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INDEX TO GIBBONS STAMP WEEKLY,
26 DEC., 1908.

GIBBONS STAMP WEEKLY

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

EDITED BY
MAJOR E. B. EVANS
AND
CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

VOL. VIII
JULY—DECEMBER, 1908

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



WILLIAM GIBSON, MILLER
LONDON

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Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 1
Whole No. 183

4 JULY, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Somali Coast (including Obock)—*continued*

IN November, 1892, the colony received its supply of the "Navigation and Commerce" type, and surcharging was given a rest.



November, 1892. Perf. 14 × 13½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c., black on <i>azule</i>	0	2	0	2
2 c., brown on <i>buff</i>	0	3	0	2
4 c., purple-brown on <i>grey</i>	0	4	0	2
5 c., green on <i>pale green</i>	0	3	—	—
10 c., black on <i>lilac</i>	1	0	—	—
15 c., blue	0	6	0	9
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	2	0	2	0
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	0	6	—	—
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	1	0	1	0
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	1	0	—	—
50 c., carmine on <i>rose</i>	1	0	—	—
75 c., brown on <i>orange</i>	1	6	—	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	1	6	—	—

In 1892 an attempt had been made to establish a camel and caravan service to the interior, and particularly to Harrar. The price of transport was fixed at 5 fr. for a package of 50 grammes or under, and the provisional of April, 1892, was created for this service. That this camel service continued is evident from an account of the postal service published in *Le Journal de Djibouti* of May, 1899. This gave particulars of a service of runners that M. Martineau, the Governor of the colony, was establishing between Djibouti and Harrar, and vice versa. Letters coming from abroad were to be carried by the same without extra charge. Until then the letters had been carried by camel riders. Sometimes they had only two or three kilogrammes of letters, whereas the journey cost about £40. The road was very bad, delays were frequent, and the whole service unsatisfactory. It was calculated that the runners would go almost as quickly—in fact the letters took about three and a half days—and certainly the expenses would be

smaller—£500 as against £2000 per annum. In addition to this, the service, which was welcomed and encouraged by the Ethiopian officials, gave France a sphere of influence in Abyssinia.

In 1893 a special stamp was ordered (or was it inspired?) from Paris for this service. The design, given below, speaks for itself. The stamp was poorly executed by a photogravure process, and was printed on a white *quadrille* paper. The apparent perforation is part of the design. Later a 2 fr. of similar design and execution, but of reduced size, was sent out from the same source, though for what reason is not clear. The inscriptions in lower label on left and right of OBOCK represent the name in Ethiopian and Arab characters respectively; "Obock" and "1893" in Arab characters appear on the margin with COLONIES, and a similar inscription in Ethiopian characters on the margin with POSTES.



1893. *Quadrille paper. Imperf.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
2 fr., slate-green	—	—	—	—
5 fr., rose	1	5	0	—

Towards the end of the year a grotesque set of plasters was put on sale, first in Paris and later in the colony; perhaps this is the reason they are dated 1893-4. No decrees can be traced to account for the issue, and as the series of 1892 remained in circulation at the same time, and the camel service did not call for such values, it is to be feared the stamps were made to exploit collectors. The central design shows a group of native warriors or politicians. The inscriptions in the upper left and right corners represent "Obock" in Ethiopian and Arab characters respectively. The stamps are badly produced, and were printed, as before, with imitation perforation on *quadrillé* paper, but this time in two colours; the name and date, the value and local characters in the upper corners all being in the second colour named in list following.



1893-4. <i>Quadrillé paper.</i>	<i>Imperf.</i>		<i>Used.</i>
	<i>Unused.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	
1 c., black and rose	0	2	—
2 c., purple-brown and green	0	3	—
4 c., " " orange	0	4	—
5 c., blue-green and brown	0	2	—
10 c., black and green	0	4	—
15 c., ultramarine and rose	0	5	—
20 c., orange and purple	0	6	—
25 c., black and blue	—	—	—
30 c., bistre and green	0	8	—
40 c., red and blue-green	1	0	—
50 c., rose and blue	2	0	—
75 c., lilac and orange	2	6	—
1 fr., olive-green and purple.	3	0	—

To complete the camel series and still further to fleece collectors, higher values were issued in 1894. The first denomination was the 5 fr., which appeared in Paris in April, 1894, but the list given below is sufficient comment.



1894. <i>Vignette in first colour. Imperf.</i>	<i>Unused.</i>		<i>Used.</i>	
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
2 fr., orange and lilac	—	—	—	—
5 fr., rose and blue	—	—	—	—
10 fr., mauve and red	—	—	—	—
25 fr., blue and brown	—	—	—	—
50 fr., green and lake	—	—	—	—

These stamps no doubt served principally for fiscal purposes, and in some cases were a means of local currency. The three higher values were numbered in black, it is said to prevent improper use.

About this time Djibouti was put upon an independent footing and received similar sets, all first being on sale in Paris.

In 1901 postal issues for Obock were suppressed, and the remaining stock of stamps was used with and without surcharge in Djibouti and other parts of the colony.

Though the official decree consolidating the colony was dated 1896, and from the ready manner in which the authorities took to the stamp business it was expected a unified set would be promptly issued, it was not till 1902 that this series actually materialized. In the meantime possibly the merry round of surcharges in Djibouti was enough to go on with. It was only in February, 1902, that the remainders of the stamps for this colony, amounting to 1,300,000 francs face value, were sent out; the first sending, it is said, for four years. This ostensibly was to put an end to surcharging; evidently, however, no need for which if business-like precaution had been taken.

French Somali Coast

In April, 1899, it was announced that the Commission on Colonial Stamps would deal shortly with the question of a new set, in February, 1901. M. Paul Merwart was said to have designed the new stamp and in September of the same year the designs were published in the public press. The first values arrived at Djibouti 20 July, 1902, and were put on sale the following week. The name of the engraver was Ben Damman, and the stamps were manufactured by the Government establishment in the Boulevard Brune, Paris. The stamps seem to have been printed from plates very coarsely engraved in *taille-douce*, but it is possible that the centres are lithographed. The paper is thickish white wove and the stamps are perforated—a welcome change after the other labels—and of a more convenient size. The type for the lower values shows a view of the Mosque of Tadjourah, that for the medium values two Somalis mounted on a camel, whilst the higher values portray three local warriors.



1902. Centre in first colour. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 (c.), orange and lilac	0 1	0 2
2 (,,), green and bistre-brown	0 1	—
4 (,,), carmine and blue	0 4	—
5 (,,), yellow-green and blue-green	0 1	—
10 (,,), orange and carmine	0 2	—
15 (,,), blue and orange	0 3	—



20 (c.), green and purple	—	—
25 (,,), pale blue and blue	0 4	—
30 (,,), black and red	0 5	—
40 (,,), blue and brown-yellow	—	—
40 (,,), orange	0 8	—
50 (,,), pale red and green	—	—
75 (,,), lilac and orange	1 0	—



1 fr., lilac and orange-red	—	—
2 ,, carmine and green	—	—
5 ,, blue and orange	—	—

In the middle of 1903 the frame of the 25 c. was slightly altered, being changed from blue to black.

1903. As last. Colour changed.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
25 (c.), pale blue and black	0 4	—

In September, 1903, the whole set appeared in new colours, no reason being given, perhaps the decreased cost of printing being the cause. The franc values were re-engraved to some extent, and in December the colour of the frame of the 5 fr. was altered in shade to prevent confusion with the 1 franc.

15 Sept., 1903. Same types and perf., but centres in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 (c.), purple	0 1	—
2 (,,), brown	0 1	—
4 (,,), red	0 1	0 2
5 (,,), green	0 1	—
10 (,,), carmine	0 2	—
15 (,,), yellow-brown	0 3	—
20 (,,), purple	0 3	—
25 (,,), blue	0 4	—
30 (,,), carmine	—	—
40 (,,), orange	—	—
50 (,,), green	—	—
75 (,,), yellow-brown	—	—
1 fr., orange-red	—	—
2 fr., green	2 0	—
5 fr., orange-red	15 0	—
5 fr., buff	5 0	—

Most of the values of the 1902 and 1903 issues are known with inverted centres, but collectors can very well afford to ignore these varieties. Many of them were no doubt issued, but how far by connivance of the authorities it is impossible to say. Certain it is that a lot of such errors were stolen from the printers, and in any case proper supervision has not been exercised. The 1903 stamps are still current.

(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 Cover

SOME of my readers will perhaps wonder why we have changed the familiar cover of our little paper, so I will explain at once that this has been done at the request of the railway bookstall managers and newsagents. They have recently been asking us for a more striking cover, and one that could be picked out at a glance as a stamp paper; the result is that we have

tried a good many different ideas, and it seems to us that a design adopted from the essential features of our well-known one penny stamp will be most successful on the bookstalls.

In order that there might be no infringement of the law we submitted the sketch to the authorities at Somerset House, and find there is no objection to it in the form we have adopted.

The advertisement of "Special Bargains," when we have such to offer, will appear on page 2 of cover.

New Edition of the Strand Postage Stamp Album

THIS popular album ran out of print quite unexpectedly last winter, and we have only just finished a new edition, the eighth.

This album is published in four qualities at 2s. 6d., 5s., 7s. 6d., and 8s. 6d., with postage extra; and in order to show the great demand, I might mention that 84,150 of these albums have been sold, and that this new and enlarged edition consists of a further 15,000 copies.

Stamp Collections Register

A SECOND edition of this Register has just been published in pamphlet form, and will be sent post-free to any collector or dealer who wishes to buy or sell general or specialized collections of postage stamps at bargain prices.

Although this Register has only been started for a short time it has evidently filled a want, as by its means we have already disposed of *fourteen* collections for our clients, and we now have on sale twenty-one collections ranging from £25 to £2100 each.

Some of the collections are so cheap that dealers have bought several of them and been able to resell at a good profit.

Any of the collections unsold can be inspected at 391 Strand, London, W.C., during usual office hours.

Sectional Imperial Album

THE whole of the North American Colonies are now ready, as well as Great Britain and the West Indies.

British Colonies in Africa are now in the press, and the earlier ones will be ready next week.

This new album is already proving a great success, and *large* orders are already on hand for United States, Australia, South America, etc.; in fact the number printed for West Indies has proved too small, and we have already had to increase the printing order by 50 per cent.

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

Nos. 86, 87, and 176. Value £1290.

Spain.

THREE new books of this country are now ready, and they are very strong in fine stamps of the early issues, the unused of 1850 to 1856 being specially fine, and most rarities are represented by several copies.

We have included the stamps from the "Mann" and "Breitfuss" collections in these new books.

Nos. 48 and 210.

Value £826.

Argentine, Buenos Ayres, and Corrientes.

Two new stock books of these popular South American countries have just been finished, and in many cases it has been necessary to raise our prices, as we find we have sold right out of many lines and have had considerable difficulty in replacing stock, and have had to pay as much as we *sold* for only a few months ago. We have a large demand for the older issues of many South American countries, such as Argentine, Buenos Ayres, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, Colombia, and Chili, and stocks of these countries are very poor in the hands of the trade in this country.

In these new stock books there are a good lot of the early Argentines, including several of the 10 c. and 15 c., imperf., of 1864, and a fine 15 c., 1867, imperf., a stamp we have quoted much too low in the Catalogue. The Buenos Ayres are a rather nice lot, the "Ship" type being represented by the following:—

	Unused.	Used.
2 p., blue	6	7
3 p., green	2	3
4 p., red	—	1
5 p., orange	1	2
4 p., brown	4	1
1N PS., brown	5	—
1N PS., blue	10	6
TO PS. „	4	6

In Corrientes there are a number of full sheets and some pairs printed *tête-bêche*.

Nos. 57 and 209.

Value £714.

Uruguay.

A nice book, including a number of really rare stamps, but the early issues have been much sold out and stocks are lower than they have been for a long time past. The later issues are very complete, and include a considerable number of errors, such as inverted surcharges, imperf., imperf. between, etc.

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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

Chamba

THE State of this name is composed of a mountainous stretch of country lying directly to the north of the British district of Kangra in the Punjab, and shut in on all sides by the lofty peaks of the Himalaya Mountains. Its area is estimated at 3216 square miles, and it is said to have a population of 127,834. Its boundaries are: on the north-east and east, the British districts of Lahul and Ladakh; on the north-west, the State of Kashmir; south and south-east, Kangra and Gurdaspur.

Chamba is one of the oldest States in India. It was captured by the British forces in 1846. In 1872, in consequence of a rebellion against Imperial authority, the reigning Raja, Gopal Singh, was deposed by the Indian Government, his son, Sham Singh, born in July, 1866, and then an infant, being nominated in his stead, during whose minority the affairs of the State were administered by British officials.

The State's resources are chiefly of an agricultural nature, but iron is worked in considerable quantities, and some copper and slate is mined. There are also some valuable timber forests which are leased to the Indian Government, and are under the supervision of the Punjab Department of Woods and Forests, to which province the State is subordinate. Chamba is a favourite country for sportsmen, and in the mountainous districts of the State yellow bears, the sloth, hill leopards, wild sheep, and musk deer abound.

There are only two towns of size, the capital of the State of the same name, which is the residence of the Raja, and the town of Barmir.

Stamps first issued, 1886.

Currency.—Same as India.

Chamba is one of the five Convention States which have entered into a working arrangement with the Indian Government in respect to their postage stamps. The stamps current in this State are the regular series of India, which are purchased by the State Post Office from the Indian Govern-

ment at cost price, after having been overprinted with the name of the State, and in the case of official stamps the word SERVICE also. These stamps have franking power throughout British India, but on letters sent out of the country these stamps are not valid, and ordinary unsurcharged Indian stamps must be used.

In March, 1902, the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna and 1 anna values of India, of which in 1900 the colours had been changed in compliance with the demands of the Postal Union authorities, were issued overprinted for use in this State, two further values being added in 1903 and 1904 respectively. The circumstance of the appearance of Queen's Head stamps after those of the same denominations of the King's Head series had been issued has already been explained. The dates of issue and numbers printed of each denomination are given on the authority of the *Stamps of the Indian Native States*. The 2 annas denomination is very scarce.

1902-4.

Contemporary designs of India 1899 and 1900. Colours changed. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London. Overprinted CHAMBA STATE in two lines in tall, thin sans-serif capitals, in black, at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta, in complete sheets of 240.

3 pies, grey (48,240), issued February, 1904.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (60,480), issued March, 1902.

1 anna, carmine (36,480), issued March, 1902.

2 annas, violet (2640), issued February, 1903.

Error.

One sheet of the 3 pies denomination, of 240 stamps, has been discovered with the overprint inverted.

Inverted surcharge.

3 pies, grey.

Varieties.

Small "A" in STATE.

3 pies, grey.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.

This variety occurs as No. 110 in the lower pane on the sheets of 3 pies stamps, and No. 80 in the top pane of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna value.

Raised space before CHAMBA; reads I CHAMBA.
No. 53 on sheet.
3 pies, grey.

Both "T"'s in STATE small. No. 181 on sheet.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.

First "T" in STATE small. No. 216.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.

In all, ten values of the current King's Head series of India have been overprinted for the use of this State, the first to be placed on sale being the three lower denominations, early in April, 1903; the remaining values being issued as required.

1903-5.

Regular series of India, 1902. Head of King Edward VII. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co.; in London, and surcharged in the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta, as above in complete sheets, in two lines, in black. Centre of rupee value in second colour. Dates of issue given in brackets.

3 pies, grey (issued April, 1903).
 $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (issued April, 1903).
1 ,, carmine (issued April, 1903).
2 annas, purple (issued April 1st, 1904).
3 ,, orange-brown (issued May, 1905).
4 ,, olive-green (issued April 1st, 1904).
6 ,, bistre (issued February, 1905).
8 ,, magenta (issued April 1st, 1904).
12 ,, purple on red (issued May, 1905).
1 rupee, carmine and green (issued April 1st, 1904).

Shades.

The shades which occurred in the subsequent printings of the 3 pies and 2 annas denominations of the current Indian series were likewise surcharged for use in this State.

3 pies, blue-grey instead of grey.
2 annas, mauve instead of purple.

Varieties.

Owing to the surcharge being set up in movable type, instances of broken letters, misplaced surcharges, dropped letters, etc.,

are frequent in all issues of this State. The following are the more important of those which occur in the King's Head series.

Small "A" in STATE. Nos. 128 and 230 on sheet.

3 pies, grey (128 and 230).
 $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (128 and 230).
1 ,, carmine (128 and 230).
2 annas, purple (128 only).
3 ,, orange-brown (128 only).
4 ,, olive-green (128 only).
8 annas, magenta (128 only).
1 rupee, carmine and green (128 only).

"A" with broken crossbar like inverted "v" in STATE. No. 240 on sheet.

3 pies, grey.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.
1 ,, carmine.
2 annas, purple.
3 ,, orange-brown.
4 ,, olive-green.
6 ,, bistre.
8 ,, magenta.
12 ,, purple on red.
1 rupee, carmine and green.

Raised space in front of CHAMBA, making it read I CHAMBA. No. 83 on sheet.

3 pies, grey.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.
1 ,, carmine.
2 annas, purple.
3 ,, orange-brown.
4 ,, olive-green.
6 ,, bistre.
8 ,, magenta.
12 ,, purple on red.
1 rupee, carmine and green.

Raised space after CHAMBA, reading CHAMBA I. No. 143 on sheet.

8 annas, magenta.
12 ,, purple on red.
1 rupee, carmine and green.

Wide space between "A" and "T" of STATE. No. 121.

3 pies, grey.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.
1 ,, carmine.

(To be continued.)

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 1903 the *American Journal of Philately* announced that it had been shown by Mr. J. C. Morgenthau imperf. blocks of 5 c. on 5 c., green, and the 25 c. on 25 c., black on rose, both of the 1891-3 issue. Judging from the dates of issue, I think that these stamps (Type II) must have had the deep red surcharge. But without date, they were only

the so-named "stamps prepared for use, but not issued," to which category the 25 c. on 25 c., black on rose, surcharged in deep red, also belong. All these imperf. stamps, Type II, have the millésime "2," and are known with inverted and double surcharge.

There is quite a list of other stamps that were "prepared for use, but not issued."

They are perforated, and were printed in 1901. The *millésimes* of these stamps are not known; possibly as they were printed in 1901 there were no *millésimes* on the sheets. They are as follows:—

TYPE I.

5 centimos, carmine, on 5 c., green.
10 " " " 10 c., black on <i>lilac</i> .
25 " " " 25 c. " <i>rose</i> .
50 " black, on 50 c., rose-carmine.

TYPE II.

20 centimos, black, on 20 c., red and green.
1 peseta " 1 fr., olive-green.

All the above are known with inverted and double surcharge, but they are nothing but forgeries, or at the best official reprints. They are certainly not worth the odd 4s. each generally asked for them.

As far back as 1900 it was decided to issue special stamps for French Post Offices Abroad, giving the name of the particular country concerned. This decision was reached "by reason of the necessity of not offending the susceptibilities of the Head of the Government of those countries in which France maintained post offices." Accordingly towards the latter part of 1902 the new stamps for Morocco gradually made their appearance.

The inscription was changed, the REPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE and POSTES, to POSTE FRANÇAISE and MAROC. By reason of the difference of exchange between French and Spanish currency, the whole issue was overprinted with the value in centimos and pesetas. The surcharge was in two lines except for the 10 c. to 30 c., where it is in a single line.



Perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

5 centimos, red, on 5 c., light green.
10 " black, 10 c., carmine.
15 " " 15 c., brick-red.
20 " " 20 c., brown-purple.
25 " " 25 c., blue.
30 " " 30 c., violet.
50 " " 50 c., brown and lavender.
1 peseta " 1 fr., lake and yellow-green.
2 pesetas " 2 fr., dull purple and buff.
5 " " 5 fr., deep blue and yellow.

In the 10 centimos there are varieties in the overprint, due to the shifting of the sheet in the press. In some sheets the fifth and tenth rows only show the word CENTIMOS, and the remaining eight rows, CENTIMOS 10. In other sheets, the first and sixth rows read 10 CENTIMO, and the remaining eight rows, S. 10 CENTIMO.

The 5 c. is the "Blanc" type; 10 c. to 25 c. "Mouchon" type; and 50 c. to 2 fr., "Merson" type.

On 10 October, 1903, it was noticed that the stock of 5 and 10 centimos stamps had run down too low, so 600 Postage Dues of 5 and 10 centimos were overprinted "P.P." in an oblong frame, and were then issued as postage stamps. The surcharge "P.P." stands for "Port Payé," i.e. "Postage Paid." The stamps were only in use on the date mentioned above, and were not obliterated in any special manner.

Overprinted "P.P." in an oblong frame, in black.

Perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

5 centimos, carmine, on 5 c., blue.
10 " " 10 c., brown.

In 1895 the inland stamp of France, which was at the same time in use in Morocco, was changed in colour to blue-green, instead of light green.

Perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

5 centimos, red, on 5 c., blue-green.

This stamp was not issued in Morocco until 1906. In 1907 the colour was changed again, this time to a bright yellow-green, somewhat similar to the shade in which it made its first appearance. The blue-green stamps always have the *millésime* "5," and the bright yellow-green "6."

One result of the recent military operations between France and Morocco has been that several new marks have been in use to indicate that letters, etc., bearing them are carried free. In August last year the Department of Posts and the War Department came to an understanding, and jointly prepared a decree for presidential signature, by virtue of which single letters and money orders not exceeding 50 francs might be forwarded free of charge to or by the troops in Morocco, and the crews of the warships stationed in the vicinity.

Before this decree became law, a letter dated 24 August, 1907, and coming through a Military Field Post Office, bore the inscription "Corps de Débarquement de Casablanca" (Disembarking Section at Casablanca); it was also stamped with stamp of the Casablanca office, consisting of concentric circles, and in the left-hand lower corner, running vertically downwards, was the wording, AMBULANCE—24—AOUT. 1907 with a dotted line underneath. Another letter from Casablanca, dated 23

October, 1907, had the same circular obliterating stamp, but the inscription read: TRESOR ET POSTES AUX ARMEES—CASA-BLANCA.

Letters from the French Division in Eastern Morocco were marked with the following special inscription in two lines:—

MISSION MILITAIRE FRANÇAISE AU MAROC
SECTION FRONTIERE D'OUJDJA PAR
MARNIA (ORAN).

The letters passing through Oran from Oudjda were franked with uncharged French stamps.

Another letter from Oudjda, dated 11 September, 1907, and received in Oran on 13 September, was stamped with the stamp of the "Conseil d'Administrations du Corps de Troupe," which appears to take the place of a military obliterating stamp; otherwise the letter was dealt with in the regular manner at the Oran office.

Another stamp consists of a double-lined circle, within which appear the words TRESOR ET POSTES; below is the number "172" between two stars; in the centre is the date 11—OCT.—07. in three lines.

On 1 August, 1907, a post office was opened at Oudjda for the use of the non-military residents; the obliterating stamp used has a single-lined circle only.

At the beginning of 1908 the four low values, 1 c. to 4 c., of the "Blanc" type, were issued suitably surcharged for use in Morocco. As has been previously explained; these low values became necessary when the inland postal rates were made applicable to Morocco.

1

CENTIMO

Perf. 14 × 13½.

1 centimo, red, on 1 c., grey.

2 centimos, black, on 2 c., claret.

3 " " 3 c., orange-red.

4 " " 4 c., brown.

All these stamps have the *millésime* "8" on the sheets. The figure of value varies in position with relation to the word CENTIMOS; sometimes it is over the "T," and sometimes over the space between "T" and "1." The "C" in CENTIMOS shows traces of two little lines in it; this occurs in all values, but is of no importance, as it is only due to printing from badly cleaned plates; sometimes there appears to be a bit of metal fixed to the top right-hand portion of the "C," which gives this letter the appearance of being slightly out of line.

(To be continued.)

The Genus Homo in Philately—continued

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

FROM Somaliland to Samoa is a vast distance geographically, but ethnology is not bounded by arbitrary geographical limits, and thus in these widely separated



points we find members of the great Caucasic division of the human race. The Samoans are a Polynesian race of fine physical development. They have been described as a nation of gentlemen, and are hospitable, courteous, honest, and affectionate. It is well known that the late Robert Louis Stevenson was greatly attached to them. They are cheerful and joyous, fond of dancing and song and a variety of amusements. Although ceremonious and stately in many of their customs, gloom and moroseness are quite contrary to their nature. They have a taste for neatness and order such as is unknown elsewhere among people in a barbarous state. When Samoans board a vessel they do not steal things like most primitive folk. The following extract from the journal of a well-known missionary speaks volumes for the hospitable and grateful nature of the people:—

"At the close of our interview Malietoa (whose portrait appears on the stamp illustrated) informed his people that a large quantity of valuable property had been given to him, and that the English chiefs, to whom he was indebted for it, would want something to eat on their return; for, said he, 'there are no pigs running about on the sea, neither is there any bread-fruit growing there.' Upon hearing this the whole company instantly arose and scampered away; and in about an hour they returned, bringing with them fifteen pigs of various sizes, with a large quantity of bread-fruit, yams, and other vegetables, the whole of which the chief presented to us."

The inhabitants of the Tonga or Friendly Islands are also a Polynesian race of



similar appearance and habits to the Samoans. They are, if any thing, even more

handsome than their neighbours, and Lord George Campbell says of them in his description of the voyage of H.M.S. *Challenger*:

"There are no people in the world who strike one at first so much as these Friendly Islanders. Their clear, light, copper-coloured skins, yellow and curly-hair, good-humoured, handsome faces, their *tout ensemble*, form a novel and splendid picture of the *genus homo*;

and as far as physique and appearance go, they give one certainly the impression of being a superior race to ours." The Tongans are all Christians now, and every one can read, a Wesleyan Mission having been established in 1826.

Another fine race of Polynesians are the Maoris—the aborigines of New Zealand. They are a brave, generous, and warlike people, who are said to have reached New Zealand from the Pacific Isles nearly a thousand years ago. When New Zealand was first colonized by the British in 1840, the Maori race were in sole possession of the islands. Anthropologists assert that they had exterminated an indigenous Melanesian race which inhabited the country on their arrival. For some years after the arrival of the British the Maories were dying out at an appalling rate. This, we are told, was not because of any inherent or acquired vice, but simply because they were filthy, and did not know how to make proper use of clothes.

An enormous number of deaths occurred from "galloping" consumption, which could undoubtedly be traced to the misuse of clothes. Early settlers say that the Maori women, on visiting the towns, would parade the streets muffled up to the eyes in flannels, furs, rugs, and wraps of every description. On returning home, these would be cast aside and replaced by a thin cotton bodice and chintz petticoat. Much the same occurred with the men, and when it is added that the favourite place for lounging was damp grass, and the most popular building site the edge of a swamp, one can hardly wonder that such habits caused a heavy death-rate. Apparently, of recent years they

have acquired more sensible customs, for a well-known authority asserts that the Maoris are "one of the few native races which promise to assimilate Western civilization with success." The Maoris are also found in the Cook Islands, and Queen Makea Takau, whose portrait appears on several of the current stamps, is a typical member of this fine race.

Closely akin to the Maoris are the inhabitants of the Hawaiian or Sandwich Islands. They are a remarkably handsome race of



brown Polynesian stock, who have been decreasing in numbers to an alarming extent since they came into contact with European civilization. Many theories to account for the abnormal death-rate have been put forward. Neither the diseases nor



the "fire-water" of the civilized Western serve to account for it satisfactorily. Some writers state that it is due to the missionaries who have been over-zealous in forbidding native customs. Others state that the oppressive system of government, the discontinuance of native sports, and consequent change in the habits of the people, have



been powerful factors in the work of depopulation. The natives have practically all adopted European customs and dress, and can read and write. They have acquired a melancholy interest in Europe owing to the terrible prevalence among them of leprosy; but those best fitted to give an opinion on the subject are confident that neither disease nor drunkenness offers a satisfactory explanation of the rapid dwindling away of this strong, healthy, and handsome race.

(To be continued.)



Colonial Post Office Scandals

Colonel Seely to Institute an Inquiry

By W. WARD

A PROPOS of the strong indictment against the recent scandals in the ⁷⁴/₁₀₀ British Colonial Post Offices, it is at last possible to predict the grand finale to this juggling in provisional and commemorative postage stamps—at least as far as our own colonies are concerned. Though the recent light thrown upon the matter by *Truth* and the philatelic Press seemed to have ended in nothing, the private attention of several influential ministers has been drawn in regard to the speculation of Government officials in postage stamps.

Certain evidence was laid before the Under-Secretary for the Colonies, Colonel Seely, on 4 June, the contents of which embraced among others the following:—

... it is within the power of certain postmasters to issue provisional and commemorative postage stamps. These stamps, which are put into use for no other purpose than to sell to stamp collectors at greatly enhanced prices, are the means of encouraging speculation in and the tampering with of the Postal Service of the British Empire.

Not only in most cases are these stamps totally unnecessary, but *they are not placed for public sale*. They are either negotiated privately by the postal officials or handed to some interested non-official for the disposal to stamp collectors at fictitious prices. . . .

Also, in addition to the above, no less a personage than the Postmaster-General, the Right Honourable Sydney Buxton, whilst being in no way directly able to deal with the British Colonial Postal authorities, is himself interested in the modes of Colonial Post Office management, and is specially drawing the attention of his ministerial colleagues in the Colonial Office to the matter.

Mr. Buxton, writing on 11 June, informs a correspondent that he entirely agrees that the time has come for the institution of an inquiry, and the putting of a stop to this scandalous Seebeckery, and the preventing of Government officials dabbling in stamps other than to the public interest.

From what Colonel Seely has informed a correspondent, the whole matter is to come in for an early investigation. In the meanwhile we await events.

The Story of a Provisional

A vivid idea as to what really goes on in many of those "philatelic" post offices, and the cause of the coming into existence of many provisionals, is pictured by the following story. The facts are just as given to the

writer by an assistant-postmaster home on sick leave, through the overtaking of drugs to which he had become addicted, resultant upon a serious illness. In the certain dependency in which he was employed, any official remaining longer than three months on the sick list is obliged to apply for leave home. I mention this in order to show that the story is not given out of "spite," as may have been the case had the relater been dismissed. Though given conditionally that no names or places are mentioned, the *bona fides* are assured. The post office from which this gentleman came is situated many miles inland, and some four to five days' journey from the chief town on the coast from which all the postal supplies have to come. In charge of this office are, or were, a postmaster and two assistants, the former and the interviewee being Europeans, whilst the remaining assistant was a native. A great friend of the postmaster in charge was an official connected with the Government Survey. Once a fortnight the postmaster sent his orders to headquarters for fresh supplies. For some months the orders for, we will call them, the 2 c. stamps had been very small, and several times the stock had been nearly exhausted before the next supply had arrived. The assistant we mention, whom we will call S—, had repeatedly drawn his superior's attention to the smallness of the quantity, but no notice was taken, or the matter directly evaded. So this went on for some time, until one bright morning the employees awoke to the fact that the 2 c. stamps were exhausted.

As S— afterwards called to mind, the servant of the postmaster's friend had purchased an unusually large quantity of that value on the previous day.

Upon the clearing-out, the postmaster telegraphed to headquarters for more supplies, by the Government line. Knowing that several days would elapse before the fresh stamps would arrive, and also by pointing out that the weekly mail was due to leave upon the next day but one, he obtained, after two or three messages, permission to issue a provisional value, by overprinting a higher-value stamp. A small hand-printing press was brought into the post office, and a certain number of the stamps were surcharged. These were ready on the afternoon previous to the dispatch of the weekly mail to the coast. The postmaster himself took charge of the provisionals, and gave orders that where possible other value stamps must

be served to customers, and in such cases when the 2 c. stamps were really required, not more than a certain quantity must be sold to each person.

In the rush just previous to closing time S— managed to secure a few portions of the sheets (they had been printed in parts of a sheet to tally with the size of the printing press), paying the necessary amount into the cash-till, or rather, as it happened to be, a basin.

On the mail day the postmaster gave out that all the provisionals were exhausted, but any matter requiring stamps of that value would be received and marked paid. However, nobody availed themselves of this

offer. As a matter of fact, S— saw that about half the quantity printed still remained in the postmaster's drawer. S— also learnt afterwards that the gentleman in the Surveyor's office had offered small quantities of the stamps to several people of his acquaintance.

As this little happening took place in the beginning of the century, and as also happily the country in question has been in philatelists' bad books for some time, little could be gained by divulging names or places. Who knows but what this little story is synonymous with the histories of many other provisionals?

Postal Methods and Means during the American Civil War, 1861-5

By W. WARD

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Introduction

PROBABLY at no period is the service and convenience of the Post Office appreciated as it is during the activities of war. Not only those interested, but all who are unfortunate enough to come within the sphere of either of the parties engaged in fight, are obliged to put up with the conditions ensuing whether they be peaceful or hostile folk. The methods of conveyance of mails during the sieges of Paris, Khartoum, Port Arthur, Ladysmith, Mafeking, and many others, where the besieged were confined in a restricted area, are, in comparison with those stirring days of 1861-5, but insignificant. Neither the Federals nor the Confederates were penned to a small area, other than, of course, in an isolated instance, but their activities spread from Virginia to Texas, and Arkansas to Florida—roughly a quarter of the present United States and an area approaching nearly one million square miles. Under such conditions, the recording and collection of incidents presents no small history.

Even so short a space as forty years has served to erase that story of North versus South. The past is readily consigned to forgetfulness, in the reality of the present and the ideality of the future. Some may think that such a history would appeal only to citizens of the United States. The Land of the Dollar, forty, thirty, or even twenty years ago, presented a different appearance from that of to-day. Statisticians tell us that in 1860 55 per cent. of the white races in the States were descendants of English parentage, and 42 per cent. were English, Scotch, Irish, or Welsh born. Naturally, therefore, the relationship should make us interested in

those days, and the happenings of the civil life of men who were born of or descended from our nation. To-day 70 per cent. of the white peoples are of British descent, 10 per cent. British born, the remainder made up of Scandinavians, Teutons, Italians, Russians, Gauls, and from every other European State respectively. On that 97 per cent. predominance I take my excuse for presenting the postal methods and means during the American Civil War. As such a task has obliged me to seek the aid of others, I take the opportunity of mentioning my indebtedness to those gentlemen who have helped me. For much of the Confederacy records, my friend Mr. Nathan Heywood has kindly lent me his copies of the Postal Decrees. Many of the incidents of the fights and escapades of the postboys were told me several years ago by an old friend, Mr. Henry Sykes, who fought throughout the war—but now, unhappily, deceased. Much other information I have derived from national and Southern newspapers issued during hostilities, from Federal records, and books written by participants. Needless to say, much has been written on the American Civil War that would not come under my title, nor prove of any interest, from a philatelic point of view; such has, therefore, been strictly ignored.

Origin of the War

The Southern landowners had depended solely upon slaves for the successful working of their estates. This mode of labour had long been criticized by the democratic North. Great Britain had set the ball rolling against slavery so early as 1806. Fourteen years later (1820) Spain and Portu-

gal were prevailed upon, but not until another couple of score of years had passed did the American Government take any definite step. True, a religious association had in 1815 established a so-called colony where the slaves could retire from bondage—Liberia, by the American Colonization Society—but this was only semi-official, and by no means abolished slavery.

Though the Southern States formed into the Confederate Union in 1861, the point of dispute was dealt with by the National Congress by coercion. Until 3 March, 1861, James Buchanan was the Federal President, Abraham Lincoln being elected on 4 March, 1861.

From 1861 to 31 December, 1862, we find the United States pursuing a coercive policy against the Confederacy, but in the latter year matters came to a head. On 22 November that wonderful and never-to-be-forgotten man, Abraham Lincoln, the greatest and most respected President the American people ever had, or are likely to have, Washington not excepted, issued the first important ultimatum for the emancipation of slaves to come in force on 1 January, 1863. Among the more important conditions were: "and any persons or States not giving those 'persons' of African descent their true, just and proper freedom, shall then be in rebellion against the United States." I mention this specially, because in after years this Act of Congress was altered from "persons of African descent" to "all persons," it being found that the Act did not provide against the bondage of either whites, aboriginals, or any particular colour, as long as they were not of "African descent" or had African ancestors.

On 1 January certain States, or portions of States, not having agreed to the law, the Federal Government declared war—as the famous proclamation said, "by right and obeyance of God." The States and portions of States remaining on the offensive were: Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana (*except* the parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemine, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles, St. James, Ascension, Assumption, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Martin, and Orleans, including the city of New Orleans); Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia (*except* the forty-eight counties designated West Virginia, and also the counties of Berkely, Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Anne, and Norfolk).

In order to form some protection against the result of their non-compliance with the law, a meeting of representatives of many of the Southern States was held to consider their plans for the future. This ended by forming a Confederate Union, and at Montgomery, Alabama, the States of South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Mis-

issippi, and Texas, associated themselves on 19 February, 1861. The following month—April—they were joined by Arkansas, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. It will be noticed that Tennessee was not mentioned in Lincoln's decree of 1 January, 1863. Whether this was a slip or whether the Tennessee State changed its mind I do not know, but the State was not mentioned in the declaration.

Confederate Postal Affairs in 1861

On 6 March, 1861, John H. Reagan was appointed Postmaster-General, and the order was given that after 31 May postage stamps, drafts, etc., other than those issued by the Confederate Government would not be accepted as payment of postage, etc. All stocks of the Federal stamps in the post offices of the affected States therefore became useless for postage within the Confederacy. As a result of this command, huge quantities of these stamps were "imported" into the Northern States, such that the National Government were obliged to prepare a new issue, which came out in August, 1861, and demonetize the existing one. Naturally the Confederates were now obliged to set about and prepare for themselves stamps to meet the requirements vacated by the tabooed Federal set. Advertisements were inserted in the newspapers in the cities of the Southern States inviting proposals for the supplying of stamps and stamped envelopes. In reply many offers to provide lithographed stamps were received, but the department was reluctant to accept any but steel-engraved impressions, on account of the difficulty that would arise in detecting counterfeits. In July a confidential agent was employed to procure the making of steel dies. Arrangements were made; but no sooner had the work begun than difficulties of some sort or another arose, and the contract was abandoned. Over a month had now passed, and means of prepaying postage were urgently required. As a temporary expedient the postal authorities had a couple of values lithographed at Richmond of 5 and 10 cents. Various trials of colours were made, but green for the lower and blue for the higher value were decided upon. The stamps illustrated the portraits of the new President, Davis, and Jefferson of earlier "Southern" fame. Previous to the issue of this provisional pair, and after the non-recognition of the Northern stamps, all letters had to be prepaid, and were simply initialed by the postmaster or his assistant. As there was not a single perforating machine in Richmond the stamps were obliged to be issued imperforate. Neither, in most places, could a cancelling stamp be found, most letters being cancelled by a couple of strokes of a pen.

(To be continued.)

Spain and its Revolutions

By J. CORNER-SPOKES

NOW, in commencing this, the reader must not think he is going to be treated to an entire history of all the revolutions of the Spanish people, for that would indeed be a hard task and not in the least philatelic; instead of this it is no more than a brief review of the postal issues and how they were affected by the revolutions.

It was in 1850 that stamps were first issued in Spain, during the reign of Queen Isabella II, she being the daughter of Ferdinand VII, and then thirty years of age. She remained queen until 1868, when she was banished from the country and a republic was declared. She had reigned peacefully for nearly forty years without any revolution, so that, when it actually came, the "swing of the pendulum" was proportionately great; the republicans were, in fact, so rampant that they immediately added insult to injury by obliterating the dethroned queen's features from the stamps by an overprint of *HABILITADO POR LA NACION* in a great number of different types, followed by an issue of a new design bearing the head of Liberty. It is perhaps well to note that the surcharges have, like most issues of Spain, been very extensively forged, and on account of the number of varieties of the genuine, detection is no easy matter.

After three years, however, of this republic it was decided to restore a monarchical government. There were four candidates from whom the king was to be chosen, and as there was some important point in favour of each, it was no easy task which fell to the lot of those with whom the election rested. The candidates consisted of a Bourbon, a German, a Portuguese, and Prince Amadeus of Sardinia, the last-named being finally elected.

King Amadeus's portrait is shown on a new issue of stamps which appeared in 1872, but after a short reign of about two years, he abdicated, this action being followed by another republic. This new government only lasted two years, and issued two sets of stamps, the first bearing a figure of Liberty, full-length this time, seated above the Arms of Spain, while the second set has for its design a figure emblematical of Justice, likewise seated, and holding a balance in her right hand. There was also one odd value, 10 c., printed in brown, of another type, having as its design the Arms of Spain.

This republic, however, like the two previous ones, did not last long, and in 1875 the eldest son of Queen Isabella II became king as Alfonso XII. He was, like his

predecessors, doomed to wars and rebellions, for, during the very year of his accession, Don Carlos, nephew of Ferdinand VII, claimed the throne, following up with an organized attack on several of the principal towns of Spain. This insurrection is well marked in the matter of postal issues, for one of the first acts of the Carlists on taking a town seems to have been to issue at least one stamp bearing the head of their leader, and these stamps, though in a sense only locals, are among the most historical which may be found, and far more worthy of a place in our albums than many a Government issue. [A good account of these appeared in *G.S.W.*, No. 168.—Ed. *G.S.W.*]

The followers of Don Carlos never gained much hold, and the issues from 1876 to the present day are of very little historical interest, every one bearing, except a Don Quixote commemoration issue of 1905, the portraits of the late king and his son Alfonso XIII, whose marriage to Princess Ena of Battenberg, one of our own British Royal Family, is still fresh in the minds of most Englishmen. *Long may they reign!*

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:—

*One Shilling 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; GF = Stamp Genuine, surcharge
Forged; R = Reprint; W = Watermark.

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

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Austrian "Error"

ACCORDING to several continental journals the 35 heller of the current issue of Austria, commemorative of the sixtieth year of the reign of the Emperor Franz Josef, has been found with a variety in the lettering close to the head. The word FRANZISCUS reads ERANZISCUS, something having rested on the plate in printing, and so caused the addition of an extra stroke to the



letter "F." Various Viennese newspapers reported this variety, and in consequence half the population of the Austrian capital seemed to be hunting for it; in fact, the price rose as high as 10 kronen (8 shillings in our money)! That price will undoubtedly soon come down with a run—witness the German error, DEUTSCHES REICH—which is priced now at eighteenpence, and is of pretty much the same class.

Austrian Offices in Crete and in the Levant

NOT satisfied with having created a wonderful set of stamps for the Emperor's Jubilee, the authorities at Vienna are now about to issue a somewhat similar set, or sets, for use in Crete and in the Levant! According to the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung* two sets are in course of preparation, and it is said there will be but two designs. One, similar to the Austrian 5 heller, will be used for the 5, 10, 20 paras, 1 and 2 piastres; and a second, similar to the 60 heller, for the 5, 10, and 20 piastres. A notable difference between these stamps and those of former issues will be that the values, in Turkish or French currency as the case may be, are not to be overprinted, but will be properly engraved in the plates. The colours are to conform to the regulations of the Postal Union, and, as the stamps are exactly the same size as the Austrian Jubilee issue, the perforating will be done on the same machines. By the way, for the latter stamps a harrow machine, perforating a whole sheet in one operation, is used for the low values, which are surface-printed. A single-line

machine has to be used for the line-engraved values, as the paper has to be damped in printing, and on drying does not shrink uniformly.

To be taken "cum grano salis"

A CERTAIN collector living in the land of the almighty dollar will most certainly be a rich man before he dies, at least the tale seems to point that way.

He wished to forward an unused stamp to a collector friend in Paris, and after a mental struggle proceeded as follows:—

First. He procured an ordinary post card and struck out the word *only* of the inscription *The address only to be written on this side*. He then proceeded to write all he could possibly get on both sides of the card.

Secondly. He cut the printed stamp off an official post card, leaving wide margins, and stuck the same on to his card, having previously placed his own unused stamp under the rectangle of cardboard.

The result of his efforts was a saving amounting to the grand sum of three half-pence! I really wonder that paranoia did not supervene.—*La Circulaire Philatelique*.

French Colonial Issues

ACCORDING to *L'Annonce Timbrologique*, Anjouan, Grand Comore, Mohéli, and Mayotte have all been declared part of the dependency of Madagascar. The stamps of the first three colonies are to be suppressed forthwith, but Mayotte will continue to issue postage stamps, and to manage its own finances.

More Guatemala Provisionals

THREE new provisionals are to be issued in Guatemala immediately, in fact, most probably they are already issued before these notes appear. It seems that the 1, 2, and 3 centavos values of the present issue are entirely exhausted, as there has been a much greater sale for these particular values than was anticipated. The Chief of the Postal Department has just obtained the consent of the Prime Minister and of the Director of the Treasury to allow the following quantities of the current issue to be overprinted:—

300,000	10 c.	to be surcharged	1 c.
400,000	12½ c.	"	2 c.
500,000	20 c.	"	6 c.



One cannot object to this issue, as it is evident that stamps had to be provided somehow, as the demand had to be supplied.

At the same time the expenditure of £160 was authorized for the purchase of one million of the 1, 2, and 6 c., exactly similar to those now in use. The order has been placed in London at 3s. per thousand, inclusive of paper, printing, freight, and insurance.

Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung.

Luxemburg 1891-96 Issue

THE official gazette of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg publishes the following notice:—



On, and after, the 1 January, 1909, the postage stamps bearing a portrait of H.R.H. the Grand Duke Adolfa will no longer be allowed to pay postage.

I illustrate a stamp in question here; it is the type of the whole of the 1891-96 issue, which is thus declared demonetized at the end of this year.

I wonder what will become of the stock of remainders, which is believed to be pretty considerable. It is too much to hope that it will be burnt, considering the past history of the Grand Duchy as regards remainders. Most probably the stamps will be sold off at the best price obtainable, which is sure to be well under face value.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie.

[It is not clear whether the five values issued in 1895 with portrait in profile are included in the terms of the above notice. Surely these show a portrait of the same Grand Duke.—ED. G.S.W.]

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.

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.

Cayman Islands.—In our issue of 6 June, as well as in the Supplement to the Catalogue, we described the 1s. and 5s., Nos. 32 and 30, as being Type 8, i.e. plain figures of value in lined tablet. This is incorrect, both stamps being Type 9, i.e. figures of value same colour as the name, in a plain tablet.

Ceylon.—A correspondent has sent us a supply of the 5 c. in the new design, to which we referred in our issue of 30 May. The stamp is on multiple, unsurfaced paper, and is printed in sheets of 240, composed of 4 panes, each containing 60 stamps. The marginal line runs right round the sheet, and also round each pane, and is broken for each line of perforation. The plate number "1" appears in the margin twice at the top and twice at the bottom of the sheet.



50

26 MAY, 1908. Type 50. *Wink. Multiple Crown C.A.*
Perf. 14.
239|5 c., purple, O.

Chili.—We have been shown three unchronicled varieties of the 1904 issue; they are as follows:

to come after 85a in the Catalogue, a 3 c. on 1 peso; to come after 86, a 10 c., olive-green, variety ii.; and between Nos. 90 and 91, a 3 c. on 5 c., red; all these have the surcharges inverted.



30-22



31-23

1904. *Telegraph Stamps overprinted as illustrated. Variety ii., animal with mane and tail.*

(i.). *Overprint inverted.*

3 c. on 1 peso, deep brown (ii.).
10 c., olive-green (ii.).



24-25

Type 24, *surcharged as Type 25, in black (B). Perf. 14.—Variety (ii.). SurchARGE inverted.*
90|3 c. on 5 c., red (B).

Macau.—Here we have seen a variety of No. 147, caused in the printing, as explained under the paragraph on Portugal. The name and value are inverted on the stamp, so that the name appears in the middle of the upper part, and the value in the lower left-hand corner.



1898. Type 29. Name and value in black. Perf. 11½.
Variety. Name and value inverted.
159a) ½ avo. grey.

New South Wales.—Mr. Hadlow informs us that he has seen a copy of the 2d., blue, 1871-81 issue, perforated 12½, 13, overprinted "OS" in red, instead of in black.



22



29

OFFICIAL STAMP. Type 22. Overprinted "OS" in red.
Wmk. Crown and NSW, Type 29. Perf. 12½, 13.
610a 2d., blue (R.).

Nicaragua.—We would ask our readers to correct a slight inaccuracy in the Supplement to the Catalogue: Nos. 355 and 356 have been inadvertently placed in the list of surcharged Waterlow stamps (Type 40), whereas really these two stamps are the American print (Type 37).

Panama.—In sorting our stock we find that there are no less than three distinct shades of 5 c., Type 53, No. 294 in our Catalogue. We list only one shade, blue, but we shall have to add dull blue and ultramarine.



53

Type 53. Centre in first colour. Perf. 12.
294a) 5 c., black and ultramarine.
294b) 5 c. ,, dull blue.

Portugal.—We have seen another extraordinary variety of the 10 c. of the current issue. Owing to the figures of value being printed in separately, by some means or other the stamp underwent the second operation twice, once almost normal, the figure of value being slightly

misplaced as regards the tablet, and again with the stamp upside down, so that the figure of value appears inverted at the top of the stamp.



39

1895-99. Type 39. Numerals of value in black.
Perf. 11½.
Variety (vi). Figures of value double, once misplaced, and once inverted at the top of the stamp.
376b) 10 r., green.

Roumania.—In arranging our stock we have discovered three varieties, hitherto not listed; also some others for use in Turkey.



18



21

1905. Types 18 and 21. Paper tinted pink on back.
No wmk. Perf. 13½.
455a) 5 b., yellow-green.
455b) 1 leu, black and blue-green.



101

POSTAGE DUE, 1896. Type 101. Thin paper, tinted pink on back. No wmk. (b) Perf. 13½.
676) 30 b., green.

FOR USE IN THE POST OFFICES IN THE TURKISH EMPIRE.

20PARAS20

T 1

1896. Stamps of 1893-99, surcharged as Type T 1 in violet. Perf. 11½.
807) 10 p. on 5 b., blue.
809) 1 pias. on 25 b., violet.
Perf. 13½ × 11½.
810) 20 p. on 5 b., blue.

South Australia.—Will all our readers kindly delete the 10d., watermarked Crown and SA (close), and perforated 12? We chronicled it as No. 319a in our issue of last week on the authority of *The Postage Stamp*; our contemporary now (20.6.08) states that it was mistaken, the stamp referred to being No. 341 in the Supplement to the Catalogue.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 2
Whole No. 184

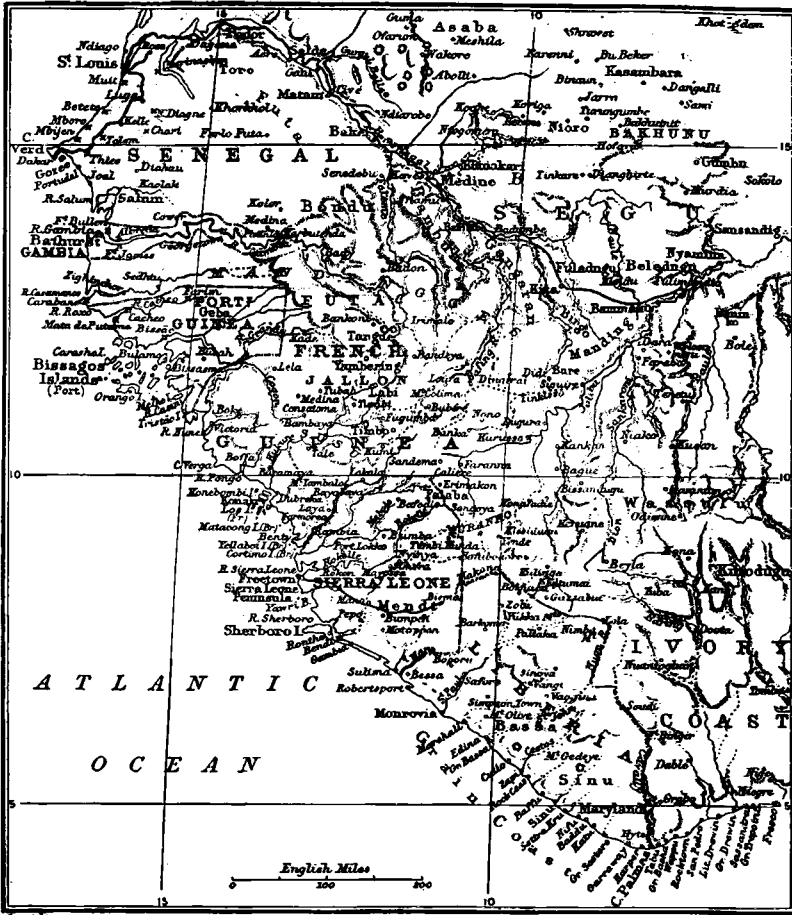
11 JULY, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Guinea



FRENCH GUINEA, one of the colonies composing French West Africa, lies on the Atlantic coast between Portuguese Guinea and Sierra Leone, and extends inland to include the highlands of Futa Jallon. The area is about 95,000 square miles, and the population is estimated at about 2,200,000.

