mrs. C. J. Phillips were elected members of the Society. The business of the meeting included a competitive display (limited to one country). Two Diplomas were to be awarded as follows: one for the best display of Great Britain, or any of the British colonies, and one for the best display of any foreign country. One Diploma was awarded to Mr. A. W. Merrington for a very fine display of Great Britain, showing all the rarities, and what is practically the only known specimen of the 1881 6d. lilac, surcharged 6d., and perf. Crown B.T. for official use, Board of Trade; this is in very fine condition and lightly postmarked. There was also exhibited in this section by Mr. C. J. Phillips a very fine display of Victoria. The Diploma for the best display of a foreign country was won by Mr. T. F. Girling for a fine general collection of Hayti, this being practically complete, with all surcharges and varieties, each specimen being well centred, and in the imperf. issues with fine margins. Other displays worthy of note were a specialized collection of Chili and one of France. The Diplomas were presented to the successful competitors by Mr. P. J. W. Deverell.

It is pleasing to note that the lady members of the Society are now constant attendants at these meetings.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Deverell, and the Judges, namely, Messrs. C. Nissen, P. J. W. Deverell, A. W. Willgoos, and C. S. Muratori, and also to the Chairman, terminated a very pleasant and social evening.

North of England Philatelic Society

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

Hon. Sec.: Mark Easton, 48 Sidney Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Meetings: Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE usual monthly meeting of this Society was held on Thursday evening, 2 April, at the Y.M.C.A., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The President (Mr. G. B. Bainbridge) took the chair at 7.30, and there was a record attendance of members and friends, twenty-five members and five visitors being present.

The Chairman briefly introduced Mr. Horsley, of West Hartlepool, to the newer members, and that gentleman then showed his splendid collection of New South Wales, which he fully explained by copious notes.

The design of the Sydney View issue was said to be the work of Josiah Wedgwood, modelled in clay, brought from Australia, and adopted as the seal of the colony. The figures represent Hope addressing three emblematic figures, Peace, Art, and Labour. The motto, "Sic fortes Etruria crevit," may mean either, "Thus grew mighty Etruria," or "Thus grew Etruria in strength."

Mr. Horsley's collection of "Views" numbers some 250 copies, and all the varieties are included in the penny, unshaded hill, no clouds, no trees; and in the 2d., no CREVIT, no pick and shovel, and the various fan varieties were represented by four copies, which enabled the members to study the details.

This part of the collection includes several pairs, many of them on originals, and at least one strip of three. The Laureated issue was well represented by singles, pairs, and strips, and the varieties WALE, WALLS, WACES, no leaves and two leaves, etc., were shown in good condition. The Diadem issue includes all shades and varieties of wmk., many being in blocks of four. The display of New South Wales closed with this issue, but Mr. Horsley handed round his first issue, Gambia, which include a complete pair of the imperf. CD, 4d., light brown.

On the motion of Mr. Hume, the Vice-President, who took the chair on Mr. Bainbridge having to leave the meeting at close of N.S.W. display, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Horsley for the enjoyable evening provided. In reply, this gentleman, after thanking the members for their appreciation, promised another display next session—probably Great Britain—in used condition.

This concluded the fifth session of the Society, which has proved, in the opinion of most of the members, the best, for instructive displays, since its formation.

The Sectional Imperial Album

NOW READY.

SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN

(86 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it, but the section is only sold as a whole at above price.

Section		s.	d.		s.	d.
2. ANTIGUA	4 pages, price	0	3	post-free	0	5
3. BAHAMAS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
4. BARBADOS	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
5. BERMUDA	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
7. DOMINICA	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
8. GRENADA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
9. JAMAICA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
10. LEEWARD ISLANDS	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
11. MONTSERRAT	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
12. NEVIS	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8

The above rates of postage are for single sections, per book post; if three or more sections are ordered at one time, they can be sent per parcel post in the U.K., and postage should be remitted at the rate of 3d. per section, with a minimum of 4d.

In Preparation.

Section	
14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS.	
15. ST. LUCIA.	
16. ST. VINCENT.	
17. TOBAGO.	
18. TRINIDAD.	

Ready in May.

Section	
19. TURKS ISLANDS.	
20. TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.	
21. VIRGIN ISLANDS.	

N.B.—Each page measures 11½ × 8 in. clear of binding.

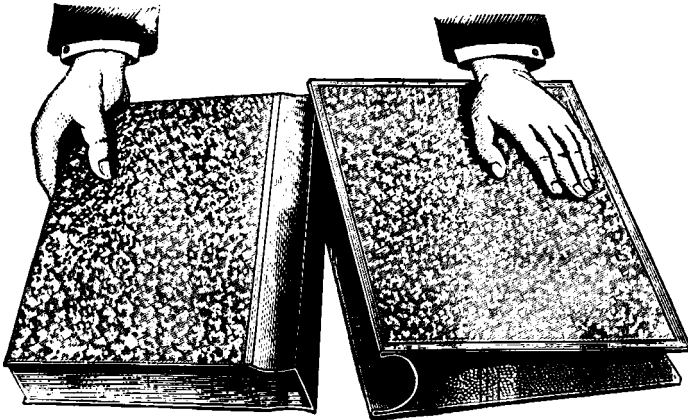
BLANK PAGES can be supplied to match the printed pages, and will be found of use for those who want to include pairs, blocks, or stamps on covers.

Price 9d. per doz.; post-free, 11d. per doz.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

The SECTIONAL IMPERIAL ALBUM



THE BINDERS

have been specially made and are of the simplest description; you only have to bend back the cover with one hand and remove the leaves with the other.

These Binders will hold from twenty to nearly two hundred leaves.

They are in two qualities, as follows:—

No. 33.—Handsomely bound in marone cloth, bevelled boards, lettered on sides and also in gold on back, with sunk panel on back for insertion of particulars of contents. Price 6/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 6/6; abroad, 7/-.

No. 34.—Superbly half-bound in green Levant Morocco, cloth sides, bevelled boards, gold lettering on back, with sunk panel for contents. Price 15/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 15/6; abroad, 16/-.

Answer to DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 8 of Series. *Must be sent only on this Form.*

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....
- 4.....
- 5.....
- 6.....
- 7.....
- 8.....

Signature

Initials or Pseudonym for acknowledging.

Address

or Post Town for recognition in case two of same name. (Not for Publication.)

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 31.

A GENERAL COLLECTION

In the Century Album, containing about 6625 Stamps.

Among the better countries we might mention Great Britain with some scarce unused, India, Straits, Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Northern Nigeria, St. Helena, German Colonies, Liberia, Portuguese Colonies, United States, South Australia.

The owner states that the catalogue value of the stamps is about £315, and he offers it at the very reasonable price of

————— **£100.** —————

No. 32.

A GENERAL COLLECTION

In a Senf Album (Third Edition).

This collection comes from India, and the owner says it contains 6409 Stamps and 599 cut Envelopes and Cards.

The collection is naturally strongest in the stamps of India and the stamps overprinted for the Feudatory States. These latter are a fine lot, mostly unused, and contain a number of rarities; for instance, in Gwalior there are three different 1 rupee stamps, as well as the large 2 and 3 r. The Nabha are an exceptionally good lot, as are also the Patiala; there are also good stamps of Bussahir, Bamra, Jhind, Persia, Portuguese India, Poonch, Shanghai, Seychelles, and many other countries well represented.

The owner offers the collection at the remarkably low price of

————— **£25.** —————

We have now issued this REGISTER in pamphlet form, and shall be pleased to send it to any reader on receipt of 1d. for postage. Full particulars are given of all collections still on hand.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 20, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 176).

16 MAY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: French Colonies: General Issues. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	305
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	307
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	309
4. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i>	322
5. "BE UNITED, UNITED, UNITED." The Stamps of the German States, 1849-1870. <i>By J. Corner-Spokes</i>	322
6. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	323
7. ON POSTMARKS. <i>By D. C. G.</i>	324
8. SPECIALISM <i>By R. E. R. Dalwigh</i>	326
9. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	327
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	328
11. CORRESPONDENCE	320
12. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	320
13. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

Special Bargains

For G.S.W. Readers.

As the SPECIAL PACKETS which we prepared recently seem to have been appreciated by our readers, we need make no apology for this further attempt.

The previous packets contained "all used" stamps, so this week we are offering our readers a packet of FIFTY, ALL DIFFERENT and UNUSED, Postage Stamps, including BOSNIA (large pictorial), BULGARIA (provisional), GOREA, FRENCH CHINA, FRENCH CANTON, NEW CALEDONIA (Jubilee and provisional), GREECE (unpaid), ITALIAN CRETE, JAPANESE CHINA, SERVIA (set of six), SWITZERLAND (set of six), SPAIN (1862), and many others.

The SPECIAL PACKET of FIFTY POSTAGE STAMPS, all UNUSED and MINT (no Locals),

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

1s., post-free.

BARGAINS IN

PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 " rarer	5 1
9.	200 " rare	5 1
66.	500 "	4 1
67.	1000 "	15 0
68.	1500 "	35 0
69.	2000 "	60 0
69A.	3000 "	170 0
69B.	4000 "	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C. .

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 108 BRADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to

The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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.* Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; *R.* Reprint; *W.* Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.

Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.

New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.

Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.

Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.

"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.

Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.

Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gr. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	4s. c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.79
6 "	3s. 3d.	8s. c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	Vol. 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the LOW PRICES at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used.* Unused.† Used and 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.	GERMAN EMPIRE.		No. in Set.	s. d.
471†	1872-3.	1, 1, 1, 2, 5, 10, and 30 groschen, 1, 2, 3, and 7 kreuzer	11	1 6
472*	1872-4.	1/2, 1 (2), 2 (2), 2 1/2, 5 gr., 3 (2), and 7 kr.	11	1 0
473*	1874-1900.	Selection all issues	18	0 9
474†	1880.	"Pfennig," 3, 5, 10, 20, and 25 pf.	5	1 3
475†	1889.	"Reichpost" and "Arms," 3, 5, 10, 20, and 50 pf.	5	1 3
476*	1900-2.	"Germania," both Reichpost and Deutsches Reich	19	0 8
477†	1900.	Reichpost, 5 pf. to 1 mark	9	4 9
478†	1902.	Deutsches Reich, 2, 3, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, and 50 pf.	8	2 8
479†	1905.	"watermarked, 5 to 50 pf., and 1 mk.	8	3 6
480†	Official, Prussia, 1903.	Full set	8	1 0
481†	"Baden	" 3, 5, 10, and 20 pf.	4	0 8
GERMAN CONSULAR OFFICES.				
CHINA.				
482†	1897-1900.	"Arms" and "Germania," overprinted 3 pf. (2), 5 pf. (2), 10 pf. (2), and 20 pf.	7	1 8
483†	1905-7.	Surcharged local currency, 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 10 c., and 20 c.	5	1 0
MOROCCO.				
484†	1899.	Arms, 3 c., 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 30 c.	5	2 6
485†	1900.	"Germania," Reichpost, 3 c., 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 25 c.	5	1 6
486†	1905-7.	Deutsches Reich, 3 c. (2), 5 c. (2), 10 c. (2), and 30 c.	7	1 0
TURKISH EMPIRE.				
487†	1889-1900.	"Arms" and "Germania," 10 pa. (2), 20 pa. (2), 1, 1 1/2, and 2 piastres	7	2 6
488†	"	"Germania," 4, 5, and 10 piastres	3	6 0
489†	1905-6.	Deutsches Reich, 10 pa., 20 pa., 1, 1 1/2, and 4 piastres	6	2 9
GERMAN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.				
492†	1897-1906.	Three issues, 3 pf. (3), 5 pf. (2), and 10 pf.	6	1 8
GIBRALTAR.				
492†	1889.	Surcharged Spanish currency, 5 c., 25 c., 40 c., and 50 c.	4	5 9
493†	1889-98.	Queen, 5 c., 40 c., 50 c., 1d., and 2 1/2d.	5	2 0
494*	1889-1903.	Queen and King, including 25 c. and 2 1/2d., Queen	7	1 0
GOLD COAST.				
497†	1884-91.	Queen, 1/2d., 1d., 2 1/2d., and 1s.	4	0 10
498†	1898.	" 1/2d., 1d., 2 1/2d., 3d., 6d., and 2s.	6	5 6
499†	1902-7.	King, 1/2d. (2), 1d. (2), 2d., and 2 1/2d. (2)	7	1 4
GREAT BRITAIN.				
501*	1840-1.	1d., black; 2d., no lines; 1d., red-brown; and 2d., blue	4	4 0
502*	1854-7.	Small Crown, perf. 16, 1d., both dies; perf. 14, 1d. and 2d.	4	3 3
503*	"	Large Crown, blued and white paper, 1d. (3); 2d. (2)	5	1 6
504*	1858-79.	Line engraved, 1/2d., 1d. (two shades), 1 1/2d., and 2d.	5	0 6
505*	"	1d., plate numbers 71 to 76, 78 to 224	150	12 6
506*	"	2d., plate numbers (3); 1/2d., plate Nos. (4); and 1 1/2d., plate Nos. (2)	11	1 9
507*	1847-54	Embossed, 6d., 20d., and 1s.	3	21 0
508*	1856-62	No letters, 4d. and 6d.; small letters, 4d. and 1s.	4	3 0
509*	1865-7.	Large letters, 3d. (2), 4d. (2), 6d. (2), and 1s.	5	2 3
510*	1865-73.	" 4d., plate numbers	8	2 0
511*	1867-73.	" 3d., Spray	7	2 9
512*	"	" 1s.	4	2 0
513*	"	as, blue; 6d., chestnut; and 6d., grey	3	5 9

TWEEZERS FOR HANDLING STAMPS.

These are invaluable to every Philatelist. They are of the best obtainable quality, with points very slightly milled, so as not to damage the Stamps.

They can be put into water without rusting, and can therefore be used in soaking Stamps.

No. 1.—LARGE SIZE, blunt ends, 5 inches long. Price, post-free, 2/7; abroad, 3/-.

No. 2.—SMALL SIZE, 4½ inches long. Newest size, rounded ends. Price, post-free, 2/1; abroad, 2/5.



No. 3.—SMALL SIZE, 4½ inches. Newest size, pointed ends. Highly recommended. Price, post-free, 2/1; abroad, 2/5.



THE "PHILATELISTS' VADE MECUM"

(SECURED BY LETTERS PATENT)

Is an entirely New and Original Invention for enabling Collectors to Mount Stamps without handling them, and is a *multum in parvo* of Philatelic requisites.

IT consists of a pair of broad-headed flat metal tongs, one of which is fitted with a solid wedge. The object of this is to permit the free end of a mount held by the tongs to be bent over, moistened, applied to the back of the stamp, and pressed down, and the mount can then be released, the stamp lifted, the other end of the mount moistened, and the stamp fastened thereby on the page. In the handle is inserted a glass of high magnifying power. On one side of the middle part is a millimetre scale (divided to half millimetres), and on the other a two-inch scale (divided to sixteenths), both accurately marked off. The stamp can be firmly held along either scale by the tongs. The tongs are made of solid nickel, polished, and fit into a handsome velvet-lined case, the size of which, when closed, is slightly less than 6 inches long, 1½ inches wide, and only ¼ inch thick.

Price, with case complete, post-free, 2/7; abroad, 3/8.

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

ANTIGUA.

Cat. No.	1903. Type 4. Large Arms.	s. d.
31.	½d., grey-black and grey-green	used 0 2
32.	1d. " " scarlet	" 0 2

AUSTRIA.

1908. Postage Due Stamps. New type.		
1 h.	rose-carmine	0 1
2 h.	"	0 1
4 h.	"	0 1
6 h.	"	0 2
10 h.	"	0 2
20 h.	"	0 3
30 h.	"	0 5
50 h.	"	0 8
100 h.	"	1 3

BARBADOS.

Cat. No.	Various issues. Revised prices.	
94.	2½d., ultramarine (Queen)	used 0 2
110.	2½d. (Britannia)	" 0 2
118.	1d., rose (Jubilee)	" 0 2
130.	2½d., ultramarine (Multiple)	" 0 2
152.	1d., black and blue-green (Ship)	" 0 2

BERMUDA.

1884-1901. Various issues.		
21.	½d., dull green	used 0 2
30.	½d. on 1s., grey	" 0 1

BRAZIL.

1906. Portrait series. Revised prices.		
335.	100 r., rose-carmine	used 0 1
336.	200 r., blue	" 0 1
338.	400 r., olive-green	" 0 2

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

1891-8. Stamp of Great Britain overprinted.		
84.	1d., lilac	used 0 2
09.	1d. " (Protectorate)	" 0 2

BRITISH GUIANA.

1907. Type 23. Printed in one colour.		
202.	2 c., rose-red	used 0 1

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

1898-1907. Type 10. Arms.		
01.	2d., brown	used 0 2
02.	2½d., cobalt	" 0 2

BULGARIA.

1892. Type 7, surcharged with Type 9 in black.		
55.	15 on 30 st., brown	used 0 1

NORWAY.

1908. Type 6, surcharged as Type 14.		
15	0re on 4 sk., mauve	0 4
15	0re on 4 sk., pale mauve	0 4

PARAGUAY.

1908. Type 66, overprinted as Type 41.		
5 c.	on 10 c., bistre	0 2
5 c.	on 30 c., blue	0 2
5 c.	on 60 c., chestnut	0 2
5 c.	on 60 c., chocolate	0 2

QUEENSLAND.

1908. Types 26 and 21. Wmk. Crown A.		
½d.	, deep yellow-green	0 1
1d.	, vermilion	0 2
2d.	, ultramarine	0 3

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

British Guiana Philatelic Society

President: Hon. B. Howell Jones.

Vice-President: Rev. Canon Josa.

Council: J. A. Pope, B.A., Luke M. Hill, C.E., W. J. Abraham.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: A. D. Ferguson, Georgetown.

Hon. Assistant Secretary: A. B. Anderson.

Meetings: Christ Church Vicarage, Georgetown.

THE monthly meeting of the British Guiana Philatelic Society was held on Friday evening, 13 March, at the residence of Dr. E. D. Rowland at the Public Hospital. In the absence of the Hon. B. Howell Jones, the President, from whom a letter was read stating his inability to attend, the Vice-President, the Rev. Canon Josa, presided. Also present were Dr. Rowland and Messrs. A. B. Anderson, L. V. Vaughn, W. A. Abraham, and A. D. Ferguson (Hon. Secretary).

Various letters were read from different philatelic societies and individuals in other parts of the world with respect to the Society and its journal.

On account of the paucity of attendance, the question as to the advisability of holding a competitive display was deferred until the next meeting.

Dr. Rowland then exhibited his collection of the postage stamps of Great Britain, the modern issues of British Colonies, and a separate collection of British Guiana stamps. The collection of modern stamps of British Colonies proved of great interest, being considered most up-to-date, containing, as it did, some of the great rarities. The British Guiana collection was also a very fine lot, being mounted carefully and artistically in a specially prepared album. The doctor, on the motion of Mr. Vaughn, seconded by Mr. Ferguson, was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his exhibits.