For years known as the dependency of the Southern Rivers (*Rivières du Sud*), it was for long an appanage of Senegal. In the eighteenth century Lieut.-Colonel Pinet-Laprade, commanding Goree and dependencies, by which title Senegal was then known, extended the French sphere of influence to these southern rivers (*Cassamance*,

Mellacôte, Nunez, Pongo, etc.) Further explorations, resulting in the extension of the colony, were made from time to time, notably by René Caillié in 1827 and by Lambert in 1860. It is not clear when it commenced to be known as French Guinea, but it was made a self-governing colony in 1889. In October, 1899, when French Soudan as a separate colony was abolished, Futa Jallon, an important part of it, was added to French Guinea. The plateau of Futa Jallon, with a length of about 200 miles from north to south, and composed of fertile plains at an elevation of 2500 to 3000 feet, is the great reservoir for the waters of this part of Africa, the Senegal, Gambia, and Niger all taking their rise here. Cattle are raised in abundance, and gold is successfully worked in the districts. French Guinea seems to be one of the most promising parts of West Africa. It supplies a great quantity of india-rubber and ground nuts, and amongst other products are palm oil, gum, and coffee. It has also a special importance with regard to communication with the Niger. A road from Konakry to Faranna on the Upper Niger has been made, and will be connected by branches with the railway stations. A railway will also connect the port and the river, and is already opened as far as Kindia (eighty-three miles).

The centres of population are Konakry, the capital, Boké (the centre of the rubber and coffee trade), Dubreka, Timbo (the chief town of Futa Jallon), and Kouroussa (the Niger terminus of the projected railway).

The port of Konakry has in recent years acquired real importance; it has fine wharves and docks, and is regularly visited by the steamers of four companies. The imports and exports amount annually to about £750,000 and £650,000 respectively.

Philatelic History

This is of the most placid description, and the whole of the stamps issued may be bought unused for about 35s. Still, for this money there is variety, and "fine and large" pictures are to be had. A wonderful thing also for a French colony, there are no provisionals. The well-known tablet type was the medium of the colony's introduction to philatelists, for in 1892 the stereotyped thirteen values were issued for Guinea.



Nov., 1892. Commerce and Navigation. 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 1	—
5 c., green on <i>pale green</i>	0 2	—
10 c., black on <i>lilac</i>	0 3	—
15 c., blue	0 5	—
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	0 6	0 6
25 c., black on <i>rose</i>	0 6	0 6
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	0 8	0 8
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	0 8	—
50 c., carmine on <i>rose</i>	0 9	0 9
75 c., brown on <i>yellow</i>	1 0	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	1 6	1 6

In 1900, in common with the other "tableted" colonies, the changes to conform with Postal Union requirements were made here.

Dec., 1900. As last. Colours changed.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 c., rose-red	—	—
15 c., grey	0 5	—
25 c., blue	0 4	—
50 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	0 8	—

At the end of 1904, in pursuance of the policy of providing stamps with local colour, a set was issued portraying a native of the region. No signature is appended to proclaim the artist, but it is known that the stamps were surface-printed at the Government works in Paris. There are many tribes in French Guinea, the Fulas and Madingos predominating. A Fula shepherd is shown on the said stamps, and a lady member of the same tribe on the Postage Due stamps of the period. The types appear to have been adapted from the statue to Noel Bailly erected at Chartres.



Dec., 1904. Perf. 14×13½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 (c.), black on <i>yellow-green</i>	0 1	0 1
2 (c.), claret on <i>straw</i>	0 1	0 1
4 (c.), carmine on <i>azure</i>	0 1	—
5 (c.), green on <i>green</i>	0 1	—
10 (c.), rose-red	0 2	—
15 (c.), mauve on <i>toned</i>	0 3	—
20 (c.), carmine on <i>green</i>	0 3	—
25 (c.), blue	0 4	—
30 (c.), pale brown on <i>toned</i>	0 5	—
40 (c.), red on <i>straw</i>	0 6	—
50 (c.), pale brown on <i>pale green</i>	0 8	—
75 (c.), blue on <i>yellow</i>	1 0	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	1 3	—
2 fr., red on <i>orange</i>	2 6	—
5 fr., blue on <i>yellow-green</i>	—	—

In 1906 it was decided to issue stamps uniform in design for all the colonies composing West French Africa, and Guinea in its turn received a supply. The first value on sale was the 35 c., about September, the rest of the set being issued in the spring of 1907.

The lower values provide a portrait of General Faidherbe, whose able administration between 1854 and 1865 was the commencement of the real development of French interests in West Africa. To him chiefly is due the regeneration of Senegal.

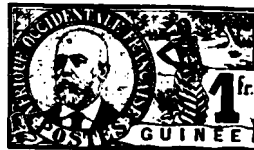
In the background a bridge is to be seen, typical probably of the railway enterprise that is making such strides in the territory. The design for the values 20 c. to 75 c. shows a huge palm in the midst of tropical flora, significant, no doubt, of one of the chief sources of West African revenue, palm oil.

The higher values have a portrait of Dr. Noel Ballay, who was Governor of West Africa from 1890-1902. He was an energetic and successful man, and his efforts were particularly directed to French Guinea, which from a mere protectorate he turned into a flourishing colony. The stamps were engraved by M. Puyplat, and were surface-printed as usual at the Government works in Paris. They are current at the present time.



1906-7. Perf. 14 x 13½ or 13½ x 14.

	Unused.		Used.
	s.	d.	
1 c., grey	0	1	0 1
2 c., chocolate	0	1	—
4 c., " on blue	0	1	—
5 c., green	0	1	—
10 c., rose	0	2	—
20 c., black on bluish	0	3	—
25 c., blue	0	4	—
30 c., chocolate on flesh	0	5	—
35 c., black on yellow	0	6	—
45 c., violet-brown on green	0	7	—
50 c., deep violet	0	8	—
75 c., green on orange	1	0	—



1 fr., black on azure	1	3	—
2 fr., blue on rose	2	3	—
5 fr., red on straw	5	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

Penny Postage in Morocco

THE Postmaster-General has issued the following with reference to the introduction of penny postage for letters in Morocco:—

The postage on letters for places in Morocco where the British Post Office maintains an Agency will be reduced on and from the 15th instant to 1d. the oz. Concurrently the postage on letters for the United Kingdom and British Colonies and Protectorates and for Egypt posted at these Agencies will be reduced to 10 centimos per 20 grammes.

The British Post Office maintains Agencies at the following places in Morocco:—

Alcazar	Mazagan	Saffi
Casablanca	Mequinez	Tangier
Fez	Mogador	Tetuan
Larache	Rabat	

By Command of the Postmaster-General.
General Post Office, 9th June, 1908.

British South Africa 1d. on 4s.

The Postage Stamp and The Bazaar have recently published some notes about a so-called new discovery in this stamp, in which the original value of *Four Shillings* is cancelled by one bar in place of the usual three bars. We have had about six or seven of these varieties, but we do not catalogue them in other countries and do not intend to do so in this case.

"R. P. J." in *The Bazaar* is responsible for the statement that the one-bar variety was first issued, and that less than one hundred were issued. I do not know if this is correct, but I do know that I have had at least two vertical pairs, in each of which one stamp had one bar and the other had three bars, and I consider that probably in ruling out the original value a few rows were ruled with only one line in place of three.

The "Tomson" Collection

The Postage Stamp, in referring to the sale of this fine collection, states that it approximates to five figures and ranks *third* in the list of great collections that have been sold. Really, friend Nankivell, you should be a little more accurate and up-to-date with information and particulars that have been published over and over again.

The largest collections ever sold, judging them by their values, have been as follows:—

The Breitfuss collection, bought by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

The D'Etioilles collection, sold at auction.

The Mann collection, bought by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

The Transehr-Rosenecke collection, bought by P. Kohl.

The Ayer collection (first part), bought by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

The Schröder collection, bought by P. Kohl.

The Legrand collection, bought by V. Robert.

The Castle collection (Australians), bought by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

The Thorne collection, bought by New England Stamp Co.

All these collections realized £10,000 each and upwards, and *many* others have been sold at from £5000 to £9000 each.

Cyprus Post Office Frauds

COLONEL SEELY, Under-Secretary for the Colonies, in a printed reply to a question, says the total amount of the defalcations in the Cyprus accounts has been found to be £1915.

The senior accountant in the Larnaca Post Office has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment for larceny and falsification of accounts, while another has been suspended for carelessness.

The island postmaster has been required to refund £600—about one-third of the defalcations.—*The Globe*, June, 1908.

The Collection of the late Consul Weber

THIS well-known general collection has just been sold for, it is stated, the sum of £5000. The purchaser is keeping the bulk of the European stamps, amounting to about £1500, to add to his own fine specialized collection of these stamps.

We have had a good picking from the rarities of other countries, and have added many fine things to our stock.

Holkar (Indore) Reminders

WE have received the following from the Secretary, Revenue Department, Indore, dated 27 May last:—

As the State has recently amalgamated its Postal Department with the British Postal De-

partment, it is desired to dispose of, for philatelic purposes, the unused stock of the stamps marked "Service" by a public sale . . . The whole stock has a face value of 165,133 rupees, and is as follows:—

½ anna	168,512 stamps.
¾ "	2,104,736 "
1 "	697,920 "
2 "	3,776,256 "
3 "	43,275 "
4 "	41,836 "

(Our catalogue Nos. 100 to 105.)

The sale closes 1 August.

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

Nos. 111, 112, and 161. 3 Vols. Value £927.

Roumania.

THREE exceedingly fine and very complete stock books, including the balance of the "Mann" and the "Breitfuss" collections.

These books are certainly the finest set of Roumanian stock books that we have ever made up, and will well repay examination even by the most advanced collectors.

In the circular stamps of 1858 there are two 27 p., six 54 p., one 81 p., used, and two 108 p.

The small stamps of 1858 are very strongly shown, and include some scarce *lête-bêche* pairs and a fine unused 80 p., on blue paper, with full gum.

The stamps of 1862-63 are shown in all printings, shades, and varieties, and the issues of 1865 to 1872 are exceedingly fine and include many fine mint blocks.

The later issues are very complete in all varieties of perforation and watermark.

No. 65. *Sweden*. Value £391.

A good book, especially strong in the first issue with value in sk. bco., the unused of these being very fine and showing some very rare shades.

The later issues are very complete, and include a grand lot of shades in unused and a fine used copy of the TRETIO error.

No. 172. *Value £339.*

Confederate States and U.S. Colonies.

A fairly good lot, but decidedly weak in the rarer locals and in some of the rare varieties of the Cuba provisionals.

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.

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

Chamba—continued

Official Issues.

ALL official correspondence is, I understand, conveyed free within the borders of this and the other Native States, but letters upon State business consigned to parts of British India remote from Chamba must be franked with "Service" stamps of the requisite denominations. It would seem that prior to 1904 stamps overprinted "Service" could be purchased over the counter at the post offices of the Convention States, but that since that date they have not been on sale, and consequently, like all other Official stamps, unused copies of "Service" stamps issued since that date cannot legitimately be dealt in. The "Service" overprint on these stamps is applied to sheets already surcharged with the name of the issuing State at a second operation. All stamps issued by this State have received the additional overprint of the word SERVICE in one line in black, immediately above the ordinary surcharge, making them available for official use.

The four low values bearing the late Queen's portrait, and issued in India in 1900, were likewise surcharged for official purposes, and issued at the same time as those with the plain CHAMBA STATE surcharge.

1902-4.

Contemporary stamps of India, 1900. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Colours changed. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London, already surcharged CHAMBA STATE in two lines in black, and additionally overprinted SERVICE in tall, thin sans-serif capitals in one line, also in black, near the top of the stamp. Figures in brackets indicate the total number of each denomination that were overprinted.

3 pies, grey (48,240), issued February, 1904.
½ anna, pea-green (29,280), issued March, 1902.
1 ,, carmine (14,280), issued March, 1902.
2 annas, violet (2640), issued February, 1903.

As in the series with the ordinary surcharge, the 2 annas is the rarity of the set; in fact it is even more so with the "Service" overprint than without.

Variety.

Small "A" in STATE. No. 80 on sheet.

½ anna, pea-green.

Seven of the ten King's Head stamps surcharged for use in Chamba, received in addition the "Service" overprint, making them available for use upon official correspondence. The three low values were, as in the ordinary series, issued in April, 1903, the 2 annas in the following year, and the remaining high denominations in 1905.

1903-5.

Regular King's Head series of India, 1902, already surcharged CHAMBA STATE, additionally overprinted SERVICE in tall, thin sans-serif capitals in one line in black, near the top of the stamps, for official use. Otherwise as before. Dates of issue of each denomination given in brackets.

3 pies, grey (issued April, 1903).
½ anna, pea-green (issued April, 1903).
1 ,, carmine (issued April, 1903).
2 annas, purple (issued April, 1904).
4 ,, olive-green (issued May, 1905).
8 annas, magenta (issued May, 1905).
1 rupee, carmine and green (issued May, 1905).

Shade.

The 1905 printing of the 3 pies denomination of the current Indian series in the new blue-grey shade was also surcharged SERVICE for official use in this State.

3 pies, blue-grey, instead of grey.

Varieties.

Most of the varieties of surcharge found on the regular series of Chamba are also to be found on stamps having the additional "Service" overprint. I do not propose listing these again, as they occur in exactly the same positions as on the sheets with the regular surcharge.

NOTE.—Last week we published letters from Major Evans, the eminent specialist in these countries, commenting on the Alwar and Bhopal portions of this series of articles. Before publishing the articles dealing with the rest of the group, Mr. Armstrong would like an opportunity of consulting Major Evans, and has asked us to hold them over for a bit. Meanwhile we continue with the Convention States.—ED. G.S.W.

Gwalior

This is one of the most important of the Central India States, and is situated in the north-western section of that Agency. It has an area of 29,000 square miles, and a total population of 2,933,001. It is, in an advanced stage of civilization, and has numerous industries, including the manufacture of silks and cottons, and brocades at Burhanpur, and the smelting of large quantities of iron in other parts of the State. The Sindhia family, who rule over this State and have done so for many generations, was founded by one Ranagi Sindhia, whose father was the headman of a small village in the Deccan, in Southern India. He contrived to get an appointment in the household of the local Peshwa, and quickly rose to the command of his bodyguard. On behalf of his master he made numerous foraging expeditions into Hindustan, and during one of these raids managed to obtain possession of the lands which now form the principal portion of the State of Gwalior. On his death, Daulat Rao Sindhia, who succeeded him in the control of the State, entered into an alliance with the Rajah of Berar to oppose the growth of the British power in India. Their combined forces were, however, completely routed by Sir Arthur Wellesley, afterwards Duke of Wellington, at the world-famous battle of Assaye in 1803, and the power of the Maharrata confederacy for ever

crushed, whilst Sindhia was forced to sign a treaty by which he relinquished his possessions in favour of Great Britain. Two years later, however, the provinces of Gwalior and Gahad were restored to him, under the protection of the Indian Government.

In December, 1843, during the regency of the Rajah Mugat Rao Sindhia, the local native forces of the State revolted against the British, and two pitched battles were fought between the Imperial troops and the rebels, which ended in the total defeat of the mutinous troops.

On the outbreak of the Great Mutiny, in May, 1857, the Gwalior contingent was one of the first to join with the rebels; but since that time the State has remained loyal to the British Crown.

The present Maharajah of the State, Madhova Rao Sindhia, G.C.S.I., succeeded in the control of the State in July, 1886, and is a chieftain of the second class, receiving a salute of twenty-one guns inside and nineteen without his own territories. During his minority Gwalior was administered by a Council of Regency which lasted until 1894, when he was entrusted with the entire control of the State.

The capital is the city of the same name, situated on the Indian Midland Railway, seventy-six miles south of Agra.

Currency.—Same as India.

Stamps first issued in 1885.

(To be continued.)

The Postal System and Stamps of Morocco—continued

By OTTO ROMMEL, *Doctor of Law.* Translated by FRANK PHILLIPS

II. The Stamps of British Post Offices

UP to the end of 1885 ordinary English stamps were used in Tangiers, but I am sorry to say that I am unable to give any particulars as to the kind of obliterating stamp used. It is even possible that letters handed in in Tangiers were not postmarked until their arrival at Gibraltar. From 1859 onwards the Gibraltar postmark consisted of the reference number "A 26," in an oval frame with thick lines running across it.*

On 1 January, 1886, the first issue of stamps for Gibraltar took place; stamps of Bermuda were used overprinted GIBRALTAR in *black*.

Definite stamps inscribed GIBRALTAR were issued from the end of 1886 until April, 1887; the ½d. was issued in February, the

* For particulars see article on "British Stamps Used Abroad," *G.S.W.*, No. 146.—Ed. *G.S.W.*

1s. in March, and the 4d. in April of 1887. Both sets were in English currency, but in July, 1889, the second set was overprinted with the value in Spanish currency. This set was soon superseded by another issue in Spanish currency, to which were added two more values (20 c. and 2 pes.) in 1895, when the colour of the 1 peseta was also changed. The dates of issue of the several values of this permanent issue in Spanish currency were as follows:—

5 c.	10 c.	5 p.	November, 1889.
1 pes.			December, 1889.
40 c.			February, 1890.
25 c. and 75 c.			April, 1890.
50 c.			June, 1890.

All these stamps were authorized for use in the British Offices open in Morocco, but it is very doubtful if all values were obtainable at those offices. Personally I have in my possession only one envelope franked

with 5 c. of the November 1889 issue, and a 20 c. 1895 issue; the postmark is round and reads "TANGJER, 9 Sept. 97."

In 1898 the rate of exchange was taken at 10 centimos to 1d., but it continued to fall so rapidly that a new issue was got out for Gibraltar, this time in British currency. For Morocco it was, however, necessary to retain the value in Spanish currency, so it became necessary to distinguish in some manner the stamps bought in Morocco. To this end the remainder of the "centimos" issue of Gibraltar came in remarkably well.

On 1 June, 1898, the Gibraltar issues of 1889-95 were issued for use in Morocco, overprinted "Morocco Agencies" in two lines.



Morocco Agencies

Wmk. Crown CA. Black surcharge.

5 centimos,	green.
10 "	carmin.
20 "	olive-green and brown.
25 "	ultramarine.
40 "	orange-brown.
50 "	lilac.
1 peseta,	bistre and ultramarine.
2 "	black and carmin.

The stamps of Gibraltar, which were also overprinted for Morocco, were printed in sheets of 120 stamps, composed of two panes, each containing 10 horizontal rows of 6 stamps each. The plate number "2" may be found in four places on the margin. By reason of this plate number we are led to believe that all the values were printed from the same key-plate, the indication of value being printed in separately. To the same cause I attribute the fact that in the 5, 10, 25, 40, and 50 centimos values the indication of value is sometimes in a lighter shade than the stamps themselves; and further, the value in 20 centimos is known in both *reseda* and *olive-green*.

Other than those mentioned above there are no striking varieties of shade, but the following may be referred to in passing:—

20 centimos,	olive and brownish olive.
20 "	olive and brown.
20 "	olive-green.
25 "	dull ultramarine.
25 "	deep ultramarine.
40 "	orange-brown.
40 "	reddish brown.
1 peseta,	light brown and ultramarine.
1 "	yellow-brown and ultramarine.

But really the shades differ so slightly that they are not worth troubling about,

many of the different colour names being synonymous.

At first the overprinting of the words "Morocco Agencies" was done in the office of the *Gibraltar Chronicle* in complete sheets of 120 stamps.

In the first printing there were two minor varieties in the overprint.

- (i.) The twelfth stamp of the sixth horizontal row (i.e. No. 72 on the sheet, or No. 36 of the right-hand pane) has an inverted "V," instead of an "A," in the word "Agencies."
- (ii.) In the eighth stamp of the eighth horizontal row (i.e. No. 92 on the sheet, or No. 44 of the right-hand pane) the "s" in "Agencies" has a long tail.

The following three values—

40 centimos,	reddish brown,
50 centimos,	lilac,
1 peseta,	light brown and blue,

are known with the overprint in *blue-black*, often called *deep blue*. These must have been a portion of the first printing, although the point has been discussed and there are many who do not think so. It follows, therefore, that the two varieties referred to above must also exist with the *blue-black* overprint.*

A second printing was soon necessary, and naturally the two varieties were corrected, but sad to relate there occurred no fewer than three others, which are found on all values with the exception of the 50 centimos. They are as follows:—

- (iii.) Narrow "M" in "Morocco"; occurs in the top left-hand corner stamp of the sheet (i.e. No. 1).
- (iv.) "g" in "Agencies" with projecting serif missing; occurs on the second stamp of the sixth horizontal row (i.e. No. 62 of the sheet, or No. 32 of the left-hand pane).
- (v.) "en" in "Agencies" joined by a hyphen; occurs on the eleventh stamp of the fourth horizontal row (i.e. No. 47 of the sheet, or No. 23 of the right-hand pane).

It is not known whether there was a third printing in Gibraltar or not. A point in favour of there having been one was pointed out to me by a careful and painstaking specialist, who told me that he had seen copies of the 5 and 40 centimos, in which the "n" in "Agencies" appears to lean slightly towards the left. Unfortunately no large blocks are obtainable in order that we might try to determine the position on the sheet of this variety. It is quite conceivable that the variety may exist on other

* This point may be regarded as beyond discussion, as we have lately seen both varieties with *blue-black* overprint in a highly specialized collection now in our Collections Register.—En. G.S.W.

values, but research on this point is still going on.

Besides the constant varieties enumerated above, there are many others which are not constant, and which are nothing more than errors in printing due to the carelessness with which that operation was carried out. It is impossible to give a complete list of these varieties, but the following are some of the more important. I have gleaned information about them from the philatelic press, from Dr. May, and from my own observations.

5 c. and 40 c. The top right-hand point of the "M" in "Morocco" has no serif, and the letter appears to have been broken slantwise. In the 40 c. the broken portion of the letter can be seen faintly, as it practically escaped inking.

40 c. The top left-hand serif of the "M" in "Morocco" is missing.

10 c. The second "o" in "Morocco" is slightly broken below, giving it almost the appearance of a badly formed "c."

5 c. The third "o" in "Morocco" is imperfect at the top, but is not actually broken.

50 c. The "r" in "Morocco" has failed to print; dots above and below show where it ought to be.

10 c. The lower part of the "s" in "Agencies" has printed, but not the upper part.

20 c. The "g" in "Agencies" has a thickened serif.

10 c. The "g" in "Agencies" has almost failed to print.

1 p. Under the "c" in "Agencies" there is a dot.

5 c. Only the upper and lower extremities of the "g" in "Agencies" are visible.

50 c. The whole surcharge is shifted to the left, so that only half of the two capital letters is visible on the stamps; it follows that the other half must be on the next stamp on the left.

(To be continued.)

Postal Methods and Means during the American Civil War, 1861-5

By W. WARD

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Confederate Postal Affairs in 1861—continued

IN 1898 a Texas collector discovered that the old Confederate Postmaster was still alive, and even residing in the same State. As so little was known officially of the postal affairs of the extinct Confederacy, this gentleman, a Mr. Bradley, wrote to ask ex-Postmaster Reagan for any information he could give him. So interesting was the reply that I take the opportunity of giving it.

TEXAS, 29/9/98.

DEAR SIR,

I am in receipt of your inquiries dated 23rd inst., and in reply you are especially advised as follows: First. When the Post Office of the Confederate States assumed control of the postal service in those States (1 June, 1861) all postmasters in that territory who had been acting under the authority and direction of the Postmaster-General of the United States were instructed by me to continue in the discharge of their duties as postmasters under the Confederate States Government, and to send in to the department in my charge their names, with the names of their respective post offices, in order that new commissions might be issued.

My official report to President Davis, dated 27th of November, 1861, shows that the whole number of post offices in the Confederate States on the 1st of June, 1861, was 8411, and that up to the date of the report there had been 491 resignations of appointments held under the Government of the United States, so that it appears that

more than ninety per cent of the old postmasters held over under the Confederate States Government. It was the custom, however, not to issue new commissions until after the proper executions and filing of new bonds.

My report before mentioned states that "the inaccuracy in the execution of the bonds of postmasters has delayed the issue of commissions to many of those who have been appointed." Another cause of delay in the issues of commissions may have been caused by the insufficient number of employees, the department having been organized when but seven States composed the Confederacy, and within a short period after four other States were admitted, which quite doubled the work of the department without any increase of clerical help for a considerable time.

Some delay may have occurred in procuring blank commissions, as I notice that my report of 27th November, 1861, states that "the number of orders for blanks which have not been furnished, in consequence of the inability of the contractors to obtain paper and have the printing done in time to meet the wants of the department, is 646." I cannot state what particular blanks were not furnished as fast as needed.

Second. No authority was conferred officially on the postmasters to issue stamps. Such stamps as were issued by them was done entirely upon their own responsibility. My proclamation, assuming control of the postal service in the Confederate States, expressly mentions that "until supplies of postage stamps and stamped envelopes are procured for the prepayment of postage with the Confederate States, all postage must be pre-

paid in money under the provisions of the first section of an Act approved 1st March, 1861."

Soon after the organization of the Confederate States Government, the coin of the country began to disappear to a great extent from circulation. This rendered the [pre?] payment of postage difficult, in the absence of stamps, and as the Confederate States Treasury notes in certain sums were by law receivable in payment of postage, and as it could not be reasonably expected that postmasters should furnish coin in exchange for them on account of its scarcity (and also on account of the difference in value), I stated in the report referred to that it was necessary "to leave it to postmasters and persons paying postage to arrange between themselves the manner in which these notes may be used." Under this condition occurred the issuance of local stamps and stamped envelopes by quite a number of Confederate postmasters.

Yours very truly,

JOHN H. REAGAN.

Ex-Postmaster-General Reagan's letter is extremely interesting, but his report to leave the settlement of what kind the payment for the stamps should partake of, was rather a novel way of putting off any responsibility on to the shoulders of the postmasters. It must be remembered that the postmasters had to pay for their stock of stamps in coin, *the Confederacy refusing to accept its own notes.*

A most irregular situation became pro-pounded. A person had a letter to post, but had no cash, only the Confederate notes. The postmaster naturally refuses this kind of currency because the Government will not receive it from him. The sender then proposes to receive \$4.90 in postage stamps in lieu of change of his \$5 note, the letter being 10 c. The postmaster cannot do this either, because he must necessarily lose on the transaction in his turn, having to pay cash to the Government. However, our official friend sees a way out of the difficulty by offering to mark the letter paid, and mark forty-nine envelopes similarly for future use, in return for the ignominious five-dollar Confederate note. Thus we have the history of the advent of the Local Envelopes. Further than this, many postmasters issued provisional adhesive stamps, these being for the towns of Beaumont, Goliad, Helena, Independence, and Victoria, in Texas; Danville, Emory, Fredericksburg, Greenwood, Lynchburg, Petersburg, Pittsylvania, Pleasant Shade, and Salem, in Virginia; Kingston, Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville, Rheatown, and Tellico Plains, in Tennessee; Athens and Macon, in Georgia; Bridgeville, Grove Hill, Greenville, Mobile, and Uniontown, in Alabama; and Baton Rouge, in Louisiana; Charleston and Spartanburg, in South Carolina; and Lenoir, Madison, and Marion, in North Carolina. The postmaster at New Orleans

also issued a couple of stamps, but these cannot be included in the Confederate issues, as New Orleans was out of the Union, accordingly with Lincoln's declaration of 1 January, 1863, which specially mentions Louisiana *with the exception of New Orleans.*

The aforementioned lithographed stamps of the Confederate States were issued on 15 October, 1861, but the supplies were so meagre that many post offices were sold out of them in a few days, and were obliged to have recourse to the "home-made" provisional stamps and envelopes.

Confederate Finances

In June, 1861, the Confederate Treasury issued some \$10,000,000 worth of notes to meet the demands of the various official departments. During the following twelve months the total of notes issued was \$213,904,000.

Financial matters very soon came to a crisis, and the Government became obliged to refuse to accept its own bonds. Naturally all trades, businesses, or professions were at a standstill. Taxes were an impossibility; for the most part people had not the wherewithal to pay them. Crops were not attended to, and the importation of foreign foodstuffs was made difficult by the national army on the land frontiers and the navy on the coast. Even soon after the issue of the paper currency its value dropped 20 per cent. In order to show the continual decrease in value of the Confederate notes, the following were the current equivalents during the three and a half years of hostilities:—

Up to December 1861,	\$120	paper = \$100 coin.
Dec. 1861 to Dec. 1862,	\$300	" = "
Dec. 1862 to Dec. 1863,	\$1900	" = "
Dec. 1864 to Mar. 1865,	\$5000	" = "
Mar. 1865 to Apl. 1865,	\$6000	" = "
April, 1865, valueless.		

So scarce had hard coin become that sellers made a stipulation as to what kind of currency payment for the articles must be made in. In many of the northernmost and western States after 1862, coin was practically unknown. To add to the shortness of this very necessary mode of exchange, articles of food reached famine prices, as much as \$70 being demanded and paid for a small barrel of flour.

A poor woman is said to have gone to a storekeeper, and having asked the price of some commodity, said she could not afford to pay what was demanded. Credit was asked, but refused. "But what shall I do? I have seven children and they must be fed," urged the poor creature. "I don't know, madam, unless you eat your children," was the heartless reply.

It is hardly to be expected that people unable to afford the necessities of life could

indulge often in the luxury of communicating with some distant friend.

Not that I suppose the people were so unpatriotic as not to accept the goodwill of the Government's liability, but a vote of credit on a concern that has no status, nor even much prospect for one, needs accepting with more than a little salt. Dreamy idealities are pleasant thoughts, but solid, substantial realities are much more digestive. All coin was required by the Government for the war, to provide arms, ammunition, and ships,

which were nearly all procured in England. At the end of 1862 a tax of no less than 25 per cent was imposed upon banks, companies, or individuals possessing coin in excess of the value of \$200. Any person not acknowledging his "treasure trove"—provided he was found out—was made to disgorge all above \$100 to the Confederacy.

Having thus given a fair picture of the condition of affairs, my subsequent narratives will be more easily understood.

(To be continued.)

The Genus Homo in Philately—continued

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

THE next great division of mankind we have to consider is the Mongolic. The races comprised in this division are typically characterized by yellowish skin, broad, flat features, prominent cheek bones, oblique, almond-shaped eyes, with black, lank, and coarse hair. The Japanese belong to the Northern Mongolian family of this class. The best ethnological authorities are of the opinion that the race originated in Corea, whence they spread to Japan and dispossessed the Ainu aborigines about the dawn of the Christian era. They are the most enterprising and civilized race in Asia, and are



now a power to be reckoned with in world politics.

Like most ancient peoples, they have a legend to account not only for their own origin, but also for the origin of their beloved country—Nippon. According to this myth, when the world was being formed, and the earth was "like thick oil floating on the surface of water," there arose out of this liquid mass the rush called *asi* (*Erianthus japonicus*), from which sprang the land-forming god who rejoiced in the lengthy appellation of Kuni-soko-tatsino-mikoto. After him the god and goddess whose particular functions are the baking of mud-earth and sand-earth were created. As the *asi* grows quickly in the marshy places around the Japanese coast, the geological processes of the formation of new land are here typified. One of the next proceedings was the making of the Japanese islands by the god and goddess Izangi and Izanami—the Adam and Eve of the Japan-

ese—who stood on the heaven-bridge and dipped a spear in the muddy waters. Then they raised the spear, and each drop that fell from it formed an island. The divine pair were so pleased with their handiwork that they took up their permanent abode on the largest island and became the progenitors of the people of Japan. This fable is, perhaps, hardly in keeping with the cold, scientific view of the available facts, but it is certainly vastly more entertaining.

In the kingdom of Annam, which now forms part of the French colony of Indo-China, we find another interesting race belonging to the Southern Mongolic family—the Annamese. From all accounts the Annamese are hardly a handsome race. They are shorter than their neighbours, darker skinned than the Chinese, and with coarse-looking features. One noticeable peculiarity is the greater separation of the big toe from the rest than is found in any other barefooted race. The name "Giao-shi," by which they are known in the East, means "separated toes," and according to ancient Chinese chronicles this curious feature was noted so far back as 2285 B.C. One writer says: "They are morally the most disagreeable of all the peoples of Indo-China. They are headstrong, revengeful, deceitful, thieves, and liars. Their dirty habits surpass anything I have ever seen, and their food is abominably nasty, rotten fish and dogs being their favourite diet." On the other hand, Lord Curzon, while not denying that they are tricky and deceitful, observes that they are "hospitable, polite, lively, sentimental, and of easy temper."

Another race inhabiting part of Indo-China are the Cambogians or Cambojans. Although grouped in the Mongolic division,



in many respects they almost approach the Caucasian type. They are the inhabitants of the ancient kingdom of Cambodia, which was



at one time a vassal of Siam. The stupendous ruins of Angkor Vahit and many other remains are evidence of the former great-

(To be continued.)

ness of this old empire. The first of these monuments covers a space of twenty square miles. They have been carefully studied by French archæologists, and—although the French savants do not accept this view—there are good grounds for the belief that they were built by the Cambodians under the direction of Brahman missionaries from India, who introduced Aryan culture among the rude inhabitants of the country. All this former greatness has now disappeared. The great traveller Keane says:—

“The Cambodians seem to have retained little of their former greatness, except an overwhelming pride and arrogance. A strange mystery hangs over this race, who, fully 2000 years ago, built cities and raised monuments amid the swamps of Tonlé-sap, vying in size and grandeur with those of the Mesopotamia and Nile valleys.”

A Skeleton Collection

By J. W. H. HESLOP

IN these days, when the number of stamps that are issued runs into tens of thousands, the collector of moderate means finds it more and more impossible to gather everything. Of some countries and colonies he may have a full page, but there are probably heaps of places in his album that are all but blank. The tendency, in view of this difficulty of gathering everything that appears, is to limit one's attention to certain pet countries and entirely disregard all others.

The plan I am about to suggest is novel, but it has the merit of creating in the collector a world-wide interest in stamps. It is this: let him fill in his favourite countries as much as he likes, but at the same time let him take one copy of *each type* of every other issue that appears. He will thus acquire at little cost a collection which shall in its way represent the world's issues; he will have a copy of every known type.

One advantage of this method is that you get something of everything. Not every collector, for example, can afford to indulge in sets of Papua or New Guinea; well, let him buy the halfpenny values only of each type and let them stand in his album for the complete set; they will let him know, at any rate, what the rest of the issue is like. A collector of means might ridicule this proceeding, but to a poor philatelist it brings immense satisfaction. It gives him an interest in every issue under the sun, he is never left out in the cold, and can accurately describe to his friends at all times the peculiarities of any given set, since at least he has one specimen of it.

What is a poor man to do when everywhere he sees Straits on Labuan, Brunei, Ceylon Service Kings, Maldives, and other costly sets, catalogued at higher prices than he can afford to give? Shall he sit and grind his teeth in dumb agony at his helplessness? Let him try the experiment of securing, say, the 5 c. Ceylon Service, the 5 c. Maldives, the 8 c. Straits on Labuan, and the 2 c. on 3 c. Brunei—the denominations within easiest reach; let these represent for him the remainder of the sets, and at once satisfaction slides into his soul. Something is better than nothing, and half a loaf is better than no bread.

This plan, in a more extended degree, has been followed by hundreds of collectors of King's Heads within the last few years; they stopped short at the 6d. or 1s. values and were content. Indeed, many a young philatelist has been well satisfied with the 3d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., and 3d. values; these five denominations afford him as much satisfaction as a complete set, would do to a millionaire, and they make by no means a bad display.

After all, nearly every collection that exists is something of the nature of a skeleton. Look up the section of French Colonies, for example; has the reader got anything like the whole lot, up to the 5 francs values, of each of the many colonies? What a host of pictorials there are in this department, and what a number of pages they will occupy! He either intends to get them all, or the temptation steals over him to close the door altogether and say he won't collect them. But this latter plan is a wet blanket

on his enthusiasm, it narrows his philatelic outlook, it robs him of interest in all such countries as he closes the door upon. Far better is it to take one of each type only, if necessity compels, and thus at any rate keep himself in some sort of touch with the world's issues.

As an illustration, take Reunion. Six stamps here will represent such types as are within reach, and are priced at only 2s. 9d. the lot. And Guadeloupe: about five or six types would represent this colony well, the 1906 pictorials being especially pleasing to the eye. And when next Guadeloupe goes in for high art in stamps, just look out for one clean, used copy of each type, so that you may know what the issue is like, and both be able to describe it and also keep abreast of the times, which is far better than turning a cold shoulder on the colony altogether, and thus, perhaps, running some risk of endangering the *entente cordiale*.

Not everybody collects Salvador. Yet about two dozen specimens might be made to represent the different types of this country and serve to keep alive one's interest in that part of the world. This is far preferable to maintaining a blank page. But the stamps, in the writer's opinion, should be used copies.

Of Spanish, German, and Portuguese Colonies, too, it is extremely interesting to look out for a specimen of each particular issue as it appears. In bulk these stamps run into thousands; a man has to have a stout heart and a long purse to circumvent the whole crowd of them; but one copy of each puts a different aspect on affairs. The task is easy, the cost infinitesimal, and the result gratifying. Two types only are required to represent Rio de Oro, each a

fascinating stamp, portraying the King of Spain at different stages of his career. Possessing these, the collector has an interest in Rio de Oro which otherwise would be lacking—an interest that may have cost him but sixpence. And the copy of Type I, which cost but 3d., is now catalogued 2s.

One type, too, of all the Portuguese Colonies makes a very attractive page, and the more so on account of the sprinkling of pictorials that occurs here and there. One Nyassa giraffe may stand for the whole menagerie, and may guard against a surfeit. One each of the Crown type will not be so monotonous as page after page of sets of twenty. And one each of the somewhat dismal Postage Dues may satisfy a collector not frantically interested in these stamps.

This method, if universally followed, would be of great help in keeping alive the public interest in general collecting, the decline of which is a matter to be deplored. When collectors begin to narrow their horizon a few popular countries become heavily boomed, while others are left behind, and Philately as a whole is the worse for it. The "skeleton" collection keeps its owner up to date to a certain extent in every direction, his interest not being entirely eclipsed in any quarter. And should the day arrive when he finds himself able to expand the skeleton, he will already possess a nucleus whereon to start operations. For there is no reason why the skeleton, if circumstances permit it, should not grow; to-day it is a skeleton for purposes of economy and as a safeguard against loss of interest, but there is nothing to forbid its expansion in time to come, while for the present it broadens one's outlook a hundredfold.

Speculation in the Levant

IN several recent numbers of this paper reference has been made to the establishment of five Italian post offices in the Levant. Recapitulating previous information, the first office to be opened was at Smyrna, on 11 May; Valona and Salonica followed suit between 15 and 21 May. The other two offices, at Jerusalem and Constantinople are now open, but at present we have not been able to ascertain exactly when they first started to do business.

A correspondent in Constantinople now gives us some very interesting information with regard to certain Italian stamps, which have been surcharged for use in these offices, and more especially in the office at Constantinople.

It appears that some days previous to 1 June, the Italian Consulate at Constantinople caused a quantity of current stamps of Italy to be sent to two Italians to be sur-

charged with the equivalent values in Turkish currency. The values sent were the 5, 10, 15, 25 and 50 centesimi, and the 1 and 5 lire.

To begin with it is not at all clear *why* these stamps were ever ordered to be surcharged at all, as a good quantity of four values surcharged at Rome had already arrived; possibly, however, the idea at the Consulate was simply to use up the unsurcharged stamps on hand, so that there might be no waste.

When the two Italians received the stamps to surcharge, instead of overprinting the whole lot with a similar type of surcharge, they set aside a portion of each denomination, and surcharged it differently from the remainder, arranging to obtain the whole of the specially prepared lot themselves from the post office, at face value. It is even said that this small lot was carefully prepared

with one or two "errors" of surcharge, but we have no definite information on this point.

To give authenticity to this rubbish the speculators had a certain number used on letters which were sent to friends through

20 PARA

the Italian Post Office. It is, however, quite clear that all the values bearing surcharges similar to the one illustrated here, were never sold to the public at the post office, and that being the case our publishers will not catalogue them. This speculative issue consists of the 10, 20, and 30 paras similar to the illustration, and the 1, 2, 4, and 20 piastres, in which the figures of value are much larger than the surcharge used in the next issue and which is illustrated later.

We repeat that the above stamps are absolutely speculative in nature, and that they will not be listed in the Catalogue.

We have now to consider the other portion of the stamps surcharged by the two Italians. We have no doubt that they intended to try to corner this issue also, but so great was the outcry of local collectors and dealers that it was necessary to put a few on sale at the post office; very few were actually sold to outsiders, and as far as we can tell, none of the 2, 4, and 20 piastres. Of this issue we have to catalogue the following:—

10 PARA

4 PIASTRA

Types 37, 38, 36, and 39 of Italy, surcharged in black, as illustrated.

10 paras on 5 c., green.
20 " 10 c., carmine.
30 " 15 c., slate.
1 piast. on 25 c., blue.

As the 2, 4, and 20 piastres of this type were not sold to the public, we shall not catalogue them.

American Notes

By EUSTACE B. POWER

SOME important business has lately called me to that city of culture and Cayman speculation, Boston, and for the first time in my life I had the pleasure of attending the regular meeting of the Boston Philatelic Society. Although I have been a member for years, this was the first meeting I had ever attended, and I had the pleasure of meeting President Green and a host of other good philatelists. Nothing remarkable happened at the meeting except the appearance of Mr. H. Wesley Legg ON TIME, which local people say is quite out of the ordinary. The B.P.S. has the making of a fine philatelic library. I inspected it very minutely, but as there was nothing I

We come now to the regular issue, consisting of the current stamps of Italy, surcharged in "paras" only, the value being given in figures both before and after that word. These stamps were surcharged in Rome, and are the only ones duly authorized by the home authorities.

40 Para 40

Types 37, 38, 39 and 40 of Italy, surcharged in black, as illustrated.

10 paras on 5 c., green.
20 " 10 c., rose.
40 " 25 c., blue.
80 " 50 c., mauve.

We have also been informed that a new set is in course of preparation at Rome, and it is said that the word "Levante" is to be added to the surcharge in future printings on the current issue.

Our informant adds that, on expressing his indignation at this shameless speculation, carried on by two persons with the Italian Consulate, he was told that probably the Consulate had allowed it as a kind of reward to the men for the aid they had rendered in installing the Italian Post Offices. Truly a wonderful idea! It means to say that collectors are paying for the cost of the installation!

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didn't have, Librarian Nevin breathed easily and coaxed a Gibbons 1908 Catalogue out of me for the library.

SPEAKING of societies reminds me of a curious notice I received a few days ago, as follows:—

The meeting of our Society will meet once a week. The members bring everything pertaining to collecting (almost). The meeting is called to order, and the Secretary tries to read the minutes, and usually finds it necessary to quell certain members. Then, if the members keep still, the work goes on; if they do not, then—

Refreshments are served, and the meeting then adjourns. A. F.

MILL VALLEY, CAL., U.S.A.

LATELY the stamps of the United States have come under my notice, inasmuch as the stock of Stanley Gibbons Incorporated is in some lines badly cleaned out. I had a terrible shock, when trying to replace the missing varieties, by dealers telling me they buy at our prices. Goodness! fancy Gibbons being too low! Who ever heard of such a thing? It only goes to prove my time-worn slogan, "There are more real bargains found in Gibbons' stock books than any other place this side of eternity." Now I'm going to jump some of these prices pretty quick, so fill in your used stamps quickly, especially 1851 to 1870.

BUSINESS is picking up in leaps and bounds, and our returns from the small red approval books are astonishing. No Millburys or New Havens or such like, but a good, steady disappearance of United States and foreign stamps from 2 cents to \$1. And it's really wonderful what a lot some people need. One collector in the Far West writes: "Twenty-seven new varieties, and I have replaced *forty-four others!* by better specimens." Did you hear that? Better specimens—better send for your pet country.

NOW there seems to be a philatelic muddle on in New Bedford, Mass. It appears a steamer bound for Newfoundland had a case of stamps consigned to that colony by the American Bank Note Co. The steamer got wrecked, a female beach-comber got the stamps, or most of them. And now, to whom do they belong—to her, or to the American Bank Note Co., or to the Newfoundland Government, or the marine underwriters, or to Tillson? It is really most amusing.

THE Postmaster-General has issued orders to those clerks who delight to spoil all picture post cards to be more careful in matters of cancellation. One of my assistants has just laid on my desk a set of our current stamps, from 1 c. to \$1 inclusive, and I'll defy any philatelist, much less a plain, ordinary person, to pick out the denominations. The cancellation on our stamps is a disgrace to a civilized country. I think I shall have to see our Senator about it, or go down to Washington, or take a drink, or do something unusual. Now who threw THAT?

AMERICAN and Canadian subscribers to this paper would greatly oblige by sending their renewals to 198 Broadway, New York. This is requested, so that if you fall behind we can get after you and make your life almost unbearable till that \$1.60 comes in again. Personally, I can't understand the mind that reasons without *Gibbons Weekly*

on the Sunday breakfast-table; but then, of course, there are some people that haven't even got our 1908 Catalogue, neither will they have it if they don't hurry up, as we've only got about a hundred left. Never sold so many before. There must be something that makes it worth while, and as we say here, "*Grape Nuts—there's a reason.*"

THE Cayman provisionals begin to pop their heads up. Now I'm offered the ½d. on 5s., 1d. on 5s., and 2½d. on 4d., at stiff prices, *cela va sans dire*, but if I can get the lot reasonably I shall buy them. Any reader who wants these totally unnecessary stamps had better drop me a line, and I'll write him if we get them.

OUR Bluefields correspondent sends me two new provisionals to-day, Waterlow 20, surcharged "Vale 10¢" vertically and "B. Dpto. de Yelaya" horizontally; also American Bank Note Co. 1 c., surcharged "Vale 15¢" vertically and "B. Dpto. de Yelaya" horizontally in red. There is going to be a new issue shortly, I believe.

CONGRATULATIONS to Saint Louis Masonic fraternity in adding a good stamp collector to the craft. When that collector reaches the *Shrine*, may I be there to see—it's worth a year off my life and two weeks' salary to be in on that.

WE have lately remade our small red books of French Colonials, Spanish Colonials, and the United States. Any of my readers who are interested in these can have a few to look over on addressing New York office.

ONCE again, before they are all gone. Bound volumes of this paper are on hand at the following prices: II, at \$2.50, *price raised (getting good)*; III, \$1.50; IV, V, VI at \$1.25 each. We have only got about six of the two first-mentioned volumes, so speak quickly; and, furthermore, we want to buy three copies of Volume I, Number 2, and will pay fifty cents each for them, so if you have one you don't want, send it along—it will help both you and the fellow that wants it.

IF any American or Canadian reader has any old papers on the subject of stamps issued the other side of 1885, will he kindly offer them to me? For years I've been trying to get certain numbers to complete my files, and—*blue pencilled by the Czar; writer NOT SANE on the subject.* [Quite right, Eustace, but are there not OTHER subjects upon which you are also "*non compos mentis*?"—ED.]

Still at it

Another Cayman Islands Provisional

IT is with great regret, after the trouble several English and American interested people have taken to whitewash the postal department of the Cayman Islands, that we once more announce the advent of another provisional. Readers need not think of immediately writing for a supply, *because it is already cornered!*

The new fourpenny, purple on yellow, of the Postage and Revenue type, has been surcharged "1d." in figures with a hand-stamp.

The postmistress, Miss Gwendolyn Parsons, writing under date of 20 May, also informs a correspondent that the halfpenny stamps are exhausted.

By the same mail (arrived in England

17 June) a Georgetown resident writes another correspondent offering the new 1d. on 4s. provisional, of which he says only a few have been printed. This latter gentleman sold to one English dealer a quantity of the other provisionals of almost the reputed number printed, yet another firm say they also purchased a large quantity. From correspondence the writer has seen, it is very evident that this person and Miss Parsons, or whoever has promoted the issues, are in collusion. The letter recently given by Mr. Power is but a facsimile of others received in this country by dealers and collectors. It is to be hoped that collectors will leave this rubbish severely alone. W. 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.C.

Cayman Islands.—In another place in this number will be found an article on the latest provisional of this colony, i.e. a 1d. on 4d. of the new type, inscribed POSTAGE & REVENUE. It is said to have been issued about the end of May last.



9

1908. Type 9 surcharged 1 D in black. Perf. 14.
35/rd. on 4d., black and red on yellow, C.

Italian P.O.'s in the Levant.—We deal with the stamps chronicled below in another place in this issue, so here we give nothing but a formal list.

10 PARA

8a

1 PIASTRA

8aa

40 Para 40

8ab

1908. *Contemporary stamps of Italy, surcharged in black.*

I. *Local surcharge.* Types 8a and 8aa (1 piastre).

830	37	10 par.	on 5 c., green.
831	38	20 "	" 10 c., rose.
832	36	30 "	" 15 c., slate.
833	39	1 pi.	" 25 c., blue.

II. *Surcharged in Rome.* Type 8ab.

837	37	10 par.	on 5 c., green.
838	38	20 "	" 10 c., rose.
839	39	40 "	" 25 c., blue.
840	40	60 "	" 50 c., mauve.

New Zealand.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* (20.6.08) lists the 4d. with compound perforation.



39

1902-7. Type 39. *Wmk. N Z and Star (close)*, Type 41.

(c) *Perf. compound of 11 and 14.*

301a/d., blue and chestnut on bluish.

Note.—The present Nos. 301a and 301b, the 6d. and 5s., become Nos. 301b and 301c.

Nicaragua.—This country has now created a lot more provisionals of an entirely new design. There have just been issued two sets of postage stamps, consisting of long fiscal stamps surcharged in various colours. In the first set we have seen only four values, formed by overprinting four fiscal stamps with the words CORREO—1908. The second set is similar to the first, but the

surcharge consists of an additional line, reading VALE 1 ¢, or another value; in this set we notice that the "9" in "1908" is frequently dropped, but we have not seen large enough blocks to fix the position on the sheets of these varieties.

We have also seen a new set of Official stamps, formed by overprinting the postage type, printed by the American Bank Note Co., with the words OFFICIAL—VALE 10 ¢, etc., in two lines.

CORREO-1908

[This will be illustrated in next number.]

CORREO-1908

VALE 4 ¢

46 45 47

1908. Type 45 (fiscal stamp) overprinted vertically upwards with Type 46, in black. Perf. 14, 15.

- 365| 5 c., orange-yellow.
- 366| 20 c., turquoise-blue.
- 370| 1 p., ochre.
- 371| 2 p., pearl-grey.

1908. Type 45 (fiscal stamp) surcharged vertically upwards with Type 47, in carmine (C.), blue (B.), green (G.), orange (Or.).

- 375| 1 c. on 5 c., orange-yellow (C.).
- 376| 4 c. on 5 c. " (B).
- 377| 4 c. on 5 c. " (G).
- 378| 15 c. on 50 c., green (C.).
- 380| 35 c. on 50 c. " (Or).



37

OFFICIAL

VALE 10 ¢

121

OFFICIAL STAMP. Type 37 surcharged vertically upwards as Type 121, in orange.

- 1075| 10 c. on 3 c., purple.
- 1076| 15 c. on 3 c. "
- 1077| 20 c. on 3 c. "
- 1078| 35 c. on 3 c. "
- 1079| 50 c. on 3 c. "

Our New York house sends us yet another variety, a 4 c. Waterlow overprinted for Zelava, and also surcharged "5 cent." in a new type.

B

5 cent.

Dpto. Zelava

23

242

1908. Type 40 overprinted with Type 23, and surcharged as Type 242, in black.

- 4508| 5 c. on 4 c., brownish orange.

Peru.—According to the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* (20.6.08), the 12 c. of 1907 has been seen with a very marked double surcharge of 2 c.



DOS ¢
CENTAVOS

1907. Type 42 surcharged with Type 44, in violet. Variety. Surcharge double. 1516| 2 c. on 12 c., black and blue.

Southern Nigeria.—Although we chronicled the ½d. all in one colour so long ago as 24 August, 1907, we find that we have inadvertently omitted to list either in our Catalogue or in the Supplement. We now chronicle it again, so that it may be inserted in the next edition of the Catalogue.



1907. Type 2, printed in one colour. Perf. 14. 3½| ½d., grey-green, O.

Spain.—We have only just noticed that the current 5 centimos is no longer deep green on white, but is now yellow-green on greenish. A member of the firm who has just returned from Spain tells us that they have been in use for at least three months, if not longer.



1908. Type 52. New shade. Perf. 14. 4654| 5 c., yellow-green on greenish.

Transvaal.—We have received a copy of the £1 on multiple watermarked, unsurfaced paper.