Mr. Ferguson said that at the next meeting he would exhibit his collection of British Guiana stamps as promised, together with some descriptive notes, and the meeting thereafter terminated.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.

Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 1 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.

Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.

Annual Subscription: 5s.

AT the fortnightly meeting of this Society Mr. Charles W. Harding (Hon. Secretary) gave a display of the postage stamps of Greece. The President (Mr. W. V. Morten) occupied the chair.

Greece first began to issue stamps in 1861, the values being 1 lepton, 2, 5, 10, 20, 40, and 80 lepta. The matrix die was engraved in relief on steel by M. Barre, of Paris, who had engraved the French stamps in 1853, and made use of the same design, the head, however, being changed to that of Hermes, the Greek Mercury. The die served for all values, the figures of value being added afterwards on the secondary dies from which the electros were made. The stamps were first printed in Paris by the process known as surface-printing, and the first supply of stamps, together with the plates, were sent to Athens, where all further printings were made. The Paris prints are easily distinguished by the excellent workmanship they show. The lines of shading on the neck and cheek are made up of fine dots and lines, and the stamp generally pays the highest possible tribute to the printer's art. Not so with the later printings made at Athens, in which the lines of shading are continuous, and (except in the first Athens prints) very much thicker; besides, many of the printings betray bad workmanship, and difficulties in matching the colours, to this latter being due the great variety of shades to be found in these stamps; a number of different kinds of toned paper of varying thicknesses were also used. Hence the collection and classification of these early Greek stamps, if fascinating to a degree, is naturally not so easy as it might appear. The Paris prints are by far the scarcer, especially unused, and some of the Athens prints with figures at the back are also scarce unused. Then there are many interesting errors in these figures (printed at the back always in the colour of the stamp, consisting of inversions or transpositions, etc., which should be looked for. The first type continued in use from 1861 to 1886, when the design was slightly changed; then in 1896 there came the Olympian Games issue; in 1901 the issue with the full figure of Mercury running; in 1906 a new Olympic Games issue, values from 1 lepton to 20 drachmae. Postage Due stamps were issued in 1875, 1878, and in 1902, in which year also appeared the set of stamps values 5, 25, 50 lepta, 1 and 2 drachmae, specially for parcels post use.

Mr. Harding showed some fine copies of the several issues, many unused, noticeable being a vertical strip of five of the rare 1 lepton Paris print, the 20 l. Prussian blue, without figures at back, of the first Athens print, and others too numerous to mention. Messrs. Egly and Duffield also brought their collections of Greece.

Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society

President: Mr. A. S. Allender.

Hon. Sec.: J. H. M. Savage, 66 Bevington Road, Higher Tranners.

Meetings: Mondays at 8 Colquitt Street, Liverpool.

Subscription: 1s. 6d. per annum; no entrance fee.

THE second annual meeting of the above Society was held on 21 April, 1906, at 6 Colquitt Street, Liverpool, about twenty members being present.

Mr. A. S. Allender was elected President; Mr. W. Rockliff, Hon. Treasurer; Mr. J. Bate, Hon. Exchange Secretary; Mr. J. H. M. Savage, Hon. Secretary; Mr. R. S. Archer, jun., Assistant Hon. Secretary. Committee: Messrs. Edmondson, Fletcher, Rev. W. W. Mason, B.A., Miss G. E. Lyster.

The season just ended has been a most satisfactory and prosperous one, the Society having a healthy balance in the bank. There are ninety-nine members, forty-eight new members having been elected this season. The meetings have been well patronized, with good papers, and very fair exhibitions of stamps every meeting. Mr. R. S. Archer, jun., won the first prize for the best exhibit over the season (a packet of valuable stamps, together with entrance fee and one year's free subscription paid to the Liverpool Philatelic Society (Senior)). Mr. Williams won the second prize for the most regular exhibition during the past season.

Three prizes will be up for competition next season, open to junior members only. Good buying or selling members will be welcome. The monthly exchange packets have increased in value from £15 to nearly £50 net within twelve months.

Scottish Philatelic Society Junior Branch

Hon. Secretary: Frank Chalmers, 24 Bruntsfield Gardens, Edinburgh.

A SPECIAL meeting of this Society took place on Saturday, 11 April, at 6.30 p.m., and took the form of a stamp auction.

There was a good attendance of members and others, and Mr. Berrie, the President, in a few introductory remarks, explained that the auction was more or less of an experiment, and that it remained with those present to make it a success by bidding freely. He also took the opportunity of asking the meeting to award a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Falconer, auctioneer, for the kind assistance he had so willingly given, and to Mr. Burt and his assistant for officiating.

The sale then commenced. There were about four hundred lots in the catalogue, and an interesting evening was spent until 9.30, when the sale terminated.

The catalogue included many first-rate stamps, and was conspicuous for the great variety of the lots, there being something to suit every purse and taste. The sales were good, and the Society is to be congratulated on the result of its first venture and the enterprise shown. The arrangements were in the capable hands of Mr. Douglas Small, the Assistant Secretary, and Mr. R. M. Stewart, and everything went without a hitch.

The following are a few of the prices of the more expensive lots:—

Ceylon, 5 c. on 96 c., 8s.; 10 c. on 64 c., 16s.; Great Britain, 1d., red-brown, mint (Large Crown, perf. 16, Die II), £1 2s.; Somaliland Official, 1 rupee (used), £1 12s.; Official, mint set, £4; ditto, 1, 2, and 8 annas (no stop after M.), £3; New Zealand, Official set, 3d. to 15s., mint, 35s.; ditto, 5s., mint, £3 10s.; Levant, 1 piastre on 2d., King's Head, mint, £5 15s.; Great Britain, King's Head, Army Official (Type 2), mint, £3 15s.; Natal, Official, King's Head set, on mint papers, £3 2s.; Natal, high values, King's Head (used), £3; Cayman Islands, 4d. on 1d., King's Head (used), 1s. 9d.; United States of America, Columbus issue, 1 c. to 5 dollars, mint, £3 5s.; Barbados, 4d., Jubilee issue, mint block, on blue paper, 9s.; Orange River Colony, "V.R.I." ("I." omitted), 4s.; "V.R.I." 1d. (double surcharge), 7s. 6d.; Oil Rivers, 4d. on 2d., mint, 7s.; Kiauchou, 3 pf. to 5 marks, mint, 14s. 6d.

THE SECTIONAL IMPERIAL ALBUM.

FOR many years past collectors have asked us for an Album on the well-known principle of the Imperial Albums, but having movable leaves, and this want is fully supplied by the new Album.

There was great objection to the last Imperial Album, as it consisted of three large books, and young collectors with 2000 or 3000 varieties found their stamps lost in so large a space. In addition to this we have found by long experience that very few collectors want to collect the stamps of the whole World, but prefer to take up certain Continents, Countries, or Groups of Countries.

We are providing for all requirements by means of THE SECTIONAL IMPERIAL ALBUM. As its name implies, the Album will be in Sections, and *each Section will be sold separately.*

Each Country constitutes a Section, and collectors can thus decide what countries they will take up, and buy those sections only. When they want to add fresh countries to their collections they can do so at a very low cost.

The leaves of the Album are loose, and special cheap binders are supplied to hold them. These binders will each hold any number of leaves from twenty up to nearly two hundred.

On the left-hand page there is a full description of all stamps, with illustrations of all types and watermarks. Each stamp is numbered, and on the right-hand page there is a corresponding number under a square or rectangle of the correct size of the stamp; so the beginner will have no difficulty in placing the stamps in the correct spaces.

The numbers to the stamps and squares correspond in all cases to those given in the 1908 Edition of our Catalogues; so collectors who want to fill up certain spaces can turn to the Catalogue to see the price, and if they decide to buy, can send us a want list consisting only of the name of the Country and the number of the square. All stamps given in our 1908 Catalogues will have spaces provided for them in THE SECTIONAL IMPERIAL ALBUM.

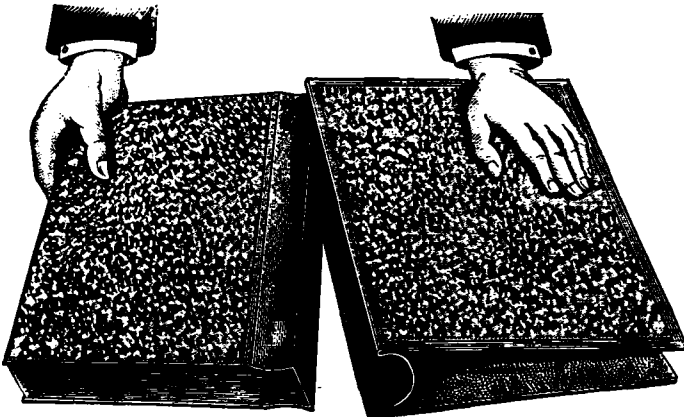
Some collectors may not want to collect such things as Postal Fiscals, Official, or Unpaid Stamps, etc., etc. Therefore this new Album has been so arranged that the pages for these are quite separate from those of the ordinary Postage Stamps, and can be removed without interfering with the rest of the Section.

Collectors will not have to wait until the whole Album is printed, as each Section will be put on sale immediately it is ready.

The price of a Section will vary, according to the number of pages occupied, from a few pence to several shillings each. As each Section is ready it will be advertised in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, to which we refer our readers for further particulars as the Album appears.

The Outside Dimensions of the Cover are 11½ by 10½ in.

Each Page measures 11½ by 8 in. clear of Binding.



THE BINDERS

have been specially made and are of the simplest description; you only have to bend back the cover with one hand and remove the leaves with the other. (*See above.*)

These Binders will hold from twenty to nearly two hundred leaves.

W: on mounting stamps, the spring back cover should be removed and the pages laid out quite flat.

They are in two qualities, as follows:

No. 33.—Handsomely bound in marone cloth, bevelled boards, lettered on sides and also in gold on back, with sunk panel on back for insertion of particulars of contents. Price 6/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 6/6; abroad, 7/-.

No. 34.—Superbly half-bound in green Levant Morocco, cloth sides, bevelled boards, gold lettering on back, with sunk panel for contents. Price 15/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 15/6; abroad, 16/-.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

The Sectional Imperial Album

NOW READY.

SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN

(86 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it, but the section is only sold as a whole at above price.

<i>Section</i>		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
2. ANTIGUA	4 pages, price	0	3	post-free	0	5
3. BAHAMAS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
4. BARBADOS	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
5. BERMUDA	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
7. DOMINICA	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
8. GRENADA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
9. JAMAICA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
10. LEEWARD ISLANDS	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
11. MONTSERRAT	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
12. NEVIS	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8

The above rates of postage are for single sections, per book post; if three or more sections are ordered at one time, they can be sent per parcel post in the U.K., and postage should be remitted at the rate of ½d. per section, with a minimum of 4d.

In Preparation.

Section

- 14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS.
- 15. ST. LUCIA.
- 16. ST. VINCENT.
- 17. TOBAGO.
- 18. TRINIDAD.

Ready in May.

Section

- 19. TURKS ISLANDS.
- 20. TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.
- 21. VIRGIN ISLANDS.

N.B.—Each page measures 11½ × 8 in. clear of binding.

BLANK PAGES can be supplied to match the printed pages, and will be found of use for those who want to include pairs, blocks, or stamps on covers.

Price 9d. per doz.; post-free, 11d. per doz.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

GREATER BRITAIN PACKETS OF British Colonial Stamps.

NO DUPLICATES.

Every Packet of this Series contains different varieties, no Stamp being included in two Packets, and purchasers will by this novel method be saved the inconvenience of acquiring duplicates, which is as a rule the bane of most packet buying.

No.	contains	varieties	of Stamps	of	Asia	Price.
No. 111	contains	20	varieties	of	Stamps of Asia	6d.
" 112	"	25	"	"	"	2/-
" 113	"	40	"	"	"	3/6
" 114	"	40	"	"	"	6/6
" 115	"	50	"	"	"	16/6
" 116	"	45	"	"	"	12/-
" 117	"	30	"	"	"	4/-
" 118	"	40	"	"	"	21/-
" 121	"	20	"	"	Africa	6d.
" 122	"	25	"	"	"	2/6
" 141	"	20	"	"	West Indies	9d.
" 142	"	20	"	"	"	2/-
" 151	"	25	"	"	Australasia	6d.
" 152	"	30	"	"	"	1/6
" 153	"	30	"	"	"	4/6

GRAND NEW VARIETY PACKETS.

IN order to meet the wishes of a great number of our customers, we have prepared a series of packets, as under, entirely different from one another, no stamp in any one packet being in any of the rest of the series; and the purchaser of the series of eight packets will have 1305 extra good varieties, and no duplicates.

These packets do NOT contain any Post Cards, cut Envelopes, Fiscals, or Reprints, and are well recommended as good value, and are only a small proportion of the Catalogue value of the single stamps contained in them.

No. 70	contains	500	Stamps	of	Europe, all different	Price	7/6
" 71	"	125	"	"	Asia	"	7/6
" 72	"	125	"	"	Africa	"	7/6
" 73	"	105	"	"	Australia	"	7/6
" 74	"	125	"	"	West Indies	"	7/6
" 75	"	125	"	"	South America, all different	"	7/6
" 76	"	100	"	"	North America	"	7/6
" 77	"	100	"	"	Central America	"	7/6

The set of eight packets, containing 1305 varieties, if all bought at one time, will be supplied at the special reduced price of 55/-.

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

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.
(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 21, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 177.)

23 MAY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: French Congo, including Gaboon and Middle Congo. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i> . . .	321
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i> . . .	323
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i> . . .	325
4. ON POSTMARKS. <i>By D. C. G.</i> . . .	327
5. NOTES OF A PROVINCIAL JUNIOR. Triangular Capes. <i>By Yokel</i> . . .	329
6. ACROSTIC COMPETITION . . .	331
7. SHIPS ON STAMPS. <i>By H. G. Jobson</i> . . .	332
8. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nissen</i> . . .	334
9. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i> . . .	335
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i> . . .	336
11. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES . . .	Page 5 of Cover

BARGAINS IN

PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different . . .	2 1
8.	100 " rarer . . .	5 1
9.	200 " rare . . .	5 1
66.	500 " . . .	4 1
67.	1000 " . . .	15 0
68.	1500 " . . .	35 0
69.	2000 " . . .	60 0
69A.	3000 " . . .	170 0
69B.	4000 " . . .	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE
CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value
offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargains

For U.S.W. Readers.

One Cent.

SARAWAK

1889-1892.

Type 5, surcharged in black.

1 c. on 3 c., lilac and ultramarine.

Type as above, with capital C in Cents.
(Catalogue No. 23.)

We have come across a few of
the above in a collection recently
bought, and are therefore able
to offer them to readers of the
Weekly at a reduced price as
long as the supply lasts.

The Catalogue Price of this stamp,
unused, is 10s.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

unused and mint.

4s. 6d., post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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 our opinion:—*B.* Bogus, i.e. never existed; *F.* Forged; *G.* Genuine; *G.F.* Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; *R.* Reprint; *W.* Watermark.

Subscriptions.—Subscriptions must be sent to the publishers as set out on the front page of the cover, or to booksellers or railway bookstalls, but never to the Editor.

Covers for Binding Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	4s. 0c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	8s. 0c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL. BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a **SPECIAL BARGAIN** for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the LOW PRICES at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used,* Unused,† Used and 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—continued.		No. in Set.	s. d.
514*	1873-80.	2½d. Anchor, 2½d. Orb (2), 3d., 6d. and 1s. green	6	2 9
515*	1873-81.	2½d. Various wmk. Plate numbers	13	3 0
516*	1880-3.	½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., surcharged 4d., 5d., 6d., 6d. surcharged, and 1s.	11	9 0
517*	1884.	½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., and 1s.	6	2 6
518†	1881-7.	½d. (2), 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 4½d., 6d., 9d., and 1s. (2)	12	7 0
519*	"	½d. (2), 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 9d., 10d., 1s. (2), and 2s. 6d.	15	1 6
520*	Official l. R.	1882-1902. Including Queen 6d., purple on red	8	4 3
521*	"	Army, Government Parcels (including 6d. King), and Admiralty	12	2 3
522†	Levant.	1885-1905. Several issues, including 4 pias. on 1-cd., Queen	6	3 9
523*	"	" 80 paras and 12 pias. of 1885	5	8 0
524†	Army Telegraphs.	1900-1. "Orange Free State overprinted, 1d., 6d., 1s., and 5s.	4	9 0

GREECE.

526*	1862-82.	Athens print. Several issues.	11	1 6
527*	1886-91.	Belgian " Imperf and perf. 1 l. (2), 2 l. (2), 5 l., and 40 l.	6	2 3
528*	"	Several issues	13	1 0
529†	1896.	Olympic Games, 1 l. to 40 l.	7	3 3
530†	"	" 60 l., 1 dr., and 2 dr.	3	6 0
531*	1896-1901.	Several issues, including Games and Provisionals.	13	1 0
532†	1900.	Provisionals, including 20 on 25 l., ultramarine	5	3 0
533†	1901.	Mercury, 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, and 40 l.	8	2 0
534*	1906.	Olympic Games, 1, 3, 5, 10, 25, and 50 l., and 1 dr.	7	1 3

GRENADA.

536†	1883-7.	Queen, ½d., 1d. (2), 2½d., 4d., and 6d.	6	5 6
------	---------	---	---	-----

GUADELOUPE.

538†	1884-91.	Early provisionals	6	1 8
539†	1892-1901.	Tablet type. 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c. (2), 10 c., 25 c., and 40 c.	8	1 2
540*	1892-1906.	Tablet and Pictorial	10	0 8
541†	1903.	Provisionals. 15 on 50, 40 on 1 fr.; 40 on 1 fr. with date	3	2 6

GUATEMALA.

543†	1871-77.	Early issues, including 1 p., maize	5	1 6
544†	1879-81.	Parrot type, ½ r., 1 r., 1 c. (prov.), and 2 c.	4	2 0
545†	1886.	Railway stamps surcharged	5	0 10
546†	1886-98.	"Arms" type unsurcharged and surcharged	16	4 0
547*	"	"	11	1 3
548†	1897.	Commemorative, 1 c., 2 c., 6 c., 10 c., 12 c., 20 c., 25 c., 50 c., 100 c., 200 c., and 500 c.	11	1 9
549†	1898-1902.	Fiscal stamps surcharged	9	2 6
550†	1900-2.	"Arms" type and provisionals	10	2 8
551*	1900-7.	Various issues, including Pictorial	12	1 4

GWALIOR.

553†	1885-1904.	Queen, 3 p., ½ a., 1 a. (2), 1½ a., 2 a., 2½ a., 4 a., and 8 a.	9	3 3
553†	1903-7.	King, 3 p., ½ a. (2), 1 a., 2 a., and 3 a.	6	1 0
554†	Service, 1895-1903.	Various issues	5	2 0
555*	"	"	7	0 6

TWEEZERS FOR HANDLING STAMPS.

These are invaluable to every Philatelist. They are of the best obtainable quality, with points very slightly milled, so as not to damage the Stamps.

They can be put into water without rusting, and can therefore be used in soaking Stamps.

No. 1.—LARGE SIZE, blunt ends, 5 inches long. Price, post-free, 2/7; abroad, 3/-.

No. 2.—SMALL SIZE, 4½ inches long. Newest size, rounded ends. Price, post-free, 2/1; abroad, 2/5.



No. 3.—SMALL SIZE, 4½ inches. Newest size, pointed ends. Highly recommended. Price, post-free, 2/1; abroad, 2/5.



THE "PHILATELISTS' VADE MECUM"

(SECURED BY LETTERS PATENT)

Is an entirely New and Original Invention for enabling Collectors to Mount Stamps without handling them, and is a *multum in parvo* of Philatelic requisites.

It consists of a pair of broad-headed flat metal tongs, one of which is fitted with a solid wedge. The object of this is to permit the free end of a mount held by the tongs to be bent over, moistened, applied to the back of the stamp, and pressed down, and the mount can then be released, the stamp lifted, the other end of the mount moistened, and the stamp fastened thereby on the page. In the handle is inserted a glass of high magnifying power. On one side of the middle part is a millimetric scale (divided to half millimètres), and on the other a two-inch scale (divided to sixteenths), both accurately marked off. The stamp can be firmly held along either scale by the tongs. The tongs are made of solid nickel, polished, and fit into a handsome velvet-lined case, the size of which, when closed, is slightly less than 6 inches long, 1½ inches wide, and only ½ inch thick.

Price, with case complete, post-free, 2/7; abroad, 2/8.

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Cat. No.	1899-1900.	Type 69.	Revised price.	s. d.
164.	24 c., violet	.	used	0 3

BELGIUM.

1884-98. Revised prices.				
152.	35 c., chocolate	.	used	0 2
166.	20 c., olive-green	.	"	0 1

BRAZIL.

701.	10 r., green and orange	.	used	0 1
------	-------------------------	---	------	-----

CANADA.

Various issues. Revised prices.				
78.	6 c., pale brown	.	used	0 3
82.	½ c., black (small)	.	"	0 1

CEYLON.

1904. King's Head. Multiple Wmk.				
227.	2 c., orange-brown	.	used	0 1
232.	12 c., sage-green and rosine	.	"	0 3
234.	25 c., pale brown	.	"	0 4

409.	2 c., green	.	used	0 1
------	-------------	---	------	-----

CHILI.

1900-1. Type 16. Revised price.				
61.	30 c., orange-red	.	used	0 3

CRETE.

102.	5 l., green	.	used	0 1
------	-------------	---	------	-----

DOMINICA.

28.	1d., grey and carmine	.	used	0 2
-----	-----------------------	---	------	-----

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

315.	1 c., rose-red	.	used	0 1
------	----------------	---	------	-----

EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA.

34.	3 c., grey-green	.	used	0 2
-----	------------------	---	------	-----

EGYPT.

1907. Service. Overprinted O.H.M.S.				
252.	1 mil., brown	.	used	0 1
253.	2 mil., green	.	"	0 1

LUXEMBURG.

Official Stamps.				
1899.	Type 9, perforated with the word OFFICIAL	Perf. 12½.	s. d.	s. d.

1 c.,	pearl-grey	.	0 1	0 1
2 c.,	grey-brown	.	0 1	0 1
4 c.,	olive-bistre	.	0 1	0 1
5 c.,	green	.	0 2	0 1
10 c.,	carmine	.	0 2	0 2

Type 8. Perf. 11½ x 11.				
12½ c.,	grey-green	.	0 6	0 3
20 c.,	orange	.	0 6	0 3
25 c.,	blue	.	0 6	0 3
30 c.,	sage-green	.	1 0	0 4
37½ c.,	green	.	0 9	0 5
50 c.,	brown	.	1 0	0 6
1 fr.,	purple	.	—	1 0

Perf. 12½.				
30 c.,	sage-green	.	2 0	—
1 fr.,	purple	.	2 0	2 0
2½ frs.,	black	.	3 0	—
5 frs.,	lake	.	5 0	—

NEW ZEALAND.

1s.,	vermillion	.	—	1 4
------	------------	---	---	-----

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 158 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

City of London Philatelic Society

President: W. B. Edwards, B.Sc.

Hon. Sec.: James L. Eastwood, 169 Ferme Park Road, Crouch End, London, N.

Meeting Place: Mills's Restaurant, 14 Broad Street Place, E.C.

Subscription: 2s. 6d. yearly (no Entrance Fee).

THE forty-seventh ordinary monthly meeting was held at the Society's head-quarters on 15 April. Although the Easter holidays were so near, the attendance of members was very good.

The President occupied the chair, and called the meeting to order at 7.10 p.m.

The minutes of the previous monthly meeting were read and duly confirmed.

Captain Pritchard (Indian Army) was elected a member of the Society.

Mr. Edwards opened the programme with a short paper on "The Early Issues of Hayti," and accompanied his brief address with a display of these interesting stamps.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Edwards for his paper.

The next item of the evening's entertainment was a display of the Society's Official Forgery Collection by Mr. H. W. Westcott, the Hon. Counterfeit Detector.

About 350 to 400 specimens were shown, and the members present examined them with great interest.

Some very dangerous and distinctly instructive forged stamps were handed round.

Where specimens of forgeries were not shown, Mr. Westcott was able in a great many instances to give details of the differences between the bad and the genuine article.

The display led many members present to show their appreciation in a practical way, and a large number of fresh specimens were handed to Mr. Westcott to further swell the ever-increasing total.

In this connection a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Messrs. Cooper, Giles, Willgoos, and J. L. Eastwood.

The concluding item was the last competitive display of this season.

Mr. H. zur Nedden was declared the winner, having gained the largest vote for his exhibit of "25 stamps, each bearing the portrait of a different person." Mr. Nedden's stamps and their artistic display well earned the silver medal, which, with the other medals awarded this season by the Committee, will be presented at the annual general meeting on 20 May.

The Hon. Secretary will be pleased to supply any information respecting the Society on receipt of a post card to the above address.

Herts Philatelic Society

President: Franz Reichenheim, Esq.

Hon. Secretary: H. A. Slade, Esq., Ninefields, St. Albans.

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

Annual Subscription, 5s.

THE seventh general meeting of the session 1907-8 was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, 14 April, 1908, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), W. G. Cool, T. H. Harvey, R. Frenzler, A. H. L. Giles, W. T. Standen, L. E. Bradbury, W. A. Boyes, F. Ransom, A. G. Wane, E. Brouns, Percy Ashley, W. C. Gunner, S. Chapman, D. Thomson, C. H. Garnett, E. W. Wetherell, R. B. Yardley, C. E. Fagan, C. Nissen, M. Simons, H. Wills, C. R. Sutherland, J. C. Sidebotham (Hon. Librarian), and H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary).

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 March, 1908, were read and signed as correct.

The election of Colonel A. H. Nourse as an ordinary member was confirmed, and Mr. Sutherland was welcomed back to town and re-elected as a member of the Society.

As through indifferent health the President found it impossible to be in London during the months of May and June, on the proposition of the Committee the meeting agreed that the annual dinner be postponed till some later date when the President could be present. The Hon. Secretary was requested to write a letter to the President to this effect.

Donations of forgeries were received from Messrs. Tait

and Giles. These were duly acknowledged with thanks by Mr. Cool.

The Hon. Librarian reported several additions to the Library during the last month.

The Hon. Curator of the Collection of Entires reported the following donations since the last meeting:—

From Mr. Bradbury	28 pieces
" Harvey	9 "
" Standen	42 "
" Jacoby	44 "
" Giles	70 "
Total	143 "

The Hon. Secretary reported the donation of two copies of Walker's Loose leaf Album, largest size, with protection sheets, presented for the Forgery Collection by the President and Mr. W. A. Boyes.

All these donations were duly acknowledged by votes of thanks.

The meeting was informed that the Society had been admitted to membership of the Philatelic Literature Society on 27 March, 1908, Mr. Sidebotham being the appointed representative of the Herts Philatelic Society.

After a few opening words from Mr. Cool, the Vice-President exhibited his collection of the stamps of Spain. The collection is divided into three periods (1850-68, 1870-4, and 1875 to date), and each period was preceded by a most interesting lecture by Mr. Ashley, giving the principal historical, economic, and political events of the country of origin. The innovation was welcomed as a great success, and once again the Herts Philatelic Society, through its Vice-President, has taken the lead in finding something both novel and instructive.

Very few of the members present had any idea of the magnificent collection of Spanish stamps that had been got together by Mr. Hayman, and they were agreeably surprised at the philatelic treat that was set before them.

The words of eulogy that came from Mr. Wetherell, the proposer, and Mr. Sidebotham, the seconder of the votes of thanks that were passed to Mr. Hayman for his display and to Mr. Ashley for his lectures, were well-deserved, and were enthusiastically received by the members present.

After a few words of acknowledgment from the recipients of the votes of thanks, a most successful evening was brought to a close at 9.10 p.m.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.

Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.

Entrance Fee: 2s. 6d. No Entrance fee for ladies or for Juniors.

At a meeting of the above Society held on Saturday, 2 May, at 3 Bedford Street, Strand, Mr. Melville presented Mr. H. F. Johnson with a purse containing 32 guineas, which had been subscribed by members of the Society as an appreciation of his services as secretary of the recent Exhibition.

Mr. C. L. Harte Lovelace then gave a paper on "Chinese and Chinese Local Issues." The paper was accompanied by a splendid display, amongst which were reconstructed sheets of the first issue which had been arranged according to the various settings of the plate; a block of four of the 9 c., green, 1804 issue, from the bottom right-hand corner of the sheet showing the corner stamp inverted; a fine copy of the 5 dollar, 1807 issue; and practically complete sets of the surcharged issues. Of the Chinese Treaty Ports Mr. Lovelace had an exceptionally fine collection. In Amoy he showed several type-set provisionals issued previous to the arrival at Amoy of the 1805 set: there were also the two scarce surcharged stamps $\frac{1}{2}$ c. in blue on 4 c. and on 5 c. A fine selection of Chinkiang, including a large number of imperf. and double perf. varieties, a 1 c. of the first type in the colour of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c., which Mr. Lovelace said he believed to have been issued previous to the 1804 set; there were also a number of proofs of this set. The Postage Due set was shown with surcharge in black and in black and red, and both sets were shown inverted. "Postage Due" errors and "Postage Due" with the "u" inserted with a handstamp were also shown. Of Hankow there was a 5 c., green, 1803 issue, with similar inscription in the top left-hand corner as the scarce type of the 2 c., a 5 c. of the same issue in the colour of the 10 c. All the Locals were in used condition. Mr. F. J. Melville proposed and Mr. B. Reid seconded a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Lovelace for his very interesting paper and display, and it was carried with enthusiasm.

The Sectional Imperial Album

NOW READY.

SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN

(86 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it, but the section is only sold as a whole at above price.

<i>Section</i>		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
2. ANTIGUA	4 pages, price	0	3	post-free	0	5
3. BAHAMAS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
4. BARBADOS	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
5. BERMUDA	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
7. DOMINICA	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
8. GRENADA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
9. JAMAICA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
10. LEEWARD ISLANDS	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
11. MONTSERRAT	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
12. NEVIS	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
15. ST. LUCIA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
16. ST. VINCENT	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
17. TOBAGO	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
18. TRINADAD	22 " "	1	0	"	1	2
19. TURKS ISLANDS	8 " "					
20. TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS	4 " "					
21. VIRGIN ISLANDS	8 " "					

In Press.

The above rates of postage are for single sections, per book post; if three or more sections are ordered at one time, they can be sent per parcel post in the U.K., and postage should be remitted at the rate of ½d. per section, with a minimum of 4d.

N.B.—Each page measures 11½ × 8 in. clear of binding.

BLANK PAGES can be supplied to match the printed pages, and will be found of use for those who want to include pairs, blocks, or stamps on covers.

Price 9d. per doz.; post-free, 11d. per doz.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

STAMP CATALOGUE

1908.

Most varieties have our selling prices quoted for unused and used Stamps.

POCKET SIZE, in Two Volumes.

VOL. I. contains all

Postage Stamps of Great Britain and the British Colonies.

Price 2/6 ; post-free, 2/9.

VOL. II. contains the

Postage Stamps of the rest of the World.

Price 2/6 ; post-free, 2/10.

This Catalogue is the most reliable guide to Stamps and their values.

The Collector will find in this Catalogue a mass of useful information given by no other catalogue known to us. We divide and price separately all minor varieties of perforation, watermark, and type, and thus enable the Collector to discover the value of rare varieties he may possess, and which are not given in any other catalogue.

NONE OF OUR PRICES ARE GUESS-WORK ; they are all based on our stock of Stamps, and all Stamps priced are in stock as we go to press.

Answer to DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 9 of Series. *Must be sent only on this Form.*

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

Signature

Initials or Pseudonym for acknowledging.

Address

or Post Town for recognition in case two of same name. (Not for Publication.)

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10 %) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 33.

A FINE SPECIALIZED COLLECTION

OF THE STAMPS OF

Papua and British New Guinea

Arranged according to the article on the Stamps in a recent number of "G.S.W." There are eight complete sheets, including one of the 4d. with small Papua overprint; many blocks of four of the rare thin paper printings, in the un-surcharged 4d., 6d, and 1/- values. There are also five unused 2/6, first issue, and an exceptionally choice lot of used Stamps showing the various postmarks. The Collection also contains a choice little lot of Aitutaki, Niue, and Penrhyn Isles, mostly in blocks of four, especially strong in shades and rare varieties.

The Collection is contained in a new Oriel Album, and the whole forms a very interesting and complete lot.

It can be strongly recommended to collectors of the Australian Islands.

Price £45.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 22, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 178).

30 MAY, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD:	PAGE
French Congo. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	337
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	339
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS:	
A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	340
4. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	342
5. THE GENUS HOMO IN PHILATELY.	
<i>By Bertram W. H. Poole</i>	343
6. THE POSTAL SYSTEM AND STAMPS OF MOROCCO. <i>By Otto Rommel</i>	344
7. ON POSTMARKS. <i>By D. C. G.</i>	346
8. NOTES FROM OUR APPROVAL DEPARTMENT. <i>By W. H. Andrews</i>	347
9. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i>	348
10. PHILATELY IN THE PUBLIC EYE. Well-known Educationist on the Ethics of Hobbies	349
11. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	349
12. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	350
13. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	352
14. CORRESPONDENCE	352
15. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

BARGAINS IN

PACKETS OF STAMPS

No		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 " rarer	5 1
9.	200 " rare	5 1
66.	500 " 	4 1
67.	1000 " 	15 0
68.	1500 " 	35 0
69.	2000 " 	60 0
69A.	3000 " 	170 0
69B.	4000 " 	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargains

For G. S. W. Readers.

BRITISH
SOUTH AFRICA
COMPANY.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY.

1896.

Contemporary Cape of Good Hope
Stamps, overprinted as above.

½d., black.
1d., rose.
2d., brown.
3d., claret.
4d., blue.
6d., violet.
1s., yellow-ochre.

The Catalogue Price of the above Set,
unused, is 38/-.
SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the Set of Seven Stamps,
unused and mint,

25s., post-free.

N.B.—As we have very few Sets, orders will be
executed in rotation, as received.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 195 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.

Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.

New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.

Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.

Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.

"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.

Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.

Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gr. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany
3 months	1s. 8d.	4s. c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	8s. c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a **SPECIAL BARGAIN** for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the LOW PRICES at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used.* Unused.† Used and 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.		HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.	No. in Set.	s. d.
558†	1864-91.	Portraits, including 18 c.	9	7 6
559*	"	"	6	2 9
560†	1893.	Provisionals, 1 c. (3), 2 c. (2), 5 c. (2), 6 c., and 10 c.	9	3 9
561*	1893-9.	Provisionals and Pictorial type	7	1 0
562†	1894-9.	1 c. (2), 2 c., 5 c. (2), and 25 c.	6	1 8
HAYTI.				
564†	1881-90.	Early issues, including 3 c., litho	6	2 9
565†	1891-8.	Tree type, 1 c. (3), 2 c. (2), 2 c. on 3 c., 5 c., 7 c., and 20 c.	9	1 9
566*	"	1 c. (2), 2 c. (2), 3 c. (2), 5 c. (2), and 7 c.	9	1 3
567†	1898-1902.	Including provisional overprint, 1 c., 2 c. (2), 3 c., 4 c., 5 c. (2), 7 c. (2), 10 c., and 15 c.	11	3 6
568†	1898-1902.	Including provisional overprint, 1 c. (3), 2 c. (2), 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., and 8 c.	9	0 10
569†	1904.	Nord Alexis, without overprint, 1 c. to 50 c.	6	1 4
570*	1904-6.	Various issues	11	1 4
571†	1906-8.	Provisional 1 c. (5) and 2 c. (4) on various values	9	0 6
572†	1906.	Overprinted for Exterior, 1 c. to 10 c.	11	2 4
573†	"	" " " 15 c., 20 c., 50 c., and 1 gourde	4	8 6
574†	"	Interior, 1 c., 3 c., 7 c.; Exterior, 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 7 c., and 8 c.	9	2 0
575†	"	Exterior, 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 50 c.	4	4 9
576†	Postage Due. 1898-1902.	With and without overprint	6	2 4
HELIGOLAND.				
578†	1867-73.	½, 1, 2, and 6 sch.	5	6 6
579†	1875-6.	Two currencies. 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, and 50 pf.	8	5 6
HOLKAR.				
580†	1889-1905.	½ a., 1 a. (2), 1 a. (2), and 2 a.	6	1 2
HOLLAND.				
581*	1852-76.	King and Arms. Various issues	19	1 4
582†	1869-76	"	12	2 9
583†	1891-6.	Young Queen, 3, 5, 10, 12½, 20, 22½, and 50 c. (2)	8	6 6
584*	"	Most values	13	1 6
585†	1898-1906.	½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 5, 7½, 10, 12½, 15, and 17½ cents, and 1 gulden	12	3 9
586*	"	Including 1 and 2½ gulden	16	2 0
587†	1906-7.	Charity and De Kuyter issues	6	0 8
588†	Postage Due. 1885-94.	½, 1, 1½, 2½, 5, 15, 20, and 25 c.	8	1 9
589†	"	" " " ½, 1, 2½, 5, 10, and 15 c.	6	0 6
HONDURAS.				
591†	1878-80.	Morazan, 1 c. and 2 c., ½, 1, 2, and 4 rls., and 1 peso	7	1 6
592†	1890.	Arms, 1 c. to 1 peso	11	1 6
593†	1891.	Hogrand, 1 c. to 1 peso	11	1 6
594†	"	" " " 2, 5, and 10 pesos	3	1 6
595†	1892.	Commemorative, 1 c. to 1 peso	11	1 6
596†	1893.	Cabanas, 1 c. to 1 peso	11	1 6
597†	1895.	Justice, 1 c. to 1 peso	8	1 6
598†	1895.	Arias, 1 c., 2 c., 10 c., 20 c., 30 c., 50 c., and 1 peso	7	3 9
599†	1893.	Train, 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 6 c., 10 c., and 20 c.	6	1 4
600†	1903.	Guardiola, 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., and 6 c.	4	0 8
601†	1907.	Portrait, 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 6 c., 10 c., 20 c., 50 c., and 1 peso.	8	5 9
602*	1878-1907.	Various issues	27	1 9
603†	1890.	Official, 1 c. to 1 p.	11	1 6
604†	1891	"	11	1 6

TRANSPARENT ENVELOPES.