1908. Type 45. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14. 573| £1, green and violet, O.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 3
Whole No. 185

18 JULY, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

French Soudan, including Senegambia and Niger, Upper Senegal and Niger, and Mauritania

FRENCH SOUDAN no longer exists as a separate colony, but has been split up into administrations bearing the above sub-titles. The acquisition of the territory marks a strenuous period in French colonial history. In 1860 France possessed only the Atlantic coast from Cape Blanco to Sierra Leone (except Gambia and Portuguese Guinea), and no great distance inland. General Faidherbe (1854-65) extended the colony of Senegal from the coast towards the interior, and pointed to the Upper Niger as the next object of French ambition. Whilst England was busy in the Eastern Soudan, France from 1880 onwards made vigorous efforts to create a French Soudan in the west. A series of brilliant military victories resulted in the overthrow of the Toucouleur empire of Ahmadou, the subjection of the Mohammedan chief Samory, and the defeat of the King of Dahomey. These, combined with the display of an aggressive commercial activity, threatened to make France supreme throughout the Niger basin, and, in fact, she completed the reduction of nearly the whole region between the Slave Coast and Senegambia. An effectual barrier has thus been built up against the inland expansion of all other European settlements, at least beyond the limits secured by treaty rights.

For a time this vast region was officially named French Soudan. Owing to the acquisition of Timbuctoo in 1894, and the gradual spread of French influence in the Sahara, north of the Senegal River, this name was found to be misleading, and by a decree of 16 June, 1895, all the colonies were brought under one general government, and styled French West Africa, with headquarters at Dakar. By a decree of 17 October, 1899, this government was reorganized, and French Soudan as a separate colony was abolished, its territories being portioned among Senegal, French Guinea, Ivory Coast, Dahomey, and the territories of Senegambia

and Niger. For all practical purposes the latter may be considered as French Soudan, and for a time they consisted of the protectorate which was formerly dependent on Senegal, the territories of the Upper Senegal, the Middle Niger, and the military territories in the north and the Sahara. England and France came to an understanding in 1894, and the former recognized the right of France to all territory west of the Nile basin, which practically includes the whole of the Sahara and the State of Wadai. The convention also fixed the British and French positions in the Soudan. The area belonging to France (including the Sahara) may roughly be defined as 2,300,000 square miles, with a population of about 9,000,000.

In 1903 the French protectorate was extended over the Moorish tribes of Trarza and Brakna to the north of the Lower Senegal, and for these territories a government was formed under the name of Mauritania. In 1904 a further reorganization took place by which the territories of Senegambia-Niger were broken up, the Senegal Protectorate restored to that colony, and the rest of the territories formed into a colony named Upper Senegal-Niger, with its capital at Bamako on the river Niger.

These territories are the part of West Africa which has awakened the liveliest hopes and called forth the greatest efforts in France. To afford it an outlet to the sea a railway was commenced in 1880 from Kayes, on the Senegal, the former capital, and has been extended inland for about 350 miles to Koulikoro on the Niger. Thence a service of small steamboats connects with Timbuctoo. With the same object railways are projected between Algeria and Timbuctoo; from the Niger to the ports of the Ivory Coast and to Konakry, in French Guinea, and also from Kayes to the Senegal coast. Some portions have been started, the rest are mainly projects, but their magnitude demonstrates the isolation of the Soudan,

and measures the importance of opening up this promising country. There is an important trade from the north in typical products of arid countries—gums, ostrich feathers, and salt; from the south in crops of rice, maize, millet, hemp, cotton, etc. The country is also rich in gold and iron.

There is a very complete system of telegraph throughout the country, and all important centres are connected by road.

Philatelic History

The philatelic history of the above districts is very brief and possibly, with the exception of the earliest issues for Soudan, uninteresting. The stamps issued have been utilitarian and of types common to whole groups.

French Soudan.—Previous to 1894 the postal administration was furnished with small supplies of the "Commerce" type of the colonial general issue.

The Catalogue lists two provisionals issued in August, 1894, which were said to have been on sale pending the arrival of the definite stamps, inscribed "French-Soudan." Apparently they are type-set, with the value inserted in MS. They appear only to be known used, and some authorities do not list them, and possibly they are no better than marks stamped on a letter to denote postage paid. Anyway they are costly, and under the circumstances general collectors can safely ignore them, unless they are fortunate enough to come across specimens on the original envelope. There must be something wrong either with the explanation or the date, for in May, 1894, the colony had been furnished with a supply of the usual thirteen values of the "tablet" type.

Previous to this, a need for further 15c. and 25c. stamps having arisen, M. Grodet, the Governor of French Soudan, had ordered 1000 stamps of 75c. and 950 of 1 fr. of the current "Commerce" type to be surcharged 15c. and 25c. respectively. The surcharges were produced by lithography, fifty-five at a time, consisting of five rows of eleven. Twenty-five surcharges appeared on each pane of the sheet of fifty, whilst the remaining five were on the margin between the panes. The line between the name and the numerals was put in by hand. The Catalogue lists a 15c. on the 75c., "Peace and Commerce," but the stamp is of doubtful origin, and may be safely omitted.



12 April, 1894. "Commerce" type surcharged in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
0.15 on 75 c., carmine	—	—
0.25 on 1 fr., olive-green	—	—



May, 1894. "Navigation and Commerce" type. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on azure	0 1	0 1
2 c., brown on buff	0 1	—
4 c., purple-brown on grey	0 1	0 3
5 c., green on pale green	0 2	0 3
10 c., black on lilac	0 4	—
15 c., blue	0 5	0 3
20 c., red on green	—	—
25 c., black on rose	0 6	—
30 c., cinnamon on drab	—	—
40 c., red on yellow	1 0	—
50 c., carmine on rose	2 0	—
75 c., brown on yellow	2 0	—
1 fr., olive-green on toned	2 6	—

When four of the above values were changed in colour in 1900, supplies were provided for French Soudan, but in error; for previous to their issue the colony had been abolished. The stamps, however, were put on sale in the redistributed areas and allowed to pay postage.

Dec., 1900. As May, 1894.	Colours changed.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 c., rose-red	—	—
15 c., grey	0 3	—
25 c., blue	—	—
50 c., brown on azure	0 8	—

Senegambia and Niger.—These territories, though constituted in 1900, did not receive a special supply of stamps till July, 1903. The latter were of the familiar type and had but a short life; for in 1904, as explained above, the colony was renamed, and the stamps were replaced by those of Upper Senegal and Niger in 1906.



July, 1903. "Navigation and Commerce" type.
Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., black on <i>azure</i>	0 1	—
2 c., purple-brown on <i>buff</i>	0 1	—
4 c., " on <i>grey</i>	0 1	—
5 c., yellow-green	0 1	—
10 c., rose-red	0 2	—
15 c., grey	—	—
20 c., red on <i>green</i>	—	—
25 c., blue	—	—
30 c., cinnamon on <i>drab</i>	—	—
40 c., red on <i>yellow</i>	—	—
50 c., brown on <i>azure</i>	—	—
75 c., " on <i>orange</i>	—	—
1 fr., olive-green on <i>toned</i>	—	—

Upper Senegal and Niger and Mauritania.—Little comment is needed on these stamps, for the types are those of the general French West Africa group as described for French Guinea last week. They are current at the present time.



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., grey	—	—
2 c., chocolate	—	—
4 c., " on <i>blue</i>	—	—
5 c., green	0 1	—
10 c., rose	0 2	—
15 c., bright violet	0 3	—
20 c., black on <i>bluish</i>	—	—
25 c., blue	—	—
30 c., chocolate on <i>flesh</i>	—	—
35 c., black on <i>yellow</i> (1906)	—	—
40 c., carmine on <i>azure</i>	—	—
45 c., violet-brown on <i>green</i>	—	—
50 c., deep violet	—	—
75 c., green on <i>orange</i>	—	—
1 fr., black on <i>azure</i>	—	—
2 fr., blue on <i>rose</i>	—	—
5 fr., red on <i>straw</i>	—	—



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 c., grey	0 1	—
2 c., chocolate	0 1	—
4 c., " on <i>blue</i>	0 1	—
5 c., green	0 1	—
10 c., rose	0 2	—
20 c., black on <i>bluish</i>	0 3	—
25 c., blue	0 4	—
30 c., chocolate on <i>flesh</i>	0 5	—
35 c., black on <i>yellow</i>	0 6	—
40 c., carmine on <i>azure</i>	0 6	—
45 c., violet-brown on <i>green</i>	—	—
50 c., deep violet	0 8	—
75 c., green on <i>orange</i>	1 0	—
1 fr., black on <i>azure</i>	1 3	—
2 fr., blue on <i>rose</i>	2 6	—
5 fr., red on <i>straw</i>	5 6	—

(To be continued.)

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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*

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British Possessions in Asia—*continued*

British Empire in India—*continued*

Native States—*continued*

Gwalior—*continued*

GWALIOR is one of the Convention States who purchase their stamps direct from the Indian Government, the stamps being supplied to the State by the Department of Stamps and Stationery at the actual cost price, plus that of overprinting and the freight. The stamps consist of the ordinary current series of India surcharged with the name of the issuing State, and in the case of Official stamps the word SERVICE also in tall, thin capitals in black, and in the case of this particular State the same inscription in Hindi, whilst on the Service stamps the whole overprint is in the native language, Gwalior being the only State which does not have the entire superscription in English. The remarks made under Chamba and the section headed "Indian Native States" apply equally in this case.

Three of the low values of the current Queen's Head series of India, 1900, with colours changed in accordance with the demands of the Universal Postal Union, were overprinted for use in this State in 1901, and, as in the case of the other Convention States, the remaining stocks of various values of this issue were used up by surcharging them for this State, after the first values of the King's Head series had been placed on sale.

It is said that the supply of the 2½ annas denomination of this series had been in stock at the State Post Office for a considerable time before it was issued to the public, as, for some unknown reason, the local postmaster was holding it back. On a change of postmasters taking place, however, it was immediately released.

GWALIOR गुवाळियर

1901-4.

Contemporary stamps of India, 1900. Head of Queen Victoria. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London, in new colours, and overprinted GWALIOR

in tall, thin capitals, with Hindi inscription beneath, in complete sheets, in black, at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta. Dates of issue of each denomination given on the authority of the "Stamps of the Indian Native States," as are also the figures in brackets indicating the numbers printed.

3 pies, grey (14,640), issued February, 1904.
½ anna, pea-green (240,480), issued June, 1901.
1 ,, carmine (84,480), issued June, 1901.
2 annas, violet (48,480), issued June, 1901.
2½ ,, ultramarine (12,240), issued Feb., 1903.

Varieties.

The following varieties of surcharge are constant on all sheets of this issue and upon the values indicated.

"G" of GWALIOR of a different fount from remainder of surcharge. No. 145 on sheet, also No. 67 on ½ anna value only.

½ anna, pea-green.
1 ,, carmine.
2 annas, purple.

Tall Roman "R" in GWALIOR. No. 99 on sheet, also Nos. 62 and 230 on sheets of ½ anna value only.

½ anna, pea-green.
1 ,, carmine.
2 annas, purple.
2½ ,, ultramarine.

Small "A" in STATE. No. 28 on sheet.

½ anna, pea-green.

The first three values of the King's Head series of Gwalior made their appearance early in January, 1903, the remaining denominations being issued at intermittent periods during the ensuing four years, the last to be placed on sale being the 6 annas, early in 1906. According to a list of King's Head Indian stamps overprinted for use in the Convention States, supplied to the *Monthly Journal* recently by Mr. Gordon Jones, the 2½ annas stamps overprinted for use in this State, and listed by several of the leading catalogues, although prepared for issue, has not yet been placed on sale at the State Post Office.* In the same list he also mentions the three high-value stamps of 2 r.,

* Our publishers have seen this value and know of a dealer receiving a supply. It is now included in the Supplement to the Catalogue.—Ed. G.S.W.

3 r., and 5 r. respectively as having been surcharged and issued for use in Gwalior. Although stamps of these denominations were included in the old Queen's Head issue of the State, this is the first time I have heard of these King's Head stamps, and have therefore no information as to when they were first issued, or what varieties of surcharge occur upon them. I presume, however, that as the stamps had not been chronicled in any of the numerous philatelic journals up to January, 1908, they were probably issued some time during 1907, and I have therefore assigned this date to them in the subjoined list.

GWALIOR**गवालिअर**

1903-7.

Regular King's Head series of India, 1902-3. Surcharged GWALIOR, and native inscription in two lines, in black, near the foot of the stamp, the English inscription being in tall, thin capitals. Overprinted in complete sheets at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London.

- 3 pies, grey (issued January, 1903).
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (issued January, 1903).
- 1 ,, carmine (issued January, 1903).
- 2 annas, purple (issued May, 1904).
- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$,, ultramarine (issued (?), 1907).
- 3 ,, orange-brown (issued May, 1904).
- 4 ,, olive-green (issued April, 1905).
- 6 ,, bistre (issued 1 January, 1906).
- 8 ,, magenta (issued September, 1905).
- 12 ,, purple on red (issued Sept., 1905).
- 1 rupee, carmine and green (issued June, 1905).
- 2 rupees, yellow-brown and carmine (issued (?), 1907).
- 3 ,, green and brown (issued (?), 1907).
- 5 ,, violet and ultramarine, issued (?), 1907).

Shades.

Overprinted as above.

- 3 pies, blue-grey instead of grey.
- 2 annas, mauve instead of purple.

Varieties.

The varieties contained in the following list are similar to those which previously existed upon the stamps of the Queen's Head series of the State, and are constant on all early printings of the low denominations of King's Head stamps, but have apparently been rectified in recent printings of these and of the higher values.

Tall Roman "R" in GWALIOR. No. 230 on sheet, excepting on the 4 annas, when this variety occurs as both Nos. 121 and 229.

- 3 pies, grey.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.
- 1 ,, carmine.
- 2 annas, purple.
- 3 ,, orange-brown.
- 4 ,, olive-green.

Wrong fount "G" in GWALIOR. No. 145 on sheet.

- 3 pies, grey.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.
- 1 ,, carmine.

Small "A" in STATE. No. 197 on sheet.

- 2 annas, purple.
- 3 ,, orange-brown.

Official Issues.

Four of the five values changed in colour, and bearing the portrait of the late Queen, were also surcharged for official use in the State. These stamps do not, like the official issues of the other Convention States, have the word SERVICE overprinted at a second operation upon those already surcharged with the name of the issuing State, but have entirely different superscriptions printed on them, all in Hindi, and have no English overprint. The native surcharge is near the foot of the stamps, and is equivalent to the English for "Gwalior Service." In some catalogues the 3 pies, carmine, Queen's Head Indian stamp, is chronicled as having been issued overprinted with the name of this State in 1902, but I judge that this is merely because, prior to that date, its appearance had not been noted by the philatelic Press, and I am myself of the opinion that the date of issue of this stamp should be given as some time in 1900.

मवालिअर**सरविम**

1901-4.

Queen's Head issue of India, 1900. Colours changed. Overprinted with Hindi surcharge in two lines, in black, near the foot of the stamp. Wmk., perf., etc., as before. Overprinted in complete sheets at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta. Numbers printed indicated in brackets.

- 3 pies, grey (14,640), issued February, 1904.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (1,200,480), issued June, 1901.
- 1 ,, carmine (192,480), issued June, 1901.
- 2 annas, purple (12,240), issued February, 1903.

Seven values of King's Head stamps have been overprinted for official use in Gwalior during the two years 1903-5 as follows:—

1903-5.

Contemporary King's Head designs of India, 1902-3. Surcharged with Hindi inscription as above.

- 3 pies, grey (issued March, 1903).
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (issued March, 1903).
- 1 ,, carmine (issued March, 1903).
- 2 annas, purple (issued June, 1905).
- 4 ,, olive-green (issued June, 1905).
- 8 ,, magenta (issued June, 1905).
- 1 rupee, carmine and green (issued June, 1905).

Shades.*Surcharged as above.*

3 pies, blue-grey instead of grey.
2 annas, mauve instead of purple.

Variety.

A specimen of the 1 anna value of the King's Head official series of this State has been discovered with the positions of the

native words of the surcharge exactly reversed, thus reading "Service Gwalior" instead of "Gwalior Service." I have no information, however, as to the position which this variety occupied on the sheet from which it was taken.

Reversed overprint.

1 anna, carmine.

(To be continued.)

The Postal System and Stamps of Morocco—continued

By OTTO ROMMEL, Doctor of Law. Translated by FRANK PHILLIPS

II. The Stamps of British Post Offices—cont.

AS it was found that the overprinting done in Gibraltar was not at all good, the impression being blurred and frequently faulty, the Government decided towards the end of 1899 to have the work done by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. in London in future.

The type has very nearly the same appearance as the local overprint, but as the London print is cleaner and sharper, the letters appear to be somewhat thinner. The "M" is certainly not quite so broad as formerly.

The following values were issued in this so-called second type of overprint.

Morocco**Agencies**

Black overprint. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA.
Perf. 14.

5 centimos, green.
10 " carmine.
20 " reseda and brown.
25 " blue.
40 " reddish brown.
50 " lilac
1 peseta, light brown and blue.
2 pesetas, black and carmine.

In this, the London print, there are two more varieties:—

(vi.) The "n" and "c" of "Agencies" are joined by a hyphen on the eleventh stamp of the third horizontal row (i.e. No. 35 of the sheet, or No. 17 of the right-hand pane); this variety is common to all values.

Morocco**Agencies**

(vii.) The top left-hand serif of the "M" of "Morocco" is much prolonged horizontally. This occurs on the third stamp of the seventh horizontal row (i.e. No. 75 of the sheet, or No. 39 of the left-hand pane); this variety is likewise common to all values.

In the summer of 1903 a new set of stamps

was issued for the British Post Offices in Morocco. They were similar to the King Edward VII stamps of Gibraltar, but the value was printed in Spanish currency, and the same London overprint of "Morocco Agencies" was applied in black.



Printed in two colours or on coloured paper. Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14. Value in second colour.

5 c., grey-green and green.
10 c., purple on bright red.
20 c., grey-green and carmine.
25 c., deep lilac and black on bright blue.
50 c., deep lilac and violet.
1 p., grey-black and carmine.
2 p., grey-black and ultramarine.

All the above have the two-lined overprint "Morocco Agencies" in black as illustrated.

These stamps were not issued all at one time, but gradually as the stock of the former issue became exhausted; in fact, at the end of 1903, the only values issued were the 10 and 25 centimos. The remaining values were issued as follows:—

5 centimos, January, 1904.
20 " September, 1904.
1 peseta, November, 1905.
2 pesetas, " "

The 50 c. was prepared for use, but was never sold by the British Post Offices in Morocco; it could, however, be bought at the Gibraltar Post Office, and then used in Morocco. [Opinions differ on this point.—ED. G.S.W.]

As regards the size and arrangement of the sheets, they remained exactly as before: each of the two panes is surrounded by a thick border line in the colour of the stamps, which line is broken at the four corners. As before, the plate number is shown in margin four times, but this time is a figure "1."

The overprinting of this issue was done from the same plates as used previously in London, so the varieties (vi.) and (vii.) are again in evidence. I myself have seen the 5, 10, 20, and 25 centimos with variety (vi.), but it is a fact that the other values also exist, as there is no doubt that all the King's Head values were printed simultaneously, or rather one after the other as quickly as possible.

In 1905 similar stamps to those of the last issue mentioned were issued for use in Morocco with the Multiple Crown and CA watermark, always with the same overprint, "Morocco Agencies," in *black*. The values, colours, plate number, and arrangement of sheets, are exactly the same as before, but variety (vi.) in the overprint ("n" and "c" joined by a hyphen) was rectified. The long serif to the "M" (variety vii.) was not corrected, as it probably escaped the notice of Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

The last variety was also corrected later on, when the stamps began to appear on chalk-surfaced paper.

Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Value in second colour.

- 5 c., grey-green and green.
- 10 c., purple on red.
- 20 c., grey-green and carmine.
- 25 c., deep lilac and black on *bright blue*.
- 50 c., deep lilac and violet.
- 1 p., grey-black and carmine.
- 2 p., grey-black and ultramarine.

All the above have the overprint "Morocco Agencies," in *black*.

From the end of 1905 and onwards the stamps of Gibraltar, and consequently those of the Morocco Agencies, were printed on chalk-surfaced paper, in common with the stamps of most of the other British colonies. In this set we have therefore to make the distinction between ordinary and chalky papers.

We know for certain that first of all the 5 and 10 centimos appeared on ordinary paper; the 20 and 50 centimos were also reported on ordinary paper, but I personally am not at all sure whether they, and they only, were actually issued to the public.

With regard to the chalk-surfaced paper, it is beyond any doubt that all the values in list given above were issued during 1906.

On 1 January, 1907, as the British Post Offices in Morocco were withdrawn from the authority of Gibraltar, and made directly subsidiary to the General Post Office in London, the quasi-Gibraltar stamps were withdrawn. In their place were substituted British stamps overprinted in black "MOROCCO AGENCIES," and value in Spanish currency below. The name is in two lines, in block capitals, at the top of the stamp, and below the indication of value is placed in one line.

The three higher values have a slightly larger surcharge, as illustrated:—

**MOROCCO
AGENCIES**

**MOROCCO
AGENCIES**

5 CENTIMOS

3 PESETAS

Contemporary stamps of Great Britain, King Edward VII type, surcharged as above, in black.

5 centimos on	½d.,	pale green.
10 "	" "	1d., scarlet.
15 "	" "	1½d., purple and green.
20 "	" "	2d., green and scarlet.
25 "	" "	2½d., ultramarine.
40 "	" "	4d., green and brown.
50 "	" "	5d., purple and ultramarine.
1 peseta	" "	10d., purple and scarlet.
3 pesetas	" "	2s. 6d., lilac.
6 "	" "	5s., carmine.
12 "	" "	10s., ultramarine.

In addition to the above-mentioned stamps others were issued from the end of April to the beginning of June, 1907, similar to the above, but without any indication of value in Spanish currency. They were as follows:—

½d.,	pale green.	4d.,	green and brown.
1d.,	scarlet.	6d.,	purple.
2d.,	green and scarlet.	1s.,	green and scarlet.
		2s. 6d.,	lilac.

In this form the stamps were used on parcels. They were not sold over the counter in any quantity, but had to be bought as required, and affixed to the parcel or attached declaration in the presence of the officer. Such parcels were only destined for Great Britain, as parcels for the interior of Morocco had to be franked with the stamps in Spanish currency. As the so-called parcel stamps had their value denoted in English currency, they had to be paid for in English money, and if the original restrictions had been rigidly enforced they would now be exceedingly rare. As usual, regulations were disregarded, and quantities came into circulation unused, and cancelled to order. The parcel post traffic carried on by the British Post Offices in Morocco is of the smallest order, and parcels are only shipped twice a month by the Forwood Line.

There can be no doubt that these parcel post stamps are nothing more or less than a speculative issue made for collectors; this is seen when, on consulting the Morocco parcels tariff, we notice that there is not a single rate in which are fractions of a penny.* Evidently the ½d. stamp is absolutely useless!

The 6 and 12 pesetas of the proper issue are also absolutely useless; the postal agent in Mazagan stated that during a complete year, ending 31 January, 1908, not a single one of these two values was used postally, in the proper sense of the term!

* The English Post Office does not lend itself to such speculation. The issue is for the accommodation of the public: see *G.S.W.*, No. 169.—Ed. *G.S.W.*

The Genus Homo in Philately—continued

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

THE Laos are also represented on one of the current stamps of Indo-China.

They are closely related to the Siamese, and belong to the same stock as the other Indo-Chinese tribes. They are probably descended from the aboriginal races of China which appeared on the Upper Irawadi about 2000 years ago. They are a peaceful, pleasure-loving people of agricultural habits. One curious belief these people have is worth recording. They believe a man's spirit takes the form of a butterfly, which leaves him when he is asleep or unconscious.

Hence they never willingly awaken any one suddenly "for fear his butterfly may not return in time."

On another stamp of Indo-China a Muong is represented. The Muongs are a race of Burmese extraction differing little from the ordinary Burmans. They are short, thick-set, and flat-featured, and are excitable, turbulent, and much given to dacoity or highway robbery. They are said to make good farmers and shopkeepers.

Closely related to the Indo-Chinese races already referred to are the natives of the kingdom of Siam. They belong to the Southern Mongolic stock, and are a well-formed people, with olive complexion and black hair. They are

darker than the Chinese, but fairer and handsomer than the Malays. They are particularly fond of bathing and swimming, and spend a good deal of time in the water—a practice rendered almost necessary by the heat of the climate. Reverence for authority appears to be the groundwork on which all institutions and habits are founded, and it is developed to the most absurd extremes. No man of inferior rank dares to raise his head to the level of that of his superior, and no one can cross a bridge when some one

of higher rank happens to be passing below. They are a peaceful and indolent race, who have recently shown promise of assimilating Western civilization.

The Malay race, which gives its name to the whole region of Malaysia, is a branch



of the great Mongolian division of mankind. They are of a distinctly Mongolic physical type, being slim and of low stature, some three or four inches below the average European height. Their origin is doubtful, but Sumatra is generally regarded as their original home. There are three recognized social groups of the Malays: the "men of the soil," or *Orang Bentia*; the "men of the sea," or *Orang Laut*; and the "Malay men," or *Orang Malayu*. The latter are the more civilized Malays, and are found chiefly in the Federated Malay States, and Borneo. The two Sultans shown on the Johore stamps illustrated are typical members of this group. The principal characteristic of the Malay is his easy-going and indolent nature. He is gentle, quiet, extremely civil in manner, and not wont to rebel against authority. He never openly expresses surprise or fear, and is usually slow and deliberate in speech. Malays do not often offend one another or indulge in rough behaviour of any sort. They are particular in all matters of etiquette, and the upper classes behave in a dignified manner quite on a par with that of Europeans. Against these virtues, Malays have a bad reputation for cruelty and contempt of human life. They dislike manual labour, but when contented and well paid can get through a very large amount of work.

Closely related to the Malays are the Dyaks of North Borneo. At one time the

Dyaks had an unenviable reputation as rapacious head-hunters. This barbarous practice started some centuries ago, for travellers in the sixteenth century spoke of its existence. How it started is unknown, but for some reason or other skulls

became objects of veneration among this race, and thus skulls were



regarded as the most suitable objects with which to appease the spirits of their ancestors. Usually the heads were kept in beautifully carved boxes, and they were treasured as valuable family heirlooms. When a chief wished to ornament his house he demanded skulls; when a house was built heads had to be placed under the foundations; and none but successful head-hunters could claim to be tattooed. Indeed, heads entered largely into all the various ceremonies and customs of the Malays, and they were collected much as we collect stamps. The practice has now nearly been stamped out, and in most places in North Borneo old skulls lie about as so much lumber, instead of being carefully cherished as of old. The Dyaks are an active and warlike race, possessing a considerable degree of indigenous civilization, and their moral character is very fine.

The next great division of mankind comprises the black races, and is known as the Ethiopic. All the people of this division live in Africa and Australasia, and no indigenous members are found in the other continents.

First we will start with the Swahali or Suahali race found in Zanzibar and the surrounding territory. This is a hybrid race formed by the intermarriage of Arab settlers with the original coast natives and with the

negroes brought from the interior as slaves. The name is derived from the Arabic word *sahel*, a coast. The influence of the Arabs



on East African history began probably more than two thousand years ago. They have constantly established stations on the East African coast, and for centuries there was almost continuous fighting between them and the coast tribes. The Arabs were continuously reinforced by fresh arrivals, and many of these settled in the country, and gradually mixed with the negroes. Their offspring are the present-day Suahalis, in whom the negro or Ethiopic element is much the larger. The Suahalis are Mohammedans, but they are very tolerant, as may be judged from one of their favourite proverbs, which asserts that a useful infidel is better than a useless believer.

(To be continued.)

Postal Methods and Means during the American Civil War, 1861-5

By W. WARD

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Freightage of the Mails

(i) Exterior

THOUGH actual warfare did not properly put in appearance until Lincoln called out 75,000 troops of militia from the loyal States on 15 April, the first shot fired in anger was aimed from a battery on Morris Island on 9 January, 1861, at a vessel bringing reinforcements ordered by Buchanan to Fort Sumter in the hands of the Federals. So quickly had the feelings of the people spread in South Carolina that siege was laid against Fort Sumter. The National Government immediately upon receipt of the news of the conditions sent the above-mentioned reinforcements to the fort, which was under the command of a Major Anderson. Fort Sumter fell into the hands of the Confederate General Beauregard, on 13 April, 1861, practically without bloodshed, for singular to relate not a man was killed or mortally wounded. Thus we find the first conflict of the war. Two days after hostilities commenced in real earnest.

On 14 May, 1861, the *London Gazette*

issued a proclamation of neutrality, and further warned any British shipowners that if they went to Charleston for cotton, or New Orleans taking hardware, or *bringing mails from any port* in the "certain States styling themselves the Confederate States of America," by the violation of the "laws of the nations unhappily at war," they must expect no protection or redress from the Crown.

I can find no particulars about the prohibition of *taking mails into the Confederacy*, but suppose if it was worth a captain's risk, he might just as well take mails in as bring them out. Naturally more communications would be sent out of the country, as orders for contraband of war, rifles, ammunition, etc., than would be the case of receiving.

As an instance of the method of "running" the mails out of the country and the difficulties to be faced, I might mention the famous case of the English mail steamer, the *Trent*. Early in November, 1861, the *Trent* successfully broke the blockade from New Orleans, having on board an unusually large quantity of mails and specie, besides

several Confederate envoys. These were going to Europe to procure arms and enlist men, so probably the specie mentioned was the "necessary" with which to purchase the former. The *Trent* reached Havana safely on 7 November, and on the next day, as she was sailing through the Bahama Channel, a large steamer having the appearance of a man-of-war, but showing no colours, was observed ahead. The stranger hove to, and as the *Trent* approached, fired a shot across her bows and hoisted the Yankee colours. The *Trent* slackened her speed, but stopped when the war-frigate fired a shell, which exploded immediately on her bows. A boat strongly armed and manned boarded the mail-packet, and it was found that the militant stranger was the United States steamship *San Jacinto*, of eight guns, under the command of Captain Wilkes. The officer in command of the boat had orders to arrest the persons of Messrs. Mason and Slidell, and their secretaries, and search the mails. The British officer in charge of the *Trent's* mails was not the man to let this high-handed act be transacted quietly. He protested forcibly against the whole proceeding, which he denounced as illegal and nothing short of a piratical outrage. He stood over the hold with a bared sword, together with several subordinate officers and men, and refused to allow any tampering with the mails, which he stated were now British property.

In order to prevent bloodshed the four Confederates gave themselves in charge. Not until Commander Williams had really seen that resistance would be useless, and before more boatfuls of armed men had boarded the *Trent*, did he allow the seizure and transfer. The *Trent* was allowed to pursue her way, first calling at the island of St. Thomas and thence to her destination, Southampton. Commander Williams at once reported the matter. Public opinion in this country decided that the occurrence was nothing short of a wanton outrage to provoke a Power which was of the utmost consequence to the Federals in remaining neutral. If the enemy could break the blockades, then if Great Britain had taken an extreme view she could have literally swept the blockading squadrons from the seas. Not only in England was the feeling strong, but in all Europe. Not only Earl Russell, on the behalf of Great Britain, but M. Thouvenel, on the behalf of the Emperor of the French, King of Prussia, Emperor of Austria, and Czar of Russia, wrote to Washington reproaching the act of Capt. Wilkes.

Not only was the Federal reply by Mr. Seward disposed to consider the capture lawful, but the House of Representatives actually passed a vote of thanks to Captain Wilkes for the vigour of his proceedings.†

Upon this the English nation prepared

for war. The arsenals and dockyards were kept busy, and troops were dispatched to Canada. The unexpected warmth and heartiness with which the Canadians met the appeal so suddenly made upon their loyalty, the calling out of their militia and volunteers, the strengthening of the frontiers, can never be forgotten. So strong was the feeling in Canada that the Press published insinuations propounding the annexation of the United States.

The Federals were given the choice of returning the mails, and by way of compensation liberating the Confederate envoys or having war declared. The former was chosen, and the captured persons were transferred to Her Majesty's ship *Rinaldo*.

It must be remembered that in those days friendly feeling between Uncle Sam and John Bull was unknown; indeed, it is said that no Englishman was ever in Boston a week before he had a fight with some Bostonian for mentioning "Tea." To a great extent petty jealousy has now changed round to common sense.

After the *Trent* incident the Confederate exterior mails were for the most part carried by English privateers, who, when they successfully ran the blockade, took the correspondence to Havana, St. Thomas, or Halifax, Bermuda. Any letters that were franked were, of course, dutiable to a surcharge postage upon being delivered, there being no arrangement, nor much chance of any, between the Confederate States and any other country.

Soon after the issue of the first Confederate stamps it was considered necessary to procure a perforating machine. Accordingly a Mr. Offut, the Deputy Postmaster, ordered one from Messrs. De La Rue, of London. This was safely imported, by way of Savannah, to Richmond. After the perforation of a few sheets, various matters arising, the use was abandoned, probably on account of the adjacent vicinity of General Grant. This machine, by the way, perforated a gauge of 12½ and was "single-lined," hence maybe the cause of so few stamps being perforated, on account of the tedious operation of being able to work only one line of perforation at a time. The first sheets experimented upon were framed and hung upon the walls of the Treasury offices.

The letters for friends in England or Confederate orders for supplies, without almost a single exception, after the formal declaration of war, were carried by those privateers in favour with the Confederacy, arrangements being made with the individual captains as regards payment, which would be influenced by the value and merits of the mails he was to carry, and the risks of encounter with the enemy.

(To be continued.)

The Postage Due Stamps of Belgium

By CH. DE BONT

Issue of 1 August, 1870

AS it had been known for some little time that there were considerable irregularities in the collection of the amounts due on letters, etc., owing to their being insufficiently prepaid by the sender, the Department of Public Works decided to issue control stamps of special design. The following Ministerial decree, dated 20 July, 1870, was therefore issued:—

BY ORDER OF THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.

1. The issue is hereby sanctioned of special control stamps of the values 10 and 20 centimes, which are to be designated "*chiffres-taxe*": they are to be affixed to such letters as are entirely or partly unprepaid, always provided that they are only to be used for letters which are posted in and delivered by the same office.

2. All instructions given with regard to the preparation, storage, issue, and book-keeping of ordinary postage stamps apply equally to these Postage Dues.

3. This decree will come into force on 1 August next.

Brussels, 20 July, 1870.

V. JACOBS.

Quite a long time before, the Department of Public Works had decided to issue two Postage Due stamps on 1 January, 1870, which had been engraved by M. Ch. Wiener. At first it was decided that these stamps should be lithographed, but eventually a first supply was printed typographically. These Postage Dues were rectangular in shape, the design being as follows: In the upper part of the frame the word BELGIQUE, in the lower part POSTES; within the frame was inscribed the value in figures and also CENTIMES—À PERCEVOIR. The 10 centimes was *black*, and the 20 centimes *deep blue*. The whole of this printing was destroyed.

On 20 August, 1870, a circular was issued, of which the following is an extract:—

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS. POST OFFICE BRANCH.

Since 1 August of this year, the amount payable on unpaid, or insufficiently paid, letters, distributed by the same office as that in which they are posted, is denoted by special stamps, called "*chiffres-taxe*" (i.e. Postage Dues); these stamps are affixed by the postal officials according to the amount payable. These Postage Dues are issued in two values, 10 centimes and 20 centimes; they may not be used by the public to frank letters. Postmen are forbidden to collect money on the class of letters mentioned above, unless Postage Due stamps amounting to the sum demanded be affixed to the letter.

These Postage Due stamps were designed by Mr. H. Hendricks and engraved by Mr.

A. Doms; the initials of these gentlemen ("H. H."—"A. D.") may be found below each stamp.

They were printed typographically in colour on white paper, and were perforated 15. The figures of value, appear in white in an oval of solid colour. The inscription, À PERCEVOIR at the top, and CENTIMES at the bottom, is shown in an oval frame surrounding the figures of value. The royal crown is placed above the figures of value, and the motto, "L'Union fait la Force," in a scroll at the bottom of the stamp. In the upper left-hand corners, a hand symbolical of justice may be seen on the left, and a lion on the right.

When the amount of surtax on a letter was 5, 15, or 25 centimes, in addition to Postage Due stamps of 10 and 20 centimes the half of a 10 centimes was used to make up the odd 5 centimes. According to the regulations in such a case the stamp was to be divided horizontally; this was made quite clear by a circular issued on 6 January, 1871, by the Director-General Tassiaux, which referred to the surtax payable in certain cases on insufficiently paid post cards. The circular stated that for such cards a Postage Due stamp of 10 centimes was to be bisected horizontally, the two halves being each then equivalent to 5 centimes.

In spite of the regulation set forth above, in many post offices stamps were bisected in different ways, generally either vertically or diagonally. And in other offices, when the stock of 10 centimes had become exhausted, stamps of 20 centimes were used in their stead bisected in various ways.



1 Aug. 1870. Perf. 15.

(a) *Thick paper.*

10 centimes, green.

10 " deep green.

(b) *Medium paper.*

20 centimes, blue.

20 " violet-blue.

(c) *Thin paper, printed in fugitive ink.*

20 centimes, dull blue.

20 " deep blue.

Issue of 1 November, 1895

On 1 November, 1895, a new design of Postage Due stamps was issued, the follow-

ing Ministerial decree giving notice of the issue:—

DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS, POSTS,
AND TELEGRAPHS.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, POSTS, AND TELEGRAPHS, PURSUANT TO Article 107 of the Royal Decree, dated 12 October, 1879, in which the Minister of Public Works is authorized to sanction all details necessary to the execution of the law of 30 March, 1879,

AND PURSUANT TO the Ministerial decree, dated 20 July, 1870, by virtue of which Postage Due stamps were issued, to be affixed to letters posted at, and delivered by, the same office, such letters being unpaid, or insufficiently paid,

IS CONVINCED THAT this system of control may with advantage be extended to letters destined for all parts of the kingdom,

ORDERS AND DECREES THE FOLLOWING:—

1. That Postage Due stamps of a new design be issued on 1 November next.

2. That the Postage Due stamps be issued in five values, i.e. 5, 10, 20, and 50 centimes, and 1 franc; they will be inscribed *A PAYER* and *TE BETALEN*, and will be printed in the colours of the corresponding values of the last issue of postage stamps.

Brussels, 8 October, 1895.

J. VANDENPEEREBOOM.

As indicated above, the stamps were issued on 1 November, 1895. In the upper portion of the stamp a small triangle may be seen, which contains the letters "A. D." and "P. Z.", the initials of the engraver and designer.

The figures of value are contained in an oval, on the two sides of which are laurel leaves. Behind this laurel wreath are two

lions, in a sitting posture, one on each side. At the top and bottom of the stamp are two tablets containing the words *A PAYER* and *TE BETALEN*. The perforation gauges 14. As the stamps were printed in several batches the colours vary slightly.



1 Nov., 1895. *Perf.* 14.

- 5 centimes, green, deep yellow-green.
- 10 " pale brown, red-brown.
- 20 " reseda, olive-green.
- 50 " bistre, yellow-bistre.
- 1 franc, bright carmine, rose.

A Ministerial decree, dated 23 March, 1900, commands that the Postage Due stamps of 50 centimes and 1 franc be in future printed in *grey* and *orange* respectively.

March, 1900. *Perf.* 14.

- 50 centimes, grey, slate-grey.
- 1 franc, orange, pale yellow.

A further decree, dated 15 March, 1901, commands that the 10 centimes, hitherto printed in *red-brown*, be in future printed in *carmine*, that being the colour of the current postage stamp.

March, 1901. *Perf.* 14.

- 10 centimes, rose-carmine, bright carmine.

The Land of the Lion and Sun

CENTURIES ago Persia was among the foremost nations of the East, but now she is probably the most out-of-date despotic State in the civilized world. For many years there has been much unrest in the Land of the Lion and Sun. Indeed, one has but to refer to one's collection of the stamps of this desert land to see and gauge the state and condition of the country. The almost countless provisionals of the past half-score years have not been made with a view, like many other countries, to tapping the collector's pocket. True, many of the earlier issues were "floated" with Parisian capital and much juggled with. The provisionals in mention owe their existence to necessity. The stamps of Persia are not popular, owing no doubt to these hoards of motley surcharges; but nevertheless these provisionals are philatelically "clean"—about the only good thing one can say about this country. The fearful state of the government makes even Russia appear as an ideal. Maybe the average

European imagines that Persia is a beautiful Oriental land with rivers of flowing wine, huge floral tracts, and everything else conducive to an existence of luxury. Far from it. Persia is a huge waste of sandy land—part salt desert, part non-salt wastes. Take the capital, Teheran, the best town of the lot. A dirty place of unpaved streets—unless the rough cobble-stones come under that category. Peopled by sad-looking (and no wonder!), dirty, jaundiced-coloured folk, for the most part attired in black, or grey that is so dirty it looks black. Here and there one sees a woman in a most grotesque garb, her features entirely covered by a long white veil.

The most important buildings look as if they had been imported from Shepherd's Bush, and had encountered many storms and much rough treatment *en route*. A month of English weather would entirely obliterate Persia, for the houses are almost all composed of mud-plaster, that is, externally. Inside the decorations are perhaps

a little better, but hideously tawdry. If the domestic conditions are such, one can imagine that the civil affairs will be little better.

Postage stamps are sold at the telegraph offices, and if they ever have in stock the values you require, then your lucky star must be in the ascendant.

To-day the chief telegraph lines are fairly up to date, but in many of the out-of-the-way places a curious state of things exists. The whole country service is in native hands. First, the telegraph poles are like rough clothes-props, something similar to what one sees in our remote districts used by the country women. Secondly, the poles have insulators on—generally on an average of one in four posts, with the remainder of the insulators swinging in the air between the poles. Thirdly, the wire is sometimes above the ground, but this is exceptional; it is generally *on* the ground.

If you are a "greenhorn" (no one familiar would do such a thing!) you may want to send a telegram. You first go and ask when the line would be up. Perhaps you would get a polite reply that a camel had stepped on the wire. However, as soon as it is known you really *do* want to send a telegram, a man is sent along with a clothes-prop, hanging the wire up as he goes along.

Except on the four main telegraph lines (Tabriz-Teheran-Meshed, Quetta-Ispahan-Mesopotamia, Meshed-Quetta, and Teheran Gulf), no one would ever dream of sending a wire. It is said that the telegraph poles themselves have been known to move quicker—in a storm!

With two exceptions, the whole of the mails are carried by *charvadars*, or, as we call them, "postboys." To give an example of the quickness of conveyance (*Je ne pense pas!*) between two towns the following is representative. You send, say, a letter for Ispahan (the commercial centre) to the nearest town, Yezd. If your friend replies per return of mail, you *may* get your answer in a month. Yet a "runner," taking the mountain-road, could go and return in a week, the distance being only about 150 miles. It must be said that the postboys do occasionally put on speed, especially if they are carrying a letter of some important personage. To do this, they resort to a very humane method of selecting a sharp-pointed stone, which they place under the saddle.

The Persian's mode of correspondence is worthy of note. His outfit consists of a reed pen, a small spoon for stirring the ink, and a pair of scissors for trimming the paper; this latter is in rolls. He also possesses pieces of gummed paper for sealing his communications. The Persian writer

tears a piece of paper from his roll (according to the size he thinks his letter will be) and proceeds to carefully spread the ink *from right to left*. Should he reach the bottom, he fills the margin up, and if that be insufficient, he leaves it unfinished—the receiver can guess the remainder. After folding the paper and fastening up, he cuts a corner off, for it is considered that a four-cornered letter brings ill-luck.

Plenty of flowery (to European minds, floury) language is used. Maybe a long letter is sent composed of wishes for health and compliments, and the sole communication could have been abridged to "Please send me a pound of toffee," for Persians almost subsist upon sweetmeats.

If a *mirza* (postal clerk) runs out of any values of stamps, he would little think of getting a fresh supply. Hence the large number of provisionals that have been issued in the larger towns. Of course, at many of the sub-telegraph offices the *mirza* has not got sufficient authority to make stamps, neither has he means if he so wished.

For several years now the various European mails have been in the hands of the British and Russians. The Indian Post Office has establishments at Teheran, Ispahan, Bushire, Kerman, and Bandar Abbas. These stamps may be easily distinguished by their postmarks, and of course should be included among a collection of "British Used Abroad." The values of the stamps used, known to the writer, are:—

1884 issue.

4 annas, 8 annas.

1900 issue.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, 1 anna, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ annas.

1902 issue.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a., 1 a., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., 4 a., 8 a., and 1 rupee.

The Persian trade with India is extensive, but most of the business done with Great Britain in recent years is now transferred to Russia. The Persian Navy consists of two small vessels. The late Shah, Muzaffer-ed-Din, was a fairly amiable and quiet sort of gentleman as Shahs go, but the present one is more of the orthodox type of "Grimace at me, and off goes your head!" Hence the present trouble.

Each town and village has its own custom-house, but for the most part European goods are exempt from tax.

The Persians have a saying, "Better to lie for joy than tell the truth that produces grief," and they live up to it.

Whilst a polite nation, the European must use such terms as "Pider-sag!" (Son of a dog) if he wishes speed and attention.

The earlier issues of stamps are rare and hard to get in used condition. The type-set

stamps of 1902 and 1906 are interesting and wonderfully free, considering, from numerous varieties. The overprint of a sort of eight-pointed Star containing the Lion is a control mark to prevent forgery. Up to and including the 1904 issue the high values are inscribed 10, 20, 30, or 50 krans, as the case may be. A kran is the tenth part of a

toman. If one required a 30 krans stamp, a 3 toman stamp would be solicited, yet the stamps themselves are inscribed in their lower expressions.

With the present state of affairs many provisionals must be expected from the Universe of the Lord, King of Kings, and Light of the Sun.

Specialism

By R. E. R. DALWIGK

(Continued from Vol. VII, p. 317.)

ASIA

AMONG the various Asiatic countries we find several good and interesting districts. The Great Moguls here find some countries of large dimensions and varying rarity. Afghanistan, Ceylon, India, and Japan are perhaps the pick of the better Asiatic groups, as each of these countries is large, complicated—and expensive (in several issues).

The medium specialist does not come off so very well in Asia, although those countries which are suitable are fairly interesting in most cases. Under this heading we have such countries as Straits Settlements, Persia, Hong Kong, Cyprus, etc. There can be no question that Hong Kong and Cyprus are decidedly good countries and very interesting. Hong Kong in particular seems to possess much to recommend it to the specialist.

In dealing with the third-class, or cheaper countries, there are two first-class examples in Sarawak and Siam. Both these are favourites among collectors, Sarawak in particular being most popular with specialists.

As to what countries to avoid, there are at least two which I think I am right in saying are hardly worth philatelic attention, i.e. North Borneo and Labuan. Some push-ahead collectors are trying to point out that Labuan is really not such a bad country as depicted; however, let this be as it may, I would *not* induce the novice to take up either of these two countries at present.

In summing up we find Asia is not quite so attractive as Europe, taking all things into consideration. Most of the really good old stamps of the various Asiatic countries are considerably more expensive than those of the European Powers. A good country like Ceylon is not underpriced in the Catalogue, like some issues of old European stamps; the reason being that the better stamps of Asia (British Asia in particular) are popular at the present time.

Afghanistan, from the collector's point of view, resembles Turkey to a very great

extent, as its stamps are also of the "Chinese puzzle" type. Several of the old stamps are very rare and much in demand, whilst as a remunerative country, Afghanistan must be given the preference over Turkey. For the clever collector, who makes his own observations, this is a good country, but for the less intellectual philatelist this country is more than likely to turn out a pitfall. There is a certain monotony about so many stamps being printed in black and mauve, which will not suit the lover of colours and shades.

British North Borneo is about the last country in existence that I would recommend any one to specialize in, or even to collect any miscellaneous stamps whatever of. Certain collectors and various people have at odd periods declared such-and-such an issue to be quite all right and thoroughly worth collecting. In most cases these are speculators who bought up quantities with the hopes of making money, but have since then found to their disadvantage that they have burned their fingers somewhat badly. I do not for one moment think that there is a single issue—or even a single stamp—of North Borneo which is worth a place in any good album. The various and multiplied surcharges are productions solely for the stamp-collecting fraternity. I sincerely hope these few remarks may keep young collectors from wasting their money on this country; as, unfortunately, I know too many beginners who are led away by the artistic designs.*

Brunei.—A nice little country for the "small-country" hunter, which only commenced issuing its own stamps as late as 1906. For the young collector it will be found to be of great benefit to choose a country which has sprung into the philatelic world not long before he chooses the same. This means that collector and country are young together. Undoubtedly this is a great point, as the specialist in growing up with

* It should be understood that the opinion expressed in these articles is that of the writer only. We do not always agree with his remarks. The earlier issues of both North Borneo and Labuan are interesting, and include many scarce stamps. No doubt the postmarked-to-order rubbish has detracted from the popularity of this group for specialists; but North Borneo hardly merits the sweeping condemnation made by the writer.—Ed. G.S.W.

his country is not likely to miss any issues or provisionals should he always keep his eye upon the pages of philatelic journals, which *alone* can keep the collector up to date. The first Brunei stamps were Labuan issues surcharged "Brunei" in sans-serif capitals. This issue consisted of twelve stamps, varying in denomination from one cent to one dollar. The production of this

issue caused lively interest and much friendly rivalry among collectors, as to who should be the first to secure such-and-such a stamp. The prices have now settled down, the four higher values being catalogued between 10s. and 15s. each. Soon after this provisional issue, a pretty set of pictorial stamps appeared, designed this time specially for Brunei. (To be continued.)

British Stamps used Abroad—continued

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP V—continued

B 62. Hong Kong

THE most important British island possession in the Far East, was ceded to Great Britain by China in 1841. It is the station of the British fleet in the Pacific, and the *entrepôt* for the trade of all nations. A British post office was established in 1842, and letters were prepaid in cash, and the "Paid" handstamp was used as at other colonial British post offices. The office number (B 62), in small horizontal oval,

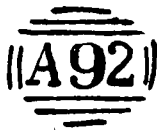


was allotted to the colony in 1860, but as the control of the office was transferred to the local authorities on 1 May, 1860, the British stamps found with this cancellation emanate no doubt from British men-of-war.

6d., plates 5, 6 emb.

A 92. Halifax

A city and seaport in the Dominion of Canada, the capital of the province of Nova Scotia, was the headquarters of the British North American fleet, and British stamps were used there between the years 1858 and 1866.



The rate of postage was 1d. per letter, and 6d. for an officer; the small horizontal oval was employed, no date stamp being then used.

The office number has been retained by the colony after the introduction of Nova Scotian stamps, but was used at Masham, in Yorkshire, after 1870.

The following varieties are known:—

- 1d., L.C., 14 stars.
- 6d., lilac; no letters.
- 6d., ,, plate 5.
- 1s., green; plate 4 emb.

B 64. Seychelles

A group of small islands in the Indian Ocean, some 900 miles north of Mauritius, was, until 1890, served by the Mauritius post office, although the office number (B 64), in small horizontal oval, was allotted to it by



the British post office in 1858. The following is the only variety known. It does not prove, however, that British stamps were ever sold there; they may have been used from a British warship. The office number is still retained by the colony.

6d., plate 3.

B 53. Mauritius

An island lying in the Indian Ocean, some 400 miles west of Madagascar, comprises an area of about 676 square miles. It was captured from the French in 1810, and the possession was ratified by the Treaty of Paris in 1814. The office number (B 53), in



a small horizontal oval, was allotted to it by the British post office in 1859, but the British stamps used there are undoubtedly from seamen's letters.

The colony issued stamps of its own as early as 1847, and retains the office number for its obliterator till the present time.

The following varieties are known:—

- 1d., plates 153, 170, 187.
- 6d., ,, 6, 6, 8, 9.
- 1s., ,, 4, 4.

(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.

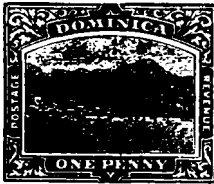
Belgium.—According to the *Philatelic Advertiser* (25.6.c3) the 5 c. Postage Due has been issued in a new shade of green.



6a

POSTAGE DUE. Type 6a. Perf. 14.
304½ c., yellow-green.

Dominica.—We have received the ½d. on multiple, unperfected paper; it has already been seen on chalk-surfaced paper.



9

1908. Type 9. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
37½d., green, O.

Dutch Indies.—According to *Champion's Bulletin* (25.6.08) a 17½ c., bistre, has been issued.



11

1908. Type 11. Perf. 12½.
105½/17½ c., bistre.

Great Britain.—Mr. Oswald Marsh has shown us a used copy of the 1s. South Eastern Railway Telegraph stamp with the perforation gauging 9 instead of 12 and 13. The stamp was properly issued, as it bears the black control number 132.



T. 10.

TELEGRAPH STAMP. South Eastern Railway. 1860. Wmk. S.E.R., arranged vertically. Black control number.