Made of Best Tough White Paper, strongly gummed on flap and at the joints.

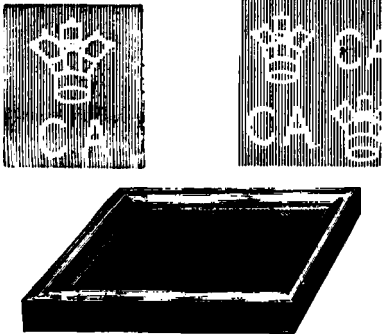
Invaluable to the Collector for keeping Duplicates, and to the Dealer for use in sending Selections on Approval as well as for use in his own Stock.

SUPPLIED IN FOUR SIZES:

Inches.	Per 100.	Per 1000.	Postage extra for Great Britain—
A. 2½ by 1½ ..	5d. ..	3/6	A, 1d. per 100; 3d. per 1000.
B. 3½ .. 2½ ..	6d. ..	4/6	B, 1d. .. 3d. "
C. 4½ .. 3½ ..	8d. ..	5/9	C, 1½d .. 5d. "
D. 6½ .. 5 ..	1/2 ..	10/-	D, 2½d. .. 7d. "

Abroad by Parcel Post or Express at actual cost.

WATERMARK DETECTOR.



MANY Collectors experience great difficulty in detecting the Watermarks in some Stamps, such as Barbados Stars, United States, 1904 issues, etc. etc. We have therefore put into stock a small contrivance for holding Benzine, which does not affect either the colour or the gum on a Stamp, and reveals the watermark instantly. This is a most useful little Article and is in constant use in our offices every day of the year.

Price 1/-; post-free in Great Britain, 1/2.

NOW READY.

An entirely New and Complete Series of

TITLES OF COUNTRIES, FOR BLANK ALBUMS.

This series consists of nearly 500 names of countries, including all the most recent additions, and including as it does every country issuing Postage Stamps, is adaptable for any kind of blank Philatelic Album, but is especially suitable for the A, B, and E Philatelic Albums.

Price 1/-; post-free, 1/1.

Exchange Circular.

Showing prices we allow for Current and Obsolete Stamps by the 12 or 100 for common varieties, and singly for Rarer ones.

In many cases our offers are increased to double or treble those of our previous edition.

N.B.—The prices quoted in this Circular are those given in exchange in stamps of a similar quality, common stamps for common, rare for rare, but are not cash prices.

Price SIXPENCE, post-free.

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

GAYMAN ISLANDS.

1908. King's Head. Inscribed POSTAGE & REVENUE. s. d.	
3d., brown on yellow	0 5
4d., black and red on yellow	0 6

CHILI.

1904. Telegraph Stamp surcharged. Variety—no star at Cat. No.	
89. 12 c. on 5 c., red	used 6 0

CHINA.

1904. Postage Duc. Revised price.	
206. 10 c., deep green	used 0 4

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

1904-5. King's Head. Mult. Wmk.	
31. 1d., vermilion	used 0 2

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

1904-7. Tiger. Multiple watermark.	
32. 20 c., lilac and black	used 0 4

FJI ISLANDS.

1906. King's Head. Multiple watermark.	
161. 1d., red	used 0 2

FRENCH SOUDAN.

1894. Tablet Type.	
4. 1 c., black on azure	used 0 1
9. 15 c., blue	0 3

GWALIOR.

1899-1904. Stamps of India surcharged.	
68. ½ a., pea-green (Queen)	used 0 2
76. 1 a., carmine (King)	0 1
124. ½ a., pea-green (Queen Service)	0 1

PAHANG.

1898. Stamp of Perak surcharged.	
24. 4 c. on 8 c., lilac and ultramarine	used 1 0

PANAMA.

1906. Portrait Types, etc.	
201. ½ c., red, blue, green, and orange	used 0 2
202. 1 c., black and green	0 2
203. 2½ c., pale red	0 2
204. 5 c., black and blue	0 2
206. 10 c., violet	0 4
1907. Same Types, overprinted CANAL ZONE.	
764. 1 c., black and green	used 0 1
765. 5 c., blue	0 1
766. 8 c., purple	0 4
767. 10 c., violet	0 4

PARAGUAY.

1904-6. Type 39. Lion.	
110. 60 c., chocolate	used 0 9

ST. VINCENT.

1902-4. King's Head.	
76. ½d., lilac and green (single)	used 0 2
85. ½d., ,, ,, (multiple)	0 2

SIAM.

1908. Provisional. Cat. No. 21 surcharged.	
1 att on 24 a., purple and blue	0 4

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

1899-1902. Various types. Revised prices.	
90a. 5 c., magenta (Queen)	used 0 2
106. 8 c., purple on blue (King, small)	0 2

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

The Editor "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—I am glad to notice in your issue of 2 May, under "Points for Beginners," that "B. W. W." in his article refers to my recent suggestion to you about supplying sketch plans for arrangement of stamps in a blank-leaf album.

After stating that this is seldom thought of by beginners, thus showing the absolute necessity for such plans, he says that as you cannot make plans to suit more than a few people, you must give up the idea of any such scheme.

Perhaps I did not make my point sufficiently clear.

What I suggest should be supplied along with your paper are sketch plans of the positions of the stamps, such stamps to be those of different value or colour of each issue, and taking no notice of shades, variations in perforations or watermarks, or anything similar.

These to be shown set out in as effective a manner as possible on a fairly standard size page, say one 10 in. x 8 in. Any one who did not like the arrangement you gave could vary it. You would thus give hints and information about simple and well-known countries which might start some people to collect by the very simplicity of the stamps, say Germany, Belgium, etc., and could do it concurrently with your "Countries of the World."

The sketch plans that I have in view are similar to the two that you figure of Barbados on page 181 in Volume IV, issue of 22 September, 1906:—

Page 1 of Album.

BARBADOS.				
1852-58.				
1	2	3	4	5
1860-73.				
6	7	8	9	
10	11	12		
1875-78.				
13	14	15	16	17
			18	
1878.				
		19		
1882-86.				
20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	

There you will see that the stamps are neatly set out, and one has something to work to. One is not bound to follow it exactly, but one has an idea how to set about any alteration one may think fit.

I would suggest that it is worth while to publish one or two sketch plans of easy countries, and to ask your readers what they think of them.

I think one of the first uses of a stamp journal is to assist one to arrange one's stamps.

Yours faithfully, W. F.

LONDON, 9 May, 1908.

[We appreciate the points raised, but it is not easy to advise in the matter, arrangements in blank albums being so much a question of personal taste. The general guide laid down by Mr. Ireland seems practicable.—Ed. G.S.W.]

Philatelic Societies

Herne Bay Philatelic Society

Hon. Sec.: T. F. Newton, 8 Promenade Central, Herne Bay.

THE fortnightly meeting was held at 8 Promenade Central, Herne Bay, on Wednesday, 22 April, at 8 15 p.m., there being a good attendance of members.

After the preliminary business was concluded, Mr. C. S. Greenhead's R.A.M. collection of United States stamps was shown. This consisted of fine, brilliant copies, most of the sets being complete. There were also a large number of shades, varieties, etc. As Mr. Greenhead was unable to attend personally, the collection was shown and explained by Mr. G. Dukes, who pointed out the secret marks and types with which the stamps of this country abound.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Greenhead, and also to Mr. Dukes for so lucidly explaining the collection.

The next meeting was held on Wednesday, 6 May, at 8.15 p.m., the President, R. MacLachlan, Esq., J.P., being in the chair.

The chief item on this occasion was a display of Official Paid Marks, Franks, and Postmarks by Major P. F. Brine, who thoroughly succeeded in interesting his hearers by his description of the various things shown. The Major made a special point of collecting all postal frank marks which came his way during the South African War, and these and others used by various officials and public bodies formed a collection which is worth examination.

The President, in the course of his remarks on the proposition of a vote of thanks, said that although it could not be called a stamp display, he had been as much interested in that meeting as in any he had had the pleasure of presiding over.

Junior Philatelic Society Manchester Branch

President: I. J. Bernstein.

Hon. Sec.: Jno. S. Higgins, Jun., Green Street, Tib Street, Manchester.

THE third annual meeting of the Manchester branch of the Junior Philatelic Society was held on 7 May at the Deansgate Hotel, I. J. Bernstein, Esq., presiding, supported by about thirty members. The reports of the Treasurer, Librarian, Secretary, and Exhibition Committee were received and adopted.

The following officers were elected for the coming session: Mr. I. J. Bernstein, President; Mr. W. W. Munn, Vice-President; Mr. J. J. Darlow, Vice-President; Mr. J. Brookes, Packet Superintendent; Mr. P. S. Barton, Auditor; Mr. J. Taylor, Librarian and Assistant Secretary; Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht, Mr. D. A. Berry, Mr. J. White, Committee; Mr. J. S. Higgins, Jun., Treasurer and Secretary.

Mr. Albrecht, having accepted the post of Secretary for the coming Exhibition, felt compelled to resign the office of Secretary, and a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded him for his highly efficient services and the interest he has taken in the Society since its formation. After the annual meeting a competitive display was arranged, and the following countries were exhibited:—

Mr. Barton . . .	German Morocco.
Mr. Darlow . . .	Gold Coast and Dominica.
Mr. Horner . . .	Roumania.
Mr. Taylor . . .	Sicily.
Mr. Ward . . .	Jamaica.

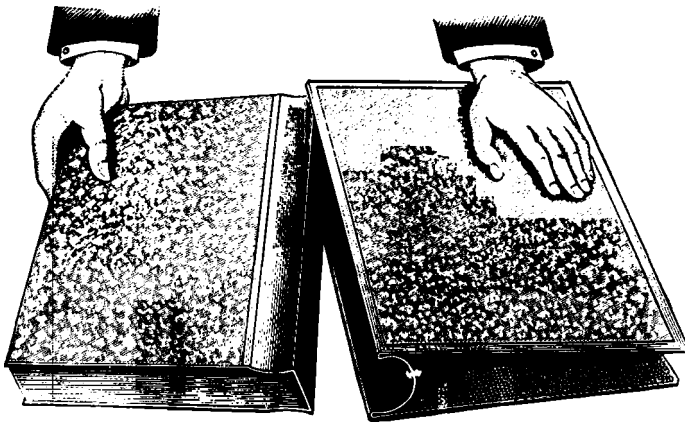
Mr. W. W. Munn and Mr. J. King were appointed to judge the exhibits, and awarded the first prize to Mr. J. W. Taylor for his display of Sicily, and second prize to Mr. J. J. Darlow for his display of Dominica.

The Sectional Imperial Album

A FULL DESCRIPTION OF THIS ALBUM WILL BE
SENT POST-FREE ON APPLICATION.

The Outside Dimensions of the Cover are
 $11\frac{5}{8}$ by $10\frac{7}{8}$ in.

Each Page measures $11\frac{1}{8}$ by 8 in.
clear of Binding.



THE BINDERS

have been specially made and are of the simplest description; you only have to bend back the cover with one hand and remove the leaves with the other. (*See above.*)

These Binders will hold from twenty to nearly two hundred leaves.

When mounting stamps, the spring back cover should be removed and the pages laid out quite flat.

They are in two qualities, as follows :

No. 33.—Handsomely bound in marone cloth, bevelled boards, lettered on sides and also in gold on back, with sunk panel on back for insertion of particulars of contents. Price 6/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 6/6; abroad, 7/-.

No. 34.—Superbly half-bound in green Levant Morocco, cloth sides, bevelled boards, gold lettering on back, with sunk panel for contents. Price 15/-; post-free, United Kingdom, 15/6; abroad, 16/-.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

The Sectional Imperial Album

NOW READY.

SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN

(86 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it, but the section is only sold as a whole at above price.

<i>Section</i>		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
2. ANTIGUA	4 pages, price	0	3	post-free	0	5
3. BAHAMAS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
4. BARBADOS	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
5. BERMUDA	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
7. DOMINICA	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
8. GRENADA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
9. JAMAICA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
10. LEEWARD ISLANDS	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
11. MONTSERRAT	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
12. NEVIS	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
15. ST. LUCIA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
16. ST. VINCENT	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
17. TOBAGO	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
18. TRINIDAD	22 " "	1	0	"	1	2
19. TURKS ISLANDS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
20. TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
21. VIRGIN ISLANDS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6

The above rates of postage are for single sections, per book post; if three or more sections are ordered at one time, they can be sent per parcel post in the U.K., and postage should be remitted at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per section, with a minimum of 4d.

In Preparation, ready end June.

NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.

N.B.—Each page measures 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 in. clear of binding.

BLANK PAGES can be supplied to match the printed pages, and will be found of use for those who want to include pairs, blocks, or stamps on covers.

Price 9d. per doz.; post-free, 11d. per doz.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 34.

A CHOICE SPECIALIZED COLLECTION

OF THE STAMPS OF THE

UNITED STATES

WE DRAW ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING:—

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1845. 5 c., black; five used copies. | 1861. 3 c., pink, unused and used. |
| 1847. 10 c. " " " and one unused, damaged. | " 5 c., ochre; five copies " |
| 1851. Imperf., 1 c., blue, Type I, used, fine. | " 90 c., blue; four unused and one used. |
| " 5 c., lake-brown, superb strip of three, and two singles; 12 c., black, mint pair. | 1867. 90 c., with grille, unused. |
| 1857. 1 c., perf., Type I, unused and used; Type II, unused and used. | 1869. A very fine set, unused, and with two very fine used specimens of the 15 c. and 24 c., inverted centre; also the 6 c., 12 c., 15 c., and 24 c. of the re-issue. |
| " 5 c., brown. A fine lot of the various types, twelve unused and eleven used. | 1870. With grille, the 10 c., 15 c., and 30 c., unused; and several used. |
| " 30 c., unused, three; used, three. | " No grille, very fine set, including beautiful shades, unused, of 12 c. and 24 c. |
| " 90 c. " four " " | |

The later issues are well represented up to 1890 only. There are no Departmental Stamps, with a few sets of Cardboard proofs.

The owner states that the Catalogue value is about £300, and he offers this Collection, which we strongly recommend as a bargain, at the price of

£160.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSLY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 23, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 179).

6 JUNE, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD:	PAGE
French Congo. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i> . . .	353
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i> . . .	355
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS:	
A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i> . . .	357
4. THE POSTAL SYSTEM AND STAMPS OF MOROCCO. <i>By Otto Rommel</i> . . .	359
5. THE GENUS HOMO IN PHILATELY. <i>By Bertram W. H. Poole</i> . . .	361
6. ACROSTIC COMPETITION . . .	362
7. ON POSTMARKS. <i>By D. C. G.</i> . . .	363
8. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i> . . .	364
9. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i> . . .	366
10. CORRESPONDENCE . . .	358
11. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.	
12. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different . . .	2 1
8.	100 " rarer . . .	5 1
9.	200 " rare . . .	5 1
66.	500 " . . .	4 1
67.	1000 " . . .	15 0
68.	1500 " . . .	35 0
69.	2000 " . . .	60 0
69A.	3000 " . . .	170 0
69B.	4000 " . . .	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargains

For U.S.W. Readers.

- ECUADOR
- HONDURAS
- NICARAGUA
- SALVADOR

We have made up some SPECIAL BARGAIN PACKETS, containing Stamps of the above countries which we have over after making up our Sets.

Each of these BARGAIN PACKETS contains 197 STAMPS, all different and unused, of the above-named countries, being some of the most beautiful Stamps in existence.

The Catalogue Price of the above Stamps is \$2 8s. 9d.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the 197 Stamps, unused and mint,

20s., post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Cheap Sets of Postage Stamps

Arranged alphabetically.

Revised series for 1908, following particulars in Stanley Gibbons' last Priced Catalogue.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is drawn to the **LOW PRICES** at which these Sets are offered—in most cases these will be found to be from 20 to 30 per cent less than what the Stamps would cost if bought separately.

Used. Unused.† Used and 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.		HONG KONG.	No. in Set.	r. d.
605*	1863-80.	Queen, CC, 4 c., 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., and 30 c.	5	3 6
606†	1882-1902.	CA, 2 c. (2), 4 c. (2), 5 c. (2), 10 c. (2), 12 c., and 30 c.	10	4 9
607*	"	2 c. (2), 4 c. (2), 5 c. (2), 10 c. (2), and 30 c.	9	0 10
608†	1890-8.	Provisionals, 20 c. on 30 c., 50 c. on 48 c., and 10 c. on 30 c. (2)	4	8 0
609†	1903.	King, single wmk., 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 8 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 30 c.	8	3 9
610*	1903-7.	" single and mult. wmk.	11	1 3
611†	1904-7.	" mult. wmk., 2 c., 4 c. (2), 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., 10 c., 30 c., and 50 c.	9	3 9
HORTA.				
611†	1892.	King, 5 r., 10 r., 25 r., and 100 r.	4	1 6
613†	1897-9.	Colonial type, 2½ r., 5 r., 15 r. (2), 25 r. (2), 50 r., and 115 r.	8	2 0
HUNGARY.				
614†	1871-2.	Engraved, 2 kr., 3 kr., and 5 kr.	3	3 9
615†	1887.	Coloured numerals, 3 kr., 5 kr., 10 kr., and 20 kr.	4	1 9
616†	1887-98.	Black numerals, 5 kr., 8 kr. (2), 12 kr., and 15 kr. (2)	6	1 6
617†	1900-7.	Large and small wmk., including 2 korona	13	3 3
618*	1871-1907.	All issues, including 10 and 25 kr., engraved	28	2 6
HYDERABAD.				
620†	1871-1905.	Various issues	6	0 8
621*	"	"	9	1 0
ICELAND.				
622*	1876-1902.	Figure type, 3 (2), 4, 5, 6 (2), 10 (2), 16, and 20 aur.	10	2 0
623†	1902.	King Christian, 3 aur. to 50 aur.	10	4 0
624*	"	4, 5, 6, 10, and 20 aur.	5	0 8
625†	Official. 1876-1902.	Including two "I. GILDI"	4	1 9
INDIA.				
627*	1855-73.	Queen early issues, including 4 a. on blue paper	9	1 9
628†	1882-1900.	" 3 p. (2), ½ a., 1 a., 1½ a., 2½ a. (2), 3 a., 12 a., and 1 rup.	10	5 9
629*	"	most values	14	1 0
630†	1902-6.	King, 3 p., ½ a. prov., ½ a. (2), 1 a. (2), and 4 a.	7	1 0
631*	"	including 1 rupee	11	0 9
632*	Official. 1867-1906.	Various issues	20	1 6
633†	C.E.F. 1900-4.	3 p., ½ a., 1 a. (2), 2 a., 2½ a., 3 a., and 4 a.	8	3 0
INDO-CHINA.				
634†	1889.	Provisionals	4	4 0
635†	1892-1903.	Tablet type, including two provisionals	7	1 0
636*	"	" 1 fr.	8	0 9
637*	1904.	Grasset type	5	0 6
ITALY.				
639†	1862-7.	Victor Emmanuel II., including 10 c. brown, and 20 c. blue	8	2 6
640*	1862-77.	" all issues, including provisionals	21	1 6
641†	1877.	Provisionals	5	1 4
642*	1879-97.	Humbert I. Various issues	22	1 4
643†	1890-.	Provisionals	4	0 10
644†	1901-2.	Victor Emmanuel III., 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c. (2), 20 c., 25 c. (2), and 40 c.	10	1 10
645*	"	including 1 lire	11	0 8
646†	Express and Parcel Post. 1884-1903.	10 c., 20 c., 25 c., 50 c., 75 c., and 1 l., 75 c.	5	1 6
647*	Postage Due. 1870-1903.	Including 50 l. and 100 l.	15	2 6
648*	"	1903. 50 l. and 100 l.	2	25 0
649†	Official. 1875.	2 c., to 5 lire	7	1 2

TRANSPARENT ENVELOPES.

Made of Best Tough White Paper, strongly gummed on flap and at the joints.

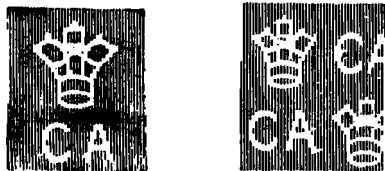
Invaluable to the Collector for keeping Duplicates, and to the Dealer for use in sending Selections on Approval as well as for use in his own Stock.

SUPPLIED IN FOUR SIZES:

Inches.	Per 100.	Per 1000.	Postage extra for Great Britain—
A. 2½ by 1½	sd. ... 3/6	....	A, 1d. per 100; 3d. per 1000.
B. 3½ " 2½	6d. ... 4/6	....	B, 1d. " 3d. "
C. 4½ " 3½	8d. ... 5/9	....	C, 1½d. " 5d. "
D. 6½ " 5 "	1/2 ... 10/-	....	D, 2½d. " 7d. "

Abroad by Parcel Post or Express at actual cost.

WATERMARK DETECTOR.



MANY Collectors experience great difficulty in detecting the Watermarks in some Stamps, such as the 'Arbados Stars, United States, 1904 issues, etc. etc.' We have therefore put into stock a small contrivance for holding Benzine, which does not affect either the colour or the gum on a Stamp, and reveals the watermark instantly. This is a most useful little Article and is in constant use in our offices every day of the year.

Price 1/-: post-free in Great Britain, 1/2.

NOW READY.

An entirely New and Complete Series of

TITLES OF COUNTRIES, FOR BLANK ALBUMS.

THIS series consists of nearly 500 names of countries, including all the most recent additions, and including as it does every country issuing Postage Stamps, is adaptable for any kind of blank Philatelic Album, but is especially suitable for the A, B, and E Philatelic Albums.

Price 1/-: post-free, 1/1.

Exchange Circular.

Showing prices we allow for Current and Obsolete Stamps by the 12 or 100 for common varieties, and singly for Rarer ones.

In many cases our offers are increased to double or treble those of our previous edition.

N.B.—The prices quoted in this Circular are those given in exchange in stamps of a similar quality, common stamps for common, rare for rare, but are not cash prices.

Price SIXPENCE, post-free.

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

BRAZIL.

Cat. No.	1905-6.	Various Issues and Types.	s. d.
326.	100 r.,	carmine	used 0 1
328.	300 r.,	black and green	" 0 4
381.	200 r.,	blue	" 0 6

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

1908. Type 10. Arms. New value.			
02a.	3d.,	dull carmine	0 5
65b.	3s.,	deep violet	4 0
07a.	10s.,	dull green	12 6
08a.	£2,	brown	48 0

EQUADOR.

1896. Postal Fiscal. Revised price.			
510.	5 c. on	10 c., orange	used 0 2

PATIALA.

1892. Service. Queen's head.			
122.	2 a.	blue	used 0 6

SALVADOR.

1906 7. Various Issues			
502-3.	6 c.,	carmine (Escalon)	used 0 2
583.	10 c.,	violet (Palace)	" 0 1

SPAIN.

1900-2. King Alfonso. Reduced price.			
474.	1 p.,	magenta	used 0 1

SUDAN.

Various Issues. Revised prices.			
1.	1 m.,	brown	used 0 2
2.	2 m.,	green	" 0 2
17a.	1 m.,	brown and carmine	" 0 1
18.	2 m.,	green and brown	" 0 2
19.	3 m.,	mauve and green	" 0 2
55.	2 m.,	black and brown (Unpaid)	" 0 2
213.	5 m.,	carmine and black (Army Service)	" 0 1

TRANSVAAL.

187-90. Type 20. Revised prices.			
354.	4d.,	bronze	" 0 3
356.	1s.,	green	" 0 3

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

1906-7. Type 32. Revised price.			
164.	6d.,	bright violet	" 0 2

WURTEMBERG.

1906-7. Type 51. Municipal Service. Watermarked.			
224.	2 pf.,	grey	0 4
225.	3 pf.,	brown	0 1
226.	5 pf.,	green	0 2
227.	10 pf.,	rose	0 3
228.	25 pf.,	orange	0 6

1906-7. Type 61. Officials. Watermarked.

345.	2 pf.,	grey	0 4
346.	3 pf.,	brown	0 1
347.	5 pf.,	green	0 2
348.	10 pf.,	rose	0 3
349.	20 pf.,	ultramarine	0 4
350.	25 pf.,	orange	0 5
351.	30 pf.,	black and orange	0 6
352.	40 pf.,	carmine	0 8
353.	50 pf.,	marone	0 9
354.	1 mk.,	violet	1 9

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Answers to Correspondents

L. J. W. (Winchester).—Yours is a rather formidable list, but we do our best.

1. Our publishers only note the three British stamps you mention on ordinary paper.
2. Our price for the F.M.S. is 6d. unused ; 4d. used.
3. Cannot identify your Nicaragua. Probably you have the 5 c., engraved, of 1900, and the 5 c., lithographed, of 1902.
4. In imperf. stamps pairs and blocks are most desirable. In modern perforated stamps single copies are ample for the general collector. If you should specialize a country, these blocks of four add to the interest of the collection, as the shades of colour are more readily distinguished.
5. Unable to say.
6. Ditto.
7. Buy a Gibbons Catalogue, Part I, 1908 (2s. 9d. post free), for full details on minor varieties.

The Ceylon two types of 5 c. are as follows :—

Type I.—Thicker lines in the background, and

lines of colour under the chin, in front of the throat, at the back of the neck, and at the base.

Type II.—Thinner lines in background, and coil and pendent curl clearer.

R. J. R. (Reading).—The U.S. stamps to which you refer are termed "pre-cancelled," and a few collectors take them in the United States, but we do not think any one in this country collects them, and in our opinion they are of no more interest than a postmark.

A. H. W. D. (Walton-on-Thames).—We have published your letter, as the subject of the perforations you mention is now engaging our attention, and we are trying to prepare a new list for next edition of our Catalogue, basing our measurements on whole sheets and blocks of four at least.

A. B. C. (Birmingham).—If you wish to join a good local Philatelic Society, you cannot do better than write to Mr. G. Johnson, 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham, the Secretary of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, who will send you all particulars.

Philatelic Societies

Birmingham Philatelic Society

Hon. President : Sir W. B. Asery, Bart.
Hon. Secretary : G. Johnson, B.A., 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.
Meetings : Thursdays, at 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.
Annual Subscription : 5s. Entrance Fee : 5s.

APRIL 2nd.—A display of British Colonials was arranged with a view to deciding who should exhibit the stamps of the various colonies at the forthcoming Exhibition in January next, and the amount of space required.

APRIL 30th.—Annual Dinner.—After the toast of the King had been honoured, the President called on Mr. F. F. Empson for the toast of "The Birmingham Philatelic Society," and the Hon. Secretary was asked to respond.

Votes of thanks were accorded Mrs. Lake and Mr. F. C. Henderson for donations to the Permanent Collection, and Messrs. H. A. Fulcher, G. A. Baynton, C. T. Reed, H. B. Carslake, L. L. R. Hausburg, and H. S. Hodson for auction catalogues, etc.

Mr. O. L. Bramley kindly officiated as Hon. Auctioneer, and some hundred lots were disposed of. The President proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Bramley, who suitably responded.

Mr. J. Cook was elected a member of the Society.

Leicester Philatelic Society

President : Dr. R. Milbourne West.
Hon. Sec. : P. V. Sansome, Tenynson Street, St. James' Road, Leicester.
Meetings : Winchester House, Welford Place, Leicester.

The general meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday, 6 May, at the head-quarters, Winchester House.

The chair was occupied by the President (Dr. R. M. West), who was supported by a good gathering of members.

The Hon. Secretary was called upon to read the minutes of the last meeting, which were duly signed and confirmed.

Mr. W. E. Grundy then rose to move a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring officers, which was seconded by Mr. Neep and carried with acclamation.

A ballot for the election of officers for Session 1908-9 resulted as follows (R. indicates re-elected) :—

President : Dr. R. Milbourne West (R.). Vice-Presidents : Dr. William Mussen, Robert Walker, Esq. (R.). Hon. Secretary : Mr. P. V. Sansome (R.). Hon. Treasurer : Mr. Thomas B. Widdowson (R.). Committee : Mrs. Scott, Messrs. Boulton, Ellis, Young, Goddard (R.). Hon. Auditor and Exchange Superintendent : Mr. Edwin F. Bull (R.). Hon. Librarian : Mr. T. Edwards (R.).

Custodians for Permanent Collection.—Colonial Section : Mr. W. H. Shankland. Foreign Section : Mrs. W. H. Scott. Forgery Section : Mr. T. B. Widdowson (R.).

Other business being transacted, a display of Straits Settlements, the property of Mr. J. E. Heginbottom, of Rochdale, was shown and much appreciated.

The next item on the agenda was a paper on "Modern Philately," by Mr. J. W. H. Goddard. The paper, though brief, dealt with some very interesting points. Very useful hints to members were given, and the selling of "Remainders" and issuing of unnecessary "Provisionals" were ably discussed.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Goddard at the close.

Some splendid donations to the Permanent Collection were given by Messrs. Goddard, Faulkes, and Dr. West, and as these collections during the year had not received the support that was expected, they were much appreciated. Good specimens of any stamps will be gladly accepted.

The meeting terminated at 9.30.

The Sectional Imperial Album

A full description of this Album will be sent post-free on application.

NOW READY.

SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN

(86 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it, but the section is only sold as a whole at above price.

Section		s.	d.		s.	d.
2. ANTIGUA	4 pages, price	0	3	post-free	0	5
3. BAHAMAS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
4. BARBADOS	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
5. BERMUDA	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
7. DOMINICA	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
8. GRENADA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
9. JAMAICA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
10. LEEWARD ISLANDS	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
11. MONTSERRAT	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
12. NEVIS	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
15. ST. LUCIA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
16. ST. VINCENT	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
17. TOBAGO	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
18. TRINIDAD	22 " "	1	0	"	1	2
19. TURKS ISLANDS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
20. TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
21. VIRGIN ISLANDS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6

The above rates of postage are for single sections, per book post; if three or more sections are ordered at one time, they can be sent per parcel post in the U.K., and postage should be remitted at the rate of ½d. per section, with a minimum of 4d.

In Preparation, ready end June.

NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.

N.B.—Each page measures 11½ × 8 in. clear of binding.

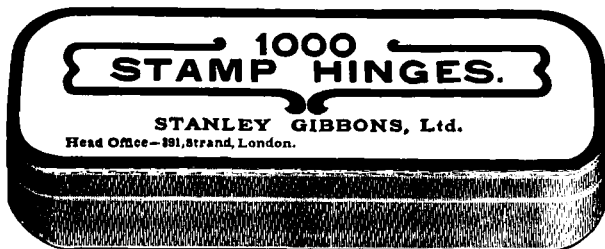
BLANK PAGES can be supplied to match the printed pages, and will be found of use for those who want to include pairs, blocks, or stamps on covers.

Price 9d. per doz.; post-free, 11d. per doz.

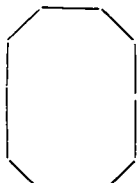
STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

THE "S. G." STAMP HINGES.



IN TWO SIZES.



SIZE A.
(Red Boxes.)



SIZE B.
(Green Boxes.)

We have prepared a NEW STAMP HINGE, sizes as above, put up in AIR-TIGHT TIN BOXES, each containing 1000 hinges of good tough paper, doubly gummed, and thus easily peelable. Price 6d., post-free 7d. per Box.

WHEN ORDERING MENTION SIZE DESIRED.

Answer to DOUBLE ACROSTIC

No. 10 of Series. *Must be sent only on this Form.*

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7

Signature

Initials or Pseudonym for acknowledging.

Address

or Post Town for recognition in case two of same name. (Not for Publication.)

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 35.

A GENERAL COLLECTION OF BRITISH COLONIALS

*Including many blocks of four, and really fine and scarce
Stamps in the old issue.*

THE COLLECTION IS MOUNTED IN TWO BLANK ALBUMS.

Contains B.C.A., first issue, to 10s., and the 3s. on 4s., and 4s. on 5s., Nigger type, to the £1; 2nd Nigger type, to the £1, unused. B.S.A., a fine lot, including the 1d. on 4s., and the 3d. on 5s. B.E.A., 1st set, used, on Indian complete, to 5 rupees on Company's stamps, a fine lot, including some pairs, Queen's Head, to 20 rupees, King, to 5 rupees. Gambia, a fine lot, including 2 imperfs. Gold Coast, fine blocks and high values. Cape, 1d., red, wood block. Mauritius, three of the native prints. NATAL, King, to 10s., unused. Niger Coast, very fine set, including two of the 10s., purple. Northern Nigeria, Queen's complete. Southern Nigeria, fine lot, King and Queen. Lagos, single CA, 1s, 2s. 6d., and 5s. Seychelles, fine set. Zululand, including 5s., and £1 mint. Zanzibar on Indian, to 5 rupees. CEYLON, good lot of the old pence issue, including some scarce octagons. Cyprus, CA, single complete, blocks of older issues. Newfoundland, good lot of pence issues, including orange-vermilion, 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, including the old issue. Canada, pence issue, all values except 12d. Somaliland, a fine set. Nevis, a number of the old issues. Leeward, 5s. block of four, etc. St. Vincent, good lot of the old type, including 1d. on ½ 6d., unused. Virgin Isles, a fine lot, including many blocks. N.S.W., seven Sydneys, 6d. and 8d. laureated. Western Australia and Victoria, scarce early issues.

*The owner states the Catalogue value is £750. He offers the Collection
at the exceptionally cheap price of*

£250.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 24, Vol. VII.

13 JUNE, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

(Whole No. 180).

Contents.

1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD:	PAGE
French Guiana. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i>	359
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	371
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS:	
A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	372
4. THE POSTAL SYSTEM AND STAMPS OF MOROCCO. <i>By Otto Rommel</i>	374
5. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	375
6. THE STAMPS OF TUSCANY. <i>By D. C. Gray</i>	376
7. THE GENUS HOMO IN PHILATELY. <i>By Bertram W. H. Poole</i>	377
8. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	379
9. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i>	380
10. AMERICAN NOTES AND NEWS. <i>By Eustace B. Power</i>	381
11. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	382
12. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	384
13. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES	Page 5 of Cover

Special Bargains

For U.S.W. Readers.

GREECE

1906.

OLYMPIC GAMES ISSUE.

- 1 l., brown.
- 3 l., orange.
- 5 l., green.
- 10 l., red.
- 20 l., mauve.
- 25 l., blue.
- 30 l., purple.
- 40 l., sepia.
- 50 l., marone.

The Catalogue Price of the above Set of Nine Stamps, used, is 1s. 8d.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

For the OLYMPIC GAMES Set,

1s., post-free.

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different	2 1
8.	100 " rarer	5 1
9.	200 " rare	5 1
66.	500 "	4 1
67.	1000 "	15 0
68.	1500 "	35 0
69.	2000 "	60 0
69A.	3000 "	170 0
69B.	4000 "	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, G. S. W.,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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. Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; R. Reprint; W. Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order G. S. W. from their nearest Newsgent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

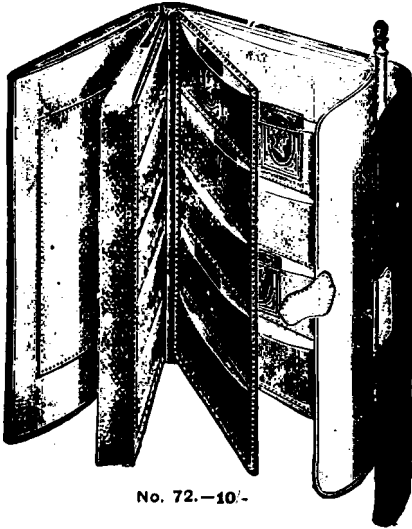
Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Accessories for Stamp Collectors.

SPECIAL POCKET BOOKS, PURSES & CARD CASES.



No. 72.—10'

Each of the following New and Useful Specialities has separate compartments provided for Postage Stamps, consisting of strips of thin celluloid protecting the stamps, and enabling them to be seen at once, and arranged so that the stamps can be put in or withdrawn in an instant without damage:—

- 70.—**TUCK CASE FOR THE WAISTCOAT.** Pocket size. $3\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$. Very thin, made in morocco leather, lined leather of a neutral colour, with transparent pockets through which stamps can be seen. Price 2/6; post-free, 2/7.
- 71.—**BEST MOROCCO GENTLEMAN'S CARD CASE,** with usual pockets for visiting cards, and special compartments for stamps secured by a tuck flap fastening. (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.) Price 4/6; post-free, 4/7.
- 72.—**BEST MOROCCO WALLET.** $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Lined leather throughout, flap and nickel lock fastening, gusset and tight pockets for letters; special provision for stamps under transparent pockets secured by an inner flap, and tuck fastening; leather covered note-book. (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.) Price 10/-; post-free, 10/2.
- 73.—**Limp Morocco LETTER CASE.** Size, $6\frac{1}{2} \times 4$ inches. With gusset pocket for private letters, tight pocket for foreign postcards, and an array of transparent pockets for stamps. Price 3/6; post-free, 3/7.
- 74.—**Ditto, ditto,** with a gilt-edged ruled book under an elastic. Price 4/-; post-free, 4/1.
- 75.—**BEST MOROCCO LETTER CASE,** lined leather throughout, with gusset pocket for private letters, and special pocket containing an ingenious receptacle to hold a large assortment of stamps. Being detachable, it can be used either with or without the outer case. Price 5/6; post-free, 5/8.
- 76.—**BEST MOROCCO PURSE.** $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Flap and nickel lock fastening, stitched expanding pockets. The front to open out, displaying transparent pocket for stamps, with separate flap to fasten. The purse can be used independently of the stamp compartment. Price 6/6; post-free, 6/7.