2a T. 10 1s., yellow; perf. 9.

Guatemala.—We have received the following provisionals from our local agent.



44



45



51

1902. Types 44, 45, and 51 surcharged as Type 52, in black (on 12½ c., in red).

213½ c. on 10 c., blue and orange.

214½ c. on 12½ c., black and purple.

215½ c. on 20 c., black and blue.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 4
Whole No. 126

25 JULY, 1908

VOL. VIII.

The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies

By L. HANCIAU

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(Continued from page 224, Vol. XVIII, "Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.")

II. Kingdom of Italy

WE now come to the Postage Stamps of the Kingdom of Italy.

For some time past the Post Office Department had been endeavouring to improve the stamps; according to Monsieur N. Rondot, in *Le Magasin Pittoresque*, 1864, the first trial perforations date from July, 1862, and the perforated stamps were put on sale in September. This must be a mistake, as I have seen such stamps with a postmark dated March 1st, 1862; these may perhaps have been specimens with the trial perforations of the Department (unfortunately I have them no longer, so I cannot again examine the perforations), for the first time that there was any question of perforated stamps in Matraire's contracts was on the 29th January, 1863.

Issue of March 1, 1862.

Similar to the same values of the issue of 1855-6. White paper. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.

10 c., brown, bistre, yellow-bistre, deep bistre.

10 c., pale, bright, and deep blue.

40 c., carmine-red, deep red.

20 c., orange-yellow, bright orange-yellow.

Whether the perforations gauging 9 $\frac{1}{2}$, 10, 11, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$, and 14 are speculative, or whether they were some of the trials made by the Post Office Department, remains shrouded in mystery.

Varieties. (a) Imperf. horizontally.

20 c., deep blue.

(b) Imperf. vertically.

20 c., deep blue.

(c) With a thick line of colour round the outside of the frame.

20 c., deep blue.

40 c., carmine.

One must be careful not to mistake defects due to uneven setting of the *clichés* for this outer frame line.

(d) Cut obliquely and used for half the value.

Half of 40 c., carmine.

The 5 centesimi and 3 lire have even been adorned with perforations of other gauges; these are purely speculative, these values having never been perforated officially. We have even seen a perforated 5 centesimi that had been used at Genoa December 13, 1860, cancelled, that is, two years before perforation was even thought of!

Essays.—Only one trial of perforation is known.

20 c., blue; *perf.* 7.

* * *

One thing that happened might easily have been foreseen. The Post Office employés complained, and with good reason, that it was not easy to distinguish between the 1 and 2 centesimi stamps, the colour being the same. The Post Office Department recognized the reasonableness of their complaint, and decided to change the colour of the 2 centesimi; and in order that no one should be ignorant of it, a circular was sent to the various post offices, and a notice to the public was also issued, both being dated April, 1862, to the following effect:—

"As the postage stamps of 2 centesimi are easily mistaken for those of the value 1 centesimo, both being black, the Ministry has decided to substitute other stamps of an orange-red colour, which will commence to be distributed on the 1st of the month of May next."

To the postal officials it was notified that—

"The stamps of 2 centesimi now in use will not be withdrawn from circulation, but the quantities already distributed are to be used up, and no more will be sold * after the 1st May."

Issue of May 1, 1862.

Change of colour of the 2 centesimi of 1861.

2 c., orange-red, yellow, orange.

Variety. Figure inverted.

2 c., orange.

* Probably this means "will be distributed from headquarters."—Ed. G. S. W.

Essays.—Printed on white paper.

1. *Without figure.*
2 c., yellow, orange.
2. *With embossed head.*
2 c., yellow, orange.

* * *

On the 4th May, 1862, the Director-General of Posts received the following letter from Paris:—

“To the Director-General of Posts.

“SIR,—I have the honour and the pleasure to inform you that the Essays for postage stamps, which you allowed me to get made, have been entirely successful.

“During the two months I have been engaged upon this service, I have travelled through Germany, Switzerland, and France in order to study the best methods to be employed, and I shall have the honour, sir, to submit my essays to you in the course of this week.

“I shall be proud to have attained the object desired, and to have been of use to the country I inhabit and which I love.*

“Believe me, etc.,

(Signed) “CHARLES PERRIN,
“Publisher.”

Monsieur Charles Perrin was as good as his word, for on the 6th May, two days after his letter, he sent the following essays:—



First Design.—Profile of Mars to left, wearing a helmet and crowned with laurels, in a pearled oval, enclosed in a rectangular frame, bearing the words: “FRANCO” at left, and “BOLLO” at right; ornaments in the corners.

Engraved, and printed with the design in relief in white, on a coloured ground.

No value, blue, grey, rose, green, brown-ochre, black, violet.

Ditto, blue; perforated.

This essay had already been submitted to the Neapolitan Government in 1857 or 1858, according to Mr. Rondot; but in addition to the above, bearing the inscription: “Saggio” at the top, and “C. Perrin” at the bottom. Why then this journey to Ger-

* M. Perrin lived in Turin, and had already done lithographic work in partnership with M. Rolla, also of Turin, who had had the contract for the fiscal stamps “Riscontro” in 1866.

many, Switzerland, and France, of which Monsieur Perrin spoke?

No value, blue on white.

Second Design.—As above, but having the embossed portions in colour on a white ground, instead of the contrary.

No value, blue on white.



Sometime in May, 1862, another engraver, Mr. Thernig, submitted two designs very similar to each other, representing a standing female figure, personifying Italy, holding a lance in one hand and the shield of Savoy in the other; within a rectangular frame bearing the inscription: “FRANCO BOLLO” at left, and “DELLA POSTA” on the right, the whole in white relief.

The first variety has the inscription: “CINQUE” at the top, “CENTESIMI” at the bottom, and a figure “5” at each side.

The second has diagonal lines across the corners of the frame, and the triangular spaces thus formed filled in with vertical lines. It is inscribed “20 CENT” at the top, and “CENT 20” at the bottom.

(a) *White paper (generally gummed).*

1. 5 c., blue (pale, bright, deep, and very deep), indigo, brick-red, deep brick-red, green, black, rose, green with brick-red centre.
2. 20 c., blue, bright blue, green (pale, bright, and deep), greyish blue, pale greyish blue, black, brick-red, rose, carmine, bright carmine, blue-green with brick-red centre, pale green with carmine centre.

(b) *Yellowish-white paper (often gummed).*

1. 5 c., green (pale to deep and very deep), olive-green, blue, deep blue, greenish black.
2. 20 c., green (pale to deep), blue, deep blue, olive-green, brick-red.

The author of these designs said that he had a special paper for printing stamps upon, and a special method of gumming them, which he promised would prove very advantageous. The specimens I have examined had *yellowish* or *white* gum, which did not appear to be in any way extraordinary; some specimens were not gummed at all.

After all, none of these essays were accepted.

* * *

The law of May the 5th, 1862, confirmed the "Privativa postale" or State monopoly of carrying letters, and extended this monopoly to Tuscany, where the Government had permitted competition to arise, of which the railway companies had taken advantage. The latter carried letters on which was impressed a handstamp announcing that they were prepaid, or another stamp stating the amount payable on delivery, when the letter was not prepaid.

At the same time this law of 1862 introduced a reduction in the tariff, and also a uniform system of payment by weight, as follows:—

"Art. 6. The rates for prepaid letters sent from one part of the kingdom to another will be:

For a single-rate letter, 10 grammes, 15 centesimi.
For a letter weighing from—

10 to 20 grs. . . .	30 centesimi
20 to 30 grs. . . .	45 "
30 to 40 grs. . . .	60 "
40 to 50 grs. . . .	75 "

"In the case of letters weighing more than 50 grammes, a single rate, i.e. 15 centesimi, will be added for every 50 grammes or part of 50 grammes (above the first 50).

"Art. 24. The rates for the total or partial prepayment of postage on letters of all kinds, as well as for registered letters, shall be paid by the sender, by means of postage stamps of equivalent value affixed to the envelope.

"Art. 25. When the value of the postage stamps affixed to a letter does not correspond with the rate required for its prepayment, double the difference will be charged.

"Printed matter insufficiently prepaid will not be forwarded, but will be returned to the senders when practicable.

"Art. 26. The manufacture of the paper used for postage stamps, and of the stamps themselves, is a monopoly of the State.

"The form and value of the stamps will be fixed by Royal Decree."

It was under this law that the Count de Sparre, a native of Sweden, who in 1863 sold a machine for perforating stamps to the postal authorities of Denmark for 750 rdlr. (after having asked 6000!) submitted, on the 13th June, 1862, a design consisting of a Coat of Arms, which was the work of Messrs. Pellas Frères, of Genoa, and which was nevertheless signed by him, as though he were author of it! Here it is:—



In the centre of a rectangle measuring 19 x 22 mm. are the Arms of Savoy, sur-

rounded by the Collar of the Order of the Annunciation,* and surmounted by the Royal Crown; the inscriptions read "FRANCO" at left, "BOLLO" at right, "ITALIA" in a semi-circle at the top, and the value in letters on a curved label at the bottom; below this is the word "POSTE," and in the upper corners white figures of value in coloured ovals. There is a microscopic signature inside the frame at foot, on the right-hand side "A SPARRE," and on the left "SCULPT."

For a very long time the 15 centesimi was only known in green on various kinds of paper, but later, when the design was definitely rejected, after having been first accepted, it was sought to turn it to account. It was then printed in all sorts of ways, as follows:—

15 c., green on white, wove paper.
15 c. " white paper, with wmk. a Crown.
15 c. " white paper, with wmk. Arms of Savoy and a Crown.
15 c. " green, laid paper.

This design was adopted contrary to the advice of the Minister of Finance, who thought that the price of fr. 1.50 per thousand was too dear (later on M. Sparre reduced it), and also feared adverse criticism if the work were given to a foreigner instead of to an Italian artist.

On the 12th July, 1862, an agreement was concluded between the Government and

* Guichenon declares that the Order of the Annunciation, which was founded in 1355 or 1362, was first called "The Order of the Collar," because the collar was made like that of a greyhound. The founder of the Order, Amadeus, called the Green Count, placed it under the protection of the Virgin, and had a representation of the Annunciation reproduced on the badge. Since its inception the Order has undergone great changes, while still preserving its feudal organization.

The badge of the Order bears the word "FRRT" or the letters "F. E. R. T.," to which many interpretations are given, that only come to light under special circumstances.

(a) They are said to mean: "Frappez, Entrez, Rompez, Tout," i.e. "Knock, Enter, Break, All."

(b) Or, by reversing the letters, "Tout Retourne En France," i.e. "All returns to France." This rendering was in allusion to the fact that, in 1600, a certain Prince of the House of Savoy was dispossessed of Savoy and Brescia by the King of France, because he insisted on keeping the Marquisat of Saluces.

(c) Another rendering is, "Fortitudo Ejus Rhodum Tenuit," i.e. "His courage preserved the town of Rhodes," which refers to the siege of Rhodes by the Turks. Unfortunately this explanation falls to the ground, as the coinage of the Baron of Vaud (Louis of Savoy) also bore this device, and he died in 1301, whereas the siege of Rhodes did not take place until 1310.

(d) Another version runs: "Fide Et Religione Tenuit," i.e. "We are upheld by faith and by religion."

(e) There has even been suggested: "Femina Est Ruina Tua," i.e. "Woman is thy ruin."

(f) And lastly, "Fortitudo Ejus Radicans Temmit"; "His radiant" (or should we say "blooming"?) "courage despises" (difficulties).

There is plenty of choice, as may be seen.

An article by d'Hautecombe, containing a résumé of the most authoritative opinions on the subject, says that the sense of this motto applies to the Chevalier of the Order, and that it seems to mean "He carries (the emblem of sworn faith)."

It is unfortunate that the first Arms (the Eagle) of the Counts of Savoy also bear this motto, so that its meaning remains a mystery.

M. Sparre for the manufacture by the latter of postage stamps. The principal terms of the contract may be epitomized as follows:—

"Art. 4 binds the contractors to use water-marked paper, showing the same design in each stamp.

"Art. 5 says that the paper used for the manufacture of the stamps was to be of the best quality, so as to ensure a clear impression, but that its weight must not be so great as to increase that of the letters. The paper was to be manufactured according to the instructions given by the Minister of Finance, in order to prevent forgery; and it was to be lightly tinted with the colour of the postage stamp for which it was intended. Each sheet of paper was to be divided into rectangles, each containing exactly one hundred stamps.

"Art. 6 binds the contractors to manufacture the paper in Italy. Foreign-made paper might, however, be used in exceptional circumstances by authorization of the Minister of Finance, who would have it under his control, at the expense of the contractors.

"Art. 7 says: The postage stamps are of eight kinds, namely:—

1 centesimo,	grey-green.
5 centesimi,	light green.
10 "	yellow.
15 "	brown.
20 "	blue.
40 "	orange.
80 "	rose.
3 lire,	violet.

"Art. 8. The Government has the right to change the design of the stamps or to reduce or increase their number by a Royal Decree.

"Art. 10. The stamps are to be perforated round the edges.

"Art. 16. Should the contractor fail to comply with the conditions of the contract, the Minister will have the right to manufacture the postage stamps, making use of the machines at the cost of the contractor.

"Art. 18. No plate, die, or watermark mould may be brought into the works, or made use of by the contractor, unless it is stamped with a control mark.

"Art. 20. On the termination of the contract the Minister of Finance shall have the right to buy at a valuation the machinery, dies, plates, and all accessories.

"Art. 21. Sub-letting of the contract is forbidden.

"Art. 26. The price to be paid is fixed at fr. 1.30 per 1000 stamps. The contract is for five years, dating from the 1st January, 1863."

This contract had only just been signed with M. Sparre when changes of colour were decided upon for certain values. The contractor was informed that he would have to print the

1 centesimo in	yellow; instead of grey-green.
10 centesimi in	brown, instead of yellow.

Besides this a 20 centesimi stamp was substituted for the 30 centesimi, probably in

order the better to comply with the intention of the law of the 5th May, 1862, which had apparently been overlooked; the new contractors were then given an order for sixteen millions of stamps.

After the passing of the law of 5th May, 1862, there were published, as is the usual practice, regulations for its execution, which were approved by a Royal Decree, dated September 21, 1862. Art. 66 of these regulations confirms the compulsory prepayment of letters by means of postage stamps.

"Art. 67. The postage stamp is a rectangle 23 mm. high by 20 mm. wide, the value being indicated at the bottom, and on the three remaining sides the words 'FRANCO BOLLO ITALIA POSTE'; the Royal Arms appear in the centre.

"Art. 68. There are eight values of postage stamps, namely:—

1 centesimo,	coloured yellow.
5 centesimi	olive-green.
10 "	brown.
15 "	light green.
20 "	blue.
40 "	orange.
80 "	rose.
3 lire	violet.

"Art. 75. The rate for letters not prepaid or insufficiently so is indicated by Postage Due stamps.

"Art. 76. The Postage Due stamps are oval in shape, and show in white, on an orange background, the amount of the rate to be collected. They are affixed by the postal official at the upper part of the address side of the letters before their distribution.

"Art. 77. The addressees have the right to refuse the letters if the charge is not represented by Postage Due stamps."

According to these regulations the 2 centesimi stamp was suppressed; why, we do not know, since Art. 47 states "that the sheets of periodical works, notices, circulars, etc., pay 2 centesimi for each 40 grammes, or fraction thereof."

The 2 centesimi stamp was therefore necessary, but nevertheless the Decree of the 29th October, 1863, confirms the suppression of this value, which was at last re-introduced by a Decree of the 4th December, 1864.

The issue of postage stamps announced by the Decree of September 21, 1862, of which we have just read the more important clauses, did not take place, as difficulties arose between the Post Office Department and M. Sparre. The latter recognized rather late in the day the fact that he had made his arrangements too hastily, and declared that it was quite impossible for him to fulfil the order he had received within the allotted time. He therefore asked for the extension of the time of delivery until the end of February, 1863! This request was entirely useless, for although contracts were being made with M. Sparre, while regulations

were being published on the 21st September, 1862, for the execution of the law of the 5th May of that year, the Post Office Department, which knew neither what it wanted nor what it was looking for, nominated a committee, composed of the Chevalier Alby and M. Pastoi, engineers, and of a lithographer named Doyen, to examine the machinery to be used for the manufacture of postage stamps; while at the same time it was also negotiating with Messrs. De La Rue and Co., of London, from whom it had received essays as early as March, 1862, through M. Perazzi, its representative in London. Unfortunately I have not been able to trace these essays, nor can I obtain any information about them.

Instead of granting an extension of time to M. Sparre, the Department brought forward various protests, with a view to getting out of the contract. They declared "that the Arms design was not in accordance with their wishes" (forgetting the Royal Decree of the 21st September, 1862; but what does a Royal Decree matter?). The microscopical inscription denoting the value was criticized; and they would not allow the word "ITALIA" to interrupt the inscription "FRANCO BOLLO." These were the three *grave* faults for which the design of M. Sparre was rejected, and that after having already been accepted!

For all these reasons, and plenty of others supplied by the committee appointed to ex-

amine the machines, the contracts made with M. Sparre were finally annulled.

As M. Sparre had already made all the necessary plates, he consoled himself by printing from them impressions in various colours, which he generously offered (for sale) to collectors. The following is a short list of what he printed:—

(a) *White paper.*

- 1 c., black.
- 5 c., blue, pale green.
- 10 c., mauve, brownish mauve.
- 15 c., bistre, black, green, dark green.
- 30 c., yellow-brown, black, brown.
- 40 c., greenish grey, black, brown.
- 80 c., carmine, black.
- 3 l., yellow-bistre, black.

(b) *White glazed paper or card.*

- 1 c., black, green, yellow-green, yellow.
- 5 c., blue, black, flesh.
- 10 c., black, brownish mauve, violet.
- 15 c., blue, green, black.
- 30 c., rose, brownish mauve, sea-green.
- 40 c., grey, pale green, blue.
- 80 c., pale and deep mauve, deep green.
- 3 l., bronze-green, flesh, deep flesh.

Some sheets were printed in colour on *thick, white glazed paper*; they were composed of the following values, arranged as given:—

- 40 c., 5 c., 30 c., 3 lire.
- 80 c., 1 c., 15 c., 10 c.

(To be continued.)

The Stamps of some of the Native States of India

By E. B. EVANS

(Continued from page 266, Vol. XVI, "Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.")

NOTE.—Owing to an abundant supply of other and more interesting matter, the publication of these articles has been in abeyance for the last two years. I now revert to the Native States with renewed zest.—E. B. E.

Nowanuggur

THIS Native State is situated on the western coast of India, on the south shore of the Gulf of Kutch, in the peninsula of Kathiawar, province of Gujerat. Its area is some 1370 square miles, population about 350,000. The capital bears the same name as the State, and is described as a flourishing city, built almost entirely of stone and fortified; population (in 1891), 48,500. There are beds of pearl oysters in the neighbourhood.

The name is also spelt "Nawanuggur" and "Nawanagar," in fact the use of the letter "a" or "u" seems to depend entirely "upon the taste and fancy of the speller."

The values of the stamps are expressed in *docras*:—

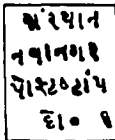
- 1 docra = 2 pies.
- 6 docras = 1 anna.

The stamps were first heard of by collectors in 1877, the 1 docra, *blue*, being chronicled in *Le Timbre-Poste* for October of that year. But according to a letter which I received from the State Postmaster in 1884, the 1 docra on *rose-coloured* paper was the first that was issued, and this appeared "in Sumvut year 1931, i.e. A.D. 1875." He stated that the *blue* stamps were in use at the time when he wrote, but that both kinds of the 1 docra were obtainable, as well as the type-set 2 and 3 docras. I am inclined therefore to suppose that the 1 docra, type-set, on *rose*, was issued first, that this was replaced by the 1 docra, *blue*, in 1877, and that the type-set stamps in three values were introduced in 1880 (they were first

chronicled then), and that from that date both types of 1 docra continued in use together. I believe that all the known editions of the type-set stamps, those, that is to say, of which we have entire sheets or blocks, contain all three values, and it is not unlikely that the original 1 docra of 1875 has yet to be discovered. I think we may take it for granted that the 2 and 3 docras stamps were not in use in 1877, when the 1 docra, *blue*, first came over; and it seems equally improbable that a type-set 1 docra stamp would have been issued as a new thing in 1880, when the *blue* stamp could be produced quite as easily. But if the old type of the 1 docra was then brought into use again for two higher values, and there was at the same time found to be a philatelic demand, it is easy to understand that the old 1 docra might be reissued and kept in stock afterwards. At any rate we have the fact that the *blue* stamp and the *black on rose* are of the same value, and that the former was the one in regular use in 1884.

Issue of 1875.

I have no information about this issue besides that given above, and I can only conjecture that it consisted of one value, in the annexed design, set up from type and printed in *black* on coloured wove paper. Imperforate.



1 docra.

1 docra, black on rose.

A transcription and a translation of the inscriptions are given in *Le Timbre-Poste* for November, 1883, according to which the first line reads: "*Sansthān*"=District or Council. The second line: "*Navānagar*." The third: "*Post Stāmp*." And the fourth: "*Do*" (for *docra*) "*r*." The characters are those known as Guzerati.

It is probable that the stamps were in sheets of fifteen, three vertical rows of five, as described later; this was the form of the sheets sent me in 1884, as representing the original 1 docra of 1875.

* * *

Issue of 1877.

I take it for granted that the 1 docra, *blue*, was issued in the course of the year in which it was first chronicled. The design is a more pretentious one than that of the previous issue, and it contains inscriptions in English as well as in Guzerati. In the centre is a Sword, with the point to the right, and an inscription in Guzerati above and below. The upper portion (again according to *Le*



T.-P.) reads: "*Navānagar post*"; and the lower portion, which is inverted, reads: "*Stāmp docra*" (or "*do*"?) "*r*." The name is stated to be composed of the words *Navā*=new, and *Nagara*=town, thus corresponding to "Newtown" in English. The Sword and these inscriptions are surrounded by a transverse oval band, lettered "*NOWANUGGUR*" above and "*POST STAMP*" below; and the oval is enclosed in a plain oblong frame, with the corners of a dotted frame in the spandrels.

The first specimen chronicled (*Le T.-P.*, October, 1877) was a used copy, described as on *wove* paper and perf. 12½. Moens lists this stamp under "*Juillet? 1877*," and then gives, under "*Fin 1877*," the same stamp on two varieties of *laid* paper (hard and soft), imperf., and (the softer paper) perf. 11. The paper certainly varies in texture, but I am inclined to doubt the existence of specimens on a really *wove* paper, and also of two distinct varieties of perforation. I have a used copy, *imperforate*, in which I can see no trace of *laid* lines, but in the case of these common papers of poor quality, a single copy, especially a used one, is not sufficient evidence.

Again, in the matter of the perforation, it seems unlikely that two different machines were employed, and it must be remembered that even the longer side of a single copy does not measure 20 mm., and therefore it is not easy to gauge the perforation quite accurately, if it is at all irregular. I have an entire sheet on *laid*, perforated. The perforation is very irregular; I find portions of the same row of holes gauging 10½, 11, and 11½, but I cannot find any length of 20 mm. containing as many as 12½ holes, though I have sometimes found three holes in a space of 5 mm., and this may be the foundation for perf. 12 or even 12½. The paper tears badly, which would add to the difficulty.

The perforator employed must, I think, have been a rough kind of harrow machine, similar to that of Kashmir, with the pins liable to get bent, and thus to give very uncertain results. The perforation does not extend across any of the margins of my sheet (which has the stamps in eight horizontal rows of four), but at one end of the first, third, and fifth vertical rows of holes there is an extra hole beyond the last horizontal row. I cannot account for the peculiarities of the perforation in any other way than by the theory of a machine that perforated the whole sheet of stamps at once. But if this is the case, it raises another question to which I will refer shortly.

The stamps were typographed from blocks reproduced by some mechanical process, either electrotyping or casting, and not very skillfully made. Many of them have defects

by which the impressions from them can be identified; in fact, the stamps could probably be plated, like those of the early issues of the Transvaal, if the printing were not so defective in many cases as to render portions of the stamps mere blotches of colour.

The blocks were evidently all separate, and were clamped together for printing purposes. This is shown by the fact that the sheets (always of thirty-two stamps) are sometimes in four horizontal rows of eight, and at other times in eight horizontal rows of four; and that an inverted stamp exists on some of the sheets, not always in the same position, showing that the blocks were reset, from time to time, and, probably, that now and then a block dropped out and was replaced upside down.

Now it is evident that if the perforation was done with such a machine as that described above, the same machine could not have perforated sheets arranged in two different ways, as the stamps are not square. All the perforated sheets, and portions of sheets, that I have seen are in eight horizontal rows of four. I have an unperforated sheet, which I am informed was obtained from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co. in 1877, and which is in four horizontal rows of eight; the first stamp seen in that same year was perforated, and the question arises whether all the early stamps were in sheets of the same shape, and whether there was another machine which perforated the sheets of that shape and which gauged 12½. It is a question that can only be decided positively by the existence of specimens, preferably in blocks, with a perforation distinctly different from that of the perforated sheets which I have described. At present I think it more likely that there was only one perforating machine, and that the first sheets printed (which were for local consumption) were in eight rows of four; that later on in 1877, when sheets were required for export, the forme was made up afresh in four rows of eight, and was perhaps kept standing for a time, and perforation was probably given up as an unnecessary luxury. The arrangement in rows of four was certainly in use later still; possibly it was reverted to with a view to occasionally perforating sheets when specially asked for. The sheet I obtained from Nowanuggur in 1884 is in rows of four imperforate, and the Postmaster, in answer to a question of mine, wrote, "our State stamps are now not perpetred with holes between them like the English stamps." It is probable that all perforated stamps are of earlier date than 1884, and it is evident from the comparative scarcity of such specimens that they were not regularly supplied to dealers at any time. My own perforated sheet is watermarked "1880," and therefore was printed at least as late as that year.

The laid lines in the paper seem, as a rule, to run the longer way of the sheets; thus the stamps in rows of eight are usually laid *horizontally*, whilst those in rows of four are usually laid vertically, but this is not invariably the case.

I have three sheets, in different shades, in rows of eight; one of these, which I should describe as *grey-blue*, was given to me by a collector who stated that he had bought it from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons in 1877, showing it to be one of the earliest imported; another sheet, in a rather duller shade, is evidently printed from the same plate, showing certain damaged blocks in the same positions; the third, in *slate-blue*, is on paper with watermark "1880"; it shows the same noticeably damaged blocks, but five out of six that I have identified are in different positions on the sheet, showing a resetting of the plate (these six do not occur on any of my later sheets).

Next to these I am inclined to place my perforated sheet, in eight horizontal rows of four; this also is in a *grey-blue* tint. It contains one inverted stamp, the right-hand stamp of the fourth horizontal row. I have two imperforate sheets, each of which contains a damaged block that occurs also in the perforated sheet; this block is in a different position on each of the three sheets; but as it does not appear on any of my other sheets it may be considered to connect them together. One of the two imperforate sheets is in a very *dark grey-blue*, and the other in a *light blue* tending towards the brighter colour that came no doubt later still; there is no inverted stamp in either of them.

I now come to the sheet which I obtained direct in 1884. It is in a very *light blue*, lightly printed, but without the *grey* tinge of those previously described. It is in eight rows of four, and has the second stamp in the third row inverted. I have an exactly similar sheet in a *brighter blue*, showing the same stamp inverted and the same damaged blocks in the same positions; this, I think, is the commonest of the sheets containing an inverted stamp. Both my copies are imperforate.

Finally, I have a sheet in the same form, in a *full bright blue*, verging upon *ultra-marine*, which was probably the last in use; it has no inverted stamp, and I cannot identify in it any of the damaged blocks that occur in the previous sheets, but there are some fresh defects.

I do not pretend to possess impressions from *all* the plates (or arrangements of the blocks) that were used; the descriptions given above are sufficient to illustrate the method employed in the manufacture of the stamps, and more than sufficient for the guidance of the general collector.

Specialists will doubtless be able to find other settings.

1. *Wove* paper (or more probably *laid*).
Perf. 12½.

1 docra, grey-blue.

Variety. *Tête-bêche*.

1 docra, grey-blue.

I list these on the authority of Moens, but I think it very doubtful whether the paper was really *wove*, and I think it possible that the perforation is the same as that described below. If any stamps were printed on *wove* paper, it does not follow that they should exist *tête-bêche*, as the earliest sheets I have seen do not contain an inverted stamp.

2. *Laid* paper, varying considerably in texture and quality, thick and thinner, hard and soft, and with various devices and dates watermarked in the sheets.

(a) Perf. 10½ to 11½.

1 docra, grey-blue.

Variety. *Tête-bêche*.

1 docra, grey-blue.

(b) *Imperf.*

1 docra, grey-blue (shades), slate-blue, light blue, bright blue (shades).

Varieties. *Tête-bêche*.

1 docra, grey-blue, light blue, bright blue.

Reprints. Within the last few years I have met with specimens which I believe to be reprints. The impression is usually blurred, as if the ink were too liquid, and they are very fresh and clean-looking. I have them in the *bright blue*, almost *ultra-marine*, like that of the last printings of the issued stamps, and also in a *grey* tint, with hardly any *blue* in it, unlike any of the other recent printings and not identical with the *greyest* of the early *grey-blues*. It is uncertain at what date this stamp actually went out of use; but I believe it remained in circulation, together with the type-set stamps, down to 1893, when the last issue came into use. The varieties I have described as *reprints* have all the appearance of being very much more recent.

* * *

(To be continued.)

The 1903 Surcharges of Guadeloupe

By JOHN N. LUFF

AT the outset, I wish to put myself on record as neither collecting nor being especially interested in the stamps of Guadeloupe. I belong to the old school of conservative collectors, who were taught to esteem the stamps that were issued to meet postal needs, and to look with disfavour on issues which were palpably intended as a source of revenue for impoverished Governments or unscrupulous officials. The 1903 provisionals of Guadeloupe are an especially glaring example of philatelic impropriety. To destroy stamps of a certain denomination by surcharging them with another value, recreate the destroyed denomination by a second surcharge on some other stamp, and then repeat the last operation—all at one time and without even the small decency of a trifling interval—ought certainly to be sufficient condemnation of the issue; but when various settings of the surcharges are employed and a further overprint is added, in five settings and much too numerous types as well as several colours of ink, the thing becomes positively indecent.

At the same time, I have always maintained that one of the first ends of stamp collecting was the amusement of the collector, and if he fancied the stamps of any particular country or group, that was sufficient reason for him to collect them, and his so doing was not the affair of any one else, whatever our personal likes or dislikes

might be. So long as stamps are issued under due authority and are used for postage, even to the most trifling extent, the catalogues are bound to recognize them. Their standing being thus established, any one who chooses to collect them should be at liberty to do so, no matter how unfavourable an opinion of their merits the rest of us may hold. Thus it is with the Guadeloupe issues which I propose to discuss.

To students of stamps any new or more complete information is always welcome. Therefore, having recently had occasion to study these Guadeloupe stamps, I have acquired information which it seems to me it will be well to put on record now. However small its value may appear at the present time, we cannot say that it will not be very welcome to some one in the future. Some time ago a very good friend of mine, who is greatly interested in the stamps of the twentieth century, appealed to me for help with the 1903 issues of Guadeloupe. He wished to collect everything which existed, including minor varieties, and desired his collection arranged on the most extended lines. I had to confess that it appeared likely to be a case of the blind leading the blind. However, I eventually consented to try to help him. In the *Monthly Journal* for June, 1904, I found an excellent article by the late Mr. Gordon Smith, but unfortunately he only considered the first series

of the surcharges made in 1903, and did not treat of the later additions of "1903" in various types in a rectangular frame. Becoming interested in following out the numerous changes and combinations, I endeavoured to secure and photograph sheets showing the various settings. I believe I have at last succeeded in getting all of them, thanks to the kind assistance of various friends.

Mr. Smith having treated the early surcharges most carefully, it would be superfluous for me to go over that part of the subject. I propose to make a few comments on and additions to his article, but, for the most part, I shall confine myself to the "1903" overprints and their combinations with the earlier surcharges. Both the first and second surcharges were set up in groups of fifty to cover two panes of twenty-five stamps each. For the sake of simplicity, I shall treat each fifty stamps as a sheet, numbering them consecutively in horizontal rows, rather than to say number so and so in the left or right pane, as the case might be. When reference is made to numbers or types, it is understood that they are those given in Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue for 1906-7.* The settings are those illustrated in the *Monthly Journal* for June, 1904.

Mr. Smith's description and lists of the 5 c. surcharge (setting A) seem ample for all purposes. In the case of the 10 c. (setting B), the advanced specialist may choose to add a few varieties. On No. 24 (var. iii.) the numeral "1" of "10" is much thicker than usual. On No. 47 (broad figures, var. vi.) the "1" is not solid, but is formed by several vertical lines. On No. 50 (var. vi.) the "o" is not solid, but is formed of crossed lines, vertical and horizontal. The three varieties of the figure "1" (in i., iii., iv., and vi.) are all to be found without serif, either because it has been broken off or has failed to print. Nos. 11 and 25 (vars. i. and iii.) have an antique "t" in the word "et," and Nos. 1, 2, 26, 28, 29, 30, 46, and 47 have no space between "G" and "et," so that they form the word "Get" (vars. i., iii., iv., and vi.). No. 48 (var. vi.) has the "G" above the line of the surcharge, and No. 50 (var. vi.) has the "D" dropped below the other letters. Broken letters and figures also exist throughout the sheet. As the surcharge has been printed inverted, it will scarcely be necessary to say that all these varieties are to be found in that position.

There is little occasion for comment on the 15 c. surcharge. The specialist may

* The lists remain unchanged, except in the following particulars: Nos. 236a, 236b, 237a to 237b, 237c to 237f, 280g, 283a, 283b, and 336a have been added; 237a has become 237f, 323a and the old 354 and 355 have been omitted, and the old 354a has become 354.

choose to collect No. 23 (var. b), which has the figure "1" double-lined instead of solid, and No. 32 (var. a), which has the "1" formed of three thin vertical lines. These two varieties are found in setting C, in which most of the numerals are in a sadly worn and battered condition. In setting D the numerals are in better shape, and we do not find any pronounced varieties among them.

Mr. Smith calls setting E, as illustrated in the *Monthly Journal*, the second setting, because it was the second received in London, but I think philatelists are now agreed that it was really the first. As only one illustration is given, I shall call the two settings "E" and "E corrected." As Mr. Smith has said, the only difference between them is that the latter setting has no inverted numerals "4." This surcharge has the antique "t" on Nos. 11 and 25 and the "G" and "et" close together on Nos. 1, 2, 26, 28, 29, 30, 46, and 47, the same locations as in the 10 c. surcharge. These varieties are to be found in setting E and also in the corrected setting. Thus we have the antique "t" on Nos. 209 and 213 of the Catalogue, and the "Get" on Nos. 209, 211, and 213. In the corrected setting No. 48 has the "G" above the line and No. 50 has the "D" below the line; the latter variety is also found in the setting before correction. In all these the variety is of No. 211 of the Catalogue. All varieties which belong to the corrected setting are also found inverted. I have seen Nos. 209 and 210 with double surcharge; consequently Nos. 211 and 212 must also have existed in this shape. Whether or not Nos. 213 and 214 are to be added to the list of double surcharges depends upon which setting, the first or the corrected, was doubly printed.

To the descriptions of the settings of 1 fr. on 75 c. I have only one addition to make. In setting G, No. 4 (as well as No. 31) has no stop after "fr", consequently we have had to add to the Catalogue Nos. 181a, 194a, and any varieties of the "1903" surcharges which fall upon No. 4 in setting G, or, in other words, on No. 181a. When studying these 1 fr. surcharges, especially in connection with the "1903" overprints, I found diagrams of settings F and G, showing the types and the Catalogue numbers, were of much assistance, and I reproduce them for the benefit of my readers. It is unfortunate that the makers of the Catalogue saw fit to designate the types of the figure "1" in setting F as i., ii., iii., and iv., and those in setting G as iii., iv., v., and vi. Had they given to setting G the numbers v., vi., vii., and viii., some needless confusion would have been avoided. As it is, the reader will please bear in mind that varieties iii. and iv. in the two settings represent entirely different numerals.

Setting "F."

b+i 148	c+i 150	b+i 148	f+i 154	h+i 158		h+i 158	d+i 151	d+ii 152	f+i 154	f+i 154
a+i 146	b+i 148	b+ii 149	f+i 154	f+i 154		f+i 154	e+i 153	f+ii 155	f+i 154	h+iv 161
b+i 148	b+i 148	b+ii 149	f+ii 156	h+i 158		f+i 154	d+i 151	g+i 157	f+ii 155	f+iii 160
b+i 148	a+ii 147	b+i 148	f+i 154	f+i 154		h+ii 159	e+i 153	f+i 154	h+i 158	f+iii 160
b+i 148	b+i 148	a+i 146	f+i 154	f+ii 155		f+i 154	e+i 153	f+i 154	f+i 154	f+iii 160

In this setting we find:—

No. 146	. . . . .	2 times.
147	. . . . .	1 "
148	. . . . .	9 "
149	. . . . .	2 "
150	. . . . .	1 "
151	. . . . .	2 "
152	. . . . .	1 "
153	. . . . .	3 "

No. 154	. . . . .	15 times.
155	. . . . .	3 "
156	. . . . .	1 "
157	. . . . .	1 "
158	. . . . .	4 "
159	. . . . .	1 "
160	. . . . .	3 "
161	. . . . .	1 "

Setting "G."

b+iii 171	c+iv 173	b+iv 172	f+iv No stop. 181a	h+v 178		h+i 158	d+i 151	d+ii 152	f+i 154	f+iv 175
a+iii 169	b+iv 172	b+iv 172	f+iv 175	f+v 176		f+i 154	e+i 153	f+ii 155	f+i 154	h+vi 179
b+iii 171	b+iv 172	b+iv 172	f+iv 175	h+v 178		f+i 154	d+i 151	g+iii 177	f+iii 174	f+iv 175
b+iv No stop. 181	a+iv 170	b+iv 172	f+iv 175	f+v 176		h+ii 159	e+i 153	f+i 154	h+i 158	f+iii 160
b+iv Small "fr." 180	b+iv 172	a+iv 170	f+iv 175	f+v 176		f+i 154	e+i 153	f+i 154	f+i 154	f+iii 160

In this setting we find:—

No. 151	. . . . .	2 times.
152	. . . . .	1 "
153	. . . . .	3 "
154	. . . . .	8 "
155	. . . . .	1 "
158	. . . . .	2 "
159	. . . . .	1 "
160	. . . . .	2 "
169	. . . . .	1 "
170	. . . . .	2 "
171	. . . . .	2 "

No. 172	. . . . .	7 times.
173	. . . . .	1 "
174	. . . . .	1 "
175	. . . . .	6 "
176	. . . . .	3 "
177	. . . . .	1 "
178	. . . . .	2 "
179	. . . . .	1 "
180	. . . . .	1 "
181	. . . . .	1 "
181a	. . . . .	1 "

It will be observed that Nos. 151 to 155 and 158 to 160 occur in both settings.

(To be continued.)

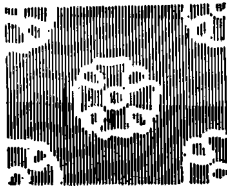
The Stamps of British New Guinea

By E. B. EVANS

VARIOUS notes upon the stamps of this colony have been published during the last few months showing the existence of varieties which have not yet been listed in the Catalogue of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and as there seems to be a certain amount of doubt as to the proper description and philatelic position of those varieties, it may be of some use if an unprejudiced outsider endeavours to review the case impartially, and to ascertain what is the true nature of the varieties that have been found. I should premise that I propose to confine myself to the variations in the stamps themselves, and not to take any notice of the overprint that has been applied to them.

In the number of this magazine for 9 May last is a very interesting article by Mr. R. Anthrobus from which I, at all events, learned for the first time that there were some very distinct variations in the paper upon which these stamps are printed, and that these variations are accompanied, and may possibly be multiplied, by variations in the position of the watermark. Curiously enough in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* of the very same date a similar article appeared dealing with the same subject from a rather different point of view, and this coincidence led me to examine a set of the stamps, including an entire sheet of the ½d. which I had obtained from Mr. Ewen in April, 1902, and subsequently to obtain from the same source specimens showing the varieties of paper which are referred to in both the articles.

The designs of the stamps, and of the watermark in the paper on which they are printed, are shown in the annexed illustrations.



tions. The watermark consists of quatrefoils or rosettes, which, unfortunately, are

not square or circular, but are longer in one direction than in the other, and the rows are spaced differently in correspondence with the shape of the rosettes; thus, looking at the paper with the longer diameter of the rosettes horizontal, as shown in the illustration, there is greater space between the rosettes in the horizontal rows than there is between those in the vertical rows; and this leads to the listing of the stamps with "watermark sideways" and "watermark upright," as given by Mr. Anthrobus, or with "wide rosettes" and "narrow rosettes," as given (I think erroneously) by Mr. Ewen. The latter maintains that the watermarks must be considered different because, in the earlier printings, the stamps with the watermark sideways (the longer diameter horizontal) appear to be always (?) on thicker paper than those with the watermark upright. But even if this were the case the theory founded upon it seems to me to be untenable, because no apparent difference in the texture of the paper can alter the fact that the watermark itself is identically the same in all, and may well have been produced by the very same dandy-roll.

Mr. Anthrobus' description of the papers is as follows:—

"First printings (thick paper, thick gum, watermark sideways).

"Second printings (thick paper, thinner than last, watermark upright, gum often toned).

"Third printings (thin paper, watermark upright)," and "watermark sideways, 2½d."

Mr. Ewen's original description was:—

"Wmk., wide rosettes, thick paper.

"Wmk., narrow rosettes, thin paper."

But he afterwards adopted the arrangement of Mr. Anthrobus, and his later description is:—

"Wmk., wide rosettes, thick, opaque paper.

"Wmk., narrow rosettes, thick paper.

"Wmk., narrow rosettes, thin paper."

I do not copy the lists of values under the different headings in either case, because I wish to confine myself for the present to the papers.

About the third paper there can be no doubt, it is distinctly thinner than the others, and appears certainly to have been the last used. The stamps on this paper do not invariably show the watermark upright, but only one value (the 2½d.) has at present been found on thin paper with watermark sideways. The question is whether there is any appreciable difference between the other

two, apart from the difference in the position of the watermark, and whether in any case they denote different printings, and if so, which was the earlier variety.

The position of the watermark depends, of course, simply upon the way in which the paper is put into the press, and this probably depends upon the way in which the large sheets of paper are cut up. The sheets are not exactly square; the dimensions of the pane of stamps, measured to the outer rows of perforation, in the case of my sheet of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. are 166×175 mm., while the paper measures 196×201 mm. (more nearly square). But it would seem that the margins of the sheets were trimmed after printing, as specimens have been found with a plate number, which must usually have been cut away; so that it is possible that the sheets of paper as put into the press were nearly square, and could have been printed upon either way, making the position of the watermark purely accidental. On the other hand, if they were not square, it is easy to understand that all the paper for one printing would have been cut in the same way, and in that case a certain printing might be recognized by the position of the watermark.

According to a letter from Mr. Ewen, to whom I am indebted for a good deal of information on the subject, "the issue took place at Port Moresby on 1st July, 1901, and in London about April, 1902." I saw the stamps in September, 1901, and they were advertised for sale in the *Monthly Journal* for that month, showing that Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., had received a supply. If any of my readers have sets which they can trace back to that date, I should much like to know which way the watermark is placed, and what is the nature of the paper, as that should decide the question as to the first printing of the stamps.

In April, 1902, they were put on sale in London, and according to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* its publishers then obtained their first supply, which presumably formed part of a second printing that had never left London. In that same month I obtained a set from Mr. Ewen, the contents of which are as follows:—

$\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1d., 2d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., 4d.; watermark upright.
6d., 1s.; watermark sideways.

The supply of April, 1902, was therefore a mixed lot, so far as the position of the watermark is concerned, and I confess that I can find no appreciable variation in the thickness of the paper of the various stamps of this set, or any difference in that respect between these stamps and specimens of the 6d. and 1s. with the watermark sideways, which are shown me as being on the thickest of the varieties of paper. The paper of the 6d. and 1s. in my set may be a little more

opaque than that of the other values, but I do not think I should have noticed it if I had not been looking for it. The paper of the other specimens shown me displays rather more difference in this respect, due, I think, to the fact that the gum is browner, and as these are copies with the large "Papua" overprint, it is probable that the tint of the gum is due to a few years' sojourn in an unfavourable climate. And if there is any real difference in the thickness of the stamps, I am inclined to attribute it to the thick gum mentioned by Mr. Anthrobus. I am fortunate enough to possess two values on the thick paper with upright watermark, the 2d. and 4d., which do not appear to be known to either of the authorities quoted above.

A curious point is that the 2s. 6d., which was not known to collectors until 1905, is stated to exist upon the first variety of the thick paper and not upon the second. Mr. Ewen suggests that perhaps it was in existence all the time, but nobody asked for it. This seems improbable; if the stamps were put on sale in London it was for the purpose of raising money, and the existence of the value calculated to produce the most profit would hardly have been concealed for three years. The evidence seems rather to indicate that the stamps on thick paper with the watermark upright were the first and those on similar paper with the watermark sideways the second, unless we are to suppose that the paper was really cut up and used sometimes one way and sometimes the other at various periods. One fact, however, may be admitted, namely, that the stamps with watermark sideways (or the majority of them) have gum which apparently is thicker and less transparent than that of the other stamps; but this appearance may possibly be due to climatic influences.

In regard to the thin paper, which must have come into use after the printing of the first supply of the 2s. 6d., it seems only necessary to say that the watermark is always upright, except in the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., which has been found with it both ways, and this seems to point to a special printing of that value on one occasion unaccompanied by other values.

On the whole, I should recommend a division of the stamps into thick paper and thin, only, with subdivision under watermarks upright and sideways, for those who wish to go so far.

I may add, for the benefit of the specialist, that almost all the stamps I have on thick paper are perforated with a single-line machine, gauging exactly $13\frac{1}{2}$, but those on thin paper and the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. on thick paper with small "Papua" overprint are done with a vertical comb machine, gauging rather more nearly 14, but I take no special pride in this discovery.

Philatelic Notes and Queries

By E. B. EVANS

UNDER this heading I propose to endeavour, month by month, to furnish replies to any queries which the readers of this magazine may think fit to send me, and at the same time to draw attention to little problems that may occur to me or may arise from my perusal of other periodicals, etc., which I trust their publishers will continue to send me as heretofore. Having no longer to study the New Issue columns, I shall be able to devote more time to the other pages of the magazines and to the extraction of "copy" from them.

If I have stolen any one's title, I apologize, and will endeavour to find one more original, but it is too hot at the present moment to hunt through the files of other journals to see whether it has or has not been used before, and I am in far too limp a condition to invent anything—even an excuse.

* * *

A PROMINENT feature of the last number of *The London Philatelist* is the Annual Report of the Royal Philatelic Society, which as usual makes very interesting reading, the events of the past season being graphically summed up by the Honorary Secretary. The affairs of the Society appear to be in a very satisfactory condition, and I am very glad to learn that arrangements have already been made for the proper accommodation of the magnificent library, to which reference was made last month in "another place," a room for it having been secured at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., where it will be at the service of the members of the Society. With every wish to avoid personal matters in these pages, I cannot refrain from expressing my thanks to Mr. Tilleard for his sympathetic reference to the decease of the *Monthly Journal* as one of the events of the year, and for his complimentary allusion to its Editor. I will at the same time ask other kind friends to accept my thanks also.

* * *

IN the June number of *The Philatelic Journal of India* there is the continuation of a very interesting article, by Mr. C. S. F. Crofton, on the subject of the various portraits of Queen Victoria, produced by skilled engravers, which are to be found upon the stamps of Great Britain and the British Colonies. As Mr. Crofton very justly points out, the portrait is the most difficult and important part of the whole design (which, of course, adds immensely to its value as a safeguard against forgery), and it is there-

fore not surprising that the same actual engraved die should have been made use of for the central portion of various stamps with very different frames. An instance familiar to all stamp collectors is that of the Perkins Bacon Coronation portrait, used first for Van Diemen's Land in 1855, then for Bahamas and Natal in 1859, and again for Queensland and Grenada in 1860 and 1861. Mr. Crofton, however, goes on to suggest an extraordinary use of an engraved die for the production of profiles facing in opposite directions, which I believe to be quite impossible, and that belief has been confirmed by very high authority, which I quote below. The suggestion made is as follows:—

"In 1860 the American Bank Note Co. engraved a head for the one cent stamp Nova Scotia. It is characterized by a diadem which passes under the hair and has four depressions in its upper rim divided by five points; and by two plain bands, one behind the ear and the other round the chignon. This die was used again by the same firm for the twelve cents Newfoundland in 1866, and for fourteen Canadian stamps from 1868 to 1876. *For the latter a negative impression had been taken from the original which results in the portrait facing to the right instead of the left.*"

I have italicized the sentence to which I wish to draw special attention. This sounds all right, but if we think of the method employed for the reproduction of a steel die, we shall see that no such thing could possibly be done. The die is, like all other engraved dies or plates, in itself a negative, to the extent that the profile on the die faces in the opposite direction to the profile on the stamps to be produced from it. For reproduction an impression from the die is taken upon a steel roller, and this will be a positive impression, with the head facing in the required direction, but it will also be of an opposite nature to the engraving on the die in every respect; that is to say, all the parts cut into the die will be in relief on the roller and all those left in relief on the die will be cut into the roller. Presumably it would not be impossible to get an impression from the first roller upon a second, and from the latter to produce a plate which would show the profile facing the opposite way to that upon the original die, but the impressions on that plate will show all the characteristics of the impression upon the first roller, and stamps printed from it will not only show the profile to the right instead of to the left, but will also have that profile *in colour shaded with white dots*, instead of the reverse. And no

amount of transferring backwards and forwards will produce from that die a plate from which stamps can be printed with the profile to the right that will not possess the other peculiarity also.

As my knowledge of these matters is merely that of an amateur, I submitted the question to Mr. J. D. Heath, the Managing Director of the firm of Perkins Bacon & Co., Limited, who fully confirmed the opinion I have expressed as to the impossibility of producing from the die of the Nova Scotia head a die for the Canada head. He adds that the two faces are not identical, the dots and lines in the one being, to his eye, quite different from those in the other. He states that, in his opinion, an impression was taken from the original die upon transparent paper, and that this was turned face downwards upon a fresh piece of steel and a new die engraved by hand in the usual way. This would account for the one being a close copy of the other and also for the discrepancies between the two, which are apparent to an expert.

The point is not perhaps one of extreme importance, but it is always useful to know exactly what can and what cannot be done in the matter of engraving and reproduction.

* * *

I HAVE to congratulate the American Philatelic Association, of which I am but a very unprofitable member, upon having attained the object of its ambition by bringing its membership up to 1500, and over, before the Annual Convention which will be assembled when these lines are in print. It is a fine achievement, but does that number represent as much as ten per cent of the active stamp collectors in the United States? And, if it does, how are the other nine-tenths to be got at and persuaded to take an interest in other stamp collections as well as their own? It seems to be the same everywhere; a large proportion of the collectors pursue their hobby alone, or at all events do not join any Society. Of course, they cannot be compelled to come in, but the question is bound to arise whether the fault, if there is a fault, lies with the Societies or with the individuals, and if with the former, what can be done to render them more attractive. Looking back to the report of the Royal Philatelic Society, we see that with a total membership of about two hundred and sixty the average attendance at the meetings of the past season was "a fraction over twenty-two," and this is stated to be "a satisfactory increase over the number in past years." It is true that the members of the Society are scattered over the whole world, but still it does not seem a very large proportion, especially when it is remembered that at every one of the meetings an interesting display was given or paper read, or both. I

must confess that I myself am a most constant absentee from the meetings of the various Societies which kindly permit me to keep my name upon their lists, pleading old age and indisposition of various kinds as my excuse; it seems as if the proceedings were not altogether very attractive to me, but I cannot for the life of me think of anything that would be likely to make them more so unless to have them held next door, but that would indicate laziness, of which I should not like to accuse others.

* * *

SOME months ago a theory was propounded in an article which appeared first in *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*, and was afterwards copied into other journals, to the effect that the word "Philatelist" was a mere imitation of a much older word instead of being, as usually supposed, an entirely new word, genuinely, if somewhat fancifully, composed in 1865 by Monsieur Herpin. It seems that over ninety years previously, in 1773, a Society was formed in Paris, the members of which termed themselves "Philaletes, or Seekers of Truth," and the suggestion was made that the inventor of the word "Philatelist" had heard of these long-forgotten "Philaletes," and manufactured the new word from the old. But, when he had such well-known words as "Philanthropist," "Philologist," "Philosopher," etc., to guide him, why should we suppose that M. Herpin was inspired by an out-of-the-way name which he may never have met with? Besides which, the word that he invented was not "Philatelist" but "Philatelic," from which "Philatelist" and "Philatelic" were subsequently formed; and there appears to be no earthly reason for doubting that the account given at the time was correct, namely, that the word was formed from "Philos" (fond of) and "ateleia" (exemption from tax), thus meaning a love of the things denoting that a tax, or rate of postage, had been prepaid.