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

AUSTRIA.

1908. Jubilee issue. Handsome stamps.			s. d.
3 h., purple . . . . .	. . . . .	used	0 1
5 h., green . . . . .	. . . . .	"	0 1
6 h., buff . . . . .	. . . . .	"	0 1
10 h., rose-carmine . . . . .	. . . . .	"	0 1

BELGIUM.

1908. Type 31, but new type of Sunday Label.			
2 c., brown . . . . .	. . . . .		0 1

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

1907. Type 32. Watermark "Crosses and Circles."			
Cat. No.			
316. 2 c., black and chestnut	used		0 1

GERMAN EMPIRE.

1900. Type 14. Large stamp.			
108. 2 m., blue	used		0 2

GUATEMALA.

1902-7. Pictorial Types.			
197. 20 c., black and purple	used		0 3
212. 12½ c., black and blue	"		0 2

HAYTI.

1904. Type 16 without overprint. Horizontal pair, imperf. between.			
152. 20 c., orange			3 6

INDIA.

1902-5. Service. King. Revised price.			
568. 8 a., magenta	used		0 1

MONTENEGRO.

1907. Type 7. Portrait.			
263. 5 para, pale green	used		0 1

NATAL.

1902-3. King's Head. Wmk. Crown CC.			
140. 5s., dull blue and carmine	used		4 6
141. 10s., carmine and chocolate	"		6 0
142. 12, black and ultramarine	"		10 0

NEW ZEALAND.

190. Types 23, 43 and 39. Perf. 14 X 13½.			
½d., green			0 1
3d., brown			0 5
4d., blue and brown on bluish			0 6

PARAGUAY.

Type 39. Change of colour.			
c carmin			0 1

ST. LUCIA.

1904-5. King's Head. Multiple watermark.			
64. ½d., lilac and green	used		0 1
65. 1d., lilac and carmine	"		0 2

SALVADOR.

Various issues. Revised prices.			
79. 2 c., pale yellow-green			0 4
172. 3 c., brown			0 4
198. 30 c., orange			0 3
258. 1 c., scarlet			0 6
284. 2 c., deep yellow-green			0 6

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Philatelic Societies

British Guiana Philatelic Society

President: Hon. B. Howell Jones.

Vice-President: Rev. Canon Josa.

Council: J. A. Pope, B.A., Luke M. Hill, C.E., W. J. Abraham.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: A. D. Ferguson, Georgetown.

Hon. Assistant Secretary: A. B. Anderson.

Meetings: Christ Church Vicarage, Georgetown.

ON Monday night, 13 April, the monthly meeting of the British Guiana Philatelic Society was held at the residence of Mr. A. D. Ferguson, 93 Carmichael Street. The President, the Hon. B. Howell Jones, presided, and the others present were Mrs. Neal, Mrs. Hill, and Messrs. J. K. D. Hill, T. A. Pope, J. H. Field, A. T. Hammond, V. H. Tatum, G. T. Manly, A. D. Ferguson (Hon. Secretary), and A. B. Anderson (Asst. Hon. Secretary).

A Competitive Display

In the absence of Canon Josa, Mr. Ferguson, on his behalf, put forward a proposal to hold a reunion or competitive display in connection with the Society. The proposition, which found favour with the members generally, was, on the suggestion of the President, allowed to stand over until next meeting in order that the members might have some time for its consideration.

Mr. Hill promised to give at the next meeting, to be held at Mr. Howell Jones's residence on 22 May, some of his philatelic experiences.

Our Stamps

Mr. A. D. Ferguson, F.R.P.S.L., read his promised paper on "Descriptive Notes on the Stamps of the Colony," at the same time displaying his entire collection of British Guiana postage stamps. Nothing but praise can be said of the manner in which the stamps were displayed; they formed a unique and costly lot, and came in for much admiration. The paper was a very comprehensive one, and covered all the stages in the history of the postage stamps of this colony, describing the methods of production in chronological order, the printers, and the papers on which they were printed. He explained the system he had employed in mounting and arranging his collection, and then dealt with the provisional stamps of the colony, giving interesting information as to the methods in which the types were set and how often this was done. Mr. Ferguson also related many an interesting anecdote and reminiscence of the colony, giving a wealth of information.

At the close he was warmly thanked, on the motion of the President, seconded by Mr. Hill.

Rarities

Mr. Howell Jones exhibited a few varieties of rarities in Philately.

International Philatelic Union

Hon. President: Judge Philbrick, K.C.

Secretary: T. H. Hinton, 26 Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.

Meetings: Essex Hall, Essex Street, London, W.C.

Annual Subscription: 5s.; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.

THE annual general meeting and election of officers and committee for 1903-9 took place at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Thursday, 14 May. Present: Messrs. W. Schwarte (in the chair), J. E. Joselin, W. S. King, P. L. Pemberton, J. C. Sidebotham, I. W. Fulcher, P. P. Brown, E. W. Wetherell, A. B. Kay, F. F. Lamb, and the Hon. Secretary. The annual report and balance-sheet was read and adopted subject to audit. The reports of Dr. Marx, M.A., Hon. Exchange Superintendent, and Mr. King, Hon. Librarian, having been read and approved, the resignation of Mr. H. R. Oldfield from the office of President was received with regret, and a vote of

thanks for his services in this office during the past ten years was unanimously accorded. The following list of officers and committee were elected for the ensuing year:—Hon. President, His Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C.; Hon. Vice-Presidents, W. Dorning Beckton, H. L. Hayman, H. R. Oldfield, Vernon Roberts; President, J. C. Sidebotham; Vice-Presidents, W. Schwabacher, L. W. Fulcher, W. Schwarte; Committee, P. P. Brown, W. J. Birell, W. Hadlow, J. E. Joselin, A. B. Kay, W. S. King, Major Iaffan, R.L., F. F. Lamb, W. F. Lincoln, Dr. Marx, M.A., F. H. Oliver, P. L. Pemberton, E. W. Wetherell; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, T. H. Hinton; Hon. Exchange Superintendent, Dr. Marx, M.A. Displays of English stamps used abroad were given by Mr. J. C. Sidebotham and the Hon. Secretary, and the meeting concluded with votes of thanks to the chairman and exhibitors. Next session will commence in October with a smoking concert, followed by monthly meetings at Essex Hall from November to May. All particulars as to membership gladly sent on application to the Hon. Secretary.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.

Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 7 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.

Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.

Annual Subscription: 5s.

THERE was a good attendance at the meeting held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, 5 May, when Mr. W. K. Skipwith gave a display of the postal issues of Holland. The President (Mr. W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.) was in the chair, and in the course of a few remarks spoke of the great popularity, in a philatelic sense, Holland enjoyed at the hands of the stamp collector.

The first issue, made in January, 1852, consisted of three values only, 5 c., 10 c., and 15 c., the stamps bearing effigy of King William III, who reigned from 1849 to 1890. Engraved by L. Wiener, Brussels, and printed at Utrecht on paper watermarked with a post-horn, these stamps are very fine with their many shades, ranging in the case of the 5 c. from milky to deep blue. The next issue was made in 1864, the same three values, but a new design, with "Postzegel" at foot and value in top corners (the reverse of the first issue), was introduced. This stamp was engraved by J. W. Kaiser, Amsterdam, and the printing was done at Utrecht and Haarlem, on unwatermarked paper, perforated 12½ by 12.

In 1867-71 appeared an entirely new design, with head to left instead of to right as before, and new values added were 20, 25, and 50 cents. There were two dies for this issue, each showing marked differences; various papers and perforations were also used, and some of the varieties of these stamps are very scarce in the unused condition. A special design, with crown surmounting a shield, was issued in 1869-71 for 1, 1½, 2, and 2½ cents values, and in 1873-80 another design, with head to left, saw the light, new values being 7½ c., 12½ c., 22½ c., 1 guilder, and 2 g. 50 c. In 1891-5, with head of Queen Wilhelmina as a girl, and in 1898-1901, as a woman, new designs, values as before, were again issued, and these stamps are most artistic, the higher values being in two colours.

Mr. Skipwith's collection of all these issues, as well as of the Postage Due stamps 1870-1906, proved of high interest; the percentage of unused was also considerable. In the latter category were seen some of the rarer perforations and shades too numerous to enumerate in this article.

Mr. H. Wade showed his collection of Holland, which was much admired, as were those of Messrs. Egly and Duffield.

Novelties shown included Roumania 1908, 25 bani, blue; Italy 1908, 40 centesimi, brown; Turkey 1908, 10 para, green, 20 p., rose, 2 piastres, grey back with red surcharge, on 10 para; and 2 piastre stamp, with blue surcharge, on 20 para stamp.

The Sectional Imperial Album

A full description of this Album will be sent post-free on application.

NOW READY.

SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN

(86 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it, but the section is only sold as a whole at above price.

Section		s.	d.		s.	d.
2. ANTIGUA	4 pages, price	0	3	post-free	0	5
3. BAHAMAS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
4. BARBADOS	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
5. BERMUDA	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
7. DOMINICA	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
8. GRENADA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
9. JAMAICA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
10. LEEWARD ISLANDS	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
11. MONTSERRAT	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
12. NEVIS	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8
14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
15. ST. LUCIA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8
16. ST. VINCENT	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
17. TOBAGO	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6
18. TRINIDAD	22 " "	1	0	"	1	2
19. TURKS ISLANDS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6
20. TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5
21. VIRGIN ISLANDS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6

The above rates of postage are for single sections, per book post; if three or more sections are ordered at one time, they can be sent per parcel post in the U.K., and postage should be remitted at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per section, with a minimum of 4d.

In Preparation, ready end June.

NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.

N.B.—Each page measures 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ × 8 in. clear of binding.

BLANK PAGES can be supplied to match the printed pages, and will be found of use for those who want to include pairs, blocks, or stamps on covers.

Price 9d. per doz.; post-free, 11d. per doz.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED,

391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

TWO MAGNIFICENT WORKS

No Philatelic Library complete without these up-to-date handbooks. Invaluable to Collectors of the Countries named.

AFRICA—Part III

THIRTY FULL-PAGE PLATES OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

Over 450 Large Pages of Reading Matter.

WE have much pleasure in announcing that the Philatelic Society, London, has entered into an arrangement with our firm by which we agree to publish for the Society a certain number of Handbooks that have been in preparation for a considerable time.

The books will be issued as nearly as possible to match in size and appearance the other publications of the Society.

The first book that we have published under this arrangement is the long-expected volume entitled—

“AFRICA—Part III.”

The Colonies and Protectorates included in this book are—

**OIL RIVERS AND NIGER
COAST PROTECTORATE.
NEW REPUBLIC.
NORTHERN NIGERIA.
ORANGE FREE STATE.
ORANGE RIVER COLONY.**

**ST. HELENA.
SEYCHELLES.
SIERRA LEONE.
SOUTHERN NIGERIA.
STELLALAND.
SWAZIELAND.**

**SOUTH AFRICAN
REPUBLIC.
TRANSVAAL.
UGANDA PROTECTORATE.
ZANZIBAR.
ZULULAND.**

As may be seen from this list, the work is one of the most important that the Society has issued.

The work is edited by **Mr. E. D. Bacon**, and his collaborators were **Messrs. W. D. Beckton, C. J. Daun, T. W. Hall, A. de Reuterskiöld, and R. B. Yardley**.

The full-sized plates are thirty in number, and some hundreds of illustrations are dispersed throughout the text.

The entire edition of the work consists of 750 copies: of these about 300 will be wanted for members of the Society and for other purposes, so that only about 450 will remain for sale.

PRICE 40/- Post-free in Great Britain, 40/6.

THE POSTAGE AND TELEGRAPH STAMPS OF BRITISH INDIA

With 23 full-size Plates and numerous other Illustrations.

Part I. POSTAGE STAMPS.

By L. L. R. HAUSBURG.

Part II. TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

By C. STEWART-WILSON & C. S. F. CROFTON.

THIS is the first handbook that we have produced for the Philatelic Society of India, and we trust that it will be considered a credit both to the Society and to our own firm.

The volume contains 215 pages, similar in size and get-up to the publications of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

The important plates have been produced by the **photogravure** process; this is very costly, but gives the most magnificent results. The cost of the plates and other illustrations has exceeded £400.

There is an immense amount of new information in this volume, and especially important are the numerous **retouches** discovered by Mr. Hausburg in the stamps of the first issue.

Important chapters are those dealing with the Essays, Reprints, and Forgeries.

PRICE 40/- Post-free in Great Britain, 40/6; abroad, 41/6.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 Strand, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 36.

A SPECIALIZED COLLECTION

OF THE

POSTAGE & OFFICIAL STAMPS

OF GREAT BRITAIN

IN CHOICE SELECTED COPIES.

The Collection contains 1572 Stamps, of which 660 are unused.

The shades have been carefully selected, and considerable attention has been paid to Postmarks. There are many pairs and blocks, and the used Stamps are in exceptionally fine condition and lightly postmarked. The high value Stamps are well represented, and include the 10/- and £1 Cross, £1 and £5 Anchor on blue, 10/- and £1 and £5 Anchor on white. There is also a fine lot of Official Stamps, many unused, and many blocks and pairs.

The owner states that the Catalogue value of the Collection is upwards of £290, and, considering the especially fine condition of the Stamps, we can well recommend the Collection at the owner's price of

£150.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSLY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 25, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 181).

20 JUNE, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD:	PAGE
French Guiana. <i>By W. Percy Barnsdall</i> . . .	385
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i> . . .	387
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS:	
A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i> . . .	388
4. THE STAMPS OF TUSCANY. <i>By D. C. Gray</i> . . .	390
5. THE POSTAL SYSTEM AND STAMPS OF MOROCCO. <i>By Otto Rommel</i> . . .	393
6. THE GENUS HOMO IN PHILATELY. <i>By Bertram W. H. Poole</i> . . .	394
7. A PLEA FOR A BLANK ALBUM. <i>By M. B. Howard</i> . . .	396
8. POINTS FOR BEGINNERS. <i>By B. W. W.</i> . . .	398
9. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Bernstein and Charles Nissen</i> . . .	399
10. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i> . . .	399
11. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i> . . .	400
12. PHILATELIC SOCIETIES . . .	Page 5 of Cover

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.		Post-free.
		s. d.
7.	100, all different . . .	2 1
8.	100 " rarer . . .	5 1
9.	200 " rare . . .	5 1
66.	500 " . . .	4 1
67.	1000 " . . .	15 0
68.	1500 " . . .	35 0
69.	2000 " . . .	60 0
69A.	3000 " . . .	170 0
69B.	4000 " . . .	280 0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargains

For U.S.W. Readers.

PERSIA

1908.

Type 37 for the low values, and new larger type with Head of Shah for the 13 ch. and higher values.

1 ch.,	violet on blue.
2 "	bluish grey on blue.
3 "	deep green "
6 "	crimson "
9 "	ochre "
10 "	sepia "
13 "	indigo-blue.
1 kran,	vermillion.
26 chahis,	orange-brown.
2 kran,	deep grey-green.
3 "	light blue.
4 "	yellow.
5 "	brown.
10 "	rose.
20 "	black.
30 "	purple.

Full Set of Sixteen Fine Stamps, all used.

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

12s. 6d., post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
39, Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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.* Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; *R.* Reprint; *W.* Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omaium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gt. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	4s. c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	8s. c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL.

BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

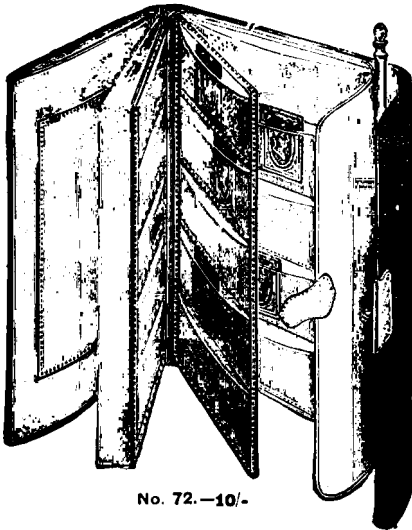
Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a **SPECIAL BARGAIN** for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Accessories for Stamp Collectors.

**SPECIAL POCKET BOOKS,
PURSES & CARD CASES.**



No. 72.-10/-

Each of the following New and Useful Specialities has separate compartments provided for Postage Stamps, consisting of strips of thin celluloid protecting the stamps, and enabling them to be seen at once, and arranged so that the stamps can be put in or withdrawn in an instant without damage:—

- 70.—**TUCK CASE FOR THE WAISTCOAT.** Pocket size. $3\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$. Very thin, made in morocco leather, lined leather of a neutral colour, with transparent pockets through which stamps can be seen. Price 2/6; post-free, 2/7.
- 71.—**Best Morocco GENTLEMAN'S CARD CASE,** with usual pockets for visiting cards, and special compartments for stamps secured by a tuck flap fastening. (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.) Price 4/6; post-free, 4/7.
- 72.—**Best Morocco WALLET.** $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Lined leather throughout, flap and nickel lock fastening, gusset and tight pockets for letters; special provision for stamps under transparent pockets secured by an inner flap, and tuck fastening; leather covered note-book. (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.) Price 10/6; post-free, 10/2.
- 73.—**Limp Morocco LETTER CASE.** Size, $6\frac{1}{2} \times 4$ inches. With gusset pocket for private letters, tight pocket for foreign postcards, and an array of transparent pockets for stamps. Price 3/6; post-free, 3/7.
- 74.—**Ditto, ditto,** with a gilt-edged ruled book under an elastic. Price 4/6; post-free, 4/1.
- 75.—**BEST MOROCCO LETTER CASE,** lined leather throughout, with gusset pocket for private letters, and special pocket containing an ingenious receptacle to hold a large assortment of stamps. Being detachable, it can be used either with or without the outer case. Price 5/6; post-free, 5/8.
- 76.—**BEST MOROCCO PURSE.** $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Flap and nickel lock fastening, stitched expanding pockets. The front to open out, displaying transparent pocket for stamps, with separate flap to fasten. The purse can be used independently of the stamp compartment. Price 6/6; post-free, 6/7.

**Recent Issues and
Revised Quotations.**

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

	1908. <i>New Portrait Type.</i>	s. d.
2 c., chocolate	.	0 1
5 c., dull carmine	.	0 1

BARBADOS.

Cat. No.	1892-9. <i>Type 6. Revised price.</i>	
107a.	2d., blue-black and orange	used 0 6

BERMUDA.

	1884-93. <i>Type 1. Watermark Crown C.A.</i>	
28.	1d., dull rose	used 0 6

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

	<i>Various issues. Revised prices.</i>	
16.	1s., green (large)	used 1 0
36.	4d., brown and green	0 8
70.	2d., green and red (Protectorate)	0 4
72.	4d., brown and green (")	0 6
76.	1d., scarlet (King)	0 2

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

	<i>Various issues. Revised prices.</i>	
4.	1s., brown	used 2 6
19.	2d., green and vermilion	0 6
21.	4d., chestnut and black	0 6
34.	1s., green and blue	0 9
68.	4d., olive	0 5
64.	6d., violet	0 5

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

	1894-1902. <i>Types 4 and 15. Wmk. Crown C.A.</i>	
70.	1s., blue-green	used 1 0
89.	3d., magenta	0 3

GOLD COAST.

	1884-1900. <i>Various types. Revised prices.</i>	
15.	4d., mauve	used 0 9
30.	6d., lilac and mauve	0 6

JOHOR.

	1896. <i>Type 1. Overprinted KEMAHKOTAAN.</i>	
38.	5 c., purple and green	used 0 6

MAURITIUS.

	1902. <i>Type 25. Overprinted POSTAGE & REVENUE.</i>	
147.	50 c., green	used 1 0

NEWFOUNDLAND.

	1887. <i>Type 16. Revised price.</i>	
51.	2 c., orange-vermilion (fish)	used 0 4

PAPUA.

	1907. <i>Type 1 of Br. New Guinea overprinted PAPUA, small surcharge.</i>	
18.	1d., black and lake	0 3
22.	(d. " myrtle-green	0 2
	1908. <i>As Type 1 of Br. New Guinea, but inscribed PAPUA.</i>	
	$\frac{1}{2}$ d., black and green (perf. 11)	0 1
	4d. " sepia (" 12 $\frac{1}{2}$)	0 8

TRANSVAAL.

	1900. <i>Type 33. Overprinted V.R.I.</i>	
504.	$\frac{1}{2}$ d., blue and green	used 0 6
505.	3d., purple	0 9

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Unpaid Letters in Chili

IT would appear that the Unpaid Letter stamp illustrated here is no longer used, as a correspondent in Concepcion tells the *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal* that he has two 2 centavos stamps on a letter, both overprinted MULTADA, in black.



Our contemporary states that the stamps mentioned are probably correctly used as Unpaid Letter stamps, especially in view of the label accompanying them on the letter:—

Esta pieza ne debe ser entregada al destinatario, si no lleva adheridas e inutilizadas con la palabra „multada“, estampillas por valor de

This label is printed in red ink, the gist of it being that the letter on which it is stuck is not to be delivered to the addressee unless the excess postage payable is not denoted

by postage stamps stuck on the label, which stamps must have the word MULTADA printed on them; the amount is also to be written in the space provided on the label.

I should be much obliged if any reader could give me any further information as to the status of current postage stamps of Chili overprinted MULTADA in an oval frame.

Forgeries of Russian Stamps

FOR a considerable time the police of St. Petersburg have been trying to discover how a large quantity of Russian high-value stamps had got into circulation. The result of their investigations is that it has been proved beyond doubt that the forgeries all emanate from the General Post Office of St. Petersburg!

Two of the officials have been apprehended and charged with complicity in the matter, but it has not yet been determined whether they made the stamps themselves, or whether they merely acted as agents to place them on sale. The forgeries are said to be exceedingly good imitations of the real stamps, even the paper and watermark being accurately copied: the easiest way of detecting them lies in the gum, which is not much like that of the originals.

Philatelic Societies

Herts Philatelic Society

President: Franz Reichenheim, Esq.
Hon. Secretary: H. A. Slade, Esq., Ninefields, St. Albans.
Meetings: 4 Southampton Row, W.C., Third Tuesdays.
Annual Subscription, 5s.

The annual meeting for the session 1907-8 was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, 19 May, 1908.

Present: Messrs. W. G. Cool, T. H. Harvey, L. E. Bradbury, J. C. Sidebotham, R. Frenzel, W. T. Standen, J. A. Leon, A. H. L. Giles, C. Nissen, H. J. Biggould, E. Bounds, J. W. Jones, A. G. Wane, C. R. Sutherland, M. Simons, S. Chapman, P. Ashley, F. Read, W. H. Eastwood, W. A. Boyes, H. L. Hayman, and H. A. Slade.

Mr. Hayman took the chair at 6 p.m. The minutes of the annual meeting held on 14 May, 1907, were read and signed as correct.

A telegram from Mr. Reichenheim from Homburg regretting his enforced absence was read, and the meeting instructed the Hon. Secretary to express their hope for his speedy recovery and their regret at his inability to be among them.

Mr. Willy Ebrmann was duly elected an ordinary member of the Society.

Donations of entires were received from Mr. Watson, of adhesives from Mr. Watson and Mr. Hayman, and of forgeries from Mr. Frenzel. Votes of thanks were passed for all these donations to the Society's collections.

Reports were received from the Hon. Secretary, the Hon. Treasurer, the Hon. Librarian, and the Hon. Curators of the Society's collections. Thanks were passed for these reports, which will be published in full in the October number of the *Monthly Report*.

No alterations were made in the rules. The election of officers resulted as follows:—
President, Franz Reichenheim; Vice-President, H. L. Hayman; Hon. Vice-Presidents, Sir William Avery, Bart., M. P. Castle, J.P., and Herbert R. Oldfield; Committee, L. E. Bradbury, W. A. Boyes, W. G. Cool, R. Frenzel, A. H. L. Giles, T. H. Harvey, C. R. Sutherland, and W. T. Standen; Hon. Librarian, J. C. Sidebotham; Hon. Lecturers, Percy Ashley, M.A.; Hon. Auditors, F. Read and A. G. Wane; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, H. A. Slade.

It was resolved that the headquarters of the Society remain unchanged.

It was proposed and carried "That Mr. Reichenheim receive the heartiest thanks of the Society for the very able manner in which he has carried out the laborious and responsible duties of editor of the *Monthly Report*. That the members are of opinion that the paper should on no account be abandoned. That the meeting has heard read the statement of accounts for the past season, and agree to contribute from the funds of the Society a sum not exceeding £25 for the session 1908-9 towards the expenses of the publication of the *Monthly Report*, with a proviso that the reports of the proceedings of the Society be inserted *in extenso*, and be not curtailed in any way."

A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close at 7.30 p.m.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.
Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 1 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.
Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.
Annual Subscription: 5s.

THE annual meeting was held in the Leeds Institute on 19 May, the President, Mr. W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L., being in the chair. The reports of the Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, and Exchange Manager were found satisfactory and adopted. The Society has had another successful year, and although the expenditure, owing chiefly to additions to the library, caused a decrease in the balance carried forward, there was a net increase of five in the membership. After the election of office bearers for next session, which concluded the business, the last display of this session was given by Mr. T. S. Fraser "The Stamps of the Leeward Islands Group" was Mr. Fraser's subject, and he gave some exhaustive and extremely interesting notes on the postal issues of the group, the stamps shown embracing those of the Leeward Islands, Antigua, Cayman Islands, Grenada, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Christopher, Virgin Islands, etc., in addition to a large number of view post cards of these islands, artistically mounted on sheets, which in themselves were an attraction.

Amongst the rarities was a complete mint set of the Jubilee issue of the Leeward Islands, commemorative of Queen Victoria's sixty years' reign; stamps with various surcharges, including those of the Cayman Islands on King's Head stamps, the Virgin Islands errors, etc.

Stamp collectors desiring to join the Society for next session, which begins in October, should send in their names to the Hon. Secretary, c/o the Leeds Institute.

The Sectional Imperial Album

A full description of this Album will be sent post-free on application.

NOW READY.

SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN

(86 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it, but the section is only sold as a whole at above price.

		WEST INDIES.		s.	d.			s.	d.
Section									
2.	ANTIGUA	4	pages, price	0	3	post-free	0	5	
3.	BAHAMAS	8	" "	0	4	"	0	6	
4.	BARBADOS	12	" "	0	6	"	0	8	
5.	BERMUDA	6	" "	0	4	"	0	6	
6.	CAYMAN ISLANDS	4	" "	0	3	"	0	5	
7.	DOMINICA	10	" "	0	6	"	0	8	
8.	GRENADA	12	" "	0	6	"	0	8	
9.	JAMAICA	12	" "	0	6	"	0	8	
10.	LEEWARD ISLANDS	6	" "	0	4	"	0	6	
11.	MONTserrat	4	" "	0	3	"	0	5	
12.	NEVIS	10	" "	0	6	"	0	8	
13.	ST. CHRISTOPHER	10	" "	0	6	"	0	8	
14.	ST. KITTS-NEVIS	4	" "	0	3	"	0	5	
15.	ST. LUCIA	12	" "	0	6	"	0	8	
16.	ST. VINCENT	8	" "	0	4	"	0	6	
17.	TOBAGO	6	" "	0	4	"	0	6	
18.	TRINIDAD	22	" "	1	0	"	1	3	
19.	TURKS ISLANDS	8	" "	0	4	"	0	6	
20.	TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS	4	" "	0	3	"	0	5	
21.	VIRGIN ISLANDS	8	" "	0	4	"	0	6	
		NORTH AMERICAN.							
22.	BRITISH COLUMBIA	4	" "	0	3	"	0	5	
23.	CANADA	22	" "	1	0	"	1	3	
24.	NEW BRUNSWICK	4	" "	0	3	"	0	5	
25.	NEWFOUNDLAND	12	" "	0	6	"	0	8	
26.	NOVA SCOTIA	4	" "	0	3	"	0	5	
27.	PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	4	" "	0	3	"	0	5	

The above rates of postage are for single sections, per book post; if three or more sections are ordered at one time, they can be sent per parcel post in the U.K., and postage should be remitted at the rate of ¼d. per section, with a minimum of 4d.

N.B.—Each page measures 11½ × 8 in. clear of binding.

BLANK PAGES can be supplied to match the printed pages, and will be found of use for those who want to include pairs, blocks, or stamps on covers.

Price 9d. per doz.; post-free, 11d. per doz.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NOW READY.

The following Popular Packets of

NOW READY.

FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS.

All the Stamps contained in the following Packets are warranted absolutely genuine, free from reprints. They are also in good condition and perfect.

These Packets cannot be by book post to Postal Union Countries. The cost by letter rate is 2½d. for every 100 Stamps. The amount required for postage can therefore be reckoned, and should be added when remitting.

NEW AND IMPROVED PACKETS OF USED AND UNUSED STAMPS.

No. 1.—The Sixpenny Packet of Mixed Continental Stamps contains 100, including many obsolete and rare. (This packet contains duplicates.) Post-free, 7d.

No. 2.—The Sixpenny Packet of Used Foreign Stamps contains 50 varieties, all different, including Egypt, Spain, Chili, New South Wales, Transvaal, Roumania, Porto Rico, Argentine, Sweden, Brazil, Turkey, Hoi-hao, French Congo, etc. Post-free, 7d.

No. 3.—The Sixpenny Packet of Used Colonial Stamps contains 12 varieties, including Natal, Ceylon, India H.M.S., Cape of Good Hope, British Guiana, Mauritius, Tasmania, New South Wales Service, Victoria, Jamaica, South Australia, New Zealand, etc. All different. Post-free, 7d.

No. 4.—The Shilling Packet of Used and Unused Foreign Stamps contains 50 varieties, including French Soudan, Spain, Bulgaria, Portugal, Southern Nigeria, Italy, Turkey, Finland, Brazil, Roumania, Portugal, Argentine Republic, Ecuador, Salvador, Greece, Mexico, Shanghai, Philippine Isles, Japan, and others rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 5.—The Shilling Packet of Colonial Stamps contains 25 varieties, including Cyprus, Natal, Jamaica, India, Victoria ½d. rose, surcharged Ceylon, Straits Settlements, India Service, Queensland, Hong Kong, Barbados, Western Australia, South Australia, Centennial New South Wales, Mauritius, Malta, and others rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 1/1.

No. 6.—The Eighteenpenny Packet of Used Foreign Stamps contains 100 varieties, including Mauritius, Hong Kong, Finland, Japan 15 and 25 sen, Barbados, Chili, Brazil, Greece, Russia, Turkey, New Zealand, Jamaica, Belgium, Spain, Canada, etc. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 1/7.

No. 7.—The Two Shilling Packet of Rare Used and Unused Foreign Stamps contains 100 varieties, including Porto Rico, Colombia, New Zealand, Canada, rare Turkish, Dutch Indies, Ceylon, Mozambique, Mauritius, Portugal, French Colonies, Orange River Colony, Cyprus, Norway, Costa Rica, Belgium, West Australia, Chili, Egypt, Bavaria, and others rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 2/1.

No. 8.—The Five Shilling Packet of Obsolete Stamps contains 100 varieties, including, amongst others, Liberia O.S., Western Australian provisional, India H.M.S., British Guiana, Cyprus 2½d., Argentine, Greece, Liberia, Guatemala, Mauritius, provisional Cuba, Hungary 25 kr., Mexico, Bolivia, Uruguay, Transvaal, old Egyptian, old Swiss, Turkey, Peru, Barbados, Spain, Porto Rico, Canada, Chili, old Tasmania, old Japan 15 and 25 sen, Siam, Brazil, Victoria, and others rare. This packet contains no stamps of the present issue, and is well worth 10/- . Post-free, 5/1.

No. 9.—The Five Shilling Packet of Foreign Stamps contains 200 varieties (used and unused), including Cape of Good Hope, Turkey, Bermuda, Belgium, India Service, Brazil, Japan, Portugal, Spain, U.S. Post Office, Russia, Swiss, British Guiana, New Zealand, Bulgaria, Denmark, South Australia, Mexico, Malta, U.S., Holland, Italy, Victoria, Chili, Queensland, Gibraltar, Porto Rico. Greece 1 l., Orange River Colony, Nicaragua, British Honduras, Bolivia, Hungary, Hayti, Straits Settlements, Natal, etc. All different. Post-free, 5/1.

No. 10.—The Ten Shilling Packet of Used and Unused Stamps contains 100 varieties, all rare and different, including Chin-kiang, obsolete Cyprus, Salvador, Ecuador, Philippine I-lands, Hayti, Tolima 5 c., St. Kitts, Uruguay, Montserrat, Finland, surcharged British Honduras, old Victoria, Newfoundland, Mexico, British Bechuanaland, British Guiana, unpaid Greece, Hyderabad, Borneo, Nicaragua, Zululand, set of 6 Egypt, New South Wales O.S., 4 scarce Spanish, Serbia, Turkey, St. Vincent, Porto Rico, Bermuda, United States of America, Peru, Dutch Indies, Republic of Colombia, and others scarce. This packet is highly recommended as being well worth 20/-; and if the stamps were bought separately it would come to over that amount. Post-free, 10/2.

No. 11.—The Guinea Packet of Rare Used and Unused Stamps contains 200 varieties, including provisional Trinidad, Persia, obsolete Japan, official Mexico, Porto Rico, Antioquia, Ecuador, provisional Ceylon, South African Republic, Dutch Indies, provisional 1881 British Guiana, Ivory Coast, Macao, Leeward Islands, surcharged Peru, Spanish, Austrian, Levant, Gibraltar, Cuba, Argentine Republic, Egypt, Dhar, Serbia, Greece unpaid, Guatemala, Nabha, set of 3 Chili, Surinam, Hawaii, Brazil unpaid, and other obsolete issues, Bulgaria, St. Thomas and Principe, Fiji Isles, Malta, obsolete New South Wales, Honduras, British East Africa, British Honduras, set of 4 Nicaragua, set of 3 Philippine (Infant King), Argentine, Tasmania, Roumania, Guatemala, and others equally rare. Some of the stamps in this packet are worth from 1/6 to 2/6 each. Post-free, 21/-.

New Packets of Unused Stamps, GREATLY IMPROVED, AND ALL WARRANTED GENUINE.

No. 12.—The Sixpenny Packet of Unused Stamps contains 12 varieties, including Indo-China, Greece (1 lepton), Tunis, Monaco, Porto Rico, obsolete 2½d. Cyprus, North Borneo, Roumania, Paraguay, Jamaica, Johore, and Mauritius. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free 7d.

No. 14.—The Two Shilling Packet of French Colonial Stamps contains 25 varieties used and unused, including Obock, Reunion, French Congo, St. Marie, Martinique, Guadeloupe, and others rare. Post-free, 2/1.

No. 15.—The Shilling Packet of Unused Stamps contains 20 varieties, including obsolete 1d. Cyprus, Liberia, Barbados, Newfoundland, Nyassa, Bhopal, Siam, Angra, Bundi, Jamaica, Barbados, provisional Italy, Mexico, Holland, Shanghai, and others rare. All different, and warranted genuine. Post-free, 1/1.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 37.

A VERY FINE SPECIALIZED COLLECTION OF

GIBRALTAR

AND

MOROCCO AGENCIES

In GIBRALTAR there are blocks of four and rows of shades of most values, also pairs and singles showing the plate numbers. In the 1889 issue there are panes showing the arrangement of the types and carefully drawn diagrams showing the number of each type on each different setting.

There is a mint specimen of the very rare carmine stamp *without value* and a grand lot of blocks in the later issues; used stamps are also included and finally a superb and probably unique set of twenty-one proofs of King's Heads stamps.

In the MOROCCO AGENCIES there are a number of full panes. In many cases these show the rare errors, such for instance as the right hand pane of the 1st setting (1898) of the 10 c. carmine, including the inverted A used for A, a pane that is possibly unique.

Most stamps are in mint blocks of four and rows of singles for shades; the sets of the errors are almost complete, many of them in pairs and in singles.

The collection is carefully written up and the details are very complete.

The RETAIL PRICES AMOUNT TO ABOUT £250, and the owner offers the lot for

£155,

At which price we can strongly recommend it as a good bargain.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

For all Classes of Postage Stamp Collectors.

(PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.)

No. 26, Vol. VII.
(Whole No. 182).

27 JUNE, 1908.

ONE PENNY.

Contents.

	PAGE
1. COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD: French Somali Coast (including Obock). <i>By W. Percy Barnadall</i>	401
2. TOPICAL NOTES. <i>By Charles J. Phillips</i>	403
3. TWENTIETH CENTURY COLONIALS: A Guide to the Postal Adhesives of the British Empire Issued during the first Six Years of the Twentieth Century (January, 1901—June, 1907). <i>By D. B. Armstrong</i>	405
4. ACROSTIC COMPETITION	407
5. THE POSTAL SYSTEM AND STAMPS OF MOROCCO. <i>By Otto Rommel</i>	408
6. THE GENUS HOMO IN PHILATELY. <i>By Bertram W. H. Poole</i>	409
7. INTERNATIONAL TRANSHIPMENT OF MAILS	410
8. BRITISH STAMPS USED ABROAD. <i>By I. J. Barnstein and Charles Nissen</i>	411
9. PORTRAITS ON STAMPS. <i>By Boswell Junior</i>	412
10. SOME NOTES ON THE FRENCH PROVINCIAL POST OFFICE. <i>By H. G. Jobson</i>	414
11. NEW ISSUES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	414
12. FOREIGN NOTES. <i>By Frank Phillips</i>	415

BARGAINS IN PACKETS OF STAMPS

No.			Post-free.	
			s.	d.
7.	100, all different	.	2	1
8.	100	rarer	5	1
9.	200	rare	5	1
66.	500	"	4	1
67.	1000	"	15	0
68.	1500	"	35	0
69.	2000	"	60	0
69A.	3000	"	170	0
69B.	4000	"	280	0

These PACKETS contain stamps in FINE
CONDITION, and are undoubtedly the best value
offered by any stamp dealer.