* * *

AN amusing article, by Monsieur P. Mahé, in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* for June 30, deals candidly with the issues, biennial and provisional, of the group of Spanish Colonies on and off the West Coast of Africa, and especially with those of Rio de Oro. The production of speculative rubbish is a public scandal; every one knows the class of enthusiastic philatelist (?) that reaps both the crop and the profit, and it is no excuse to say that this or that particular rubbish is no worse than similar things produced elsewhere. "Afric's sunny fountains" are not the only ones that "roll down their golden sands" for the benefit of the speculator at the Post Office window. But the Alligator and the Crocodile are not one bit more estimable than the "Cayman."

New Issues and Discoveries

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.

Dutch Indies.—We have received a new value, the 7½ c., of the same design as the other low values now in use.



10

1908. Type 10. Perf. 12½.
112x7½ c., slate.

German P.O.s in Morocco.—According to *The Postage Stamp* (11.7.08) the 50 centimos has just been issued on the Lozenge-watermarked paper.



17

Morocco
5 Centimos

45

1908. Type 17 (Germany) surcharged with Type 45, in black. Wmk. Lozenges, as Type 37.
M 40|50 c. on 40 (pf.), black and carmine.

Gibraltar.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (11.7.08) the 4s. was issued on multiple, surfaced paper, during the month of June.



9

1908. Type 9. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
62x42, lilac and green, C.

Jamaica.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (4.7.08) the 4d. Queen was issued on multiple, unsurfaced paper, on or before 6 June.



4

1908. Type 4. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
57x44, red-brown, O.

Leeward Islands.—Mr. H. J. Hawkins has shown us copies of the ¼d. on chalk-surfaced paper.



6

1908. Type 6. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
31¼d., lilac and green, C.

Montserrat.—A correspondent states in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (11.7.08) that he has received the 1d. and 2¼d. in single colours.



4

1908. Type 4. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
17¼d., carmine, O.
39¼d., ultramarine, O.

New South Wales.—*The Australian Philatelist* (1.6.08) lists a 3d. of the 1871-81 issue, overprinted "OS", in black, instead of in red.



13



29

OFFICIAL STAMP. Type 13 overprinted "OS", in black. *Wmk.* Type 29. *Perf.* 12½, 13. 611a|3d., green.

Nicaragua.—Our New York house comes down upon our devoted heads with four more provisionals, which we list below. Type 45 is the illustration omitted from our issue of 11 July.



37

B

Dpto. Zelava

23

Vale 100

41

Vale 100

42

1908. Type 37, surcharged in black as Types 41 or 42 (reading downwards), overprinted in black with Type 23.

4570|41|20 c. on 2 c., rose.
4570|42|20 c. on 2 c. "

CORREO-1908



46

45

CORREO-1908
VALE 45

47

1908. Type 45 (*fiscal stamp*), overprinted in green with Type 23, reading upwards.

(i.) Overprinted in black with Type 46.

4600|5 c., orange-yellow.
4600|10 c., turquoise-blue.

(ii.) Surcharged in carmine as Type 47.

4600|15 c. on 50 c., green.

North Borneo.—We have been shown a copy of the current 24 c. overprinted in the usual way for use as a Postage Due stamp.



43

BRITISH

PROTECTORATE.

48

POSTAGE DUE

71

POSTAGE DUE. 1908. Type 43 overprinted in black as Type 48, and also with Type 71 (*horizontally*). 333|24 c., blue and lake (No. 102).

Northern Nigeria.—Mr. Ernest C. Hodgett sends us copies of the 2d. on chalk-surfaced paper, and states that the first issue took place on 13 June.



3

1908. Type 3. *Wmk.* Multiple Crown C.A. *Perf.* 14. 22|2d., purple and yellow, C.

Papua.—We have been shown a copy of the 6d. of the permanent set; it is similar to the 4d. as regards design, and is perforated 11.



6

1908. Type 6. *Wmk.* Crown and A. *Perf.* 11. 30|6d., black and myrtle-green.

Queensland.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (4.7.08) states that the 3d. has been issued with the new Crown and A watermark.



21



29

1908. Type 21. *Wmk.* Crown and A, Type 29. *Perf.* 13. 238|3d., brown.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 5
Whole No. 187

1 AUGUST, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Gambia



THE Gambia Colony and Protectorate, a component part of British West Africa, consists of the island of St. Mary, British Combo, Albreda, the Ceded Mile, McCarthy's Island, and a narrow strip of territory along both banks of the River Gambia from its mouth to a point where it ceases to be navigable, viz. about

250 miles from the coast. The total area is about 3620 square miles, and the population in 1906 was estimated at 155,000 (including about 200 whites).

The historical River Gambia, long supposed to be the Niger, was discovered by the Portuguese in 1447, but no settlements were made by them.

In 1588 Queen Elizabeth granted a charter to some Exeter merchants to trade with the Gambia, and a company was formed for this purpose and "to explore the interior and reach the Niger region." The first expedition, conducted by Richard Thompson (1618), and a second by Richard Jobson (1620), ended in disaster.

Little was done till, in 1686, a fort, named Fort James in honour of the new King, was built on a rocky island at the mouth of the river. This was for the prosecution of the slave trade, which, until its abolition, formed the staple traffic of the company. The English merchants had formidable rivals in the Portuguese and French, but things were put on a better footing when, in 1783, the Gambia was recognized as belonging to the British and the Senegal to the French.

In 1816 a new settlement on the island of St. Mary was made by British merchants from Senegal, and the town of Bathurst, the present capital, established.

With the abolition of the slave trade the West African settlements fell into difficulties, and in 1821 the chartered company was dissolved. Gambia passed to the Crown and formed part of the "West African Settlements." Until 1843 it was administratively joined with Sierra Leone, but in that year it was granted separate government. It was again united with Sierra Leone in 1868, but in December, 1888, it was created a separate Crown Colony. The protectorate has been established at various times, from 1894 to 1901, by agreement with the different chiefs concerned.

About 1883 the British West African Colonies were on the point of being connected almost without break of continuity along the coast, but thanks to the supineness of the home Government, who failed to back up the zealous local officers, the opportunity was lost. The gaps left open were promptly filled by France and Germany; thus to-day our West African Colonies are scattered and of relatively small extent. Gambia in particular is a mere political enclave in French domain.

Only a small proportion of the trade is done with the mother country; it is mostly with or through the adjoining French colonies. In 1906 the total exports were £428,000, of which only the odd £28,000 came to the United Kingdom. In the same year of the total imports, £450,000, we supplied only about a quarter.

The resources of the country are entirely agricultural, and the principal product ground-nuts. The latter form three-quarters of the total exports, and are sent chiefly to Marseilles, where the oil is extracted and used for the same purposes as olive oil. Other products are hides, beeswax, rice,

cotton, indiarubber, and maize. The district might with great advantage be more seriously devoted to the growing of cotton. The chief imports are cotton goods, kola nuts, tobacco, and rice.

The native population consists mainly of Mandingoes, a type rather negroid than negro. They are excellent husbandmen and enterprising traders, taking an active part in the caravan trade between Sierra Leone and Timbuctu, and extending their commercial expeditions as far as the River Niger.

The capital, Bathurst (population 9000), lies on St. Mary's Island, a sandbank on the south side of the Gambia estuary, separated from the mainland by a tidal channel called Oyster Creek from the quantity of these bivalves attached to the fringing mangrove trees. Other stations or ports are Bar Point (opposite Bathurst), Albrede (the headquarters of the French traders in the eighteenth century), Fort James (already mentioned), and Georgetown (on McCarthy's Island, about 150 miles inland). The system of intercommunication is almost entirely by water. There are no local telegraphs or railways. The postal packets dealt with in 1906 were 98,397; parcels, 1994. The legal currency is British, but French 5-franc pieces pass freely.

The climate, though unhealthy, is not so insalubrious as in the other West African possessions. Speaking generally, we do not seem to have made the best of our opportunities in this part of the world. With no outlet to the interior Gambia cannot now hope to develop much importance. Indeed, the transfer to the French in exchange for compensation elsewhere has more than once been discussed. Just now there is some talk of exchanging St. Pierre and Miquelon for some of our West African possessions, a deal that would probably suit both nations.

Philatelic History

The stamps of Gambia make an interesting and compact little group. The issues have not been many, and until 1906 were not distinguished by any provisionals. The earlier series are distinguishable from other colonial stamps by reason of the embossed medallion, and provide handsome sets for the collector's album. From an investment point of view, Mr. C. J. Phillips says, "the stamps are sound and good, and pretty sure to increase in value." In fact, as regards prices, Gambia has proved one of the most stable of all philatelic countries, the periods of artificial prices or slump affecting it in but very slight degree. It is a country suitable alike to the specialist and the general collector; the former finding a great variety of shades, and taking the embossed sets in complete sheets, whilst for the latter there are no unattainables.

The first issue was early in 1869, and consisted of two values engraved and printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., of London, upon wove unwatermarked paper, and not perforated. All the design that appears in white is in relief. The shades of the solid colour vary considerably. The sheets of each value consisted of fifteen stamps, arranged in three horizontal rows of five, and a collection of such sheets has a most attractive appearance.



1869. No wmk. Imperf.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
4d., brown	32	0	35	0
6d., blue	45	0	35	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

Twentieth Century Colonials

MR. J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, B.A., F.R.P.S. Lond., kindly sends the following slight corrections on recent portions of Mr. Armstrong's serial article:—

Hong Kong. King's Heads. Single CA.

1 c. Mr. Armstrong lists date of issue as being January, 1903. I have it as being 12 February, 1903.

12 c. Mr. Armstrong lists date of issue as being 18 February, 1903. I make it 12 February, 1903.

Stamps watermarked CA. Chalky paper.

8s, \$3, and \$5 stamps. I have all three as being issued in September, 1905.

Further, Mr. Armstrong leaves out these two values, both on chalky paper: 30 c., grey-green and black, issued 30 August, 1907; 6 c., violet and orange-red, issued 4 December, 1907.*

As regards the two unicoloured stamps issued in 1907, the date is 8 May.

Alleged Stamp Robbery

CHARLES MILES, 34, bookbinder, of Sabine Road, Battersea, was charged before Mr. Hutton with stealing 2000 Indian stamps (Cochin and Bhopal) from his employers, Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., Limited, stamp printers, Southwark Bridge Road.

Mr. Sydney appeared for the prisoner.

Mr. E. F. Averbury, secretary to the prosecutors, identified thirty-seven 1 anna stamps produced by the police as part of the missing 2000. The face value of the lot was £10, but being unissued they would be of greater value to collectors.

Henry Braun, stamp dealer, said he bought a quantity of Cochin and Bhopal stamps of the prisoner on 31 May, and paid him either £1 or £1 1s. for them.

* The article is only intended to embrace issues to June, 1907.—Ed. G.S.W.

By the Magistrate.—The prisoner gave no name and address, and the witness did not ask who he was, but only where he got the stamps from, and the prisoner replied that he got them from his brother in India. The witness got about 600 stamps, some of which were damaged, for the guinea.

Cross-examined by Mr. Sydney.—He was sure he didn't get £10 worth. There was no record of the transaction in his books, beyond the payment of a guinea on that day, which he believed referred to his purchase from the prisoner.

A remand was ordered on £40 bail. *Morning Advertiser*, 13.7.08.

The Stamp Trade Protection Association, Ltd.

IT behoves editors of all papers to see that the information contained in their papers is as accurate as possible, and on this subject my attention has been drawn to a statement about the Stamp Trade Protection Association, Ltd., which appeared in *Mack's Stamp Review* of 22 June last.

A list of London members of the Association is there given; but I find it very inexact, as it gives only eighteen names, and thirty London dealers are at present members of the Association.

The following is a correct list:—

LONDON MEMBERS OF THE STAMP TRADE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

(A * denotes a Director for the current year.)

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Bluett, E. F. G. | Heierle, W. U. |
| *Bridger, E. J. | Horsman, W. G. |
| (of Messrs. Bridger & Kay) | (of Messrs. Puttick & Simpson) |
| Campbell, D. | Jacoby, W. |
| Coates, J. J. | Kay, A. B. |
| Ewen, H. L. | Kirkpatrick, W. B. |
| Griebert, H. | Loverins, G. |
| *Hadlow, H. | Lowe, H. F. |
| Haworth, H. E. | *Martin, B. E. |

Moffat, E. J.	Reed, C. T.
Morley, W.	Regan, W. H.
Nissen, C.	Salter, H.
* Oliver, F. H.	* Telfer, J. H.
(of Messrs. Bright & Son)	(of Messrs. Plumridge & Co.)
Peckitt, W. H.	Turpin, F. B.
* Pemberton, P. L.	Waite, J.
Phillips, C. J.	Westhorp, R.
(of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.)	

Forgeries and the Stamp Trade Protection Association, Ltd.

I HAVE much pleasure in publishing the following notice which has been sent in on behalf of the Trade Association :--

THE STAMP TRADE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION, LTD.

£100 REWARD.

ON conviction the above Association are prepared to pay £100 to any one supplying information that will lead to the conviction of the person or persons who made, caused to be made, or knowingly dealt in forged or faked stamps which have appeared during the last few years, amongst them being the following:—

Gold Coast, £1 Queen.
Lagos, King, Single CA, 2s 6d., 5s., 10s.
Somaliland Officials.
Transvaal C.S.A.R.
British Central Africa, Nigger type, no wmk.
Great Britain Officials.
" 8d., Hair Lines.
&c., &c., &c.

All communications should be made to the Secretary of the Stamp Trade Protection Association, Ltd., 63 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

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

Paraguay.

THIS book has been rearranged according to notes in new Supplement to Catalogue; the prices are also considerably altered, as our stock of these stamps had been much reduced by purchases for South America, and we have had to very largely increase some

prices, as we find many stamps could not be bought in quantities at Catalogue rates.

This book is a very good one, and also all varieties are well represented, both used and unused.

Bulgaria, South Bulgaria, and Roumelia.

A fairly good book, but not so strong as I could wish in early Bulgarians.

I desire to draw special attention to the overprinted stamps for South Bulgaria, those with "Lion" alone and with "Lion in frame." I have had all my stamps expertized by the leading authority on these stamps in Bulgaria and a good many forgeries weeded out. These forgeries are rather dangerous, and exist in large quantities in most stocks, and such stamps should only be purchased from experts.

Mexico.

Three new stock books of this country have just been finished. In making them up we have been rather astonished to find the number of common stamps that have sold since these books were last rearranged. Many stamps we have not been able to purchase at prices low enough to allow us to reprize our books at the old rates, and a good few stamps will be raised in price in the next Catalogue.

There really seems to be a good sound, steady demand for South and Central American stamps, and as stocks are certainly low amongst the British stamp dealers, I should not be astonished at seeing considerable advances in these stamps in the near future.

Hungary.

A good book of this country. In the first lithographed issue there is a good lot of unused, including some choice shades. The later issues include a fine lot of varieties, such as *retouches*, double figures of value, etc.

This is a good sound country to collect; no rare stamps, but many interesting and scarce varieties that want a lot of finding.

Postal Methods and Means during the American Civil War, 1861-5

By W. WARD

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Freightage of the Mails—continued

(ii) Interior

IN addition to irregular services during the height of the war, there were several established Government routes between the larger centres. One of the more expressage routes was the semi-official one between Meridian (Mississippi) and Shreveport (Louisiana), which had the advantage of a bi-weekly mail. To give some idea of the cost

of postage, which, of course, was prepaid, 40 cents was charged between the two aforementioned towns for every half-ounce, or portion of a half-ounce, by the Express Mail.

The reader may at once bring to mind that there were many lines of railways in existence during the early sixties. This was certainly the case; but since '61 repairs and renovations to keep pace with the wear and usage had been impossible, and the per-

manent roads were fast wearing out. Iron could not be imported on account of the Federal blockade of the various ports. Gradually orders were given that speed must not exceed *ten miles per hour*, and this on the two best railroads—those between Selina (Alabama) and Meridian (Mississippi), and Danville (Virginia) and Greensboro (North Carolina). The surprise of a mail train—and with few exceptions the trains were only run for the speedy conveyance of the mails—by the enemy was no uncommon occurrence. A Federal officer in his description of attempting to hold up a Confederate mail says:—

The train moved slowly nearer and nearer to where we were ambushed . . . the command to stop was disregarded, but, on the contrary, the movement of the train was accelerated. We were given the order to fire. The engine-driver was shot down by Captain F—, to whom I had lent my blunderbuss; but before the deadly bullet reached him he had put the train to a somewhat quicker motion, so we could not make ourselves master of it. A chase of the strangest description now arose, the train going at a pace at which we could just manage to keep up with it by galloping hard. Eventually we had to cease the chase, but somewhat satisfied ourselves by destroying the railroad for some length in order to prevent any further mails coming through.

From another point of view, that of an officer in charge of the mails, we can get some idea of the humours, though rather annoying to those deputized to carry them safely.

After several unsuccessful attempts to get up steam owing to the dampness of the wood, a few creaks and bumps, we started on our journey. For the first few miles we were favoured by a gradual decline, and assumed a no mean speed of some fifteen miles per hour, *until we came to the foot of a small hill*. The speed quickly dropped, until three-quarters up the incline our driver was obliged to apply his brakes or we should have at once begun to traverse the ground we covered a few minutes ago. After a little rest, a tightening of the valve, we once more essayed a start and, after much trouble, we surmounted the difficulty. . . . Upon reaching our destination I was much surprised to find my face, clothes—indeed, everything I had on—covered with soot thrown out by the engine.

This is the description of a trip upon the engine of a Confederate mail train by an officer in charge for the first time.

Time did not improve the condition of the "metals," until at last it was found dangerous to attempt to run a train. The authorities were thus bound to find another mode of locomotion to establish a quick communication between the various large towns. It was decided to give the hand-cars, as used by the railroad workmen, a trial. I do not know what they were called in the "sixties," but to-day they are known throughout the

States and Canada as "jiggers." The power is supplied by working one or two, as the case may be, levers up and down. Much to their delight, the Confederates found that a couple of fairly strong negroes could maintain a speed of some twenty miles an hour under favourable conditions. With a decline and a fair wind behind them as much as thirty miles could be covered in twice as many minutes, but the vice versa meant a speed of something like five miles per hour, or a dead stop. At any rate, this means of locomotion was simpler and less dangerous than steam, and where the roads were intact was kept up until the close of hostilities. The wooden "jiggers" of those days were considerably heavier than the light steel-built ones so well known to-day on many of the Canadian lines.

In those portions of the country where no railroads existed, the mails were conveyed by postboys on ponies. S. L. Clemens, in his book on roughing it in the settling days, aptly gives an idea of the speed and performances of the pony expresses in those exciting days.

The pony rider was usually a little bit of a person, brimful of spirit and endurance. No matter what time of night, no matter whether it was winter or summer, raining, snowing, hailing, or sleeting, whether his track was a level, straight road, or a crazy trail over mountain crags or precipices, he sped across the continent for days at length. He rode a splendid horse that was born for a racer and fed and lodged like a gentleman; kept him at his utmost speed for ten miles, and then, as he came crashing up to the station where stood two men holding fast a fresh, impatient steed, the transfer of rider and mailbag was made in the twinkling of an eye, and away flew the eager pair, and were out of sight before the spectator could get hardly the ghost of a look. The rider's dress was thin, and fitted close; he wore a "roundabout" and a skull cap, and tucked his pantaloons into his boot-tops, like a race-rider. He carried no arms—he carried nothing that was not absolutely necessary—for even the postage on his literary freight was worth five dollars a letter. He got but little frivolous correspondence to carry. . . . The little flat mail-pockets strapped under the rider's thighs would each hold about the bulk of a child's primer. They held many and many an important chapter and newsletter, but these were written on paper airy and thin as gold leaf nearly, and thus bulk and weight were economized. The stage-coach travelled about a hundred to one hundred and twenty-five miles a day (twenty-four hours), the pony rider about two hundred and fifty. . . . Away across the endless dead level of the prairie a black speck appears against the sky, and it is plain it moves. In a second or two it becomes a horse and rider, rising, falling, rising, falling—sweeping towards us nearer and nearer—growing more and more distinct, more and more sharply defined, nearer and still nearer, and the flutter of the hoofs comes faintly to the ear; another instant a whoop and a hurrah from our company, a wave

of the rider's hand, but no reply, and man and horse burst past our excited faces, and go winging away like the belated fragment of a storm! So sudden is it all, and so like a flash of fancy, that but for the flake of white foam left quivering and perishing on a mail-sack after the vision had flashed by and disappeared, we might have doubted whether we had seen any actual horse and man at all, maybe.

The aid of another pen to describe a no mean picture of a pony-mail rider has to an extent given a fair idea as to those who carried dispatches during the war time. Necessarily the differences between a letter-carrier in peace and a mail-runner in war would be wariness and a brace of firearms. In war there would be no possibilities of relays at convenient distances—if any at all, they would be uncertain. Whilst man may have been able to last a few days, beast would be unable to continue its exertions for longer periods than ten hours. One who rode up north to Richmond gives a vivid illustration of his hazardous journey.

As my old grey was very nearly broken down by hard riding, I had to go carefully if I desired to reach Richmond, the first place it would be possible for me to procure an exchange of mount. My ride took me over the battlefield and along a portion of the line of the enemy's (Federal) former retreat. I looked with astonishment at the effect of the heavy artillery fire upon some portions of the forest; hundreds of the largest trees were riven and shattered, and in many places the fallen trunks and branches barricaded the road, so that it was difficult to get along at all. For miles the ground was thickly strewn with muskets, knapsacks, blankets, and other equipments that had been thrown away in the flight by the soldiers of the retreating army. It was nearly night when I reached Richmond. Wet, cold, and weary, I had to safely see my charge (the mails) into the hands of the proper authority for their care. After this duty I immediately rode to the hotel and sought my bed—a luxury which none can appreciate until they have ridden hard and had but little sleep in their clothes every night.

The writer goes on to say a little later:—

On the following day I had the pleasure of receiving from the postmaster at Richmond a noble black horse to replace the steed which I fear will never be able to do Government service again.

These post-carriers had often to raid farm-houses or their fields and gardens for food. The state of the country in many parts naturally did not offer much inducement for the cultivation of the regular and proper crops; indeed, these post-office "commandeers" as often as not had to be satisfied with a few miserable onions and diseased potatoes for their table d'hôte, and to dig them up with their hands at that, from some poor garden of a little farmhouse. All riders were not so fortunate as the gentleman that got to Richmond and was able to put up at a hotel. A Confederate rider passing through one of the Carolinas describes a night's rest (?) by the wayside as at once showing the danger these men were placed in in taking charge of a parcel of letters.

Fatigued by the long ride, and exhausted by the intense heat of the day, I had spread my blanket near an old log, and, resting my head upon my mail wallet, I fell at once into a deep sleep, from which I was presently awakened by something crawling over my hand. I quickly shook off the object, which gave a sharp rattling sound, and which I perceived at once to be a snake more than four feet in length. Sleeping as I did, with my arms by my side, it was the work of a moment to draw my keen blade and sever the reptile in twain.

The describer does not say whether he went to sleep again or continued his journey; but perhaps such experiences were not very extraordinary—to him. At any rate, the country was not as we should find it to-day, a well-paved road, but broad, dreary swamps, deep, uncertain rivers, and such to cross. Add to this the condition of the weather; maybe rain falling in torrents, boisterous winds, and bitterly cold; yet our own postmen, who are paid thrice as much to work half as long, are continually sending deputations to the Postmaster-General in office. The fording of a swift stream meant many things. The horse would be swept away and drowned, perhaps with the precious mails attached to his saddle. The rider would be bound to find some means of recovering them, or he dare not present himself without his charge. If a carrier lost his mails he was supposed to also lose his life in the defence of their safety.

(To be continued.)

The Postal System and Stamps of Morocco—continued

By OTTO ROMMEL, *Doctor of Law*. Translated by FRANK PHILLIPS

III. Stamps of the German Post Offices

FROM 1893, until German Postal Agencies were opened in Morocco, German subjects resident in the coast towns were permitted to forward letters to Germany by the Wörmann Steamship Line.

Ordinary German stamps were used, and were postmarked on the boats in *black ink* with the inscription "Aus Westafrika" (from West Africa). By the side of this postmark the name of the particular town, e.g. Mogador, was written in ink. In all specialized

collections of the stamps of German Morocco, it is only right that these should be included. Unless the name of the town is written in, one cannot be sure that the stamp was really used in Morocco, as the same postmark was used, at any rate up to 1897, on letters posted in German South-West Africa and the Cameroons.

As soon as German Postal Agencies were opened in Morocco, which event took place on 20 December, 1899, special stamps became necessary. At first it was thought sufficient to surcharge some of the values of the German 1889 issue; the surcharge was in *black*, and runs obliquely up the stamp from left to right, and is in two lines, the top line consisting of the word "Marocco," and the lower line of the value in Spanish currency.



Stamps of the German Empire, surcharged.

3 centimos, black, on 3 pf., brown.
5 " " " 5 " green.
10 " " " 10 " carmine.
25 " " " 20 " ultramarine.
30 " " " 25 " orange.
60 " " " 50 " red-brown.

First of all it was the intention of the authorities to make an issue for Morocco simply by overprinting the current stamps of the German Empire with the word MAROCCO in block capitals. The following were actually prepared:—

Prepared for use, but never issued.

Stamps of the German Empire, 1899, issue, overprinted "Marocco" in block capitals, in black.

3 pf., brown.
5 " green.
10 " carmine.
20 " ultramarine.
25 " orange.
50 " red-brown.

The above must be looked upon as nothing better than proofs, as they were never even authorized for issue, much less actually issued. The Postal Department and the Imperial Printing Office in Berlin absolutely refuse to give any information on the subject, but the most probable reason for their non-adoption is that the Spanish currency was so very much below the value of the German currency.

At the end of 1900, I believe on 20 October, stamps of the German Empire, "Ger-

mania" type, inscribed REICHSPOST, were issued with a two-lined overprint, in *black*. On the "pfennig" values the overprint is horizontal, in two lines, the first line being "Marocco," and the second the value; on the 1, 2, and 5 mark values only the value is horizontal, the name of the country reading upwards on the left-hand side and downwards on the right. On the 3 marks the whole overprint reads vertically upwards, on the left the value and on the right the word "Marocco."



Black overprint (red on 3 m.) Perf. 13½ x 14½.

3 cent. on 3 pf., brown.
5 " 5 " green.
10 " 10 " carmine.
25 " 20 " ultramarine.
30 " 25 " black and orange on yellow.
35 " 30 " " " buff.
50 " 40 " " carmine.
60 " 50 " " lilac on buff.
1 pes. on 80 " " carmine on rose.
1 p. 25 c. on 1 mk., carmine.
2 p. 50 c. on 2 " blue.
3 p. 75 c. on 3 " violet-black.
6 p. 25 c. on 5 " lake and black.

In the last printing of the above stamps a minor variety may be found; it has not been decided satisfactorily if it exists on some, or on all, of the values. By means of printers' trials we have been able to determine that, in any case on the 25 centimos, black, on 20 pf., blue, the last printing of the overprint is much lower down than usual, so low, in fact, that the upper half of the word REICHSPOST is covered.

At first the overprint on the 3 to the 50 pf. had the letter "t" square at the top and the letter "s" was straight up. Towards the end of 1903 the 5 centimos showed slight signs of variation in the overprint: the letter "t" was thicker, and went off into a point at the top. Other characteristics of this second type of the 5 c. are that the letter "s" leans sideways, the "c" in "Marocco" and the figure "5" are somewhat thicker. It appears that the 5 c. is the only value in which there are two types.

There are also differences of type in the values from 1 to 5 marks, in which the differences all lie in the word "Marocco."

In Type I the bottom serifs are long, and form right angles to the vertical strokes of the letter "M"; the "r" and "o" are fairly wide apart; the word "Marocco" is fairly lightly printed. In Type II the bottom serifs of the "M" are shorter, and form curves with the vertical strokes of the letter; the "r" and "o" are closer together; the word "Marocco" appears to be more heavily printed.

For the 6 pesetas 25 centimos, black, both types of the 5 marks, lake and black, were



A.



B.

used. In Type A the figure of value is thicker, and its upper left-hand corner is cut off diagonally by the frame. In Type B the figure of value is thinner, and the left-hand corner is intact.

(To be continued.)

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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

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British Possessions in Asia—continued

British Empire in India—continued

Native States—continued

Jhind

JHIND is one of the Cis-sutlej States of the Punjab, and is made up of several isolated tracts of country lying to the east of that river. The area of the State is given as 1268 square miles, and its population as 282,051.

The present dynasty was founded in 1763 by a Sikh of the Sidu Jat tribe, who five years later was created Rajah of the State by the Mogul Emperor of Hindustan. On the destruction of the Maharrata Confederacy by a British force under Lord Lake, the Maharajah of Jhind was one of the first of the native rulers to tender his allegiance to the British Crown, and in 1807 he was taken under British protection and confirmed in possession of his dominions. During the Sutlej campaign he allied himself with the British, and received a further grant of land in reward for his services.

At the time of the Indian Mutiny the Rajah Swarup Singh led in person a body of his troops which formed part of the British force which besieged Delhi, and a portion of

the Jhind contingent actually took part in the storming of that city. In later years the Imperial Service troops furnished by this State greatly distinguished themselves in the Tirah campaign on the north-west frontier in 1898.

The Rajah pays no tribute to the Viceroy, but furnishes twenty-five cavalrymen to the Indian Army. The present Rajah is in his minority, and the State is controlled by a Council of Regency, presided over by a British political officer.

Currency.—Same as India.

Stamps first issued in 1874.

Jhind is one of the five Convention States who purchase their stamps from the Indian Government and have them overprinted with the name of the State, these stamps having franking power throughout the whole of India. The low values of the Queen's Head series of Indian 1900 were overprinted for use here in January, 1902, pending the issue of King's Head stamps of the same denominations, whilst in 1904 the 3 pies value of the same issue was placed on sale, following the exhaustion of the first printing of 24,000

King's Head stamps of the same value, in order to use up the remaining stock on hand.

JHIND STATE

1902-4.

Contemporary stamps of India, 1900. Head of Queen Victoria. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Colours changed in compliance with demands of Universal Postal Union. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London, and overprinted JHIND STATE in tall, thin sans-serif capitals, in black, near the foot of the stamp, in complete sheets of 240, at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta. Figures in brackets indicate total number printed of each value.

- 3 pies, grey (48,240), issued Feb., 1904.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (11,280), issued Jan., 1902.
- 1 ,, carmine (14,580), issued Jan., 1902.

The King's Head series of this State contains eleven stamps in all, eight of which were issued at the end of May, 1903, and the remaining three in July, 1905. The issue calls for no special remark, and is still in daily use throughout the State.

1903-5.

Regular King's Head series of India, 1902. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London, and overprinted JHIND STATE in tall, thin sans-serif capitals, in two lines, in black, near the foot of the stamp. Surcharged in complete sheets at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta. Dates of issue of each denomination given in brackets.

- 3 pies, grey (issued May, 1903).
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (issued May, 1903).
- 1 ,, carmine (issued May, 1903).
- 2 annas, purple (issued May, 1903).
- 3 ,, orange-brown (issued May, 1903).
- 4 ,, olive-green (issued May, 1903).
- 6 ,, bistre (issued July, 1905).
- 8 ,, magenta (issued May, 1903).
- 12 ,, purple on red (issued July, 1905).
- 1 rupee, carmine and green (issued July, 1905).

Shades.

The 3 pies and 2 annas values of the current Indian series in their new shades have likewise been overprinted for use in this State, the 3 pies, blue-grey, in 1905, and the 2 annas, mauve, in the following year.

- 3 pies, blue-grey instead of grey.
- 2 annas, mauve instead of purple.

Error.

Specimens of the 3 annas value are known with a double overprint, but whether a whole sheet received the second surcharge, or if not, what position the stamps occupied on the sheet, I do not know.

Double overprint.

- 3 annas, orange-brown.

Official Issues.

One value only of the Indian Queen's Head issue of 1900 was surcharged for

official use in Jhind State, and was issued in January, 1902.

SERVICE

JHIND STATE

1902.

Regular Queen's Head series of India, 1900, overprinted JHIND STATE, additionally surcharged SERVICE, in one line, in tall, thin sans-serif capitals, in black, for official use. Otherwise as before.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (30,240), issued Jan., 1902.

Variety.

The above stamp exists with the "v" missing from the Service surcharge, thus reading SER ICE; but again I regret that I do not know what position this variety occupies on the sheet, or if it is constant on all sheets of this value which were overprinted.

"v" missing from surcharge, reading SER ICE.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.

Forgeries.

Copies of the Queen's Head stamps of the denominations of 1 anna and 2 annas belonging to the same series as the stamps listed above, and purporting to have the Service overprint of this State, have been placed on the market, but no such values were surcharged, and all these stamps are forgeries.

Five values of the current Indian series were issued overprinted for official use in this State at the same time as the first denominations of the ordinary surcharged series were placed on sale, two more being added in March, 1906. It will be observed that the 3 pies stamp of this official series is in the blue-grey shade, and was never issued in the original colour with this surcharge. The appearance of this and the 1 rupee value remained unobserved by the philatelic Press until after both had been in actual use for almost a whole year. The King's Head stamps issued by Jhind State overprinted for official purposes are as follows:—

1903-6.

Regular King's Head series of India, 1902, surcharged JHIND SERVICE, additionally overprinted SERVICE, in tall, thin sans-serif capitals, in one line, in black, at the top of the stamp, this overprint being inserted at a second operation. Otherwise as before. Date of issue given in brackets.

- 3 pies, blue-grey (issued March, 1906).
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (issued May, 1903).
- 1 ,, carmine (issued May, 1903).
- 2 annas, purple (issued May, 1903).
- 4 ,, olive-green (issued May, 1903).
- 8 ,, magenta (issued May, 1903).
- 1 rupee, carmine and green (issued March, 1906).

(To be continued.)

British Stamps used Abroad—*continued*

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP V—*continued*

THIS division of the group dealing with the office numbers allotted to ports in foreign countries comprises in all five numbers, which are as follows:—

- 247 Fernando Poo, Spanish Colony.
- D 27 Amoy, China.
- D 28 Kiungchow "
- D 29 Hankow "
- D 30 Hiogo (Kobe), Japan.

There is no doubt that these numbers were applied to these places, because they are given in the official lists of obliterating postmarks published in 1885. All these numbers had, however, previously been used elsewhere, so that all British stamps so marked are not "used abroad," but only those current during certain periods, and even then it is uncertain whether British or Hong Kong stamps were used in the last four places. In the case of the offices opened in Japan, we find in the Postmaster-General's Report for 1879 the following note, which gives us the date on which the offices were closed (unfortunately there is no note dealing with the opening of them). The Postmaster-General says that, "in deference to the wishes of the Government of Japan the British Post Office agencies which for some years had been maintained at certain Japanese ports have been withdrawn, and the postal service is now conducted exclusively by the Japanese Post Office. The regularity and efficiency of the postal communication with this country have in no way been impaired, and I have reason to think the English mercantile community in Japan are satisfied with the new arrangement."

This should certainly induce one to assume that the post offices in Japan were under British rule and used British stamps as well as obliterators, but there is in existence an official order dated August, 1864, from the Postmaster-General of Hong Kong and addressed to the British postal agent in Tokio and Yokohama, which runs:—

I have to request that on and after the 15th October next (1864) you will discontinue to receive money in payment of the correspondence posted at your office, and you will demand that such payment be made in the postage stamps of the colony of Hong Kong.

When, in 1865, Nagasaki and, in 1868, Kobe were opened to British trade there is no doubt that the rule laid down above was adhered to and Hong Kong stamps used. Why therefore a British office was allotted to the last-named port and the British Postmaster-General refers to their being closed something we cannot attempt to explain.

What applied to the offices in Japan no doubt applied to those in China, and we have seen Hong Kong stamps with the postmark D 27.

The obliterator alone was used in every instance, and no date stamp or other mark of the place of origin was put on the letter, so that even entire covers do not help to elucidate the matter. The obliterator was always the narrow, oblong oval (D 27), and always struck in black.

The varieties we list are those we have seen with these postmarks, but we doubt whether they have been used in the Far East. These office numbers were allotted as late as 1879, some fifteen years after it had been laid down that Hong Kong stamps should be used.

D 27. Amoy

A seaport town of China on an island of the same name, lies nearly opposite the centre of the island of Formosa, and was captured by the British in the war of 1841. It was formerly the centre of the tea and coasting trade, and, having been the first port opened to foreign trade, was of some importance.

1d., plates 79, 84, 102, 105, 129, 133, 139.
4d., plate 11.



D 28. Kiungchow

A city of China near the north coast of the island of Hainan. It is noted for its paper factories, but is of small importance, the foreign settlement being but insignificant.

1d., plates 79, 90, 92, 93, 102, 104, 114, 134.

D 29. Hankow

A port at the mouth of Han Kiang River, is one of the largest cities in the Chinese Empire and the principal emporium of Central China. Although some 600 miles from the sea, ocean-going steamers can reach the city, and it has a large population of foreign merchants.

1d., plates 101, 189.
6d., plate 6 spray.

D 30. Kobe (Hiogo)

A seaport of Japan in the southern part of the island of Honro, forms with Hiogo an important centre, and is the seat of a large foreign trade.

1d., plates 107, 109, 117, 119, 120, 123, 124.

247. Fernando Poo

Is an island belonging to Spain twenty miles off the west coast of Africa. It is small and insignificant, but a British settle-

ment was made in 1827 as the head-quarters of the fleet engaged in suppressing the slave trade. The office number "247" was used at Elmham, Norfolk (office No. 911 afterwards), according to the list of obliterating marks issued by the Post Office in 1856, but its use there had been discontinued before 1874, as in the list published in that year the number is marked as "unappropriated." It was allotted to and an office established in Fernando Poo about 1877, and is duly recorded in the next list that was published (1885).

The office was closed in 1880, and the only variety, of which also only one copy is known, is the 6d., grey, plate 15.



(To be continued.)

The Genus Homo in Philately—continued

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

NEAR neighbours of the Suahalis are the Sudanese, who form one of the main divisions of Ethiopic man. From the ethnological standpoint the term "Sudanese" covers all the various races of full-blooded negroes inhabiting most of Africa north of the Victoria Nyanza.



For the purposes of this article, however, we will assume the name refers to the people of British Sudan, who are certainly not of pure negro stock. They are a mixed race with a good admixture of Arab blood.

They are tall, slim, and handsome, and the women are especially beautiful. They are brave and warlike, and that they struggled hard to maintain their independence is apparent to any reader who studies the history of British advance into the Sudan.

The Bantu family of the Ethiopian division of the human race is represented on one of the stamps of Congo by members of the Bangala tribe.



The members of this tribe are more attractive than many of the natives of the surrounding country. Their clothing is a simple matter, consisting only of a little grass-cloth. Beads and other ornaments are extensively worn, and usually the whole body is decorated with a sort of tattooing. The ordinary natives have huts formed of mats woven

from a reedy grass or the fibres of plants, but chiefs have a more elaborate abode constructed of palm leaves. The household furniture and utensils are of the most primitive type.

Another Congo tribe is shown on some of the current stamps of French Congo.



These are the Bakalois, which, though physically inferior to many other of the native tribes of this region, have the reputation of being gifted with a superior amount of intelligence. Stanley describes them as exceptionally shrewd in trade, and avers that he has seen a child of eight do more tricks of trade in an hour than the cleverest European trader on the Congo could do in a month. In character they are said to be indolent, fickle, and sensual. They dislike bloodshed as a general rule, and, save for certain superstitious customs, are rarely cruel.

On the stamps of British Central Africa representatives of the Makololos are depicted. They are a warlike branch of the Basuto branch of the Bantu family, and were originally brought north by Livingstone in the hope that they would act as a check on the tribe of the Angoni, who were devastating the district with their excesses. They were armed by Livingstone, and they soon made themselves chiefs of the district. Under



their organization and leadership the encroachments of other tribes and of the Portuguese were successfully resisted.

The majority of the inhabitants of Liberia are the descendants of freed American slaves, and while Ethiopics it is difficult to assign them to any particular group of this division.



According to one traveller "the history of Liberia would be a most entertaining farce, were it not also a most significant tragedy." The natives have a most amazing self-conceit, and they have recently assured their French

friends that they intend to remain neutral in the next European war! Perhaps the main function of Liberia has been to supply good stories of negro methods of administration. One of the most amusing of these relates to the cholera scare in Egypt, when the authorities insisted on placing a vessel in quarantine because it was *going* to an infected port!

One of the most interesting of the races now found in Liberia are the Mandingoes. These are a race of Eastern origin who have spread over much of the region between Senegal and Liberia. They are active, intelligent, and industrious, and are now divided into several tribes. As an instance of the general intelligence of the race, we may cite the fact that the Vei language, which belongs to this group, has a written alphabet comprising over two hundred different characters.

(To be continued.)



The Falkland Islands

By A. H. DAVIS

ON the Italian Minister in Buenos Aires communicating the ratification by the British Government of the Postal Convention celebrated in Rome, in which the Falkland Islands are included, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Zeballos, asked him to communicate to his Government that the Islas Malvinas, called the Falklands, are of Argentine sovereignty, so that it is not possible for the Argentine Government to take note of the former communication without protesting against the incorrect attitude of the British Government in mentioning these possessions. The news of this reply having been telegraphed to Europe, rumours were immediately set afloat in Paris and London to the effect that the Argentine Government had laid claim to the Falklands, and even in the House of Commons one of the members asked the Foreign Minister if there was any truth in the rumour. As this matter has apparently attracted some little attention at home, I send you the following notes on this little group of islands, which should prove of interest to your readers at the present moment.

The Falkland Islands were discovered in 1592 by Dr. John Davis, who accompanied Cavendish on his second voyage; and Hawkins, who sailed along them in 1594, called them "Hawkins Maiden Land." In 1690 Strong sailed through the

Strait and called it Falkland Sound, whence the islands were afterwards called Falkland Islands. Several vessels from St. Malo passed near the islands between 1706 and 1714, and from these they were named by the French "Les Isles Malouines." In 1764 the French established a colony on one of the harbours of Berkeley Sound and called it St. Louis; and two years later the British formed a settlement on West Falkland, on the inlet called Port Egmont. In 1767 the French ceded their settlement to the Spaniards, who in 1770 attacked the English colony and took it. It was subsequently restored, however, but soon afterwards the English abandoned the settlement. The Spaniards also withdrew their garrison from Port Louis.

In the beginning of the nineteenth century the whole of the fisheries in the South Atlantic began to be prosecuted on an extensive scale, and many of the whaling vessels visited these islands for supplies. It was also discovered that the coasts abounded with seals, and these animals attracted many adventurers. Thus Berkeley Sound was seldom without the presence of some visitors. These circumstances induced the newly formed Government of Buenos Aires to take possession of East Falkland in 1820; and in 1823 they formed a settlement at Port Louis. In 1829 England, which had never relinquished the possessory rights,

protested against these proceedings, and in 1833 the colony was given up. For some years after only a lieutenant of the Navy with a boat's crew resided at the port, but the British Government in 1840 resolved to colonize the islands. The settlers came to Port Louis, but on examining the country in the vicinity it was found that Port William, south of Berkeley Sound, offered great advantages as a naval station and port of refuge, and in 1840 a town was laid out on the southern shores of Port Stanley. The population of the colony in 1847 was 270.

In 1848 large tracts of land and the possession of all the wild cattle for six years were granted to Mr. Samuel Lafone, a wealthy merchant of Monte Video, and the population has been greatly increased by the influx of his servants. The rights of this gentleman were afterwards transferred to a joint-stock company, which afterwards obtained additional privileges from the British Government. This company is still in existence, and is in a highly flourishing condition.

The colony is now administered by a Governor, an Executive Council and a Legislative

Council, the members of both being appointed by the Crown.

The voyage to Port Stanley takes about twenty-five days from Liverpool. Until recently it was frequently visited by British men-of-war, but for the last three years or so these vessels have rarely been seen in these seas, owing to the recent redistribution of the British Navy.

For most of the above notes I am indebted to the kindness of Mr. Hope Lafone, whose father is mentioned in this article. It will be seen that the claim of the Argentine Government rests on a very flimsy foundation, and it is mere childishness for them to pretend that the islands ever belonged to them. While on this subject I do not think it will be out of place to remind your readers of the fact that, had it not been for the disgraceful surrender of General Whitelocke in 1809 to a mere rabble in Buenos Aires, the Argentine Republic might have been to this day a highly flourishing and magnificent British colony. The colours taken from the English on this occasion are still kept on show in the church of San Domingo in the city of Buenos Aires.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Forgeries of the De Ruyter Issue

ACCORDING to the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* (4.7.08) forgeries have recently been seen of most of the surcharged values of the De Ruyter issue. In the forgery the surcharge does not strike one as being such an intense *jet black* as on the originals, and the letters of the former seem to be a trifle thinner than they should be. However, the most satisfactory test consists in the variation of some of the letters of the surcharge. On the forgeries in the cent values the "E" has the middle stroke the same length as the outer strokes, whereas on the genuine stamps the middle stroke is shorter. In the 1 gulden in the genuine stamp the arms of the "U" are parallel until the curve begins; in the forgery they slant towards each other, giving the letter some slight resemblance to a "v."



PORTZEGEL

7½

CENT

The Labrador Company

SOME few weeks ago I referred in these notes to a set of three so-called "Postage

Stamps" issued by the Labrador Company. The following letter is extracted from *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* (1.7.08), and is an answer to one asking for further information about these stamps.

MONTREAL, 4 May, 1908.

DEAR SIR,

Replying to your letter of the 24th ult., I must tell you that the stamps you mention are the stamps of an American company which has obtained a concession for the establishment of a postal service on the Labrador coast, the company being under the surveillance of the Government of Newfoundland. Although unofficial, these stamps constitute a first issue for the Labrador district, and they are used on the mails. It is highly probable that, in a few years' time, the Government of the United States of America will take over this postal service, as a great deal of mining property in Labrador is controlled by American interests. These stamps would then become official [*sic*], and will certainly become very rare, as the company has only had 100,000 printed.

I enclose an envelope bearing a Canadian obliterating stamp, and also a newspaper cutting relating to the stamps.

A. E. CLÉMENT.

The funny part about the envelope referred to in the above letter, and which the author evidently takes to be a guarantee of the *bona fides* of the issue, is that it bears a 25 c.

Company stamp, *together with a 2 c. Canadian stamp*, both bearing the Montreal obliteration. This almost goes to prove that the company owns neither a post office nor even an obliterating stamp!

We can dismiss the whole subject with the remark that the stamps represent a local charge for portorage, and have little in common with Government postage stamps.

Belgian Post Offices in China

IN many of our contemporaries, both English and foreign, information has been printed during the last few weeks of certain Belgian stamps, said to have been overprinted for use in Belgian Postal Agencies in China. The report that such stamps had been issued was contradicted more than once, only to be met by a counter affirmation to the contrary. To clear the matter up, I think I cannot do better than quote the following letter *in extenso*; it is addressed to the editor of *L'Annuaire Timbrologique*.

ANTWERP, 19 June, 1908.

DEAR MR. DETHIER,

You make a slight mistake in calling the person a rascal who circulated reports of the installation of Belgian Post Offices in China, and who also stated that the 5, 10, 25, and 50 centimes stamps of Belgium had been overprinted for their especial use.

In spite of all the official denials accorded to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. by the Minister of Posts (by the way, this matter is within the jurisdiction of the Minister for Foreign Affairs), I can assure you that not only was the inauguration of the above-mentioned offices seriously discussed, but *essays* were actually prepared of the overprinted Belgian stamps.

The stamps, as shown to me, were overprinted with the words CHINE and SPÉCIMEN, but no value was given in Chinese characters.

I am also able to inform you that the whole idea had to be abandoned, and kept as quiet as possible, owing to a protest lodged by one of the Powers which already has post offices in China.

. . . I have this information from a person whose position is such that he would be in possession of all details on this subject, but I am not permitted to divulge his name or office to you.

(Signed) R. MONNIER.

So the matter is quite clear. Some of our continental contemporaries were evidently shown sets of the essays referred to above, and, as is their wont, immediately chronicled the issue. By the way, as the matter had to be kept as quiet as possible, I wonder if the publicity accorded to it in the philatelic Press has been the cause of a mild flutter in the political dovescots?

"New Issue" for Great Britain

THE London Philatelic Exhibition was held in March, about five months ago, and yet our continental contemporaries have not got to the bottom of the Postmaster-General's little joke. In his opening speech he offered to sell any stamp collector twelve *new* penny stamps for eighteen pence (obviously meaning *unused*); he also told us that little joke about a mourning stamp with a black border. In nearly every continental journal these two stamps have been gravely announced as *new issues*! Really we mustn't be too hard on the gentleman in "kilties" in the future—ye lusty Teuton or dapper Frenchman beats him hollow.

NOTICE. *To all whom it may concern.*—The Postmaster-General of Great Britain is NOT going to issue a new 1d. stamp, nor a mourning stamp!

New Issues and Discoveries

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.

Bhopal.—We have been shown a 1 anna stamp of this State in quite a new design, which we illustrate below. The perforation is somewhat irregular and gauges from 13 to 15.



1908. Type 20. *Wove paper No wmk. Pin-perf.*
13 to 15.
201:1 a., yellow-green.

Ceylon.—A correspondent in Colombo sends us the 6 cents in the new design, and states that it was first issued to the public on 23 June.



23 JUNE, 1908. Type 51. *Wmk. Multiple Crown CA.*
Perf 14.
240:6 c., carmine, O.

Cochin.—We have received a large stamp of entirely new design for this State. A portrait of Kshatriya, the head of the ruling family, is shown on the stamp. The watermark consists of a Conch Shell, somewhat similar to that used for Travancore; this watermark is used as Kshatriya is the head of both States. The paper is rather thin wove, and the perforation gauges 14 and is fairly regular.



(Kshatriya.)
7



(Conch shell.)
8

1908. Type 7. *Wmk. Type 8 Thin, wove paper.*
Perf. 14.
22½ a., rose-carmine.

Leeward Islands.—We have received a supply of the 2d. on multiple, chalk-surfaced paper; it was issued about 24 June, or earlier.



7

JUNE, 1908. Type 7. *Wmk. Multiple Crown CA.*
Perf. 14.
33½d., lilac and ochre, C.

Luxemburg.—This country has apparently given up the use of stamps perforated with the word "Official," as Messrs. Th. Champion & Co. send us a set overprinted with this word in *black*.



10



11



58

OFFICIAL STAMPS, 1908. Type 10 surcharged with Type 58, in black. *Perf. 12½, 13.*

- 465 1 c. pearl-grey.
- 466 2 c. grey-brown.
- 467 4 c. olive-bistre.
- 468 5 c. green.
- 469 6 c. mauve.

1908. Type 11 surcharged as above. *Perf. 11 × 11½.*

- 470 10 c. carmine-rose
- 471 12½ c. slate-green.
- 472 15 c. orange-red.
- 473 20 c. orange.
- 474 25 c. blue.
- 475 30 c. olive-green.
- 476 37½ c. green.
- 477 50 c. sepia.
- 478 87½ c. slate-bluz.
- 479 1 fr., lavender.
- 480 2½ fr., orange-vermilion.

Mexico.—We are now able to illustrate the



new Unpaid Letter stamp which we chronicled in our issue of 25 April.

Papua.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (18.7.08), the 6d., chronicled in our issue of last week as being perforated 11, has also been seen perforated 12½, like the 4d.



6

1908. Type 6. *Wmk. Crown and Δ.* *Perf. 12½.*
34½d., black and myrtle-green.

Paraguay.—Our agent in Asuncion keeps us well supplied with new provisionals. The latest consist of a set of six of the Official stamps surcharged with the new type illustrated below, so as to make them available as postage stamps. We have also received a 10 c. in a new colour.



39

1908. Type 39. *Colour changed.* *Perf. 12½, 12.*
117½10 c., Prussian blue.



66

44

1908. Type 66 surcharged with Type 44, in black.

148	5 c. on 10 c., ochre.
149	5 c. on 10 c., emerald-green.
150	5 c. on 10 c., reddish purple.
150a	5 c. on 50 c., slate-grey.
150b	5 c. on 30 c., orange-yellow.
150c	5 c. on 60 c., orange-brown.

Switzerland.—Major W. J. Lister has shown us a copy of the 25 c. in the re-engraved type on granite paper, perforated $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$.



12



13

Type 12 (Type 10 redrawn). *Wmk.* Type 13. *Granite paper.* *Perf.* $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$.
234a 25 c., blue.