Special Bargains

For U.S.W. Readers.

Cayman Islands

1905-6.

KING'S HEADS.

Wmk. Multiple Crown CA.

Perf. 14.

	s.	d.
½d., green	0	2
1d., carmine	0	9
2½d., ultramarine	0	9
6d., brown	3	0
1s., orange	6	0

The Set of Five Stamps, mint,

SPECIAL BARGAIN PRICE

9s. 6d., post-free.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 198 BROADWAY.

Editorial Notes

Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to
The Editor, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

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.—Owing to the great number of forgeries being offered for sale by unscrupulous persons, a great portion of our time is taken up with the expert examination of surcharges, cancellations, perforations, added margins and corners, and the scores of other tricks that are resorted to by the faking fraternity.

As this examination can be done only by experts, whose time is valuable, we have found it necessary to increase our charges, which in future will be as follows: 1s. per stamp, postage and registration extra.

In exceptional cases where special knowledge is necessary, e.g. examination of U.S. grilles or Italian postmarks, additional time will be required

to allow of such stamps being sent to the recognized experts abroad.

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.* Stamp genuine, surcharge forged; *R.* Reprint; *W.* Watermark.

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 Volumes.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VI of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

Bound Volumes.—Vol. IV. June to December, 1906. 414 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. V. January to June, 1907. 428 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free. Vol. VI. June to December, 1907. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A popular Weekly Stamp Journal for the general collector, and more especially for beginners and young collectors.

WEEKLY CONTENTS.

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.
Portraits on Stamps. By Boswell Junior.
New Issues. Written up to date and fully illustrated. By Frank Phillips.
Miscellaneous Items of News and Facts.
Topical Notes. By Charles J. Phillips.
"Omnium Gatherum." By Philologos.
Philatelic Societies' Reports.
The Stamp Market. A chat on Prices.
Special Foreign and Colonial Correspondence.
Answers to Correspondents.

PREPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS must commence with the current number, and can be for 3, 6, or 12 months at the following rates, post-free:—

	Gr. Britain and Colonies.	U.S.A. and Canada.	France, Italy, or Spain.	Germany.
3 months	1s. 8d.	40 c.	fc. 2.00	m. 1.70
6 "	3s. 3d.	80 c.	fc. 4.00	m. 3.25
12 "	6s. 6d.	\$1.60	fc. 8.00	m. 6.50

In Great Britain it will be cheaper for our readers to order *G. S. W.* from their nearest Newsagent or Stationer, or from the Railway Bookstall. This will save postage, and the paper will be delivered flat, instead of folded as it would be if posted.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL. BOUND YEARLY VOLUMES.

THESE are replete with interesting articles by the best writers of the past eighteen years, and a set should be in the library of every stamp collector; their cost will be returned tenfold by the useful information you will find contained in them.

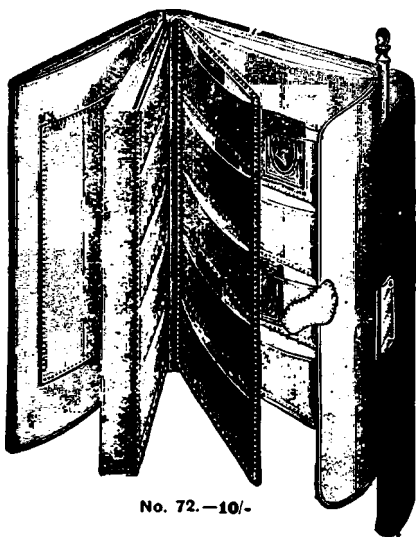
Vols. 1 and 2.	Out of print	s. d.	Vol. 10	post-free	s. d.
Vol. 3	post-free	7 6	" 11	"	5 0
" 4	"	5 6	" 12	"	4 0
" 5	"	5 0	" 13	"	4 0
" 6	"	6 6	" 14	"	4 0
" 7	"	6 0	" 15	"	4 0
" 8	"	6 0	" 16	"	4 0
" 9	"	5 0	" 17	"	4 0

The set of Fifteen Volumes (forming a magnificent library in itself), well bound in cloth, is offered as a SPECIAL BARGAIN for £3 post-free in Great Britain, carriage forward abroad.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Accessories for Stamp Collectors.

**SPECIAL POCKET BOOKS,
PURSES & CARD CASES.**



No. 72.—10/-

Each of the following New and Useful Specialities has separate compartments provided for Postage Stamps, consisting of strips of thin celluloid protecting the stamps, and enabling them to be seen at once, and arranged so that the stamps can be put in or withdrawn in an instant without damage:—

- 70.—**TUCK CASE FOR THE WAISTCOAT.** Pocket size. $3\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$. Very thin, made in Morocco leather, lined leather of a neutral colour, with transparent pockets through which stamps can be seen. Price 2/6; post-free, 2/7.
- 71.—**Best Morocco GENTLEMAN'S CARD CASE,** with usual pockets for visiting cards, and special compartments for stamps secured by a tuck flap fastening. (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.) Price 4/6; post-free, 4/7.
- 72.—**Best Morocco WALLET.** $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Lined leather throughout, flap and nickel lock fastening, gusset and tight pockets for letters; special provision for stamps under transparent pockets secured by an inner flap, and tuck fastening; leather covered note-book. (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.) Price 10/-; post-free, 10/2.
- 73.—**Limp Morocco LETTER CASE.** Size, $6\frac{1}{2} \times 4$ inches. With gusset pocket for private letters, tight pocket for foreign postcards, and an array of transparent pockets for stamps. Price 3/6; post-free, 3/7.
- 74.—**Ditto, ditto,** with a gilt-edged ruled book under an elastic. Price 4/-; post-free, 4/1.
- 75.—**BEST MOROCCO LETTER CASE,** lined leather throughout, with gusset pocket for private letters, and special pocket containing an ingenious receptacle to hold a large assortment of stamps. Being detachable, it can be used either with or without the outer case. Price 5/6; post-free, 5/8.
- 76.—**BEST MOROCCO PURSE.** $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Flap and nickel lock fastening, stitched expanding pockets. The front to open out, displaying transparent pocket for stamps, with separate flap to fasten. The purse can be used independently of the stamp compartment. Price 6/6; post-free, 6/7.

**Recent Issues and
Revised Quotations.**

ALL UNUBED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

BAVARIA.

- 1908. *Railway Official's Stamp.*
Type 8, overprinted E in green. s. d.
- 10 pf., carmine used 0 1

CHINA.

- Cat. No. 1907. *Type 30. New value.*
- 144a. 16 c., olive-green used 0 6

CUBA (U.S.A.).

- 1899. *Various types. Reduced prices.*
- 107. 5 c. on 5 c., blue used 0 2
- 111. 3 c., purple ,, 0 2

EGYPT.

- 1902-6. *Type 27. Pyramids.*
- 78a. 4 m., vermilion used 0 1

GOLD COAST.

- 1902. *King's Head. Single watermark.*
- 43. 6d., lilac and mauve used 0 6

HOLKAR.

- 1905. *Type 3, overprinted with native characters.*
- 14. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. on $\frac{1}{2}$ a., purple 5 0

HONG KONG.

- 1903. *King's Head. Single watermark.*
- 107. 30 c., grey-green and black used 0 6

MONTENEGRO.

- 1902. *Type 4. Perf. 13.*
- 159. 10 h., rosine used 0 1

PATIALA.

- 1902. *Queen's Head. Revised price.*
- 58. 1 a., carmine used 0 2

PERU.

- 1901. *Commemorative Issue.*
Portrait of Bolognesi.
- 176. 2 c., black and red used 0 1

TURKEY.

- 1905. *Type 23. Perf. 12.*
- 175. 2 pi., slate used 0 1

UNITED STATES.

- 1893. *Columbian Series. Revised price.*
- 272. 3 c., green used 0 3

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Booklets of Austrian Stamps, etc.

ACCORDING to *Der Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* the Austrian authorities are soon going to issue postage stamps for sale in booklets, as is already done in England and in many other countries. The following is a translation of the official decree authorizing the issue:—

8 May, 1908.

In order to meet the convenience of the public, and of travellers in particular, booklets in stiff paper covers will shortly be issued, containing three blocks of 5 heller postage stamps, and one block of 10 heller stamps. Each block will consist of six stamps.

The selling price of such booklets of stamps has been fixed at Kr. 1.52, of which Kr. 1.50 represents the face value of the stamps, and 2 heller the cost of the booklet.

The Austrian authorities have certainly not followed the lead of Natal in making the total cost of the booklet come out to a round figure, but then much of the Austrian stamped stationery, etc., is sold at 1 heller above the face value of the impressed stamp.

The Archduchess Elizabeth of Austria has again used her influence to have a set of charity stamps issued, the proceeds of which will go to the National Society for the care of Consumptives. These stamps are naturally of little interest to philatelists, as they have no franking power whatever.

Siamese Commemorative Issue

SIAM has hitherto been philatelically clean as regards speculative issues; at least, I believe that it is a fact that the vast number of surcharges are all the outcome of mismanagement in the post office or treasury, and that none of them were ever issued as a speculation. The *Journal des*



Philatélistes now states

that an issue is to be expected shortly, commemorative of the fortieth year of the present King. Our contemporary is wrong as to the date of his accession to the throne, which took place on 1 October, 1868 (not 1848): his full name is a regular mouthful, and is given as King Somdetch Phra Paramind Maha Chulalong-Korn.

By the way, this country did go in for one unnecessary issue in 1906.

I wonder if the Paris commemorative fiends have got influence to work? At any rate the 1906 issue was printed in Paris, whereas all previous issues had been printed in England.



New Swiss Stamps

ALTOGETHER during the year 1907 no less than 349,200,000 postage stamps of the new

and old designs together were issued in Switzerland. This is a slight decrease as compared with the quantity issued in 1906, which was 350,800,000.



The following are the total numbers printed up to the end of 1907 of the new designs illustrated here; all these stamps are printed in the Mint at Berne, by the way:—

2 centimes	.	.	.	30,000,000
3 "	.	.	.	2,000,000
5 "	.	.	.	94,000,000
10 "	.	.	.	39,400,000
12 "	.	.	.	4,000,000
15 "	.	.	.	8,000,000

Der Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung.

Official Stamps of Wurtemberg

HITHERTO the stamps for municipal service and general official use have not been sold



publicly by the postal authorities, but now, according to *Der Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung*, a decree authorizing their sale to the public has been published in the official journal. The stamps are to be sold over the counter at the head post office, in Stuttgart, and naturally have no franking value. The queer point about this decree is that direct mention is made only of the values 2 to 20 pf., so it is not quite clear whether the other three higher values will be treated in the same way; it would be almost inexplicable if they were not.

Foreign Post Offices in the Levant

THE first of the Italian offices to be opened, about which I wrote in my notes of 23 May, was the office at Smyrna, opened on 11 May. A post office employé was sent post-haste to this office to get it into working order as soon as possible, so that it might compete with the Austrian office, through which were passing most of the Italian letters. In order to divert a large portion of the mails to their office, the Italian authorities are said to have reduced the rates to Italy from 25 to 15 centesimi.

Another office was opened in Valona a few days later, and the third office to open was Salonica, on 21 May.—*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-poste.*

The Sectional Imperial Album

A full description of this Album will be sent post-free on application.

NOW READY.

SECTION I. GREAT BRITAIN

(86 PAGES).

Price 3/9, or post-free in Great Britain, 4/-; abroad, 4/3.

This Section includes all Postage, Official, Fiscal Postals, and Telegraph Stamps; but although only sold together, each of the above groups is printed on separate pages, and any one of them may be omitted if the collector does not wish to include it, but the section is only sold as a whole at above price.

Section		WEST INDIES.		s.	d.		s.	d.	
2. ANTIGUA	4 pages, price	0	3	post-free	0	5			
3. BAHAMAS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6			
4. BARBADOS	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8			
5. BERMUDA	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6			
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5			
7. DOMINICA	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8			
8. GRENADA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8			
9. JAMAICA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8			
10. LEEWARD ISLANDS	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6			
11. MONTSERRAT	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5			
12. NEVIS	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8			
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER	10 " "	0	6	"	0	8			
14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5			
15. ST. LUCIA	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8			
16. ST. VINCENT	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6			
17. TOBAGO	6 " "	0	4	"	0	6			
18. TRINIDAD	22 " "	1	0	"	1	3			
19. TURKS ISLANDS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6			
20. TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5			
21. VIRGIN ISLANDS	8 " "	0	4	"	0	6			
NORTH AMERICAN.									
22. BRITISH COLUMBIA	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5			
23. CANADA	22 " "	1	0	"	1	3			
24. NEW BRUNSWICK	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5			
25. NEWFOUNDLAND	12 " "	0	6	"	0	8			
26. NOVA SCOTIA	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5			
27. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	4 " "	0	3	"	0	5			

The above rates of postage are for single sections, per book post; if three or more sections are ordered at one time, they can be sent per parcel post in the U.K., and postage should be remitted at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per section, with a minimum of $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

N.B.—Each page measures 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ × 8 in. clear of binding.

BLANK PAGES can be supplied to match the printed pages, and will be found of use for those who want to include pairs, blocks, or stamps on covers.

Price 9d. per doz.; post-free, 11d. per doz.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

NOW READY.

NEW EDITION.

100 POSTAGE STAMPS, all genuine and different, and of a catalogue value of over 8s., are presented with each STRAND ALBUM.

The Strand Postage Stamp Album

THE book, which is printed on an unusually good quality paper, is bound in a new and specially designed cover. The shape is as illustrated, and the size a new and convenient one, viz. 9½ in. by 7½ 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.

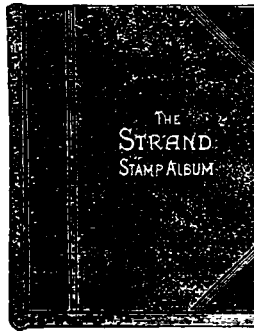


No. 14.

320 pages. Spaces for
8000 Stamps.

Nos. 15 and 16.

400 pages. Spaces for
11,000 Stamps.



Nos. 15 and 16
include a series of
Six Maps,
specially engraved
for this
Publication, and
beautifully printed
in Colours.



Concise Geographical and other particulars with Illustrations are given at the head of each country, the pages being divided into rectangles, as is usual, with this most important innovation, that they vary in size so as to conveniently accommodate the Stamps desired to be placed in position. This is an advantageous improvement that will commend itself to every collector. Post Cards are not provided for, as all Philatelists of experience know it is best to collect them separately.

A new and very important departure has been made in Nos. 15 and 16, in including for the first time in any Philatelic Album a series of Six specially drawn Maps, printed in colours, and giving the names of all Stamp-issuing Countries. They are of course fully brought up to date, and are not needlessly encumbered with unnecessary names, thus increasing their usefulness for easy and instant reference.

Each Album now has four full-page Illustrations showing the Watermarks found on all Stamps.

PRICES.

No. 14.—Strongly and neatly bound in plain cloth, gilt lettered, 320 pages, post-free, 2/11; abroad, 3/4.

No. 15.—Strongly and handsomely bound in plain cloth, with gilt edges and lettering, and six Maps, and eighty extra leaves, post-free, 5/6; abroad, 6/-.

No. 16.—Handsomely bound in half morocco, lettered on back, plain cloth sides, with six Maps, gilt edges, 400 pages, post-free, 9/-; abroad, 9/6.

Each quality can be supplied in either blue, red, or green art bindings.

NEW BINDING.

No. 17.—Handsomely bound in half-art canvas, with art vellum sides, and lettered and finished in gold. Gilt edges, six Maps, 400 pages, interleaved to prevent any chance of stamps rubbing, 7/6; post-free, 8/1; abroad, extra.

BLANK LEAVES. For No. 14.—9d. per dozen; 5/- per 100, post-free. For No. 15, 16, or 17, gilt edges.—1/3 per dozen; 9/- per 100, post-free.

SERGEANT P. D., Glasgow.

RECENT UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

"I like the general outline of the 'Strand' Album and consider it in every respect very suitable for beginners, which I was when I purchased mine. The quality of the paper is good, and the division is excellent, in fact I consider it the best album published at the price. You may use this recommendation as you think fit."

A. S., Lower Clapton Rd., N.E.

"I bought one of your Strand Postage Stamp Albums the other day and I think it is marvellous how you can make them and sell them at such a low price as 2/6. Every one I have shown it to, says it is worth double the price; 100 foreign stamps are given with it, and they alone are worth 1/-."

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Stamp Collections Register

WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this *Stamp Collections Register* in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the *Stamp Weekly* and *Monthly Journal* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our two papers we shall also (when we have sufficient collections on hand) issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to either paper.

The following will be the first conditions that must be agreed to when we enter a collection upon this *Register*.

- 1st.—The owner in all cases to fix the price at which his collection is offered for sale.
- 2nd.—The owner to pay us the sum of one guinea (£1. 1s.) for expenses before we enter a collection in our *Register*.
- 3rd.—The owner to pay us a commission of ten per cent (10%) upon the amount at which we sell his collection.
- 4th.—Collections should be sent to 391 STRAND, LONDON, in order that a careful and detailed description may be written.
- 5th.—Collections may be inspected at 391 STRAND, W.C.
- 6th.—The buyer will not be required to pay any commission of any kind.
- 7th.—Under no circumstances will the name of the buyer or seller be divulged.
- 8th.—No collection will be entered in this *Register* at a less price than Twenty Pounds.
- 9th.—Collections are offered without any guarantee on the part of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., either as to the genuineness or condition of the stamps; but S. G., Ltd., are willing to report on any stamps in Collections on the *Register* at their usual terms.

No. 38.

A SPECIALIZED COLLECTION OF POSTAGE & OFFICIAL STAMPS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Neatly arranged in a Blank Album.

The early Stamps are mostly used, in fine condition, and include many fine shades. In the later issues there are many blocks of four, six, etc., and part sheets of the lower values; a number of the Stamps have Colonial cancellations. The Official Stamps are a very good lot and include a considerable number of unused blocks; for instance, of the Army Official, there are the following unused:—

Queen's Head.	1d., block of 24.
“	“ ½d., green, block of 24.
“	“ 6d., rose, 2 blocks each of 9.
King's Head.	½d., 2 blocks of 8.
“	“ 1d., 1 block of 8; 3 of 4.
“	“ 6d., block of 4.

Of the used Officials there are many rows.

The owner states the Catalogue value is about £90, and is willing to accept the very low figure of

£40, for prompt cash.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