Victoria.—From an official collection formed in Melbourne we have recently purchased a block of stamps of which we illustrate a pair.

These are the "emblems issue" of 1858, no watermark, but "serrated 19." This serrated perforation is well known on the 6d., orange-yellow, and was used in 1857-58. The 2d. "emblems" was issued in 1858, and it seems probable that at least a sheet of the emblems was serrated, and this block of six stamps was kept in a Government office and found pinned on to some documents; the pin-holes are through the right-hand lower stamp on the block.

What has become of the rest of the sheet? Probably it was issued, and we thus have a new variety to look for.

We shall include this new and important discovery in the Catalogue, listing it after No. 56.



1858. *No wmk.* *Perf. serrated 19.*
56a 19c., lilac.

Correspondence

Uruguay, etc.

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—My attention has been drawn to a letter written by "G." criticizing my letter to you published on 14 December last. The stamps mentioned by me as reprints are undoubtedly such, and were printed from the same plates as the originals by Mege and Aubriot, who printed this issue under contract to the Government. "Papel de algodón" was used, and they were sold in imperforate sheets, but many have been perforated by obliging printers. These reprints were being printed off side by side with the originals until the Government got wind of it and compelled the printers to hand over the plates and destroy the stock they had. It is only recently that I came across these reprints. The same firm had possession of the plate from which the "sol" stamps were printed until 1878, when they were also requested to "hand over." With reference to the Argentine paragraph, I admit the error I should have said the 1889 issue, not 1888. Further on your correspondent says, in referring to Cor-

rientes, "I have a number of these stamps purchased as reprints." In my letter I wrote: "Reprints are said to exist, but I have never seen any." Of course, I did not mean to imply that because I had never seen any, therefore they could not exist. Concerning the Argentine peso values with inverted centres "G." raises an interesting question to which I am unable to reply off-hand, but I will make inquiries from friends in Buenos Aires, and embody the result in my next letter to you. Considering, however, the high standing of the company which printed this issue, I do not think it likely they would stoop to such a petty trick as the one described. It must not be forgotten that although "we" are only South American Republics our philatelic record is as clean as could be desired, and if "G." and other correspondents could only see such cities as Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, and Montevideo I think they would be considerably astonished.

A. H. DAVIS.

MONTEVIDEO, 22 May, 1908.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 6
Whole No. 188

8 AUGUST, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Gambia—continued

IN August, 1874, the stamps were issued on watermarked paper. Both values were probably sent out to the colony at the same time, but the 4d. does not appear to have been on sale till some time after the 6d. The watermark was the Small Crown and C.C., and as the paper containing this was not made for such small plates as those of the Gambia stamps the watermark is found more or less irregularly placed. The paper was made for a sheet of 240 stamps divided into four panes of sixty, these panes being divided vertically and horizontally by a plain margin watermarked with the words "Crown Colonies," and later, when the Crown CA paper was introduced, with the words "Crown Agents." Thus for the Gambia sheets five stamps were printed on paper designed for six stamps, so that in many cases a complete watermark is not found, whilst on some stamps portions of the letters of the marginal words may be perceived. In this issue also the shades vary.



August, 1874. *As before, but wmk. Crown C.C.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
4d., brown	50	0	45	0
6d., blue	35	0	35	0

In June, 1880, five fresh values, similar in design and execution to the above, were issued, but which, together with the 4d. and 6d., were *perforated*. The perforation gauges 14, and was first done by a single-line machine and afterwards by a comb-machine. The watermarks in these stamps are found either in the usual position or sideways. The shades are varied, but the most marked are

to be found in the ½d. and 4d. The 4d. in the sepia shade is a most difficult stamp to procure.

	June, 1880. Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 14.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.
½d., orange	0	6
1d., marone	1	0
2d., rose	6	0
3d., ultramarine	6	0
4d., brown	35	0
6d., blue	20	0
1s., green	50	0

In 1886 the watermark was changed to Crown and CA, and a 2½d. value added to the set. On the latter the value is expressed as 2½ PENNY. The first dates of issue were as follows: May, 1886, 2½d. and 3d.; July, 1886, 4d.; September, 1886, 6d. and 1s.; March, 1887, ½d., 1d., and 2d. The watermark is always sideways, and the perforation was done by two different comb-machines, both gauging 14. As the stamps were in course until 1898, it is not surprising that a great many shades may be found.

The 6d. in particular varies very much, and this value in olive-green is perhaps the gem of the set. It is a scarce stamp, but collectors must see they get the right shade of olive, which is quite a pale yellowish.

	1886-7. Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s.	d.
½d., green	0	2
1d., crimson	0	6
2d., orange	1	3
2½d., ultramarine	0	9
3d., grey	1	6
4d., brown	1	3
6d., green	2	0
1s., violet	2	6

In January, 1898, the same values were issued in the "tablet type," the stamps being engraved and surface-printed by De La Rue & Co. from plates of similar design employed for various British colonies. The

watermark and perforation remained the same, but in this case, the sheets being of regulation size, the watermark fits each stamp, and is upright. The name and tablet of value are in the second colour given below.



	Wmk. Crown CA.		Perf. 14.	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
½d., dull green	0 3	0 4		
1d., carmine	0 6	0 6		
2d., orange and mauve	0 9	0 9		
2½d., ultramarine	1 0	2 0		
3d., mauve and ultramarine	2 0	2 0		
4d., brown	2 0	—		
6d., bronze-green & carmine	2 6	—		
1s., violet and green	5 0	7 6		

In 1902 a King's Head series made its appearance, and was of the familiar design. The values were the same as before, but early in 1905 new denominations of 5d., 7½d., 10d., 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 3s. were added. The last two seem to be unnecessary, for after a quantity of these values were utilized for provisionals in 1906, large stocks were still on hand. The watermark, until 1904, was the ordinary Single Crown CA, but in this year the multiple variety was put into use, and most values have appeared since with this watermark. The 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 3s., all on yellow paper, only exist with the single wmk., whilst the 5d., 7½d., and 10d. are only known with multiple wmk. None of the values are known on the *chalky* paper. The 5d., 7½d., 10d., 1s. 6d., 2s., 2s. 6d., and 3s. have the tablet containing value plain instead of lined, and the name and value or tablet of value are in second colour as before.



(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.

	1902-6. Wmk. Crown CA.		Perf. 14.	
	Unused.	Used.	Unused.	Used.
½d., green	5 4	5 4		
1d., carmine	0 1	0 2		
2d., orange and mauve	0 3	—		
2½d., ultramarine	0 4	—		
3d., magenta and ultram.	0 5	—		
4d., brown	0 6	—		
5d., grey and black	0 7	—		
6d., green and carmine	0 8	—		
7½d.	0 10	—		
10d., brown and carmine	1 1	—		
1s., violet and green	1 4	—		
1s. 6d., green and carmine on yellow	5 0	—		
2s., slate and orange	2 8	—		
2s. 6d., purple and brown on yellow	6 0	—		
3s., carmine and green on yellow	7 6	—		

In April, 1906, the stock of ½d. and 1d. stamps ran short, so 4500 of the 2s. 6d. and 3600 of the 3s. were surcharged HALFPENNY and ONE PENNY respectively. Nothing perhaps need be said as to why these particular values were allowed to run down. Accidents will happen in the best-regulated families, and until now Gambia had been a model for other stamp-issuing colonies. But the subsequent handling of these provisionals was, to say the least of it, suspicious. Whether by connivance of the postal people or not, the greater part of the issue was cornered locally and held for inflated prices. Steps were effectually taken by all concerned to prevent any reaching Europe at face value. From the various accounts in the philatelic Press it would seem that the postal authorities played into the hands of the speculators. These provisionals were "officially" on sale from the 10th to 23rd April, 1906, and the "remainders" (how many it can be wondered) were burnt in October, 1906. Fresh supplies of the ordinary ½d. and 1d. stamps were received about the end of April, 1906.

HALF PENNY

ONE PENNY

April, 1906. Stamps of last issue surcharged, in black.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. on 2s. 6d., purple and brown on yellow	—	—	—	—
1d. on 3s. carmine and green on yellow	—	—	—	—

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Major Evans's Weekly

THE number of *G. S. W.* dated 25 July last was the first number to be issued under the editorship of our good friend Major E. B. Evans.

The serial articles appearing in that number will be continued in the number nearest the end of each month, and in like manner the serial articles in the other weeks of each month will miss one number at the end of each month.

Manchester Exhibition, 1909

A LITTLE bird whispers to me that the Exhibition Committee of the Manchester Branch of the Junior Philatelic Society have collected the amount of capital required to carry their forthcoming Exhibition through. This is indeed a feat in so short a time, and it looks as if they mean to try to beat the head-quarters effort. We wish them all success and a big attendance.

Pity the Poor Dealer

Dealer: "Yes, sir, what can I show you?"

Collector: "I forget the stamp I want, but show me all the stamps you have in stock and perhaps I shall remember the one I want."

A Good Testimonial

A WELL-KNOWN collector—need I say, an Irishman?—writes as follows:—

DEAR MR. PHILLIPS,

If quite convenient to you, you might send me the name of a solicitor who will accept service of a writ for damages to my collection caused by the use of your patent "Watermark Detector." As soon as I got it I tested a beautiful Victoria Id., green, wmk. error double-lined figure "4," value £6 catalogue. To my amazement your detector turned this stamp into a plain Id., green, wmk. double-lined figure "1," a clean loss to me on the spot of £5 16s. Then I took a fine 4d., Grenada, which has figured as the proud bearer of a "Broad Star" wmk., catalogued 70s., unused. Your wicked machine showed it to be wmk. Star No. 1. If a sympathetic Irish jury won't give me handsome damages in this case my name is not . . .

Many thanks for so amusingly proving the value of a simple thing like a watermark detector. What a number of rare varieties of watermarks must exist in collections which the owners have classed as common varieties through not possessing one of these simple little contrivances.

National Welsh Stamp

IT is amusing to see foreign contemporaries seriously noting the issue of a patriotic label for Wales, similar to that issued by the Sinn Fein party in Ireland. Of course, such plasters have no philatelic value, nor have they any postal or revenue use. Surely patriotism must be very doubtful, if such means must be employed to keep the people together. Perhaps we shall have like labels for Socialism and Female Suffrage.

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

British Central and South Africa.

A FAIRLY good book of these two popular countries. In British Central Africa there are some very interesting colour trials and essays which are now in considerable demand, and amongst the rarities are several high values and a very fine Id., red and blue, of 1898, with the *centre inverted*. This stamp is really rarer than the famous "Post Office" Mauritius, as only one row of stamps on one sheet had the error, and it is very seldom now that a fine copy of this rarity can be obtained.

In the interesting things in British South Africa I note that in the 1896 issue there is a nice lot of corner stamps showing the various plate numbers.

In the provisional of April, 1896, "One Penny" on 4s., there is the variety with the value cancelled by a single bar in place of three bars. This is shown here in a single unused, and in a used pair, the upper stamp being normal and the lower one the error. This pair is dated "Ap. 28. 96."

Belgium.

A good book, very strong in the rare unused early issues, including many scarce shades. The later issues are also very complete in all varieties of shades and perforations, and this book will be found of interest even to advanced specialists. Many rare minor varieties from the Breitfuss Collection have been included in this new stock book.

Austria.

Two very fine volumes, especially strong in unused and also in curious postmarks, errors, etc. Of the first type, *unused*, there are no less than 114 stamps, mostly choice specimens with gum, and including some fine blocks with "St. Andrew's Cross" at-

tached to the normal stamps. The later issues include a fine lot of the rare perforations and a good many errors that are not catalogued. These new stock books include many fine stamps in Austria from the Mann, Breitfuss, and Horak collections.

British East Africa and Zanzibar.

A good and representative book, containing a number of scarce stamps, such as the errors "Zanzidar," "Zanibar," etc.

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 1s.; post-free in Great Britain, 1s. 2d.
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

PART II—*continued*

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British Possessions in Asia—*continued*

British Empire in India—*continued*

Native States—*continued*

Nabha

THE name of this State is sometimes written Narbal, but Nabha is the title under which it is officially known, and is the form with which its stamps are overprinted. It is one of the Cis-sutlej States of the Punjab, and is situated in the north-eastern section of that province. Very little appears to be known about it, except that its area is 936 square miles and it is said to have a population of 97,949.

The State came under the influence of the Indian Government through its Rajah applying for British protection against one Ranjit Singh, who was threatening to seize his territories, this request being granted, and the Rajah being confirmed in the possession of his dominions by the Government of India, with whom he entered into an alliance by which the State contributes a certain number of troops to the Indian army upon demand, and in virtue of which its Rajah pays no tribute to the Viceroy.

The rulers of Nabha, who have always displayed extreme loyalty to the British Crown, in contrast to those of most of the other Native States of India, possess the full power of life and death within their own territories, and the death sentence as passed by the Rajah of the State does not require confirmation by the Indian Government.

The capital is the city of the same name, situated on the Rajpura-Ehotunda Railway, and having a population of 17,000.

Currency.—Same as India.

Stamps first issued in 1885.

Nabha was the only Convention State that did not have any of the Queen's Head Indian stamps of 1900 in their new colours overprinted for its use. The first five values of the King's Head series were issued at the end of April, 1903, and the remaining five in September of that year. The issue calls for little note excepting that the early printings appear to have been done in a very careless manner, instances of broken and misplaced letters being frequent, an explanation of the occurrence of which is given in a previous section headed "Indian Native States."

**NABHA
STATE**

1903.

Regular King's Head series of India of previous year. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London, and overprinted NABHA STATE in tall, thin sans-serif capitals, in two lines, in black, at the foot of the stamp. Surcharged in complete sheets of 240 at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta. Dates of issue given in brackets.

- 3 pies, grey (issued April, 1903).
- ½ anna, pea-green (issued April, 1903).
- 1 ,, carmine (issued April, 1903).
- 2 annas, purple (issued April, 1903).
- 3 ,, orange-brown (issued April, 1903).
- 4 ,, olive-green (issued August, 1903).
- 6 ,, bistre (issued September, 1903).
- 8 ,, magenta (issued August, 1903).
- 12 ,, purple on red (issued September, 1903).
- 1 rupee, carmine and green (issued August, 1903).

Shades.

Early in 1906 the 3 pies and 2 annas denominations of the current Indian series, in their new shades, were likewise overprinted as above for use in this State.

- 3 pies, blue-grey instead of grey.
- 2 annas, mauve instead of purple.

Varieties.

The subjoined is a list of the more prominent varieties of surcharge which occurred on all sheets of the early printings of the King's Head stamps of this State, but were, I presume, corrected in all subsequent printings of these and of the higher denomination stamps.

Small second "A" in NABHA. No. 191 on sheet.

- 3 pies, grey.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.
- 1 ,, carmine.
- 2 annas, purple.
- 3 ,, orange-brown.

Apостrophe between "N" and "A" of NABHA. No. 228 on sheet.

- 3 pies, grey.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.
- 1 ,, carmine.
- 2 annas, mauve.
- 3 ,, orange-brown.

"I" instead of second "T" in STATE. No. 13 on sheet.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.

Official Issues.

Seven King's Head stamps have been overprinted for official use in Nabha State, six being issued in June, 1903, and the remaining one being added in the same month of 1906. As in the case of Jhind, the 3 pies value in its first shade was not surcharged for official use, but appeared with this overprint in the blue-grey shade of the 1905 printing. Owing to the very small community making use of these stamps they are very hard to obtain, although they are current at the present time, this being especially the case with the Official stamps, which, as has been explained before, are only affixed to official communications sent out of the State; and this State being of somewhat lesser importance than the other Convention States, probably has fewer dealings with the outside world, and that is why the current Official stamps of Nabha are priced slightly higher than those of the other Convention States.

SERVICE**NABHA
STATE**

1903-6.

King's Head stamps of India, 1902, already surcharged NABHA STATE as above, additionally overprinted SERVICE in tall, thin sans-serif capitals, in one line in black near the top of the stamp, for official purposes. Otherwise as before. Dates of issue given in brackets.

- 3 pies, blue-grey (issued June, 1906).
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (issued June, 1903).
- 1 ,, carmine (issued June, 1903).
- 2 annas, purple (issued June, 1903).
- 4 ,, olive-green (issued June, 1903).
- 8 ,, magenta (issued June, 1903).
- 1 rupee, carmine and green (issued June, 1903).

The 12 annas denomination chronicled by many stamp journals as having been issued last summer (1907), although prepared for issue, has not yet been placed on sale.

Varieties.

The following varieties of overprint occur in the Official series of this State, but with one exception I have no information as to what position they occupy on the sheets, or as to whether they are constant in all printings, but presume that, like those occurring on the stamps with the ordinary surcharge, they were rectified in later printings.

Space between "H" and "A" in NABHA.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.
- 1 ,, carmine.

Space between "S" and "E" of SERVICE; also tall "S" in that word. No. 129 on sheet.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.
- 1 ,, carmine.
- 2 annas, purple.

Error.

The four annas value of the Official series of Nabha, King's Head, has been chronicled with a double surcharge, there being two overlapping impressions of all the letters of the overprint excepting the "A" of STATE, of which the lower portion only shows, and that but once. No mention is made, however, as to whether a complete sheet existed in this condition, or if not, as to what position the stamp with the double surcharge occupied on the sheet from which it was taken.

Double Overprint.

- 4 annas, olive-green.

(To be continued.)

The Postal System and Stamps of Morocco—continued

By OTTO ROMMEL, Doctor of Law. Translated by FRANK PHILLIPS

III. Stamps of the German Post Offices—cont.

IN 1905 a used copy of the 50 centimos, black, on 40 pfennige, black on red-violet, was discovered with an inverted "e" in the word "Centimos." It was reported in one of the German philatelic journals as an inverted "t," but that is probably nothing but a printer's error.

There was a new printing of the surcharge on the 5 pf. about the middle of 1905, as the stock was nearly exhausted. A mistake was made in setting up the surcharge, as it appeared in Gothic instead of in Latin characters. Altogether 220 sheets were so surcharged, making 22,000 stamps, which were first issued about the end of September, 1905. However, on 30 September, 1905, the new stamps inscribed DEUTSCHES REICH were placed on sale, and before then about 18,500 of the above-mentioned error had been sold, the remainder being held at the disposal of the Morocco Post Offices by the Government Printing Office in Berlin. According to the official gazette (*Deutsche Verkehrszeitung*), all the stamps inscribed REICHSPPOST and surcharged for Morocco, which were in the keeping of the Government Printing Office, were ordered to be destroyed in February, 1907. Are we to believe that these so-called "stamps of a day," 3500 of them, were consigned to the flames with the rest? I hardly think so!

Morocco
5 Centimos

Morocco
1 Peseta

Morocco
1 Pes. 25 Cts

Morocco

ESPANA

1905. Contemporary stamps of Germany, as previous illustrations, but inscribed DEUTSCHES REICH instead of REICHSPPOST, surcharge in black (red on 3 marks) as illustrations.

3 cent. on 3 pf.,	brown.
5 "	5 " green.
10 "	10 " red.
25 "	20 " ultramarine.
30 "	25 " black and orange on yellow.
35 "	30 " " " on buff.
50 "	40 " " " carmine.
60 "	50 " " " lilac on buff.
1 pes. on 80 "	" " carmine on rose.
1 p. 25 c. on 1 mk.,	carmine.
2 p. 50 c. "	2 " blue.
3 p. 75 c. "	3 " violet.
6 p. 25 c. "	5 " lake and black.

From 1906 these stamps commenced to appear on paper showing the well-known multiple Lozenge watermark, but up to the time of going to press the 30 c., 60 c., 1 pes., and 3 p. 75 c. have not made their appearance, as stamps are only issued on watermarked paper as the old stock on unwatermarked paper is used up.

IV. Stamps of the Spanish Post Offices

Those who specialize in the stamps of Morocco will have to include in their collections the ordinary stamps of Spain, which, since 1864, were used by the Spanish Postal Agencies in Morocco, they being cancelled with a special obliterating stamp. Very little research has been made with regard to what Spanish stamps were so used, what quantity was used, and what form or forms of obliterating stamp were employed; there is certainly a great deal to be done in this direction.

As the Moroccan currency was identical with that of Spain, there seems to have been absolutely no need for a special issue. Later on, however, there began to be an appreciable difference between the Moroccan currency and the rising currency of Spain during the reign of King Alfonso. It then became necessary to issue special postage stamps for Spanish Agencies in Morocco, so a 15 centimos, blue, of the 1889 issue,



was prepared at the beginning of 1893 by surcharging it in two lines; the surcharge read ESPAÑA CORREOS in one line, and

15 CTS. MARRUECOS in another. This stamp was never issued, and must be considered as a proof.

On 1 January, 1903, four stamps were issued surcharged diagonally from left to right with CORREO ESPAÑOL MARRUECOS in two lines. The stamps overprinted were three values of the King Alfonso issue of 1900-1 for postage stamps, and also blocks of four of the small imperforate stamp of 1872-7 for use as a Newspaper stamp.



1 Jan., 1903. *Stamps of Spain, overprinted in carmine (in black on the 10 c.). Perf. 14.*

5 c., green.
10 c., red.
25 c., blue.



NEWSPAPER STAMP. 1 Jan., 1903. *Block of four, overprinted in carmine. Imperf.*

¼ c., green.

There are no errors in the above stamps, and the information given on page 1150 of the 1905-6 edition of the French *Catalogue Officiel*, that in the 5, 10, and 25 c. the third stamp in each sheet of 200 shows a "1" in front of the word CORREO is incorrect. On the other hand, Dr. May has informed me of copies—indeed, he has laid some before me—in which there has been an overinking of the surcharge, or perhaps the plate has got dirty, so that vertical bars of colour show in the overprint. In all three of the values mentioned above the third stamp in the first horizontal row frequently shows traces of such a bar immediately before the "M" in MARRUECOS. This variety may be found, in the 5 c., in stamps occupying other positions on the sheet, more particularly on the second stamp in the second row and on the first stamp in the sixth row. Sometimes something resembling just the edges of a projecting quad appears to have got inked, it then showing in the overprint as two fine vertical lines in front of the "M." This particular variety is generally found on the 10 and 25 c., and in the later value is sometimes joined right on to the "M."

Traces of similar lines may also be found preceding the word CORREO, in the 5, 10, and 25 c., on the first stamp each in the second and fourth rows. On the second stamp in the fourth row, in the 5 c. only, there is a thick horizontal bar over the "M," which projects to the left of it the distance of another letter.

Postal Methods and Means during the American Civil War, 1861-5

By W. WARD

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Freightage of the Mails—*continued*

(ii) Interior—*continued*

TO add to the elemental dangers, there would be hordes of Red Indians only too glad to secure a scalp to add to their collections, as a philatelist is to obtain a variety of a stamp. The horse would be a useful gain; but the most precious of all—the post—would probably be cast aside as useless, not being of sufficient attraction to a savage only realizing life and the necessities for the upkeep of life. Again, there would be bands of white thieves only too ready to plunder a lone individual for the gain of his personal assets, or a cluster of escaped negroes all too ready to seize a man, whether he were of the Federal or Confederate cause, so that they would be able to hand him over to the opposite side in return for an odd dollar or so, after they had conveniently investigated his personal goods and clothing.

The exertion of a hard ride would have disastrous effects upon the horse, which, if not at once dying, would become sufficiently lame to be useless, and so mean many a long mile's tramp for the unfortunate postboy.

Ad Finem

"Men may come and men may go" is a Tennysonian line that applies to all worldly things and happenings. As conditions of the great American civil troubles became worse the end came nearer. Towards the end of the year 1864 the want of daily necessities, besides financial aid, begat the beginning of the end for the Confederate cause. Armies must be fed and paid if a successful campaign is to be carried out. Had Russia provided a commissariat for her troops in the far East as would have been done for a British expedition, the Land of the Rising Sun, instead of jumping forth

into a prominent Power, would have remained just the country that the man in the street knows as the place where everything is paper or papier-mâché. So with the Confederates and the Nationals, the latter carried the day with superiority of finances and food.

Thus, in the closing days of '64, we find General Sherman closely pressing in the west, and General Grant moving in line from the east, gradually but surely closing up the Confederate generals, Johnson and Jackson.

The Confederates were not the only ones who had to maintain a regular communication, for two routes were maintained by the Northerners between Grant and Sherman—one overland through the States of the Carolinas and the other by a sea route via Savannah. The latter course was only taken up after the Confederates had relinquished their activity at sea.

On 14 February, 1865, the Nationals secured the first great move in the bringing about of the close of hostilities by the destruction of the Columbia to Charleston railroad. At the latter place Sherman gave Howard orders to take possession, but to spare all colleges, schools, dwellings, civil buildings, and, if possible, keep intact the postal service.

Less than a couple of months afterwards—on Sunday, 2 April, to be exact—Richmond was set in a state of excitement by the receipt of the news of the nearness of the National Army. The Confederate President, Davis, knew that he would be obliged to evacuate, and, in order to leave nothing of value behind, he immediately gave orders for the destruction by fire of all Confederate archives, stamps, paper money, etc., that could not be carried away with any degree of safety.

Davis, at the time of the receipt of the news and the giving of the above-mentioned order, was attending service at his church.

Later on in the day the inhabitants of Richmond were advised to destroy all stores and anything that might prove of utility to the enemy, Davis thereby repeating the famous burning of Moscow, in order to hamper the Federals.

Liquor was thrown away, houses and stores burst open, but no attention was paid to the earlier order for the destruction of the bills and stamps. They were prepared in heaps in front of the Treasury ready to be set fire to, but evidently the shortness of the time and the more necessary destruction of the State documents were the cause of the non-compliance. A westerly breeze soon divided the heaps, and bank-notes and stamps were flying about in all directions, the inhabitants paying no heed to such worthless matter, as it would be in their eyes, when at

the moment their sole ambition was to place as great a distance as possible between themselves and the enemy.

Davis retreated with all possible speed to Danville, where he temporarily took up the shattered remains of his Government. The Secretary of the Treasury opened a department of the bank and attempted to re-establish the prestige of the Confederacy by exchanging silver coin for the Southern notes. In this manner he wasted about \$40,000 of good, hard coin, giving one dollar of the latter for seventy of the paper. He was obliged, however, to discontinue, as the population was too widely foresighted to encourage the attempt to carry the war on much longer.

I may mention a point of philatelic interest, that just previous to the evacuation of Richmond, the printers of the Confederate postage stamps, Messrs. Archer and Daly, found themselves unable to continue the supplies for want of materials. They forthwith turned the plates over to Messrs. Keatinge and Ball, of Columbia, South Carolina, and made a request that the latter firm put their name upon the sheets as a means of identification for the checking of the postal accounts. Even the new printers ran short of materials, and ink and paper had to be sent from Richmond. All sorts of paper were used, and the gum was evidently bought up from all the various chemists and druggists in the town, for the stamps had many different kinds and colours of adhesive matter. The new value, one cent, bearing the portrait of Calhoun, was also printed, but too late to put into use. This stamp in particular will be found in a variety of shades, due to its being among those thrown away just previous to the evacuation of Richmond, and the action of the exposure to the elements, the orange colour of the ink being easily affected.

It was in the same month, April, 1865, that a famous incident happened at Raleigh. On the 25th a mail train was just about to leave when orders were received from General Sherman for its detention, as a most important message had just been received over the wires, and probably many additional communications would have to be added to its freight. The message had come from Washington by way of Morehead City, but what it was was known only to the operator and Sherman. The Confederate general, Johnson, was in the vicinity with his army, and Sherman at once sent a messenger to him with a request for a parley. Johnson at once complied, and they met at a small farm between the opposing armies. The Nationalist asked Johnson whether he was prepared to sign for peace, but the latter assured him, Sherman, that he had no intentions in that respect. Sherman then handed him the

message he had received that morning from Morehead City, and upon reading it Johnson turned ghostly white, sank into a chair, and for many minutes did not speak. That message contained the news of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, revered and respected by Federal and Confederate alike. Johnson repudiated the suggestion that any Confederates had instructed the author of this regrettable crime—an itinerant actor named Booth—for such a course. He said that to ensure the good name of the Confederacy he would there and then come to terms for the signing of peace. Johnson was as good as his word, for he surrendered on 26 April, 1865, at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Thus the mail train that had been prevented from continuing its journey on the previous day carried, for the most part, a totally different communication for the heads of the Government at Washington.

Davis, the President, however, did not coincide with Johnson, for he refused to throw up his post. Late one night Danville was surprised by the Nationals, but surrendered without a single instance of bloodshed. Davis and his wife were successful in escaping to a farm some miles away, where they remained safely for a few days. However, early one morning mounted troops were seen coming up the road from the east. Mrs. Davis, with a woman's ready wit in such moments, threw a gown round her husband, placed a bonnet over his head and a pail in his hands, and told him to go down to the well and thence escape once more. The ruse succeeded, for the soldiers took no notice of what appeared to be a servant

going for water, and thus Davis again got away; but his freedom was short-lived, as he was captured a few days afterwards.

A terrible struggle was therefore brought to an abrupt finish by the premature death of a great man. No American President is allowed to put himself within the theatre of hostilities, else, maybe, historians would have had a different happening to record, for Lincoln had expressed the wish to visit the South during the war.

For several months after the settlement of peace the mails were in the hands of the various troops of the National Army, as it was some little time before the post offices could be re-established under the Federal regime.

No history of the means and modes of the conveyance of the mails since the advent of prepayment of postage, unless it be that of the great Boer War of our own times, has equalled, for variety and endeavour, that of the American Civil War of the early sixties. To compare, however, the South African war with the American would be impossible on account of the great difference of conditions. The former, at some future date, I may be able to detail, but for the present I trust my delineation of the postal affairs during a great struggle between two sections of one race has proved of interest to those of my co-hobbyists who, like myself, derive much fascination from the records of the course of issue of certain postage stamps other than the merely dry accumulative gathering together of printed designs which, in many instances, have a much too hackneyed similarity in size, style, and general appearance.

The Genus Homo in Philately—*continued*

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

HAYTI furnishes us with another example of the incompetence of the negro to "run" a country on civilized lines. The inhabitants of this republic are the descendants of the negro slaves imported into the island by the early French settlers, who freed themselves at the time of the French Revolution.

They are of mixed Bantu and Sudanese descent, with a cross of white blood. A

debased French is the language of the Haytians, and, while Roman Catholicism is the official religion, Vaudoux or snake worship, with its attendant villainous rites, has still a firm hold on the greater part of the people. Revolutions, with their accompanying bloodshed, are of almost everyday occurrence, for, as a recent writer pithily observes, politics are "practically the only healthy industry on the island."

As is the case with the Liberians, the niggers of Hayti are filled with a large amount of self-conceit. The army of 8000 men is composed chiefly of generals — indeed, no one is happy without a high-sounding title. Even the Customs officers have a



uniform like that of a commander-in-chief, although it most likely is filthily dirty and ragged. The "military men," like most of the other inhabitants, wear no boots, but this trifling detail does not prevent their wearing spurs, which they affix to their bare feet. The character of the Haytians is well summarized by a recent writer as "a mockery of civilization where African savagery and fetishism are venerated over by a little French polish and plenty of gold lace."

The inhabitants of the neighbouring republic of Santo Domingo (Dominican Re-



public) are likewise descendants of African slaves who were originally imported soon after the discovery of the island by Columbus. Owing to African influence they are better governed than their Haytian neighbours, and have acquired a larger veneer of civilization.

Returning again to the Dark Continent, other interesting members of the Ethiopic



division of mankind are found in the colony of French Guinea. These are typical negroes, with thick lips, woolly hair, etc. Indeed, these characteristics are so prominent that an attempt has been made to restrict the name of negro to the natives of this part of Africa. They are a muscular people and are warlike and courageous. The religion is fetishism, and, before the influence of Europeans was as strong as it is now, this was responsible for an appalling amount of cruelty and human sacrifice. Some of the rites of this Ewe religion, as it is called, survive in Hayti and other West Indian islands.

Before leaving this survey of the Ethiopic members of the human family, we must refer to the inhabitants of Madagascar, known as the Malagasy. Around the origin and classification of these people much learned ethnological discussion has taken place. There is now little doubt, however, that the original people of the



island were of Malay blood. These early inhabitants mixed with the negroes and Arabs, and the influence of this admixture is apparent both in the people and their language.

The last of the four great divisions of mankind is the American, which comprises the three great families that inhabit the American continent. These families are divided into hundreds of tribes, but unfortunately, with the exception of a few of the stamps of the United States and one of French Guiana, no representatives are shown on the stamps of this portion of the globe. True, Indians are shown on the stamps of the "Arms" type of Jamaica, but these are really allegorical, and not members of any particular tribe or family of the genus *homo*.

The tribes of South America are mostly very primitive in their habits and customs, and the natives of French Guiana are no exception to this rule. Physically they are



a weak race, and require to recuperate after any unusual toil by several days' lounging in their huts. As a rule, their dress is scanty in the extreme, and even those natives who have adopted European clothes discard their garments with the greatest alacrity if they feel them at all irksome. They are a short-lived people, being old at forty, and rarely surviving to the age of sixty. Cleanliness is a pleasing feature of the majority of the people, this being due to frequent baths, which, by the way, are always taken immediately after meals.

For a long time after the first European settlements were made on the east coast

of North America the "red-skins" were quite unaffected by the menace of Western civilization. Indeed, at first they harassed the whites in every possible way, and showed themselves fearless, ferocious, and crafty enemies.



Gradually they have been driven farther and farther back by the white man, till now they



are mostly restricted to definite "reserves," where they are supported by the Governments of the United States and Canada. Unsited to the restraints and trammels



of civilized life, and displaying a marked inaptitude for the pursuit of agriculture, the "red man," even on these reserves, is slowly but gradually dying out. They may best be described as a slim, copper-coloured people,

with lank black hair, and more closely approaching the Mongol type than the Negroid or Caucasian.

Space prevents any reference to the customs and habits of the interesting tribes comprised in the North American branch of the Indians. There is, however, one noteworthy feature we should mention, and that is the striking capacity of these people to withstand intense cold with a very scanty supply of clothing. Many of them go about half naked even in midwinter. An old Indian, when questioned as to the reason of this capacity of withstanding cold, replied that as the faces of Europeans could stand exposure to all weathers, his own people were not troubled by the elements, even when half clad, because their persons were "all face."

Government Matters Philatelic

Another Official Statement

MOST of us for years past have steadily denounced in the philatelic Press various commemorative and provisional issues with a more or less strong denouncement. Still more have we bemoaned the fact that our own Government did not take any notice of the offending Post Offices in the British Empire.

We all thought that such "goings on" were winked at by those in office on account of the little extra money derived from the sale, and of which a portion found its way into the Revenue coffers. It will be an agreeable surprise for those readers who have got tired of this making of capital out of their hobby by anything but fair methods—and who has not?—by an important piece of news. The gentlemen who were at the bottom of the Seychelles, Gambia, Morocco, Maldives, Straits, and Brunei-Labuan, and many other little personal flotations, have not rested or retired upon their ill-gotten gains. The statement of the Colonial Office head—the Earl of Crewe—a few days ago is worth giving. His Lordship says he is "causing inquiry to be made into the colonies concerned [these are several of notorious fame during the past dozen months or so] with regard to the irregularities represented to have been practised in connection with the sale of postage stamps."

His Lordship further states that notice has always been taken of allegations of irregularity in such matters, and not, as supposed in the past, that various scandals, as mentioned above, have "blown over" during the process of a somewhat lengthy time taken by an official inquiry. He says: "It has been the practice of the Secretary of State to inquire into all definite statements, and the offenders have been punished."

Further inquiry brings forth more knowledge, shrouded in the past. It appears that in the last Liberal Ministry the present Postmaster-General—the Right Honourable Sydney Buxton, then the Under Colonial Secretary—was the means of inflicting punishment upon several colonial postmasters for their little methods in manipulating their stocks of stamps to make a personal margin between the official value and the selling price. The Colonial Secretary makes an important statement on the juggling with provisionals. His Lordship says: "The evil of making a practice of surcharging postage stamps is recognized, and that under standing instructions such issues are prohibited except in cases of *special emergency*."

With regard to the present inquiry, the selling of unrequired postage stamps at more than face value by the Colonial Agents in London is meeting with the Earl of Crewe's consideration. This means of selling stamps has met with much disapproval, and can hardly be considered an honourable method of procedure. Remainders, such as the West Indian, Somaliland, Oil Rivers, and lastly the Cayman Islands ("postage" only) stamps, were all sold at a figure above face value; but it will be remembered that the Virgin Islands remainders were sent back to the colony to be sold at their face value, because no one could be found to speculate at a fancy price.

Surely the colonial postal authorities should be content with collectors' buying their stamps at face value of a halfpenny to one pound each, all of which cost from about twopence-halfpenny to fivepence per thousand to print, gum, and perforate—an enormous profit in all cases.

New Cayman Provisional

IT appears from later information that the last (at the time of writing) provisional from these notorious islands (penny upon four-pence) was intended for fiscal use. As, however, the stamp is inscribed "Postage and Revenue," probably it will carry a postal value. This information comes straight from Miss Parsons, dated Grand Cayman, 26 May, 1908.

The statement in circulation that the Cayman Islands "juggling" is indirectly at the hands of the Postmaster of Jamaica will, as future events will show, be found to be incorrect. "From information received," as the police say, the "string-puller" will not be found to be a British subject, but more likely an American, if any certain nationality can be proved. An appeal is being made

against the issue of the new farthing stamp, as its necessity is proved to be valueless.

Mr. Buxton's "Annual Sweating"

AFTER the Postmaster-General's threat at the J.P.S. Exhibition in March last to issue commemorative [In memoriam?—ED.] stamps, most of us awaited his annual parliamentary statement in the House on Thursday last (16 July) with fear and trembling as to whether he would keep his promise. Though he said—for he was in a jocular mood, as on *our* fête day—he must have some means of getting more money for his department—honestly if he could, but he had to get it—he did not, fortunately, propose any commemorative issue; but then is not Mr. Buxton one of our sympathizers?

Specialism

By R. E. R. DALWICK

(Continued from page 47.)

CYLON.—This small British island enjoys very great popularity with the vast majority of stamp collectors, and must be called—from the Englishman's point of view—the most popular of all Asiatic stamp-issuing countries. To the wealthy collector Ceylon has many attractions, most of the old "pence" stamps being splendid examples of philatelic art both in design and production. It must at once be pointed out that Ceylon will not give the poor man much scope for his researches, as the great majority of the issues of this island are beyond ordinary means. But, however, for those who can afford it, Ceylon must indeed have great interest, possessing as it does a regular collection of rarities among the older issues, known to collectors as the "pence" stamps. These "pence" stamps, so called as the later issues have a different currency, i.e. cents, rupees, etc., are very much in demand, and really fine copies may often go under the hammer at quotations above catalogue! Among the 1857 "Star" watermarked stamps are several rarities, running up into tall figures. Some philatelists, should they happen to purchase a "pence" value for a shilling, imagine their fortune is made! They have forgotten the fact that there is a much later issue of "pence" values on paper watermarked Crown C.C. These latter stamps are comparatively common when compared with their rarer predecessors. With the "cents" issues, a distinct falling off in design and execution is at once noticeable; whilst the falling off in price is the most noteworthy of all. In the more modern days of this island's philatelic history we come across a good assortment of

provisionals, most of which are fairly common. There is a good set of King's Head stamps on both papers.

China.—A quaint and cheap country, possessing a convenient number of stamps to satisfy the requirements of the small and medium specialist. In its stamp designs, as in all things, China gives us some queer-looking stamps, although they are by no means ugly. In most of the designs the renowned Chinese dragon takes a prominent position; but it must be said that it needs a good deal of imagination to conceive the depicted monster! Practically every stamp belonging to the early issues is within the means of the average collector, which means no blanks! I think most people would like to see a collection with no blank spaces, even if the country may not be very popular, rather than a more popular country with several stamps not shown. In 1897 we come across a set of provisionals with surcharge in English and Chinese characters.

In the next regular issue we have two printings, the first from Japanese plates, and the second made from plates engraved in London. The Japanese prints are the best stamps (also the oldest), the one dollar, carmine-rose, and the five dollars, green and rose, being the two best stamps in the set. In collecting China, it is advisable to broaden out a little, so a good plan would be to include under the heading of China, Chinkiang, Chungking, Cochin, and—last, but not least—Corea. The reason for including Corea under China is for the sameness of style in their issues. Corea issued its first stamps in 1885, this issue consisting of five values. The three highest values were prepared for use but never issued, so we find

the actual issue confined to only two stamps. In the later issues the stamps have a great tendency towards Chinese art, although in many ways they differ considerably from the actual designs on the stamps of China. These Chinese districts are fairly popular among several moderate collectors, and (who knows?) in the near future we may see and hear too much of this mighty Eastern Empire.

Cyprus.—This British possession in the Mediterranean Sea first issued stamps in 1880. The first issue consisted of English stamps surcharged "Cyprus" in sans-serif capital letters, which varied in size according to the face value of the stamp. The overprint on the ½d. value was considerably smaller than the surcharge on the 1d. and 1s. values. The British "red penny" stamp must have been sent to this island in several large consignments, as we come across a great quantity of plate numbers. It will doubtless afford the specialist much satisfaction to collect all these numbers, but he must here be reminded that several of these stamps are expensive. Apart from these provisionally surcharged stamps, Cyprus is not very large or complicated, but is somewhat expensive. In the issue 1882-91 we come across two "dies" of the plate, which are very similar to the dies of the Turks Islands. The King's Head stamps on both papers are a good large set, ranging in face value from ½ to 45 piastres, and moreover they show some good colouring.

Hong Kong is a really fine little stamp-issuing district for the medium specialist. In starting Hong Kong one is apt to get confused by discovering that most of the identical values and designs exist in two or three different colours! In the Queen's Head stamps there is one design for all stamps and all issues, which though simple is effective and handsome. Naturally, to comply with various postal conventions these stamps have had to undergo various changes of colour, which accounts for the values existing in two or more different colours. In addition to the various colours, we find a few variations of watermark (excluding King's Head stamps), such as Crown CC in variance to Crown CA, whilst in the King's Head issue three different sets may be made, viz.: (1) Single CA; (2) Multiple CA; (3) as last, but printed on surface-coated paper. Twentieth century colonials have the spice of variety. In addition to the three sets mentioned it should be noted that the lower values are gradually being issued in single colours. Regarding provisionals, Hong Kong can show numerous specimens with and without Chinese inscriptions, the former showing microscopic variations. There is also a number of Revenue stamps used for postage, but collectors should be careful when dealing in these, as the "fakers" have cleaned quantities and put on fictitious postmarks; postmarked copies, of course, being of much greater value and rarity than specimens penmarked.

Philatelic Geometry

By W. WARD

A New Triangular Stamp

NOT to be outdone by their contemporaries, Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. and Messrs. De La Rue, for allowing the spirit of Euclid to enter into their stamp designing, Messrs. Waterlow & Sons have once more provided Philately, at the order of the Ecuador Government, with a triangular stamp, or, to be more correct, with a set. As far as is known, there are four values—1 c., grey-green, 2 c., red, 5 c., blue, and 10 c., orange—all of which bear the head of President Moncayo in black. Two notable points about these new stamps are that they are perforated, and also bear the date 1907. From the latter one concludes that their publication was postponed or delayed. Fortunately the design is pretty, so we shall not be called upon to pass too hard a criticism, but look at them from the point of view of Mr. Ewen—as an interesting inducement for recruits to our hobby.

This is not the first time that South

America has provided us with a three-cornered stamp, for thirty-nine years ago the United States of Colombia issued a 2½ centavos value, which was repeated in a somewhat different design in 1865. The northern portion of the continent had one even earlier, by the advent of the 3d. Newfoundland of 1857. The African continent is responsible for a much greater number of these peculiar-shaped adhesives, which can surely have a much less utilizable value than the more usual rectangle.

Four years previous to the Newfoundland stamp Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. designed and printed a set of four values of "three-siders" for our Cape Colony, which ten years later were copied and printed by Messrs. De La Rue for use in the same colony.

One independent and two dependent African States followed suit forty years later. These were French Obock in 1893 and again in 1894, Djibouti in 1894, all of

which were for the higher franc values. In the latter year the Liberian Republic issued two varieties of a 5 c. triangular in two sets of colours, and a separate variety of each was rouletted. Thus these two continents are alone in the issue of stamps with the least number of corners, all, with a single exception, being imperforate. The

rhombus and rhomboid shaped stamps of New Brunswick (these latter being really squares turned 90°) 1857, Djibouti 1894, and the Argentine fiscals, concluding with the octagonal-shaped stamps of Turkish Thesaly of 1898, about complete the list of these philatelic geometrical curios.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

The Deluge of Paraguay Provisionals

IT seems to me that the extraordinary number of provisionals issued recently for this country will be but a small portion of what we are to expect if the latest information received is correct. As a matter of fact the local inhabitants see very little of these provisionals; my correspondent tells me that the greater part are bought up by dealers and speculators in Buenos Ayres by arrangement with the Post Office authorities.

Well, the latest news is that the rates of postage have been raised in the interior to 20 c., and also on letters abroad. I cannot discover what the rates stood at before. Under the new tariff there will be no use for the 1 and 2 centavos stamps, so these values are to be used for making new 20 centavos provisionals by surcharging them. Worse and worse, reports are flying round that another series of provisionals is to be foisted on an unwilling and overburdened market; the values will probably be 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 and 60 centavos!

I wonder how much longer collectors will continue to buy this rubbish! Not long, I think, as the pace is getting too hot. Be warned in time, oh ye officials (and others) of Paraguay; 'tis the last straw that breaks the camel's back!

Spanish Colonies

I SEE in *Le Journal des Philatélistes* that the Spanish Government decided to do away with the stamps of Elobey, Guinea, and Rio de Oro from 1 July, 1908, and to have a single set prepared, which was to be inscribed "Fernando Poo y territorios africanos," i.e. "Fernando Poo and the possessions in Africa." Still better, the set is to be uniform with that of Spain, and so the 1, 3 and 4 centimos and the 2, 3 and 5 pesetas will be suppressed.

Let us congratulate the authorities, and I hope that they will also make a firm stand against locally issued provisionals. I wonder if the general outcry against the recent jobbery has had anything to do with this clean sweep?

A New Set for Peru

It has been practically decided to issue a new series of pictorial stamps for this country, and the list of personages to be depicted on them, given in some of the Peruvian journals, reads as follows:—

- 1 c., grey, MANCO-CAPAC, the founder of the Empire of the Incas.
- 2 c., green, CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.
- 4 c., red, PIZARRO, the conqueror of Peru.
- 5 c., violet, SAN MARTIN.
- 10 c., deep blue, BOLIVAR, the founder of Bolivia.
- 12 c., sky-blue, GENERAL LA MAR, first president of the Republic.
- 20 c., rose, MARSHAL CASTILLA, who abolished slavery after the revolution of 1844.
- 50 c., yellow-bistre, ADMIRAL GRAN.
- 1 sol, red and blue, COLONEL BOLOGNESI.

Report also runs that there will be a triangular set of Postage Dues, and also a set of Official stamps, showing the Arms of the Republic.—*Le Journal des Philatélistes*.

Import Duty in South Africa

ACCORDING to the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* it has lately been decided to place a duty on catalogues imported by post into Cape Colony, Natal, and Transvaal. It seems a great pity that these colonies have followed the lead of Australia and the United States, but they have at least made the payment of the duty an easy matter for either sender or consignee. In the normal course of events postage stamps will be affixed (by the Customs officials we presume) in the upper left-hand corner of each parcel, and will be cancelled by the written observation "Customs Duty": the consignee will be required to pay the postman the value of the stamps. Should the sender desire to prepay the duty he may do so by affixing postage stamps of the country of destination in the manner previously described. Our contemporary does not state the amount of duty payable, but the method is certainly convenient.

Philately in the Harem

A year or two ago a correspondent of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* paid a visit to the harem of an Algerian chief in Bishra. He describes his visit as follows:—

... We left the Hôtel of the Sahara, and were conducted towards the residence of Kaid Mohamed ben Gannah, who had promised to allow us to inspect his harem on that day. At the gates we were met by a coal-black African giant, the chief eunuch of the household, who, after a mute but most respectful salute, signed to us to follow him. We walked slowly along the corridor, until, lifting a curtain, he drew to one side to allow us to enter. Seated on piles of brightly-coloured cushions were five women, all of them young and beautiful. They wore numerous bracelets on each arm, golden rings round their tiny ankles, two long rows of glistening sequins in the hair, necklaces of gold and coral to set off the amber tint of the skin: they made a most charming picture seated there on their piles of cushions.

They were able to talk to us in French, but used words not often heard in Paris; they were like great children, confined all day long to the harem, and how pleased they seemed to see strange faces! After we had partaken of the inevitable coffee (delicious by the way) they showed us curious articles of jewellery, some of the things being marvels of cunning workmanship. At last a cabinet of carved wood was placed ceremoniously before us; one of the women, who appeared to be the senior of the five, carefully opened it, and . . . what did we see? . . . A postage stamp album!

It was a present from their lord and master, given to them at the New Year, and most proud did they seem of their strange gift!

As I was a collector I was able to tell them a great many interesting things concerning the history of postage stamps, and their use and manufacture. They lost not a word of what I said, and fixed their eyes curiously on mine. I have never spoken to any other audience half so attentive. Before my visit they were converts to the philatelic fold, but when I left they were all as keen as I myself.

New Issues and Discoveries

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.

Austrian P.O.'s in Crete.—We have received a new set of stamps just issued for use in Crete. They are similar in appearance to the Austrian commemorative set issued at the beginning of this year, but there are only two designs: the first is that of the 5 heller, and is used for the 5, 10, 15, and 25 centimes; the other is like the 1 krone, and is used for the 50 c. and 1 fr. The first design is surface-printed, and the second line-engraved. The perforation gauges 12½, like the Austrian.

similar to those described under Crete, but the set is composed of nine values instead of six. The first design is that of the 5 heller of Austria, and is used for the para values and the 1 piastre, all of which are surface-printed. The second design is like the Austrian 1 krone, and is used for the piastre values (from 2 to 20 pi.); these are all line-engraved.

In addition to the set mentioned above, there is a further set of Postage Due stamps, consisting of nine values, all of the same colour and design.



55



56



7



8

JULY, 1908. Issue commemorative of the sixtieth year of the reign of Franz Josef I. Types 55 (5 c. to 25 c., surface-printed) and 56 (line-engraved). Perf. 12½.

- 420 5 c., yellow-green on yellow.
- 421 10 c., vermilion on pink.
- 422 15 c., chocolate on brownish.
- 423 25 c., deep blue on blue.
- 424 50 c., red on yellow.
- 425 1 fr., deep brown on toned.

JULY, 1908. Issue commemorative of the sixtieth year of the reign of Franz Josef I. Types 7 (10 pa. to 1 pi., surface-printed) and 8 (line-engraved). Perf. 12½.

- 108 10 para, yellow-green on yellow.
- 109 20 " vermilion on pink.
- 110 30 " chocolate on brownish.
- 111 60 " purple on bluish.
- 112 1 piast., deep blue on blue.
- 113 2 " red on yellow.
- 114 5 " deep brown on toned.
- 115 10 " green on yellow.
- 116 20 " dull blue on toned.

Austrian P.O.'s in the Levant.—We have received a new set of stamps for these offices



23

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS. JULY, 1908. Type 23, surface-printed. Perf. 13½.

106	½ piast., yellow-green.
207	½ " " "
208	1 " " "
209	1½ " " "
210	2 " " "
211	5 " " "
212	10 " " "
213	20 " " "
214	30 " " "

Cayman Islands.—Mr. T. C. Appleton kindly sends us a copy of the new ¼d. stamp which we were told in *The Colonial Office Journal* that we were to expect.



22

1908. Type 22. *Wmk. Multiple Crown CA.* Perf. 14. 38½d., brown, O.

Madagascar and Dependencies.—We have received two sets of quite new Postage and Postage Due stamps, which we illustrate and chronicle below.



7

1908. Type 7. *Centre in first colour.* Perf. 13½ × 14.

78	1 c., olive and lilac.
79	2 c. " " red.
80	4 c., pale brown and olive-brown.
81	5 c., olive and green.
82	10 c., claret and pink.
83	20 c., brown and brownish orange.
84	25 c., black and blue.
85	30 c. " " yellow-brown.
86	35 c. " " dull red.
87	40 c. " " chocolate.
88	45 c. " " green.
89	50 c. " " lilac.
90	75 c. " " pink.
91	1 fr., olive and yellow-brown.
92	2 fr. " " blue.
93	5 fr., chocolate and lilac.



22

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS. Type 22. Perf. 13, 13½ × 14.

108	2 c., dull claret.
109	4 c., lilac.
110	5 c., green.
111	10 c., carmine.
112	20 c., olive.
113	40 c., brown on toned.
114	50 c., olive-brown on azure.
115	1 fr., deep blue on pink.

Paraguay.—We have received another batch of provisionals, all of them of the most rankly speculative character, but we are afraid that we are obliged to catalogue them, so here goes.



35

Habilitado
on
5

CENTAVOS

43



66

Habilitado en
5

CENTAVOS

44

OFICIAL

62

1908. Type 35 overprinted as Type 62, and surcharged as Type 43, in black.

1402½ c. on 60 c., mauve (No. 254).

1908. Type 66 surcharged as Type 43, in black.

1411½ c. on 10 c., purple.

1908. Type 66 surcharged as Type 44, in black.

5 c. on 20 c., ochre.

5 c. on 20 c., pink.

5 c. on 60 c., Prussian blue.

Variety. Figure "5" omitted.

(5) c. on 10 c., reddish purple.

Straits Settlements.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (25.7.08), the 3 c. was issued in rose at Penang on 25 June, or earlier.



42

JUNE, 1908. Type 42. *Wmk. Multiple Crown CA.*

Perf. 14.

144½ c., rose, O.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 7
Whole No. 189

15 AUGUST, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

German East Africa



GERMAN East Africa, the largest of the German possessions, is situated between the Indian Ocean and the great lakes, with a coast-line of about 620 miles

and an estimated area of 384,000 square miles. Its history under present administration extends only over two decades. In the autumn of 1884 three German political ad-

venturers—Dr. Peters, Dr. Juhlke, and Count Pfeil—crossed over from Zanzibar to Saadani, on the mainland, and at once proceeded to make treaties with influential chiefs. Some of the treaties were fictitious, but the Imperial Government, then imbued with an enthusiastic desire for colonial development, sanctioned the arrangements, and signified its intention of enforcing them by making naval demonstrations. All the chiefs concerned were vassals, or nominally subject to the Sultan of Zanzibar, but events moved rapidly, and in the scramble amongst European Powers for African territory the Sultan was deprived of all his possessions on the mainland as well as his island possessions except Zanzibar and Pemba. Even these, in 1890, were placed under British protection, and thus vanished the last semblance of political independence of the ancient Zang Empire. Readers of this series of articles will remember that some description of this Empire was given in "East Africa and Uganda" (*G.S.W.*, No. 142), and suffice it here to say that the whole of the present territory of German East Africa was at one time included in the Zang dominions. Various conventions between the Powers interested have settled the boundaries, and at present the colony is conterminous on the north with British East Africa, on the west with Belgian Congo, and on the south with Zambezia and Portuguese East Africa.

The earliest efforts to colonize the country, which had hitherto been exploited almost exclusively by Arab dealers in slaves and ivory, were made by a German East Africa Company, chartered in 1885, aided by an Imperial Commissioner. The attempts of the German traders to interfere with the old privileges brought about a serious outbreak of hostilities in 1889, which ultimately led to the abandonment of nearly all the fifteen stations then established, and the rising was only quelled by Imperial aid. As a consequence the sovereign rights of the Company were much curtailed, and the Imperial Government has since administered the territory. The military element thus introduced led to further troubles in 1891, and a large force sent against some Wa-Hehe rebels was totally destroyed. Things are shaping better now, and as large subsidies have been devoted to the construction of railways, steamers, and highways, the prospects of the colony are brighter. Still, the hope once entertained that it would prove a home for German settlers, or a storehouse of colonial produce, must be abandoned. The extent of ground capable of profitable tillage is limited; authorities are agreed that possibly only one-fifth is good, the rest being barren. The coast lands and the southern slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro are the most fertile portions.

The exports (£550,000 in 1906) consist mainly of rubber, copra, vegetable fibre, ivory, coffee, and insect wax. The chief imports (£1,250,000) were cottons, rice, articles for consumption, hardware, and iron. The trade is chiefly with Zanzibar and Germany. The colony is not yet self-supporting, and the Imperial contribution for the year 1908-9 amounted to £240,000. Minerals known to exist in the colony are coal, iron, lead, and copper, but none so far have been worked.

Wide, well-kept roads run throughout the colony, and short routes of railway have been opened between several commercial centres. Trade is steadily growing, and communication with the mother country is maintained by a regular four-weekly mail service. A good number of post offices provide for postal communication, and German catalogues list stamps with thirty different postmarks.

Till recently all civilized population has been confined to the coast districts, and here alone are to be found towns in the strict sense of the word. Many of the places have never recovered from the depredations of the early Portuguese filibusters, and are mere ruins. Such, for example, is the historic Kilwa (4480), the ancient capital of the Zangs. The capital of the present colony is Dar es Salaam ("Place of Peace") with 24,000 inhabitants and one of the finest harbours on the eastern sea-board. It is a handsome town, and aims at being a commercial rival to Zanzibar. At present Bagamoyo (5000), long the gateway of the continent, is perhaps the chief commercial centre. It has no natural advantages beyond its proximity to Zanzibar, and should the railways from the capital prove successful would soon lose its importance. It is the starting-place for the caravan traffic to the interior, a means of trade which has prevailed for centuries. Other ports are Saadani (the English head-quarters), Pangani (3200), Lindi (3500), Mikindani and Tanga (6000), from the last of which railways to the interior have been started. The chief inland places are Tabora (37,000), an ancient and still flourishing centre of Arab prosperity, Ujiji (14,000), on Lake Tanganyika, the termination of the caravan routes, and Mpwapwa (Mpapua), a coming place in a fertile district, and situated at the junction of several highways.

The population, numbering about 7,000,000, belong chiefly to the Bantu tribe, but on the coast live the Suahili, of mixed origin, who are remarkable for a degree of Asiatic culture and the fact of their tongue being the *lingua franca* of Central Africa.

The currency has the *rupee* (1s. 4d.) for its unit, being formerly subdivided into 64 *pesas*, but now, to conform to the metrical system, is made up of 100 *hellers*.

Philatelic History

This is not very interesting, and unless special postmarks are sought for the issues can be easily completed by collectors, especially if only unused stamps are taken. Following the usual course of German colonials, the issues consist first of stamps of the mother country specially overprinted, and then of a series of colonial types inscribed with the name of the colony. In the case of German East Africa the stamps have a little more interest, because they indicate the different currencies peculiar to the district. German collectors pay more attention to used stamps, and some with particular postmarks are scarce and command high prices.

The first issue was in 1893, when stamps of the 1889 issue of Germany were overprinted with values in "pesas," but with no indication of locality. The overprint on the 50 pf. varies in length.



1893. German stamps overprinted in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 p. on 3 pf., brown	3 6	5 0
3 p. on 5 ,, green	3 6	6 0
5 p. on 10 ,, carmine	1 3	1 6
10 p. on 20 ,, ultramarine	1 9	0 10
25 p. on 50 ,, red-brown	2 0	1 3

In 1896 the locality was added to the overprint, which was then applied diagonally instead of horizontally as before.



1896. Overprinted in black.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 p. on 3 pf., brown	0 3	0 6
3 p. on 5 ,, green	0 4	0 6
5 p. on 10 ,, rose	0 6	0 6
10 p. on 20 ,, ultramarine	0 9	0 6
25 p. on 50 ,, lake-brown	1 6	1 6

In 1900 the general types for the colonies were modified for use here, and stamps as follows were put on sale. The second colour given is that of the frame. The ship is intended as a representation of the Imperial yacht *Hohenzollern*.



1900. Colonial type. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 pesa, brown	0 6	1 0
3 ,, green	0 6	—
5 ,, carmine	0 4	0 3
10 ,, ultramarine	0 6	0 4
15 ,, black and orange on buff	0 9	1 0
20 ,, ,, carmine	1 0	—
25 ,, ,, violet	1 6	—
40 ,, ,, carmine on rose	1 9	—
1 rupie, claret	2 0	—
2 rupien, green	3 6	—
3 ,, red and blue-black	5 0	—

In 1905 the division of the rupee into one hundred parts was decided upon, and in consequence the values below 1 rupee were changed and expressed in hellers.



1905. Change of currency. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 1/2 h., brown	0 2	—
4 h., green	0 4	—
7 1/2 h., carmine	0 5	0 3
15 h., ultramarine	0 8	—
20 h., black and orange on buff	0 4	—
30 h., ,, carmine	0 6	—
45 h., ,, violet	2 0	—
60 h., ,, carmine on rose	2 0	—

Since 1906 German and German Colonial stamps have been gradually issued on the paper watermarked with "Lozenges," and so far the following values have appeared.

1906-7. As last watermarked Lozenges.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 1/2 h., brown	0 1	—
4 h., green	0 2	—
7 1/2 h., carmine	0 3	—
15 h., ultramarine	—	—
45 h., black and violet	—	—
60 h., ,, carmine on rose	1 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

Philatelic Phoolishness

THE hot weather, and a general disinclination to work anywhere except in the garden, must be my excuse for filling up with these jokelets culled from *Meckel's Weekly Stamp News* (July 18, '08).

Why does a postage stamp resemble a bad boy?

Because you can't get any real good out of it until you give it a licking.

How do a stamp and an envelope resemble a young man and his sweetheart?

They are stuck on each.

What is the difference between a two-cent stamp of 1906 and a ten-cent of 1908?

Eight cents.

How do stamps resemble the old man walking the floor with boy twins?

They carry the mails.

In what way does a postage stamp resemble a bogus stock transaction?

It is not square.

What is the difference between a house and a stamp?

Well, when you can sell a house it must be worth something, but when you cancel a stamp it is worthless (from a postal standpoint).

What is the resemblance between John N. Luff and the First Baptist Church?

They both have good collections.

What is the difference between cartoons and certain stamps?

The value of one lies in pencil marks, and of the other in watermarks.

What is the difference between a grove of trees and a collection of stamps?

One is timber and the other timbres.

Stamp Collection the Aristocratic Hobby

DURING the past few months, especially, I have been much struck with the fact that "Stamp Collecting" is rapidly becoming the great hobby of the aristocrats of birth and wealth, not only in this country, but also throughout Europe.

At the present moment we have amongst our clients the monarchs of two European nations and the heirs apparent of three other nations, and during this last season we have had more business with new clients of the first positions in their countries than at any previous time since I have been in business.

Philately is making great strides in Austria, Germany, Italy, Holland, and Spain. Possibly this is brought to my notice at the

present time, more than at any previous date, owing to the fact that through the purchase of the "Mann" and "Breitfuss" collections we have been enabled to supply extraordinarily fine collections of European stamps, and for these old stamps I find a really great and increasing demand.

Original Articles in our Weekly

SINCE I have taken up the editorship of this paper I have adopted the policy of printing as many original articles as possible, and I wish to extend this branch of our paper.

I am very pleased indeed to see so many of the younger school of stamp collectors giving us *their views* on many interesting subject-matters in connection with our hobby, and I think it is a good sign of the times as showing us that a thinking and studious class of collectors is growing up amongst us, many of whom will, I trust, develop into writers upon advanced philatelic matters.

I hope during the coming season I shall have the pleasure of receiving many papers, both from old friends and even more especially from those who have not yet written anything for us.

There is one point I wish to make as clear as possible, and that is that the opinions and views stated in many articles are very often *not* our opinions or views, but are only those of the writers of the articles in question. Very often we disagree *in toto* with some opinion expressed by one of our writers, but above all I wish to open the columns of my paper to one and all, and to have discussed the most interesting matters in connection with postage stamps, from every point of view.

Bhopal P.O. Transferred

I HAVE to thank Mr. W. Corfield for the following interesting clipping:—

ALLAHABAD, 5 July.

The formal transfer of the Bhopal State Post Office to the Post Office of India took place at Bhopal on the 1st instant. Major Bayley, Political Agent, Mr. Clarke, Deputy Director-General of Post Offices, and Mr. O'Grady, Deputy Postmaster-General, C.P., were entertained by the Begum on the occasion.

The stamps that will now be withdrawn from circulation are the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas, and 1 rupee, and a new stamp for use

exclusively on Bhopal State service will be introduced shortly. There will be now fifty post offices and 437 miles of mail lines, exclusive of railways, in Bhopal territory.

From the *Englishman* (Calcutta).

The loss of Mr. Frank Allen's Collection

A WELL-KNOWN New Zealand collector, Mr. Frank Allen, of Wellington, N.Z., some two months ago packed up all his goods to pay a long visit to England, accompanied by wife and family.

He booked on one of the large White Star boats; but when all the cargo was on board, a fire was discovered in one of the holds and this had to be flooded. The result was the destruction of a large cargo of flax, 28,000 carcasses of frozen mutton, and all Mr. Allen's effects, including a collection of stamps, the accumulation of some twenty years' collecting in the colony.

Mr. Allen luckily had a very complete list of his Australian stamps, and I have been able to make him a valuation which is now before the insurance assessors, and I trust that his financial loss will not be great. His Australians included a number of fine things in unused, especially in the New Zealand and Queensland.

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

British Bechuanaland and Zululand.

A THOROUGHLY representative book, the Bechuanaland being especially showy and containing many errors and interesting minor varieties.

There are also included in this book a number of full panes which are interesting to specialists, and in constant demand.

Austrian Italy.

An exceptionally fine book, very strong in the early issues. The 1850 stamps are especially well represented in both unused and used; the unused are mostly picked copies with full gum, and include a number of rarities. The used include a number of rare postmarks and some fine blocks.

The later issues and the Austrian post offices abroad are also included, and amongst these are some very rare double and inverted surcharges.

This is a really good book, worthy of inspection by any specialist.

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.

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*

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British Possessions in Asia—*continued*

British Empire in India—*continued*

Native States—*continued*

Puttiala

PUTTIALA, or Patiala, one of the Cis-Sutlej States situated in the Central Punjab. Area 5951 square miles and population 1,586,030. The State occupies a large plain lying to the south of the River Sutlej.

The country is fertile, and produces the usual Indian cereals, such as rice, wheat, maize, etc.

The last Maharajah, who died in 1900, personally took part in the Tirah Campaign of 1898 at the head of the Imperial Service troops of the State. At the close of the operations he received the distinction of G.C.S.I.

The present ruler ascended the throne on 9 November, 1900, and receives a salute of seventeen guns in British territory. The

State has a defensive alliance with the Indian Government and pays no tribute.

The capital of the same name, situated on the Rapura-Bhatinda Railway, has a population of 55,785.

Currency.—Same as India.

Stamps first issued in 1884.

Two only of the five low values of the current Queen's Head series of India whose colours were changed in 1900, in compliance with the ordinances of the Postal Union authorities, were surcharged for use in this Convention State, both being issued in January, 1902, pending the appearance of King's Head stamps of the same denominations. In some catalogues the 3 pies, carmine, Indian stamp of 1899 is also assigned to this date, but I am of the opinion that this is entirely incorrect, and that at the time of the issue of these two stamps this value had been in use nearly two years, and I consider that this date should be changed to 1900.

These stamps remained in use for about fifteen months, when they were superseded by similar values bearing the King's portrait.

**PATIALA
STATE**

1902.

Contemporary stamps of India, 1900. Head of Queen Victoria. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London, and surcharged PATIALA STATE, in two lines, in black, near the foot of the stamps, in tall, thin sans-serif capitals, in complete sheets at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta. Figures in brackets indicate total numbers overprinted.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (120,240); issued January, 1902.
1 anna, carmine (120,240); issued January, 1902.

Varieties.

Small "A" in STATE. No. 216.

1 anna, carmine.

Stop after PATIALA. No. 90.

1 anna, carmine.

Small first "A" in PATIALA, with serif at top.

No. 208.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green. | 1 anna, carmine.

The regular current King's Head series of this State contains in all ten stamps ranging in value from 3 pies to 1 rupee, five of which were issued in the middle of March, 1903, and the remainder at intervals during the next three years, as corresponding denominations of the old Queen's Head issue became exhausted at the local post office.

1903-6.

Regular series of India, 1902. Head of King Edward VII. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Surcharged as above, in complete sheets, at the Government of India Central Printing Office, Calcutta. Dates of issue given in brackets.

3 pies, grey (issued March, 1903).
 $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (issued March, 1903).
1 anna, carmine (issued March, 1903).
2 annas, purple (issued March, 1903).
3 annas, orange-brown (issued March, 1903).
4 annas, olive-green (issued September, 1903).
6 annas, bistre (issued November, 1905).
8 annas, magenta (issued January, 1906).
12 annas, purple on red (issued January, 1906).
1 rupee, carmine and green (issued Nov., 1905).

Shade.

Early in 1906 the 3 pies denomination in the shade of the 1905 printing was also issued with the above overprint.

3 pies, blue-grey instead of grey.

Varieties.

Varieties of surcharge were numerous on the first values issued of the above series, but were corrected in all subsequent printings. The following were the most important:—

Small "A" in STATE. No. 124.

3 pies, grey. | 1 anna, carmine.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green. | 2 annas, purple.
3 annas, orange-brown.

Small first "A" in PATIALA, with serif at top.

No. 208.

3 pies, grey.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.
1 anna, carmine.
2 annas, purple.
3 annas, orange-brown.

Official Issues

Only one of the two Queen's Head stamps in their changed colours, which were overprinted for use in Puttiala State, received the additional surcharge of SERVICE, making them available for official use. This stamp was the 1 anna which was issued at the same time with both overprints. In the following year, about May, the 1 rupee, green and carmine, Queen's Head stamp of India, 1892, came into use in this State upon official correspondence. It had been prepared for use some considerable time back, but owing to the large stock of the same denomination printed in state which was on hand at the local Treasury, it was not brought into general use until this date.

SERVICE

**PATIALA
STATE**

1902-3.

Contemporary stamps of India, 1892-1900. Head of Queen Victoria. Wmk. Star. Perf. 14. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in London. Centre of 1 rupee value in second colour. Already surcharged PATIALA STATE as above, additionally overprinted SERVICE in one line, in black, in tall, thin sans-serif capitals, near the top of the stamp. Figures in brackets indicate total number printed.

1 anna, carmine (480,240); issued January, 1902.
1 rupee, carmine and green; issued May, 1903.

The low values of the King's Head official series of the State were issued about the same time as the rupee Queen's Head stamp listed above, the remainder, as in the regular series, being issued at intervals during the following three years as corresponding denominations of Queen's Head stamps became obsolete, the last being the 1 rupee, in January, 1906.

1903-6.

King's Head Indian stamps already overprinted PATIALA STATE, also surcharged SERVICE in tall, thin sans serif capitals, in one line, in black, at the top of the stamp. Otherwise as before.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green (issued May 23rd, 1903).
1 anna, carmine (issued May 23rd, 1903).
2 annas, purple (issued September, 1905).
3 annas, orange-brown (issued May 23rd, 1903).
4 annas, olive-green (issued September, 1905).
8 annas, magenta (issued May 23rd, 1903).
1 rupee, carmine and green (issued January, 1906).

To be continued.)

Some Notes on the 1852 Issue Of the Papal States

By D. C. G.

IN the latter part of the year 1851 it was determined that the Papal States should issue a series of postage stamps to facilitate the conveyance of letters. M. Salviucci, the Director of the Press of the Papal Government, was entrusted with the execution of the business, and he commissioned M. J. Valagna to manufacture the dies.

At first only stamps of the values of $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 bajocchi were ordered, which were issued to the public on 1 January, 1852. It was soon apparent, however, that stamps of a higher value were necessary, both for franking heavy letters and for foreign postage. Accordingly further stamps of the value of 8 and 50 bajocchi and 1 scudo were obtained and were duly issued in the first week of October, 1852.

All these stamps, except the two higher values, are very similar in their general design. The papal tiara and crossed keys is the most prominent feature in the design; the framework and side ornamentation differs for each value. The two higher values, however, are considerably larger than the lower values and are rather more elaborate.

The stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper and were not perforated. The size of the sheets varied considerably, since the printers apparently made their plates fit the paper, by using more or less clichés, instead of adopting the usual practice of printing the stamps in sheets of a fixed size and containing a definite number of stamps.

The eight lower values were all printed in black on various coloured papers, but for the three higher values white paper was used, and the 50 bajocchi and 1 scudo were printed in colour.

The most striking feature about the seven lower values is the number of shades in which the stamps are to be found—some of which are by no means easy to obtain in unused condition. The coloured paper seems to have been obtained, as it was needed, in rather a haphazard manner and presents considerable differences in texture as well as in shade.

Great irregularity seems to have attended the printing of the stamps and, owing to the want of proper supervision, it is said that the workmen not infrequently printed off a sheet or two of the stamps, without accounting for them, to sell to their friends at less than face value.

It is noteworthy also that these stamps occur used on the envelope, but uncanceled, which would point to great carelessness or else to fraud on the part of the clerks in the post offices.

In fact, this practice became such an abuse that a special decree as to the obliteration of the stamps was issued in 1855, and it was then that the gridiron type of postmark was brought into use for cancelling the stamps, and the small round date-mark was for the future merely impressed on the letter and not on the stamps themselves.

To add to the troubles of the postal authorities forgeries soon began to make their appearance. Forgeries of the 1 bajocco, 5 bajocchi (two types), and 8 bajocchi are known which duly passed through the post without detection. These forgeries were produced by lithography at Bologna during the years 1855 to 1857.

As mentioned before, the lower values differed greatly in shade during the period of use—1852 to 1867. The only means of finding out the approximate time of the use of each shade is, of course, by means of stamps on the original envelope. Unfortunately, although some of the values are obtainable with comparative ease in that condition, others—notably the $\frac{1}{2}$ bajocco, which was mostly used for franking newspapers—are decidedly scarce on original.

There seem to be at least five distinct shades of the $\frac{1}{2}$ bajocco—grey, violet, red-violet, rose-violet, and brownish violet. The first two shades are the commonest, the last shade is rather scarcer, while the fourth shade is much harder to obtain than any of the others.

The 1 bajocco is found in at least three distinct shades. This stamp was first issued in a pale blue-green colour, which lasted for about three years. Then comes a similar but rather darker shade; and during the later years of the currency of the stamp a deep blue-green paper was employed.

There are four shades of the 2 bajocchi, the commonest of which is a medium yellow-green. The stamp is found in this colour from 1852 to 1863, though there are intervals in this period when other shades were current. The next most common shade is a greenish white, which is the usual colour of this stamp from 1864 to 1867, the last year of use. Scarcer shades are (1855) bluish green, and (1858) deep bluish green.

The 3 bajocchi stamp occurs in three different shades—chamois, buff, and (later) dark ochre.

There are five varieties of shade in the case of the 4 bajocchi—ochre-brown, chamois, bright chamois, straw, and bright yellow. The dull shades are the earlier and the bright shades the later printings. The second shade is considerably scarcer than the others, which are all equally common.

The next value, the 5 bajocchi, varies in shade from the palest rose to the deepest crimson. The pale shades are the earlier, and the stamp is not met with in the deep shades till the year 1861, although previously a rather deeper coloured paper had been used. From 1861 onwards the deep shades are the rule.

The 6 bajocchi is found in bright grey, greenish grey, pearl-grey, and grey-lilac. The third shade is scarcer than the two first, and the last shade is the scarcest.

The remaining four stamps of the set do not appreciably vary in shade, with the exception of the 50 bajocchi, which is found printed in dark ultramarine (from a worn plate) as well as in the ordinary pale blue colour.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ bajoccho (grey) exists printed *tête-bêche*, and the 1, 3, 4, and 5 bajocchi are

occasionally met with printed front and back. There are two types of the 1 bajoccho, the lines of separation being arranged differently in each case.

The fourteenth stamp on the sheet, in at least some of the printings of the 2 bajocchi, has no stop after BAJ.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 bajocchi stamps are found cut diagonally or vertically for use as $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{3}{8}$, or $\frac{1}{2}$ of their full face value, and there is no doubt that the postage was duly prepaid thus, although the practice was never officially authorized.

These stamps were occasionally obliterated with a large black St. Andrew's Cross. This postmark is said to have been used in Ferrara during an outbreak of the plague.

The present unpopularity of the stamps of the Papal States would appear to be due in some degree to the large number of reprints, which were made on more than one occasion, of the later issues. It should be remembered that the first issue has never been reprinted; and although the stamps are by no means beautiful or artistic in appearance, they have a quaintness of their own, and are by no means undeserving of a good deal more attention than they at present receive.

Mythology and Philately

By SEMICOLON

IN looking through a stamp collection the collector will find many stamps the designs on which are more or less unintelligible, and perhaps none are more so than those having reference to the mythology of ancient Greece and Rome. Our Gibbons, it is true, gives us a line of description under each stamp, but in many cases this is merely a name conveying no meaning except to the classical scholar. A few notes on these designs may perhaps be of interest to readers of the *Weekly*.

The most popular deity for philatelic purposes, that is, for representation on stamps, is undoubtedly Mercury, or Hermes as he was called by the Greeks; and the reason is not far to seek. He was the messenger and herald of the gods, and as such is shown on

the Newspaper stamps of Austria, the Brazil 1000 reis of 1894-1904, the early issues of Greece and also the issue for 1901, the



Parcel Post stamps of Salvador, and on the 50 c. types of Uruguay for 1890 and 1895. In all of these he is shown wearing the familiar winged head-dress; but the best





type is that of Greece for 1901, in which he is shown with the winged head-dress and sandals which gave him his great speed, and also carrying the herald's staff or *caduceus*. Another capacity in which Hermes is represented on stamps is that of protector of games and gymnastics. On the 40 l. of the 1906 issue for Greece we see him with symbols of games and fêtes, though why his



wings sprout from his back and his hair is done in such ladylike fashion it is hard to understand. The 2 dr. of the first Olympic Games issue shows a statue by Praxiteles, the great sculptor of the ancient Greeks, which represents Hermes holding the infant Bacchus (the god of wine) on his arm. Hermes was also the god of commerce, the protector of travellers, and was regarded by the degenerate Romans as the god of *fraud*, *perjury*, and *cunning*. One other stamp is



devoted to him, the Crete 1 l., 1900; but this calls for no comment.

The next group of stamps which have any bearing on our subject are those issued for the island of Crete in 1900 and 1905. The mythology of Crete was similar to that of the Greeks and Romans, and centred round Mount Ida, a lofty mountain in the centre of the island, shown on the 5 dr. for 1905.

This mountain was the reputed birthplace of Jupiter, and was therefore peculiarly sacred.



Jupiter (Greek Zeus) was the greatest of the gods who dwelt on Mount Olympus in Greece. He was the ruler of gods and men, and controlled the fate of every individual. He was the upholder of justice, was worshipped as the fatherly god, but was also feared as the god who sent storms, thunderbolts, and lightning. The early idea of

Jupiter gave him perhaps a better character than any of the other gods, though later myths have not tended to improve it. His chief trouble seems to have been to rule the rebellious gods and goddesses and to settle their disputes, as in addition to many minor deities and deified men he had to control Neptune, Mars, Apollo, Mercury, Vulcan, Vesta, Ceres, Juno, Minerva, Venus, and Diana, most of whom appear on stamps. Jupiter is commemorated by the Crete 20 l. of 1905.

Next in importance comes Juno or Hera, the wife of Jupiter, who is shown on the 5 l. and 20 l. for 1900. She was the chief goddess,



but was equalled in power by Venus, the goddess of love, who always opposed her. Juno was regarded as the goddess of marriage, and many splendid temples were dedicated to her.

Diana or Artemis was at first more especially worshipped under the latter name by the Greeks, but afterwards by both Greeks and Romans. She was the daughter of Jupiter and the twin sister of Apollo. She was the goddess of hunting, being herself a huntress, and also the goddess of the moon. The 2 l. of the 1905 issue bears a very curious design, showing Diana holding a bow and accompanied by two hunting dogs.

Triton, shown on the 25 l., 1905, was the

son of Neptune and Amphitrite, the deities of the sea. He has a human body and the tail of a fish, being, in fact, a "merman," and is usually represented with a trident and conch-shell.

Talos, or Perdix, was the nephew of Dædalus, a skilled artist and craftsman, and was educated by him. Dædalus, envious of his superior skill, threw him down from the top of the temple of Minerva on the Acropolis, but the goddess caught him and changed him into a bird, called after him *perdix*, the partridge. He is shown on the 1 dr. for 1900 in an intermediate stage of this transformation.



Minos was a legendary king of Crete, who after death was appointed judge and ruler of the dead. He is shown in this character on the 2 dr. of the 1900 issue.

Britomartis was a Cretan nymph. Minos fell in love with her and pursued her for nine months, after which she jumped into the sea and was made immortal by Diana. On the Crete 5 l. of 1905 she is shown resting in a tree, probably feeling tired after her long run.



Ariadne, daughter of Minos, king of Crete, fell in love with Theseus, one of the great heroes of ancient Greece, but on leaving Crete with him she was killed by Diana. An ancient coin bearing her head appears on the 50 l. for 1905.

Europa. The 1 dr., Crete, 1905, shows Jupiter, in the form of a bull, running away



to Crete with Europa, the daughter of a king of Phœnicia. Europa afterwards became the mother of Minos.

(To be continued.)

Temptations for Mr. Buxton

By FORMICA

A CERTAIN evening newspaper, ever ready to afford opportunities in its columns for the advancement of its readers' bright ideas, amongst other suggestions for making up the revenue lost by the decline of the insidious "Limerick," published the following letter:—

Fresh 6d. Stamps Annually

Scattered all over the world are many thousands of stamp collectors, and whenever a fresh stamp is issued every one of these enthusiasts at once endeavours to obtain a specimen.

Let the Postmaster-General take advantage of this fact and issue a fresh 6d. stamp annually. This would entail but little extra work for the Post Office, as an enormous number of the stamps would not be used, but merely added to collections.

A further extension of this scheme would be to have a long-shaped stamp instead of a square one, and to have the King's head in the middle,

the year at the bottom, and a design referring to some distinctive event of the year at the top.

For instance, this year's stamp might have "1908" at the bottom, and a small sketch of the Exhibition or the Olympic Games at the top.

This would necessitate the stamps not being issued until about the middle of the year; but it would make a complete set of great historical value, and would undoubtedly lead to their collection by thousands of persons not hitherto interested in Philately.

It is a lady to whom has been vouchsafed this brilliantly original (we don't think) notion, one of those apparently, happily rare amongst collectors, who are ready and eager to buy anything whatsoever, so it be cheap. Doubtless, as she suggests, Mr. Buxton might reap as rich a harvest as any of his contemporary postmasters are doing, but we have every confidence that Mr. Buxton values his dignity and that of the Post Office at a higher price than

sixpence. Besides, this lady's scheme either goes too far or does not go far enough; either let us eschew these commemorative works of art, leave exhibition stamps to our Roumanian and New Zealand friends, and Olympic memorials to the nation which has at least some local right and excuse for such lapses from postal virtue, or let us go in for the thing in a whole-hoggyish way as our American cousins have shown how, and give a special stamp to each of our national heroes. In this case His Gracious Majesty's portrait might be kept exclusively for use on the one-pound stamp to denote his sovereignty [Joke.—ED.], the lower values could be devoted to Little England statesmen and minor poets, whilst our national monuments could be represented by Nelson's Column and the little Brown Dog of Battersea.

But if this is to be made a really paying proposition, it would be a mistake to confine the portraits to statesmen and so on; why,

every schoolboy in England would rush to plank down his shilling and sixpence, if these values bore the portraits of "W. G." and the Jam Sahib (overprinted with their latest scores); and Danny Maher riding a good finish would be worth half-a-crown each way to any racing man; but the idea could be extended indefinitely—Miss Pankhurst, Maud Allan, General Booth, and Harry Lauder, or a new set every week with the whole of the Tivoli programme. Will Mr. Buxton be able to resist the temptation? For our part we hope he will, or it means new premises for S. G., simply in order to house the catalogue. No, tempting as it all sounds, it has been the honourable tradition of the Post Office of Great Britain to have as few changes in the stamps as possible, and for sixty-eight years the Sovereign's head has served well enough for design: let it be so still. A better portrait of the King we may get one day, though never a better King.

Overprints and Surcharges

By CHARLES S. QUENTON

A SURCHARGE is an overprint, but an overprint is not necessarily a surcharge. It is advisable to state this, since both terms are apt to be used without distinction; unless, indeed, which is too often the case, all overprints are lumped together in one lot and generically termed "surcharges." A surcharge, literally, is one charge (or value) upon another; an overprint is the printing of any matter on a stamp which does not effect the value of the stamp.

Overprints are more numerous and varied than collectors would at first suppose. A typical overprint is that where the stamps of one country are used to start the postal system of another country, the mother-country providing an outfit for her offspring. We see this in the new African colonies: in British Central Africa, British East Africa, British Somaliland, and British Bechuanaland. Among our older possessions, Gibraltar and Cyprus started with similarly overprinted stamps; while within the last few months almost the Maldivé Isles, Papua, and Brunei have overprinted themselves into existence, an existence which otherwise, outside the pages of a gazetteer, might have remained undiscovered by philatelists. A more limited use of the overprint occurs in the Levant and in Morocco ("Morocco Agencies"), where it represents certain European post offices only. The British

Post Office in Siam (1882-5) was represented by a single "B" (for Bangkok) on the Straits Settlement stamps of 1867-86; and "G. W.", afterwards a single "G" only, of perplexing variations, stood for Griqualand during the whole of the philatelic lifetime of that portion of South Africa (1874-80). Other overprints celebrate cheaply jubilees and Relief Funds; there are "V.R.'s" and "V.R.I.'s," and "E.R.I.s" in plain and fancy type (see Fiji); there are heads overprinting heads without a crown (Peru), and crowns without a head, as in Cook Islands; Chili overprints its Arms on Peruvian stamps, and Peru overprints them back again; stamps are localized by overprinting the names of districts, as in Mexico; and we have the various official or counting-house overprints, having to do with departments; deficit (unpaid letters) revenue stamps overprinted "Postage," and postage stamps made available for revenue. There are "Specimen" stamps—a large and, at present, despised class, though they are genuine "first impressions"; and there are the values overprinting other values, and closely resembling surcharges, necessitated by a change of currency, as in the 1878 issue of Mauritius, where cents, equivalent to the pence, overprint the pence. Also that early instance of an overprint being crowded into the blank label, the 2 cents of Mauritius lilac-rose (1878). There are other in-

stances of overprints where distinction between somewhat similar stamps is the object, as the 3d. and 6d. of Great Britain, 1883, and the British Guiana 2 cents of 1889 (Gibbons, No. 151).

But whether a stamp is overprinted or surcharged, it belongs to a class that is of a provisional or makeshift character—though “Provisional” must not be taken always as representing only such surcharged stamps—and which cannot, in the proper order of things, last for any great length of time. Hence there is an attraction about a surcharged or provisional stamp that few philatelists can resist (collectors only bar them when their price becomes prohibitive); and when to this attraction, on account of probable rarity, is added the further attraction which the printer’s art almost always provides, that of errors of spelling and defective lettering, it must be acknowledged that provisional surcharged stamps, however “shady” their origin (we do not believe in the necessity of the four Caymans recently made, but we should like them in blocks of four!), are easily first favourites with the great bulk of collectors.

We purpose in this article to consider the matter of overprinting and surcharging from almost a technical standpoint, as opposed to that aspect of the matter which debates the question—and the question crops up at almost every quarter of the globe, from Papua to the Caymans—whether this or that surcharge is necessary. But viewing the question as “the man in the street,” who, from his peripatetic nature, cannot possibly be a philatelist, since concentration is not one of his attributes, we are of opinion that no surcharge or overprint is absolutely necessary. This is a bold statement to make, but we shall attempt to justify it by further declaring that by a little prevision in the management of colonial affairs—it is the offspring of our own and the other European nations over seas that are the chief offenders, the smaller the dependency the more the provisionals seem to be the rule—no post office need be out of stock of low value (or other value, for that matter) stamps for the sake of a few reams of perforated paper. It is a well-known fact that the gum on the backs of stamps is highly nutritious; for see how lovingly twenty-five one lepton stamps of Greece or Crete, and that broadside of fractional values of Spain, the $\frac{1}{2}$ c. de peseta, cover both sides of large envelopes, and then only equal twopence half-penny. A million stamps cost the issuing country but a few pence per thousand. In any country where nine-tenths of the population cannot read or write, or where they only use stamp-edging to mend a puncture in a bicycle-tyre, such a number ensures eternal currency. In a parenthesis we might

remark that where you find any large stock of obsolete-type stamps current, you may safely infer that that country is not doing justice to its missionaries and other educators; it wants an army of occupation and a new Licensing Bill to hurry things along and bring them up to date. Mr. Buxton, the Postmaster-General, in opening the Junior Philatelic Exhibition recently, is reported as saying that he had the new stamps of 1908 in hand; that is, we take it, the supply for the whole year in advance. Our dependencies must, on a smaller scale, have advance supplies, and nothing but shortsightedness or wilful misjudgment can result in any particular value giving out. Changes in currency are foreshadowed months before they actually occur; and even when we set out to appropriate any new country, or best part of a whole continent—and the betting is generally a hundred to one on our chance of ultimate success—a new set of stamps for the projected new colony could be packed square with the Bibles and the new Army Regulations, and would not only interest the army on the march, but would keep their friends interested at home. And Philately would lose nothing by it, since, if we conquer, civilization advances much quicker by the aid of the new king on the new stamps; if we are conquered, King Edward VII simply loses a prefix, and instead of being “Defender,” becomes “Pretender”—an interesting memento, too, which Philately would perpetuate as history.

Taking then, for brevity of expression, surcharges and overprints as one and the same, it is characteristic of all surcharges that whatever may be the subsequent method of fixing them into plates, or duplicating them, or hardening their surfaces, they are mostly type-set. It will readily be understood that, wherever possible, such type-set formes are not actually printed from; the head-quarters of most stamp-issuing countries, however remote from the higher civilization they may be, generally run a *newspaper* of some sort, and as the newspaper would have the most influence locally, and the largest supply of type, it would be the most likely firm to supply the surcharge, and a mould could be made of this and the stereotype plates cast from it (linotype lines would do equally as well). This plate could be further hardened—stereotype plates are not the hardest of metals, though they would give “sharp” impressions up to 50,000 under normal pressure—by electrotyping; that is, giving it a copper printing-surface instead of lead. This “fixing” process by means of plates is at once the weakness and the strength of this method of printing: the weakness by reason of slight errors, “spaces” showing, etc., being remedial only by re-casting the plate; and the strength by reason

of every letter being fixed and immovable. We see the result of the first in defective surcharges which occur again and again in every new batch of a particular stamp issued. In Morocco Agencies there is a variety with a broad top to "M" in the Queen issue of 1900, and it occurs on the King issue so late as 1905. Had the surcharge been reset and recast we should have got the differences, again, probably—still with the Morocco Agencies set in view—that exist between the London and the local print, with possibly some further variations in the capitals or in the spacing.

In reverting once again to the distinction between surcharges and overprints, it is noticeable that the former are of local workmanship and the latter of London workmanship as a rule. As we are considering all stamps, however, we must extend this remark somewhat, and say that overprints are printed by the same stamp printers, and surcharges by local printers. An instance that comes to mind readily is the first issue of Gibraltar. Most collectors of English stamps know that English stamps did service in Gibraltar from 1857 to 1886, as shown by the postmark "G & A 26." In January of the latter year, however, a series for Gibraltar was decided upon, and as there does not appear to have been in existence a key-plate that could have been used at once by the insertion of the name and values only, the stamps of Bermuda were overprinted in the now familiar condensed block type. This block type, by the way, is as characteristic of Messrs. De La Rue's work as their surface-printed stamps. It is found in use for overprinting Cyprus on English; the St. Helena surcharges; and, latterly, the official overprints on our English stamps, besides stamps like British Bechuanaland, which were sent out from home. Another feature of this system of overprinting, showing the care that was taken to make the issue as distinct as possible from the Bermuda stamps which were used, is seen in the watermark and colours of the stamps. There

were seven values overprinted: $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., 4d., 6d., 1s.

We arrange, side by side, the then current Bermuda and the Gibraltar, and it will be seen at once that the overprinted stamps were specially printed—in other words *made*—for the new purpose they had to serve.

BERMUDA.—1886.		GIBRALTAR.—1886.	
$\frac{1}{2}$ d., stone; CC; 14	1d., rose-red; CA; 14	$\frac{1}{2}$ d., dull green; CA; 14	1d., rose-red do.
2d., blue do.	2d., violet-brown do.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ d., ultramarine do.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ d., ultramarine do.
4d., oran.-red; CC; 14	6d., violet do.	4d., orange-red do.	6d., deep lilac do.
1s., green do.	1s., yellow-brown do.		

Of these seven values, only two—the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., ultramarine, and the 1d., rose-red—could possibly have been forged by overprinting, a matter more for the philatelist even than for the postal authorities. This adaptability of existing designs to the making of new values by a change of colour and overprinting is further exemplified in the Bermuda farthing, issued in 1901 and still current, where the shilling value was printed in grey and surcharged "One Farthing." Had these Bermuda stamps been in existence in the key-type—that is, with the head only, leaving the top and value labels to be inserted at a subsequent printing—the inference is that, like the Mauritius 2 cents of 1878, which was printed over a blank label, the value could have appeared without the bar. That a danger exists in thus changing the colour of a well-known stamp for surcharging purposes is shown by the Straits Settlements 32 c., carmine-rose, which escaped the surcharge altogether, and exists in the unofficial colour, carmine-rose, as stated. Another interesting feature about the Bermuda-Gibraltar set is that the colours used for Gibraltar in 1886 for the 2d. and the 1s., and the new watermark for the 4d., did not affect Bermuda stamps until 1893 and 1904 respectively, though it is safe to assume that the change of colour and watermark was in contemplation when the Gibraltar stamps were made.

(To be continued.)

A Philatelic Index Expurgatorius

By GASRING

IN the June number of the *P.J.G.B.* there appears a letter suggesting a "Gumpap Black List," without, however, suggesting the necessary working details for formulating such a list. The same idea occurred to the writer some months ago, and the following scheme has since then been slowly evolved.

The Royal Philatelic Society should, as the oldest (I believe I am right in so terming

it) and chief of philatelic societies, take the responsibility of issuing these black lists. In the first instance it would circulate to all the philatelic journals and societies in the country a list of those stamps and issues which are generally acknowledged as superfluous gumpaps, erring, if at all, on the side of leniency. With the list so circulated would be a notice that the R.P.S. intended to place all the stamps and issues in the list

on an Index Expurgatorius at a date three or six months hence, if the committee gathered, both from the philatelic journals and societies and from private letters, that such action would be generally approved by the philatelic world.

The interval of three or six months would give ample time for every one's views to be aired on the subject, and there is little doubt but that such action, emanating from a society of such high standing as the R.P.S., would be most popular amongst philatelists of all grades. When a stamp or issue had been thus black-listed it would not necessarily be removed from catalogues, but a

heavy B might be placed against it, signifying that it was on the R.P.S. Black List.

Besides directly benefiting all philatelists except the speculative type, the existence of such a black list would undoubtedly indirectly benefit them by discouraging unnecessary issues, as the immediate black-listing of such would probably mean a financial loss to the offending Government or speculators, as the case might be. At any rate, there are no disadvantages or obstacles in the path of such a reform, whilst the advantages are so enormous that it is needless to further dilate upon them.

Our New Zealand Letter

By N. Z.

SINCE writing my last notes, wherein I deprecated the "severe" attention which several philatelic journals were paying to the "King Edward Land" rubbish, my friend "Pelure," in a leading New Zealand weekly, writes as follows:—

I am very pleased to see that all the Home journals vehemently denounce the "King Edward Land" rubbish. I don't think, however, they were ever issued as stamps, to be collected by stamp collectors, but merely to serve as mementoes of the Antarctic expedition.

"Pelure" is a trusted writer of great philatelic knowledge, and I was extremely pleased to see his note. Let us hope this is the last time I shall ever have to refer to such rubbish, and that none of the European cataloguers or New Issue "boomers" will touch them.

Our small size 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s. have now all appeared with the comb-machine perforation 14×13½. The difference is so small from the old style of 14 all round that I sincerely hope Gibbons will not differentiate between the two perfs. We have

quite enough small varieties in this colony's stamps already.

I hear our Officials are soon to disappear from view. There has been such a huge amount of dissatisfaction amongst the various Government departments over them that their early decease is bound to come. At the present time some departments use Officials, some have only "slot" machines, some are postage free, and some use ordinary adhesives.

A fine collection was recently sold in Wellington for £262, and was a bargain at the price. It contained some fine New Zealand and Australians, all which are much sought after by collectors out here.

In a recent number of a leading London philatelic journal I notice a writer filling in the prices for all unpriced values of New Zealand in Gibbons, 1908. I am afraid he must be a buyer, as *his* prices could be offered in vain here for many varieties he quotes. These perfs. and papers of ½d. and 1d. values issued in 1901-3 are a most interesting kind of study.

Philatelic Societies

Junior Philatelic Society Brighton Branch

Hon. Sec. and Treas. : J. Ireland, 103 Western Road, Hoop.

At the kind invitation of Mr. Herbert Clark, a country gathering was held at Malta House, Angmering, on Friday, 17 July. Owing to the threatening aspect of the weather the gathering was small but select. It said much for the courage of the ladies that half of the lady members were present against one-ninth of the gentlemen. However, the more attention was bestowed upon the latter as a consequence! Under the guidance of Mr. Clark the party made an interesting tour of the gardens—and the raspberry canes!

Opportunity was taken to conclude the annual business meeting, which had been adjourned, and, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Miss K. Foster, the annual report and balance-sheet was adopted.

The Secretary read a letter from the publishers of the *Philatelic World*, a new journal, offering to present copies for distribution among the members. On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by the Secretary, the offer was accepted with thanks.

The Secretary announced that arrangements had been made to hold the meetings in future at the Royal Hotel, Queen's Road, Brighton.

After a vote of thanks to Mr. Clark, the party departed for the station in drenching rain.

New Issues and Discoveries

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.

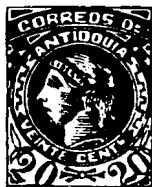
Afghanistan.—According to *Champion's Bulletin* (25.7.08), the 1 rupee has now appeared in *deep green*, instead of in *blue*.



5¢

1908. Type 51. Engraved. Imperf.
25½ x 1 r., deep green.

Antioquia.—We have seen a 20 c. of the 1883-5 issue on *wove paper*; hitherto it has been catalogued on *laid paper* only.



30

1883-5. Type 30. Imperf. (b) *Wove paper*.
65½ x 20 c., blue.

Belgium.—Recently a 1 centime stamp was issued with a new type of "Sunday" label, in which the latter was not joined to the stamp itself by scroll-work.

It appears that the words *PAS LIVRER* of the inscription were too close together, for Mr. Frank Wilson has kindly shown us a recent copy of this stamp with these two words a little wider apart. This is a very minor variety, and will only interest the specialist; it will not be included in our Catalogue.

Canada.—We have received a set of eight new stamps issued on the occasion of the celebration of the tercentenary of the founding of Quebec, to which we referred at length on page 349 of our issue of 30 May last.

The stamps are all beautiful specimens of the engraver's and printer's arts, and are produced by the line-engraved process. It is useless to describe them, as the illustrations below speak for themselves.



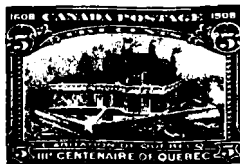
35



36



37



38



39



40



41



42

17 JULY, 1908. Issue commemorative of the Tercentenary of the founding of Quebec. Types 35 to 42. Perf. 12.

- 145 ½ c., sepia.
- 146 1 c., green.
- 147 2 c., rose-carmine.
- 148 5 c., indigo.
- 149 7 c., olive-green.
- 150 10 c., deep purple-mauve.
- 151 15 c., reddish orange.
- 152 20 c., brown.

Ecuador.—Mr. William Ward sends us the new triangular stamp illustrated below. We will not say anything further about it, as we publish a short article on these stamps by Mr. Ward in another place in this issue of *G.S.W.*



84

(Printed by Waterlow & Sons, Ltd.)

JUNE, 1908. Type 84. Vignette in black. Perf. 14.
33½10 c., ochre.

Persia.—We have been shown a copy of the recently issued 26 chahi stamp, overprinted "Colis Postaux" diagonally, in black. We do not know if any other values exist with this overprint.



53

81

PARCEL POST STAMP. Type 53, overprinted in black with Type 81, reading diagonally upwards.
47½26 ch., orange-brown.

Portuguese India.—We have been shown a copy of the 20 reis of the 1873-5 issue, with small figures of value, with the "20" reading vertically upwards on the stamp, instead of horizontally. This is an uncatalogued variety and is due to the figures of value having been printed in afterwards, it being probable that an unfinished sheet got placed in the press sideways.



6

1873-5. Die II. Soft wove, slightly bluish paper. Type 6. Small figures of value.
Variety. Figures of value sideways (reading upwards).
38½20 reis, vermilion.

Queensland.—We have been shown a copy of the 6d. with the new watermark.



21



29

1908. Type 21. Wmk. Crown and A, Type 29.
Perf. 13 (comb-machine).
240½d., yellow-green.

Sirmoor.—Major Evans writes as follows: "Messrs. Stanley Gibbons have recently shown me a copy of a 2 annas stamp with a handstamped 'On S. S. S.' overprint, of a type which I described with some reserve, and not quite accurately, in my paper in the *Monthly Journal*, June, 1905, page 260. The overprint has 'ON' for 'On,' and three letters 'S' without stops. I described it as having a small capital 'o' and large letter 'N,' the 'O' being incompletely printed on my copy, and thus appearing to be smaller than the 'N.' The two letters are really about the same size, but are not set level; an important point, however, is that the specimen now shown me turned up among some common Sirmoor stamps, which is in its favour as an authentic variety."

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 8
Whole No. 190

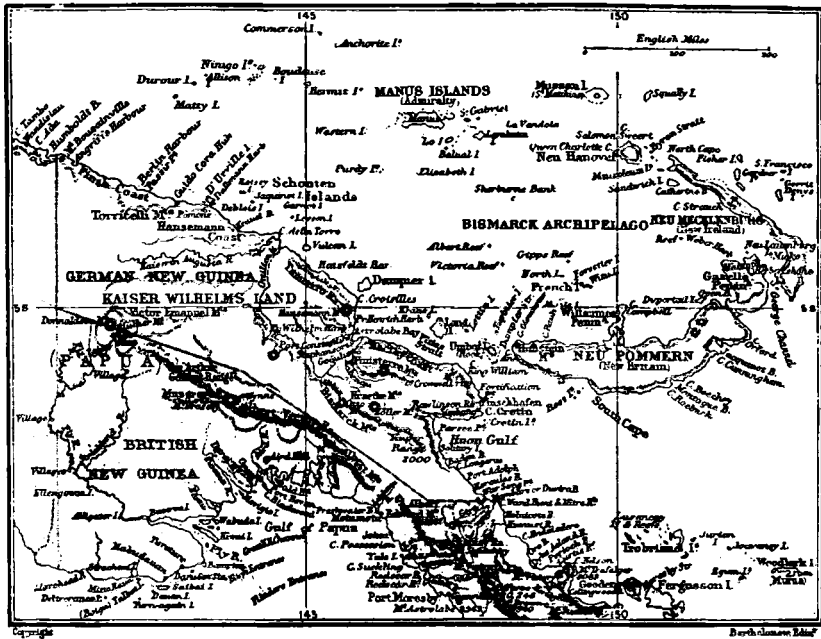
22 AUGUST, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

German New Guinea



GERMAN NEW GUINEA, geographically, only applies to Kaiser Wilhelm's Land, the north-east portion of the island of New Guinea (or Papua), with an estimated area of 70,000 square miles. Administratively it comprises also the Bismarck Archipelago (including some of the Solomon Islands), Caroline Islands, Marianne Islands, and Marshall Islands. It is said that in future all the above will be grouped under the title of *German Australia*, a much better description. The sea: of government has been at Herbertshöhe in the Bismarck Archipelago, so that the name of New Guinea has hardly fitted the situation. As the last three groups have each been favoured with separate issues of stamps, which will be

discussed in turn, this article will only deal with the first two divisions.

New Guinea or Papua (the name given to it by the inhabitants of the Moluccas, because the natives are black with frizzled hair) is, after Australia, the largest island in the world. Its existence was probably known in 1500, but the region does not appear to have been visited or sighted by Europeans till some years later. The first to do so was Don Jorge de Meneses, a Portuguese commander who accidentally overran his distance in voyaging from Malacca to Ternate in 1526. During the next few years other Portuguese and Spanish traders visited the western portions. In 1846 a Spaniard, Ynigo Ortiz de Ritéz, anchored in the north

and was the first to call the place New Guinea, "on account of the resemblance of the natives to negroes." In 1601 Luis Vaz de Torres passed through the straits which still bear his name, and sailed along the south coast, taking possession in the name of the King of Spain. In the same year the Dutch began their settlements in the west, and for more than two centuries almost all explorations have been conducted by this nation. In 1700 Dampier, an Englishman, sailed along the north coast, surveying and naming many points. In 1828 the western half of the island was placed under Dutch protection. The eastern half was for some time roughly divided into English and German spheres of influence. Protectorates were respectively declared in 1884 over the south-east and north-east portions, and various conventions have since fixed approximate boundaries.

The coasts have been fairly well surveyed, but as regards the interior New Guinea, excepting one or two points, is still "an isle of mystery." It is known to contain lofty mountain ranges, many of a volcanic nature.

The few expeditions that have attempted to open up the interior of German New Guinea have found progress exceedingly difficult. There are no paths, the territory is terribly rugged and covered with a dense undergrowth, and the whole country is covered with dense, dank forest. Timber and a great variety of wood, valuable for cabinet-makers' purposes, is plentiful, but difficult to obtain. The soil is very fertile, and in the settlements coco-palms and caoutchouc is chiefly cultivated. The climate is trying to Europeans on account of the heat combined with a superabundance of moisture. There are many rivers, one of which, the Kaiserin Augusta, has been ascended by sea-going steamers some two hundred miles.

The colony is directly administered by the Imperial German Government, but the development of its resources remains in the hands of the German New Guinea Company, chartered 17 May, 1885, and this company has sovereign rights. No arms or spirits are permitted to be sold, and labour traffic (for years a vexed question in these parts) is forbidden except for German plantations.

Friedrich Wilhelmshafen, the best natural harbour in New Guinea, has developed into a permanent settlement. As the bay gives access to wide, fertile plains, there is no doubt that the settlement on its border has a future. Other ports of some promise are Berlinhafen, Konstantinhafen, Stephansort, and Finschhafen. The last named is delightfully situated on a good harbour and surrounded by park-like lands of extreme fertility.

The country is famed for its many varieties of the "Bird of Paradise," the most beauti-

ful birds in the world, and only the large specimens of butterflies the country produces can vie with them in the splendour of their colouring.

The population numbers some 100,000 natives of the distinctive Papuan character, the main characteristic of which is the mop-shaped, frizzy head of hair. They are clever agriculturists, and on the whole friendly to the Europeans. They barter copra, mother-of-pearl, and trepang, and the exports (£2500 in 1906) consist chiefly of the first named. The imports for the same year amounted to about £50,000.

In November, 1884, a German Protectorate was declared over the New Britain Archipelago and several adjacent groups of islands, including a portion of the Solomon group, notably Bougainville and Buka, the two largest islands. These were then re-named together the Bismarck Archipelago. The only well-explored districts are the Gazelle Peninsula (Neu Pommern) and the small islets of the Lauenburg group. Here several plantations are carried on successfully, the chief products being copra, cotton, coffee, and rubber. Imports in 1906, £120,000; exports, mainly copra, £75,000. The chief settlements are Matupi, a small island in Blanche Bay, entirely occupied by the establishment of a successful trading firm, and Herbertshöhe, the seat of administration. Neu Pommern offers greater facilities to European settlers than any of the other islands, which, though of considerable size, are almost unapproachable, and man is almost wilder than nature. Confirmed cannibals, the natives are nearly all very warlike, and offer strenuous opposition to all attempts at European ingress. Some islands have suffered from the Australian labour traffic. In the Solomon Islands sandal-wood and tortoise-shell are the chief commercial products.

Philatelic History

Like that of other German colonies, the philatelic history is uninteresting. In the case of German New Guinea the overprinted stamps of the first issue do not provide



marked differences in the slope of the overprint. German specialists say there are two angles, but the difference is very slight. The chief interest in the country is to be derived from a search for used copies and

the collection of special postmarks. The issues have only been two in number, and up to the present no watermarked stamps have appeared. The following lists are sufficient description.

1897. *German stamps of 1889 overprinted in black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
3 pf., yellow-brown	1 6	2 0
3 ,, deep brown	0 3	0 3
5 ,, green	0 3	0 6
10 ,, carmine	0 4	0 6
20 ,, ultramarine	0 8	0 9
25 ,, orange	2 0	2 6
50 ,, red-brown	2 0	2 6

1900. *Frame in second colour. Perf.*

3 pf., brown	0 1	0 1
5 ,, green	0 1	0 1

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 pf., carmine	0 2	0 2
20 ,, ultramarine	0 4	—
25 ,, black and red on yellow	0 5	—
30 ,, ,, orange on buff	0 6	—
40 ,, ,, carmine	0 7	—
50 ,, ,, violet on buff	0 8	—
80 ,, ,, carmine on rose	1 3	—
1 m., carmine	1 4	—
2 ,, blue	2 8	—
3 ,, violet	4 0	—
5 ,, carmine and black	6 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.

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

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British Possessions in Asia—continued

Labuan

THE island and British Crown Colony of Labuan is situate in Brunei Bay, about forty miles from the north-west coast of Borneo, and forms one of the Malayan Archipelago. Its area is thirty-one square miles, and it boasts a total population of only 8411, the population having decreased of late years owing to emigration to the mainland of North Borneo, where the resources are more numerous.

Labuan came into the possession of Great Britain in 1846, when as a result of a rebellion on the part of the Sultan of Brunei, his capital was occupied by an armed force, and in expiation of his crime he ceded the island of Labuan, almost his sole remaining possession, to be administered by Great Britain, the island at that time being uninhabited. Valuable and extensive coal mines were discovered there, and the capital, Victoria, having an excellent harbour, was made an Admiralty coaling station, and

although under the new naval programme it has lost much of its former importance, the harbour is still occasionally visited by ships of the East Indian Squadron. The first permanent settlement made on the island took place two years after its acquisition, when Sir James Brooke, afterwards Rajah of Sarawak, was appointed first Governor of the colony. Early in the eighties the control of the island was ceded by the British Government to the British North Borneo Company, and it was administered under their jurisdiction until 1 January, 1906, when by Royal Warrant the Governor of the Straits Settlements was appointed to be Governor also of Labuan, and by a further official notice published in the *London Gazette* it was announced that His Majesty had been pleased, by Letters Patent passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, and dated 30 October, 1906, that the boundaries of the Straits Settlements should be extended, in order that the colony of Labuan might be in-

cluded in them; and in January of the following year the island passed completely out of the hands of the British North Borneo Company. As is stated above, the colony's chief importance lies in its coal mines, which have been developed to an annual output of over 50,000 tons, the coal itself being of a highly superior quality.

The island's chief trade is maintained with Singapore, whence are exported sago, flour, gutta-percha, wax, and edible birds'-nests, earthenware, and ornamental brass.

The inhabitants consist largely of Chinese merchants, with a sprinkling of Malays and Dyaks, with some Hindoos and a handful of Europeans.

Victoria is connected by cable with both Singapore and North Borneo.

Currency.—100 cents = \$1 = 2s. 4d.

Labuan was admitted to the Universal Postal Union on 1 April, 1877.

Stamps first issued in May, 1879.

During the somewhat lengthy period of its administration by the officials of the British North Borneo Company, Labuan was provided with the current stamps of that protectorate, overprinted at the top with the name of the island, and like the country whose stamps these were, Labuan gained for itself an unenviable notoriety amongst philatelists for the number of its issues, which were made solely for the purpose of extracting revenue from stamp collectors, and from the fact that many of them never even saw the island of Labuan at all, but were sold at the British North Borneo's Company's offices in London, in complete sets, to dealers, neatly cancelled to order, at a mere fraction of their face value, and on this account many collectors refused to recognize the stamps of this colony in any way, and eschewed its postal emissions entirely. Since the island has, however, been taken over by the Straits Settlements Government this practice has, of course, ceased entirely, and the stamps of Labuan can only be obtained direct from the colony itself, which, however, no longer possesses a distinctive issue of its own, but utilizes the current series of the Straits Settlements, in which colony it is now incorporated, which can be distinguished only by means of their postmarks.

The first stamps to be issued by this colony during the period reviewed by these articles made their appearance about October, 1901, and as at that time the postal arrangements were still in the hands of the British North Borneo Company's postal establishment, were first issued at the London offices of that organization, where they could be obtained in assorted lots, either with the surcharge LABUAN at the top, or without and inscribed STATE OF NORTH BORNEO, cancelled to order, or unused; you

"paid your money and took your choice," but under no circumstances did you pay full face value for your purchases.

The stamps were of new denominations and extremely handsome designs, well calculated to catch the eye of the inexperienced collector, who would take the oval conglomeration of thick black bars applied with mathematical exactitude to the corner of each block of four stamps for a genuine postal cancellation, which theory not even the presence of the original gum on the back of the stamp would destroy, until the time when he would be enlightened as to the real nature of his possession by some more sophisticated friend.

Both stamps were oblong. The 10 c. depicts a Bruang or Malay tree-climbing bear, indigenous to the island of Borneo; he is depicted as exploring the branch of a tree in search of honey. The other stamp is of the value of 16 c., and has for its central design one of the trains of the new North Borneo Railway passing through a forest. The stamps were produced in the best plate-engraved manner, and have the word LABUAN overprinted at the top in a semi-circle obliterating the original inscription of STATE OF NORTH BORNEO.

1901 (OCTOBER?).

Pictorial designs as above. Engraved and printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, London, in sheets of 100, ten rows of ten, without marginal lines or inscriptions. Thick wove paper. No wmk. Perf. 14, 15. Centre and surcharge in second colour. Overprinted LABUAN in tall, thick sans-serif capitals in a semicircle at the top. Inscriptions in Arabic and Malay.

10 c., slate-lilac and brown.

16 c., chestnut and green.

NOTE.—In order to distinguish between genuinely used stamps and those cancelled to order, it is well to know that the regular cancelling stamp employed at the island post office consists of a plain double-lined circle, having the date in the centre, and the name of the issuing town and of the colony itself round the circumference, whilst that used in obliterating the cancelled-to-order stamps in London is composed of thick black bars in the form of an oval similar to the early postmarks with serial numbers used by the British post offices abroad, whilst the former more nearly resembles the type of postmark usually employed in Great Britain to-day.

Eleven months later a special series of stamps of a new and distinctive design, and entirely separate from any used in North Borneo, was issued for use in the island, although, unfortunately, with the appearance of this special issue the practice of cancelling stamps to order in complete sets in London was not discontinued.

In an ornamental frame reminiscent of an

elaborately carved mantelshelf is enclosed a magnificent drawing of an Imperial crown, significant of the fact that Labuan is a British Crown Colony, whilst above and below this emblem are the words LABUAN and COLONY respectively, in fancy block capitals. On the arch of the mantelshelf is inscribed the designation POSTAGE & REVENUE in small white capitals upon a coloured ground, and at the foot of the stamp in a fancy frame the value in words, also in white. Numerals of value appear in circles in white at each of the bottom corners of the design, and at either side of the stamp are inscriptions in Arabic and Malay. The majority of the series was issued in September, 1902, but the 1 c. and 3 c. denominations were not added until October of the following year.

1902-3.

Twelve values of a new and striking design as above. No wmk. Thick wove paper slightly toned. Frame lithographed and centre engraved in taille-douce by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons in London, in sheets of 100, ten rows of ten, with control numbers in the right-hand top corner. No marginal lines or inscriptions. Centre in second colour given. Figures in brackets indicate the various forms of perforation to be found on each value, and are given on the authority of "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News."

- 1 c., violet and black (13½, 14½).
- 2 c., green and black (13½).
- 3 c., brown and black (13½).
- 4 c., carmine and black (14, 15).
- 8 c., vermilion and black (13½).
- 10 c., lilac and brown (15).
- 12 c., yellow and black (14, 16).
- 16 c., brown and green (14).
- 18 c., pale brown and black (14).
- 25 c., greenish blue and deep green (13½, 15).
- 50 c., lilac and purple (14).
- \$1, orange and brown (15).

The above and all issues of Labuan and North Borneo are extremely hard to find in a genuinely postally used condition.

In December, 1904, nine values of various of the older issues of North Borneo, which had, by way of using up the stock of these remainders, been issued at the British North Borneo Company's offices in London, all reduced to one price by surcharging, viz. 4 cents, were also issued at the same place overprinted LABUAN in addition to the new value. These stamps were entirely speculative and unnecessary, and the only excuse for their appearance was the desire upon the part of the directors of the Company to dispose of a surplus stock of old stamps without being put to the dead loss of having to destroy them by fire. Few, if any, ever saw either North Borneo or Labuan, and they were mostly disposed of to dealers in complete sets, unused or cancelled to order, without ever going outside of the Company's offices.

1904.

Regular stamps of December, 1895, and April, 1897, surcharged 4 cents in two lines, in black. No wmk. Wove paper. Engraved, printed, and overprinted by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons in London in complete sheets of 100 (excepting the 25 c., 50 c., and \$1, which are in sheets of 50 only, ten rows of five). Descriptions of designs given in brackets.

- 4 c. on 5 c. (issued 1897. Argus pheasant).
- 4 c. on 6 c. (issued 1827. Badge of British North Borneo Co.).
- 4 c. on 8 c. (issued 1897. Malay dhow).
- 4 c. on 12 c. (issued 1897. Crocodile).
- 4 c. on 18 c. (issued 1897. View of Mount Kini-Balou).
- 4 c. on 24 c. (issued 1897. Arms of N.B. Company).
- 4 c. on 25 c. (issued 1897. Badge of Company).
- 4 c. on 59 c. (issued December, 1895. Arms of Company).
- 4 c. on \$1 (issued December, 1895. Arms of Company).

During the following year (1895) three high values of the current series of British North Borneo were surcharged at Victoria, Labuan, for use in that colony, being intended chiefly for revenue use, in fact, the \$10 and \$25 were available for fiscal purposes only. The first two values, the \$2 and \$5, were issued in February, 1905, and the higher denominations in November of the same year.

1905.

(FEBRUARY AND NOVEMBER.)

Designs of British North Borneo, 1894. Surcharged locally in the colony with the word LABUAN in tall, thick, sans-serif capitals on the \$2, and in taller, thinner type on the remaining values. Engraved and printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons in London. Large square stamps. No wmk. Perf. 14 for the \$2 and 15 for the remainder. Design, Arms of the British North Borneo Company. Overprinted in complete sheets of (I believe) 50 stamps each.

- \$2, dull green.
- \$5, mauve.
- \$10, brown.
- \$25, blue.

Although Labuan had been incorporated in the Straits Settlements in October, 1906, the full control of the island's affairs does not appear to have been assumed by the Government authorities of that colony until January of the following year, at any rate in postal matters. Apparently the entire stock of the Crown issue of 1902-3 remaining on hand at the Labuan Post Office, when it was taken over by the postal department of the Straits Settlements, was purchased from the British North Borneo Company at a valuation, as such denominations of this issue as remained, after supplying the provisional issue for use in Brunei,

were overprinted STRAITS SETTLEMENTS in fancy type, and issued at the Labuan Post Office on 1 January, 1907. The reason for the stamps being surcharged was that as Labuan now formed part of the Straits Settlements, its postal issues were also those of the latter colony, and by overprinting them in this manner they were created Straits Settlements stamps, and although on sale at the Labuan Post Office only, were valid for the prepayment of postage upon letters and parcels dispatched from any post office in the Straits Settlements colony.

Of the value most in demand for use upon correspondence, viz. 4 c., the equivalent of 1d. (for Labuan had joined the Penny Postal Union some years previously), the entire stock had been used up some months before, and it became necessary therefore to improvise provisional stamps of that value. The stamps were, I understand, overprinted in complete sheets of 100, ten rows of ten, in

the local press at Victoria, in small fancy serifed capitals, and the stamps thus surcharged were issued at the Labuan Post Office, together with ordinary King's Head stamps of the current issue of the Straits Settlements unsurcharged. As in the case with the provisional issue of Brunei, a large part of this series was snapped up by local philatelic speculators, consequently the prices of most of the values are somewhat high. The supply of 1 and 2 c. stamps overprinted was extremely small, and these denominations of the provisional series were entirely exhausted by 9 February, 1907. The 3 c. lasted until the end of that month, and the 4 on 12 until 19 April; the 4 on 16, 4 on 18, and 8 c. were also exhausted by the 19th of that month; and the remaining values lasted until July, 1907, by which time all of the surcharged issue was obsolete, and none but the current stamps of the Straits Settlements were obtainable at the Labuan Post Office.

(To be continued.)

Mythology and Philately

By SEMICOLON

GREECE, which may be called the birth-place of mythology, devotes all its postage stamps to classical subjects, as, in addition to the regular issues bearing representations of Mercury, there are issues commemorating the two occasions on which the revived Olympic Games have been held at Athens. The first of these, the issue for 1896, is a very beautiful series, and though the colouring is not so brilliant as that of the later issue, yet the tasteful designs of 1896 compare very favourably with the grotesque apparitions on the stamps of 1906. Three



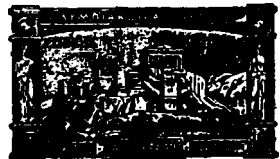
types of the 1896 series show ancient Greeks engaged in various forms of sport, while the 1 dr. gives a view of the stadium or arena in which the Olympic Games took place.

On a vase shown on the 20 l. and 40 l. values is a figure of Athene or Minerva, sometimes called Pallas Athene, one of the great goddesses. She was the daughter of Jupiter and Metis, the goddess of wisdom and prudence, and therefore combined the warlike qualities of her father with the wisdom of her mother. She was the patron

deity of Athens, and the chief temple of the city, the Parthenon, was dedicated to her. A view of the Acropolis, the hill on which



the temples at Athens were erected, appears on the 10 dr. of the 1896 issue, and the Parthenon stands out prominently on it. Athene is also shown on the \$9 Newspaper stamp of the United States.



Turning to the 1906 issue, we find stamps devoted to wrestling and racing, while the

5 dr. is described as "Offerings for the Olympic Games," which are not altogether unknown at the present day. The remaining types are devoted to various deities.



On the 1 l. and 2 l. of this issue we are shown Apollo throwing the discus. At first sight it appears to be a representation of Mr. Bosanquet getting the spin on a "googly," especially when the wickets in the background are noticed. One can almost hear the umpire call "No ball!" Regarding the gentleman as Apollo, he has many vocations. He is the god of music, of flocks and herds, and, when called Phœbus Apollo, of the sun.



Atlas, who is shown on the 3 l. and 5 l. values of the 1906 issue, rebelled against the authority of Jupiter and was condemned to bear heaven on his head and shoulders. Collectors are indebted to the designers of the stamp for information as to his identity, as a casual inspection leads us to suppose that he is trying to "loop the loop," being shown walking inside a sphere just big enough to contain him. The top of this sphere is possibly meant to represent the sky which rests on his head, while he stands on the earth at the bottom. Atlas was afterwards changed into Mount Atlas as a punishment for refusing shelter to Perseus, the Gorgon-slayer.

Hercules, the most celebrated of the ancient heroes of mythology, was famous for his great strength. All through his life he was pursued by the enmity of the goddess Juno, and most of his misfortunes may be traced to her. He first killed one of his tutors in a fit of anger, and some years after, when he had married, Juno caused him to go mad and he killed his two children. He was ordered by the oracle at Delphi to serve

Eurystheus for twelve years as a penance, and it was during this period that he performed his famous twelve labours, in obedience to the commands of Eurystheus. Nine of these labours consisted in capturing or killing various wonderful animals, the others being the Cleansing of the Stables of Augeas, the Capture of the Girdle of the Queen of the Amazons, and the Quest of the Apples of the Hesperides. Hercules appears on two of the oblong types of the 1906 issue of Greece. On the first of these he is shown holding up the heavens (in the form of a heavy beam, on which are painted stars and crescents), while Atlas, who has been to fetch the apples of the Hesperides for him, is offering them to him.



Atlas is supposed to have been unwilling to take up the burden of the heavens again when once he was free, but Hercules tricked him into doing so and went off with the apples. On the 25 l. we see Hercules wrestling with Antæus. The latter was a



monster famed for wrestling, and was invincible so long as any part of his body touched the ground. Hercules, knowing this, lifted him up, and so conquered him. This contest was only one of the minor adventures of Hercules. After performing his twelve great tasks Hercules led a wandering and adventurous life, and was finally killed by a poisoned shirt which his wife thought would



act as a love charm. He was made immortal, was reconciled to Juno, and married her daughter Hebe.

Ceres, the goddess of the earth and the protectress of agriculture, is shown on the

stamps of several countries. The early issues of France bear her head crowned with garlands of wheat, while the Uruguay 10 c. of 1895 shows a very modern representation of the goddess, and on one of the U. S. A. Newspaper stamps she is shown at full length.



The last group of classical stamps, which has already been mentioned, consists of



some of the Newspaper stamps of the United States of America.

Clio, the first of the nine Muses, was the Muse of History, and is shown on the \$6 of the series.

Vesta, one of the great Roman divinities, was the goddess of the hearth and home, and on her altar a fire was kept burning perpetually by the vestal virgins. On the \$12 Newspaper stamp she is holding a lamp or torch in her right hand.

Hebe or Juventas, the daughter of Zeus and Hera, was the goddess of youth. She was at first the cup-bearer of the gods, but when Hercules was received as a divinity she became his wife. She is shown on the \$48 value.



Though the stamps mentioned in this article belong to the despised class of Pictorial and Commemorative stamps, they will well repay the collector for any time spent in studying them, and their beautiful appearance adds greatly to the attractiveness of a stamp collection.

Overprints and Surcharges

By CHARLES S. QUENTON

THE practice of overprinting and surcharging stamps has grown with the extension and development of empires. It follows naturally upon what has been termed "Imperialism" in these islands, and on the Continent and in the United States from similar causes though probably not similarly named. "Greater Britain" has fired France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Portugal, and the United States with desires for colonial possessions, either to relieve their overgrown populations at home or to provide fresh materials for their markets and increased employment, or to engage those restless and adventurous spirits who might otherwise be a source of trouble in times of peace. Africa has been carved up and colonized by Europeans; the United States and Japan have got new possessions by conquest. If

reference is made to a catalogue, it will be found that the countries named have very few provisional stamps, apart from the purely official overprints; but turn up their colonial possessions, and very few exist without surcharged stamps. It would be invidious to point out all the colonies where these varieties occur: France has nearly four pages of them in Guadeloupe, issued between 1900 and 1904; Portugal has a great many in Mozambique; and for ourselves, we are probably the greatest offenders of all. British Bechuanaland, whatever its status may be as an African colony, has never had a stamp design of its own during the twenty-one years of its existence as a stamp-issuing colony. Any odds and ends in the stamp way have been worked off in its post offices: the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope at

different times; then the unappropriated die series, overprinted; the Queen's English; and last of all—when a new design was at least expected—three values of the King's Head.

Surcharges make a country for a specialist, for when all the normal varieties are exhausted he can revel in minor sorts. A typical country of this kind is St. Helena—the Perkins Bacon design in use continuously from 1856 to 1894. Though of the forty-five important varieties listed no fewer than thirty-nine are surcharged, the surcharge is of a consistent type, made with the stamp, and admitting of very slight variations, easily followed, mostly of bars and perforations. Another "happy hunting ground" for the specialist is the Straits Settlements, where he has to contend with the vagaries of the native printer. In the Straits Settlements—apart from the separate States, which seem to have been regarded as an appanage of India, from the character of its first issue of stamps—there are 170 catalogued varieties, and no less than 91 of these provisional. Johor has 54 out of 88; Pahang, 28 out of 33; Perak, 76 out of 97; Selangor, 60 out of 80; and Sungei Ujong, 60 out of 66: a grand total of 369 varieties and but 165 properly designed stamps. Siam is another interesting country: there are 163 varieties listed, and no less than 119 are surcharged and overprinted varieties.

The figures in the above instances are quoted just to give some idea of the extent to which varieties are made by surcharging, in the first instance, for a few missing values—the range of values needed is not in any case great; and, secondly, to show how lax the system is whereby the resources of the native printing office are badly utilized, and the blunders of the native printer, albeit of the "educated native" class, not corrected by the European officers in charge. It is a fact very seldom pointed to in any catalogue, and then, as in Gibbons' note to Siam, varieties Nos. 70 to 75, only to explain away possible awkward combinations when found on stamps in strips or blocks—that half a dozen or so different kinds of surcharges are found on the same sheet of, say, sixty stamps. A few of these instances can be mentioned to illustrate what we mean: Transvaal, the seven varieties, Nos. 282-8 (and 289-95, the same in red); and Perak, Nos. 43, 46, 47, and 50. There are numbers of other instances, only to be seen in complete panes—hardly possible now with the rarities—in Turks Islands, Orange Free State, Zanzibar, etc. In arranging for a surcharge of sixty stamps at a time, care might be taken that the printer has sufficient of any one fount to set the whole up. It is only too evident from the shifts that are made in many surcharges

that a type has been selected for its boldness or legibility, but which, from its "fancy" character, was quantitatively weak. A practical man would suggest some variation; would suggest words instead of figures; and would know that if a large "½" was wanted for a halfpenny or in a twopence-halfpenny surcharge that it would have to be "built" up from three separate pieces, and from many different founts, with the dividing-bar of varying lengths. There are not, or there were not, many colonies where type foundries exist or existed; new type had to be imported; type faces were old and worn, and the workmanship generally was crude. The figures shown as surcharging the values in Turks Islands from 1881 to 1893 illustrate these remarks; they were "fashionable"—as type is fashionable—in the '40's and '50's, and may yet be called upon to do duty again before this century has run its course. By the way, there are many interesting type-set stamps in existence which owe their origin to some Caxtonians of the New World which, thanks to philatelists, will never perish, and which the future chroniclers of the "art preservative of all arts" will be pleased to record some day. There are the British Guiana issues of 1862 and 1882—the printers are immortalized in Gibbons; and we commend the Colombian stamps of Garzon, Cauca, and some other States of this republic for their originality and economy of material, and regret that their printers' names are not recorded as they deserve to be.

It must be evident that the colonial printer and the colonial postmaster share the honour attaching to provisional stamps. We have come to the conclusion lately, and only lately we confess, that if there is anything else besides "honour" to share out in connection with such issues, then the two individuals named stand the best chance. The printer is responsible for all mechanical contrivances: the design, the type, the position, the colour are probably all left to him; so we find lines crossing a stamp diagonally, horizontally, vertically; curved in a half-circle; concave and convex; and printed all over the *face* of a stamp. This last printing calls for some comment, as we are of opinion, like King Bomba of Sicily and his postmark, that a surcharge should obliterate the value of a stamp and not the features of the portrait. From this reasoning an overprint should fall above the head, below or over the name label, and a surcharge over the value label below the head in each case with or without a bar. As for the colour of a surcharge, much of course depends upon the colour of the stamp. Our surcharge printers have not yet reached that stage of the art of colour-printing where, by the adoption of a two-colour process, they impose a second colour on the first and produce

a third. Messrs. De La Rue might effect this with their secret inks, to the confusion of the forgery-monger; but as we have said, surcharges are local manufactures. Generally, where the pigments available for printing are limited to black, red, and blue, black is effective on all light colours and red on all dark colours, and both are durable. A blue surcharge presents some difficulties—not to the printer or to the postal authorities, since it does not concern them in the least, but to the philatelist, who seeks to distinguish it from black. "The blue surcharge," says Gibbons in a note about Morocco Agencies, Nos. 16, 17, 18, "can be easily distinguished by looking through the stamp in front of a strong light." A limerickist would say that a blue of this shade would be too *deep* for him, and we add on our own, much too trying for the eyesight of the ordinary philatelist. There is a surcharge of "Four cents" on the eight cents of Negri Sembilan (S. G. 18) that Gibbons persistently chronicles as green; we have two copies, and both appear blue to us, and we are not colour-blind. Green has been used to surcharge the stamps of Western Australia, in four instances appearing on yellow and brown backgrounds; and we find an interesting lot of colour surcharges, which, from their date (1867) and great similarity of type, must have been printed at one time, and with the same ink, in England. These are the surcharged stamps of British Columbia and Straits Settlements, and for the purposes of comparison we place them together, as they appear in the Catalogue (S. G., Part 1):—

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

5 c., red; *black* surcharge.
10 c., lake; *blue* "
25 c., yellow; *violet* "
50 c., violet; *red* "
1 dol., green; *green* "

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

1½, 2 c., *red* surcharge.
3 c., *blue* "
4 c., *black* "
6 c., *violet* "
8 c., *green* "

Three more values of Straits appear in red, blue, and black also. The year 1867 is an early date for surcharges,* and these colours seem more or less experimental; but there is no suspicion whatever attaching to them of "being made for collectors." Twenty-seven years afterwards (1893) a West Africa colony (Niger Coast) adopted similar colours, probably to test the strength of an African sun. As the various colours still stand in the catalogues, we assume they were proof against the West Coast climate, though probably their rapid return to Europe saved their lives. We give the colours, which illustrate many types of surcharge as well:—

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| (1) violet. | (5) blue. |
| (2) green. | (6) black. |
| (3) vermilion. | (7) bluish black. |
| (4) carmine. | |

Before we leave this interesting subject of type, one or two further points engage our attention. We have spoken above of "fashion" in type, noticing some very old varieties that are not yet extinct in the colonies. But the question arises whether, if a surcharge is not to be imitated—the difficulty at times appears to be to get the stamp to print upon rather than the surcharge to print with—the type used should be of that modern character that most printing offices have in stock.

* Some early surcharges are: Mauritius 1854, South Australia 1860-1, St. Helena and St. Lucia 1863, Egypt and India 1866, Straits Settlements and British Columbia 1867, Cape of Good Hope 1868, and Natal 1869.

(To be continued.)

A Skeleton Collection

Comment and Criticism

By J. CORNER-SPOKES

I TRUST Mr. J. W. H. Heslop, author of an article on this subject which appeared in *G.S.W.* for July 11, will forgive me a short comment and criticism upon the same.

Firstly, I have the greatest admiration for those who plead the cause of the philatelist of small means, for without them the hobby could not exist, and his suggestion is quite a new one. But, candidly speaking, readers, do you not think it rather too sweeping for most of us? Any drastic change seems

against the grain of the average philatelist, for, like the Medes of old, they are unwilling to alter their traditions, antiquated and impossible as they are in the eyes of so many. It is for this reason, therefore, that I hold with the article I am now criticizing, so that collectors may wake up to the fact that reform, or even revolution, is necessary for the welfare of the hobby. I have, however, a few suggestions as to the means with which these reforms are to be carried out, and, with the permission of the

editors, I should like to submit these to the philatelic public.

The manner of collecting stamps falls under two natural headings, commonly known as "generalism" and "specialism." The latter is being very ably dealt with in these columns by Mr. R. E. R. Dalwigk, so I will confine my attentions to the former, as being the class to which the majority of juniors and philatelists of moderate means belong.

As in tariff and other reforms, so in philatelic reform, there are the "whole-hoggers" and there are the "little-piggers," if such expressions will be forgiven. In other words, there are those who would prune the lists down to the lowest possible dimensions and those who would only do it on a small scale. Now in coming on the field as a philatelic reformer, I will take my stand as an "independent" candidate, neither a "whole-hogger" nor a "little-pigger," for while the one would go too far in his actions, the other would leave matters too much in their present condition. I propose several solutions to the difficulty, which are as follows:—

(a) The "design and colour" system.

(b) The "go-as-you-please" system.

(c) The "skeleton" system.

(d) The "moderate" system.

(a) This system is that in which all varieties of perforation, die, paper, and shade, all surcharges, and all outside issues (such as unpaids, officials, etc.), are ignored, and all that is reckoned as of importance is variation of design, value, and colour. In short, all that is included is such as can be seen on the face of a stamp, and the addition of an overprint is not considered to be of sufficient importance to constitute a separate variety, unless, as in the South Australia 2½d. on 4d. and others, the colour is different on the surcharged to the un-surcharged. This system is, I believe, being adopted by a good many philatelists, and Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen (editor of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*) is a strong advocate of it. One peculiarity of this system must, however, be mentioned, upon the merits or demerits of which I will leave you to judge, namely, that in the case of issues such as the "Peace and Commerce" French Colonies, an entire set is not collected for each colony, but one for the whole, regardless of the names in the tablets. It is a very curious suggestion, yet I have seen the collection belonging to a friend of mine which is arranged on this plan, and the French Colonies pages are much more complete and interesting than they are in most general collections.

(b) This will not take very long, as it is, as its name implies, a system in which every one takes or leaves just what he fancies. It cannot be recommended for a beginner, as it

gives him no general knowledge of stamps. A blank album is, of course, necessary.

(c) There are two "skeleton" systems, which differ greatly in many respects. The first is that advocated by Mr. Heslop—one stamp of each set, and favourite countries enlarged *ad lib.* The second may run rather more expensive, but it is decidedly more interesting than the other, as instead of taking one stamp of each set, it is one of each type. That is to say, when an entire set is of the same type (such as the current German "pfennig" values), only one value is included, while when each is of a different design (as in the 1902 and many other issues of the United States), one of each would find its place within a collection. Under this system, completeness is, of course, impossible; but the philatelist using it can amass a far greater and more representative show than one who only takes one of each set, and he would avoid those issues made by countries which, with an eye to business, bring out a new set each year, with only the colours or date altered. Cayman Islands, a country which is just at present very much before the philatelic public, would consist of three stamps only—one Queen's Head, one King's Head POSTAGE, and one POSTAGE & REVENUE, and all the penny-catching provisionals and high values would be passed over as being "without bounds." Favourite countries can, of course, easily be developed at will.

(d) The moderate system. This was thoroughly fought out and freely discussed in *G.S.W.*, Vols. IV and V, under the title of "Our Symposium," so there is no object in repeating what was said then. System (a) is an attempt at this, but some may find the omission of *all* surcharges rather too drastic. There is one class of overprint which is, however, of very little interest to a philatelist, and that is the crowd (unhappily somewhat numerous) of more or less smudgy signs which make no difference in the use of a stamp, such as the Montenegro, Hong Kong, and Labuan "Jubilee" issues, which are certainly of very little interest to any one but a specialist. If you want to collect something extra, is not the distinction between watermarks like the "Crown A" and the old Australian ones much more interesting, both historically and philatelically?

The system of forming a general collection is not a matter on which any hard and fast rule can be laid down, but it must be left to each individual philatelist to determine upon which lines he will form and arrange his treasure. I have therefore briefly stated and explained each system, in the hope that general collecting will not only retain, but if possible increase its popularity, particularly among the younger and less moneyed classes of philatelists.

Midsummer Madness

By UNCLE TOM

TO some collectors the advent of summer is a time of trial. Their zeal cools down, and they lose a certain amount of their interest in stamps. I once knew a man who actually gave away his album in the summer—it was on a hot day in June, but he was sorry enough by September. He had to start collecting all over again, for, of course, the old fire revived.

When holiday time comes there is a tendency to toss the stamp journal into the particular corner where it is most likely to get lost, or to fall a prey to the maid who is foraging for paper wherewith to light the fire. For the time being stamps are "off." Nine collectors out of every ten eventually repent of this summer slackness, therefore there is wisdom in uttering a word of protest against it. When autumn comes the slack collector realizes he has lost ground, he has loitered behind and placed himself out of touch with philatelic events.

In cold weather we are hot on stamps, and in hot weather we grow cold. A respite is not a bad thing, it gives both buyer and seller a rest, yet the collector's respite is often a fatal period. In the summer he has been known to do foolish things: he will sell out his Nigerias to buy a fishing-rod, or sacrifice a few pages of his choicest stamps to provide funds for a trip to the lake district. In the summer, too, his love for certain pet countries may veer round like a weathercock, and the one-time specialist in South Africans may suddenly find himself hankering after far inferior stuff. I assure the reader these things do occur. Last summer a man sent £5 worth of choice King's Heads over to America, to be exchanged for common South American States, which he had an idea would be more saleable on his club sheets. The same man bartered away a packet of high-value Bahamas Kings in exchange for a few thousand common Continentals. Such incidents usually occur in the slack season, when the man is off his guard or out of love; they generally occur suddenly, the collector acting on the spur of the moment; also they are usually followed by repentance.

A Rolling Stone

I believe there is in existence the man who is continually suffering from the temptation to buy new things with the cash which he realizes by the sale of older things. For example, many a collection of Queen's Heads, gathered together at some cost and with much patience, was sacrificed in the summer of

1905 in order to raise funds for the purchase of King's Heads, which were then all the rage. In the same way it is quite probable that batches of bi-coloured King's Heads may presently be sold in order to buy C.A's on the new green, yellow, and blue papers that are promised. Complete pages of British stamps are good property, yet such have sometimes lost their glamour when the zest of the chase is ended; then there comes the temptation to sell them out and invest in Papuas, Caymans, Brunei, or some other novelty that is thrilling the market at the moment. No doubt it is highly entertaining to be continually exchanging old friends for new, but the man's collection becomes a kind of rolling stone, which gathers no moss.

Summer languor is often responsible for such suicidal policy.

Keep What You've Got

The ideal plan is, of course, to keep what stamps one already possesses. The danger of the slack months is lest a man lose something of his love for his stamps and be inclined to set a lower value upon them. What Philately wants in the summer is a preacher, a kind of Savonarola, who will go about preventing collectors from falling into slack ways, and advising them to follow a definite plan and to stick to a fixed track, to get all the stamps they can, to keep all the stamps they can, and to beware the mood that leads them to think lightly of their treasures. If novelties entice a man to sacrifice old and good stamps it were better for him to let the novelties go; the old stamps are better. He will think so when the winter comes.

In holiday time a man has leisure for thought, for new resolves, for a review of his work and his hobbies. Very often some tremendous resolution will come over him and overpower him in a moment, yet it may not always be an advisable step. Some extensive undertaking, such as the rearrangement or classification of his entire collection, will be resolved upon in a moment—and regretted when it is too late to put things back as they were.

So let the collector hesitate before he changes his mind in the summer months. Love is then colder. He has grown a bit tired, maybe, of the old things. Other newer things are coming up over the horizon, and he is tempted to abandon his old loves in favour of the latest arrivals. This is summer madness.

Summer Stamp Clubs

The coming of spring usually revives the vexed question as to whether it is advisable to run the stamp club through the summer months. Some there are who advocate giving the packet a three months' holiday, and where this is done the members are found to flock round the standard again readily enough in September. And yet the summer packet has his virtues: it sustains the waning fires and keeps alive the dormant enthusiasm. On occasion it sometimes even

brings bargains—the best tonic extant for low philatelic spirits. And the perusal of the stamp journal by the booming sea, or under the hollow cliff, acts in much the same way.

There are times in every pursuit when interest flags, but a man who has high ideas about duty will not allow himself to falter at such periods. He will conscientiously go through the stamp paper even when he is not particularly interested, because he knows that to lose ground is against his best interests, and in the autumn he will be thankful that he acted thus.

Specialism

By R. E. R. DALWIGK

(Continued from page 93.)

INDIA, like Ceylon, commands a good amount of philatelic favour in this country. I think India will not have been found to have had the many attractions that characterize the stamps of Ceylon, but, nevertheless, this does not say that India is unworthy of philatelic attention—quite the reverse. As a country, India does not possess so many stamps or rarities as Ceylon, and will thus appeal to a far greater extent to medium-class specialists. All the old stamps unused are fairly rare, and rapidly total up to a large price. Amongst the various issues of Indian stamps we encounter several very prominent and distinct "dies," which, in the case of these stamps, are easily recognized without the assistance of a glass. Most of the later stamps are moderate in price, and can be soon gathered together. The King's Head stamps are not of the ordinary ugly colonial type, but are drawn and produced in somewhat better taste. India does not possess many provisionals, but has a quantity of stamps overprinted "Service," "On H.M.S.," and also an issue surcharged "C.E.F." (China Expeditionary Force).

[Specialists in this country are recommended to obtain the handbook on India recently published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., for the Indian Philatelic Society. It is one of the most exhaustive works on any philatelic subject.—ED. G.S.W.]

As is well known, there are a multitude of Indian States, issuing their own postage stamps, which, when incorporated with India, make it a very large and complicated country. I think these various States are not hunting-grounds for beginners, for the simple reason that the issues are puzzling and very numerous. On this account I do

not propose dealing with these States in this series of articles. India should be taken up without any minor sub-divisions, and it will be found to be both interesting and instructive. Perhaps, however, India and Indian stamps overprinted for use in Convention States should be collected together.

Japan.—This is one of the very finest countries—from its philatelic side—in the whole of Asia, affording as it does a great quantity of varieties, several of which are very rare and scarce. First it must be pointed out that to thoroughly specialize in the stamps of Japan will entail a large income. It will certainly require a good amount of study into Japanese characters and the Kata-Kana numerical alphabet, before the budding philatelist will be able to effectually deal with these intricate varieties. Japan—like Great Britain—possesses plate numbers on all her early stamps, the number of the plate being put on in the Japanese Kata-Kana characters, this at once demonstrating the great importance of mastering these weird symbols. To see a really good collection of Japan, including all the plate numbers, is a very rare occurrence, probably on account of the accumulator not having studied these difficult issues to the right extent. After 1876 the plate numbers ceased to exist, and were followed by an issue which possessed two distinct perforations: the one reading from 8 to 12, the other varying between 12½ and 13½.

The quite recent issues are straightforward and somewhat lacking in interest, as they possess no plate numbers, and but few perforations. In collecting a country like Japan, one is more likely to pick up bargains than in most other countries, because the

general bulk of collectors do not know much—if anything—about the plate numbers or perforations; and one cannot deny the satisfaction of getting a good stamp at a low price. For the hard-working specialist who has some money to spare Japan offers many exceptionally good qualities, which should not be neglected. Under the title of Japan might be included the two quaint-looking stamps of Formosa.

Labuan, although usually classed with North Borneo, is decidedly better than the latter country in almost every respect. I do not mean by this remark that Labuan is what may be termed a sound country for the specialist, as far too many of the stamps are decided rubbish and not worth having at any price. The early stamps, however, are an exception to this rule, many of the Queen's Head stamps being quite rare. If any collector has an inclination towards Labuan, it would be a good plan to collect *only* the stamps bearing our late Queen's likeness, discarding *all* other issues, which are worthless to serious collectors.

Nepaul strikes one as being the most interesting of all Indian States, and worthy of special mention in the philatelist's list. Unlike some States, Nepaul does not use surcharged Indian stamps, but has a special design of its own. From a European point of view the design is curious, but, nevertheless, fascinating and interesting. At present quotations all the issues are obtainable by every class of collector. The most sought-after things of this State are some *tête-bêche* pairs which exist, and are highly prized by their possessors. As a compact and small country Nepaul has few superiors in Asia.

Persia.—A large, interesting, and—on the whole—cheap country, which has a great amount of the true Oriental element portrayed in the designs of its stamps. Considering the fact that Persia did not begin using stamps until 1870, it boasts already a list of no mean length. The reason of so many stamps arises from the fact that we come across early issues at a later date overprinted with control marks, "Provisoire," etc, this soon making the total number rise to an appreciable amount. As is the case with the majority of countries, the old stamps of Persia hold the places of honour in our albums.

A really fine old historic Empire like Persia might with advantage have a pictorial issue of stamps portraying the deeds of some such old hero as Darius, but, of course, any country that *might* issue some really interesting stamps does not seem to do so.

Amongst the later stamps are a few which

are scarcely worth hunting for, but barring these, the stamps of Persia are good.

Sarawak is without doubt the most patronized small issuing country in all Asia, and rightly too, as it is an almost ideal country in which to specialize. This fact is fully demonstrated, as several of the leading philatelists of Britain show a great partiality towards the issues of Sarawak, which alone should be a sufficient guarantee as to the quality of the stamps from the specialist's point of view. The first issue appeared in 1869 and the second in 1870, both issues being typographed. The first issue consisted of one stamp, printed in London, bearing the portrait of Rajah Brooke. As in the case of most early typographs, there are innumerable flaws, consisting of white dots, coloured dots, and scratches on the lettering. Issue 2 bears the portrait of Rajah Brooke's nephew, and is similarly typographed. This set of stamps lasted until 1889, although during the course of their existence they were on several occasions surcharged. All stamps issued after 1889 were surface-printed by Messrs. De La Rue, except the issue of 1895, which was, by mistake, printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon. In this issue we note an interesting error of colour, the 2 c. stamp in green instead of red-brown; and in the 1889 issue there exists an extremely rare variety in the 5 c. on 12 c. with a very broad figure. This small list gives some sort of idea as to the issues of Sarawak, and how very interesting and collectible this little country should prove to the novice.

Shanghai is a nice, but nevertheless very complicated and bewildering city with regard to its philatelic productions. Besides this disadvantage it is a rare and expensive town to collect, as among the first few issues we find scarcely anything that is cheap or even moderate in price. The designs of these stamps resemble the issues of China proper to a great extent, even having the Great Dragon enclosed in some local inscriptions and characters. The surcharges, perforations, and papers form about the most difficult subject in the issues of Shanghai, as all three are numerous and vary to an astounding degree. To come to the point in plain language, Shanghai is only for very experienced philatelists and Great Moguls in general.

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.

New Issues and Discoveries

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.G.

Brunei.—According to *The Postage Stamp* (1.8.08), there has been a change of colour in the 1 c., 3 c., and 8 c.; the two low values are mono-coloured, green and carmine respectively, and the 8 c. has assumed the colours of the 5 c.



1908. *Changes of colour.* Type 4. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

- 25½ c., green.
- 27½ c., carmine.
- 29½ c., grey-black and orange-yellow.

Ecuador.—In addition to the new 10 c. described in our last issue, we have received used copies of three more values, which we are not able to illustrate until we receive unused specimens.

The 1 c. is large oblong, measuring 27 × 21 mm., and represents a sketch of a locomotive.

The other two values are triangular like the 10 c.; the 5 c. shows a portrait of Alfaro, and the 20 c. of Arohar Harman. All are printed by Waterlow & Sons, Ltd.

JUNE, 1908. *New types. Vignettes in first colour.* Perf. 14.

- 1 c., red-brown.
- 5 c., black and claret.
- 20 c. " " green.

Jaipur.—In the last two issues of this State, Type 3 in the Catalogue, it will be noticed that three of the values are listed in two perforations, 12 and 13½. We recently found that the ½ anna, blue, also existed perf. 12, and promptly asked Major E. B. Evans's opinion as to whether a third variety of perforation should be made. He replies that it is unnecessary to make three varieties, but recommends us to call the 1905-6 issue "Perf. 13½ and 12½," which will be done in our next Catalogue.

Nicaragua.—We have been shown several new varieties of this country, one by Mrs. Robert

Davies, and the remainder by our New York house.



B

Dpto. Zelava

23

Vale 100

41

Vale 100

42

1906. Type 37 surcharged vertically upwards as Type 41, in black.

316a15 c. on 1 c., green.

Type 37, surcharged in black as Types 41 or 42 (reading downwards), overprinted in red with Type 23.

- 457d | 41 | 20 c. on 5 c., blue.
- 457e | 42 | 20 c. on 5 c. " "



CORREO-1908

CORREO-1908
VALE 4 ¢

46

45

47

1908. Type 45 (*fiscal stamp*) overprinted in green with Type 23, reading upwards, and

(i) Overprinted in black with Type 46.

- 460d | 1 p., ochre.
- 460e | 2 p., pearl-grey.

(ii) Surcharged as Type 47, in carmine (C.), blue (B.), green (G.), orange (Or.).

- 460f | 1 c. on 5 c., orange-yellow (C.)
- 460g | 2 c. on 5 c. " (B.)
- 460h | 4 c. on 5 c. " (G.)
- * 460j | [15 c. on 50 c., green (C.)]
- 460k | 35 c. on 50 c. " (Or.)

* This stamp was chronicled in our issue of 25 July as No. 460d, but 460j is the correct number.

North Borneo.—We have received another value belonging to the current set of Postage Dues; it is the 6 c. of the 1897 issue, overprinted with the words BRITISH PROTECTORATE in red and POSTAGE DUE in black.



38

BRITISH

PROTECTORATE.

48

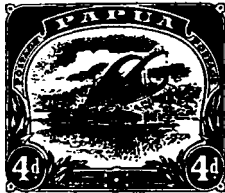
POSTAGE DUE

71

1908. Stamp of 1901-4 issue (Type 38 overprinted with Type 48, in red) overprinted with Type 71, horizontally, in black.

329216 c., black and deep brown (No. 122).

Papua.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us a 1d.



6

stamp in the new permanent design, similar to the 4d. and 6d., already issued.

1908. Type 6. *Wmk. Crown and Δ. Surface-printed. Centre in first colour. Perf. 11.*

261rd., black and carmine.

Tolima—GARZON.—We have been shown a type-set provisional 2 centavos stamp similar to the 1 centavo described under No. 204 in our Catalogue. This stamp is used on a post card, and is cancelled GARZON, and dated 18 March, 1904.

1904. *Type-set provisional inscribed "R. de C.—Correos N.—No hay es—tampillas, OO—Pagó 2 cen—tavo—ros" in six lines within a frame of ornaments. Imperf.*

20512 c., black on greenish blue.

Victoria.—We have received a third shade of the current 3d., which is quite different from either of the two shades previously listed; in fact it is almost a change of colour.



67



77

1908. Type 67. *Wmk. Crown and Δ, Type 77. (a) Perf. 12½ or 12 × 12½.*

295513d., orange-yellow.

Philatelic Societies

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: W. Gill.

Hon. Secretary: W. Woodthorpe, Garwood, Blundellsands, near Liverpool.

Meetings: Hotel St. George, Lime Street, Liverpool.

SESSION 1908-9.

- 1908.
- Sept. 26. Some Notes on Catalogue Values of "King's Heads," by W. McMillan. Display: Lagos, Monaco, British Levant.
- Oct. 12. Paper on "India," J. C. Cuthbertson. Display: India, German Empire.
- Oct. 26. Paper on "Why I Collect," R. James. Display: Barbados, Philippine Islands.
- Nov. 9. Paper on "Gambia," Jno. Hughes. Sale by Private Treaty. Display: Gambia. 20 Most Artistic Stamps
- Nov. 23. Lantern Evening—"Some Phases of Philately," Messrs. W. D. Beckton, I. J. Bernstein, G. F. H. Gibson, J. H. Abbott, J. S. Gee, of the Manchester Philatelic Society. General Display.
- Dec. 7. Notes on "Falkland Islands," W. H. Lawson. Display: Sarawak, Falkland Islands, Hanover.
- Dec. 14. Invitation by L.J.P.S. at 6 Colquitt Street, 7.30 p.m. Philatelic terms explained with Lantern, W. and P. Rockliff.
- Dec. 21. "Experiences of a Novice," The President. Display: Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Peru.

1909.

- Jan. 4. Discussion—"Old Issues," by W. Robson; "King's Heads," by N. Clissold. Display: Ceylon, Cayman Islands, Confederate States.
- Jan. 18. Paper on "Greece," G. Burrow. Display: St. Vincent, Greece.
- Feb. 1. Paper on "Philatelic Auctions," W. C. Taylor. Display: Tasmania, Luxemburg, and Envelope Stamps.
- Feb. 15. Annual Dinner.
- Mar. 1. Public Evening. Paper on "France," with Lantern, Dr. H. Armstrong. Display: Canada, France.
- Mar. 15. Sale by Private Treaty—Notes on "Niger Coast," R. H. Webster. Display: Niger Coast and Imperforate Pairs and Blocks. Limited to 12 pieces.
- Mar. 29. Notes on "Various 24 Cents Stamps of U.S.A.," W. E. Whitnall. Display for Special Prize.
- April 19. Annual Meeting.
- May 3. Paper on "Triangular Capes," R. O. Dagg. Display: Cape of Good Hope, Siam.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 9
Whole No. 191

29 AUGUST, 1908

VOL. VIII.

The Postal Issues of Denmark and the Danish Colonies

By L. HANCIAU

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(Continued from page 266, Vol. XVIII, "Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.")

Envelopes

A CIRCULAR from the Director-General of Posts, No. 31, dated 29th December, 1864, announces the issue of Stamped Envelopes, as follows:—

"1. The Royal Post Office is hereby informed that envelopes for letters, with an impressed postage stamp of 4 skilling, will be put in circulation from the commencement of next month, at the price of 1 R-d. 8 sk. per 25 copies, of which envelopes there will be despatched as soon as possible to each office such number of copies as may seem suited to its requirements. For each envelope sold separately the office is authorised to charge 4½ sk. a piece.

"The instructions already issued on the subject of the sale, preservation, requisition to be made to the Director-General of the postal accounts, and the keeping account of the postage stamps, are applicable also to the stamped envelopes.

* * * * *

"Copenhagen, the 29th December, 1864.

(Signed) "S. DANNESKIOLD SAMSØE.

"To all the

"Post and Despatching Offices."

Three months later the following fresh Circular was issued, relating to the 2 skilling envelopes:—

"Circular from the Director-General of Posts.
No. 4—1865.

"1. It is hereby notified that letter envelopes with 2 skilling stamp impressed upon them will be put in circulation from the first of next month, at the price of 56 sk. per 25 copies, of which envelopes there has been sent to the post offices in those towns of the kingdom indicated in the supplement to Circular No. 19 of 1860, a number of copies suited to their requirements. For single envelopes the offices are authorised to charge 2½ sk. each.

"The instructions issued for the sale, preservation, requisition to the Director-General of postal accounts, and the keeping accounts of the postage stamps, are applicable also to these stamped envelopes.

* * * * *

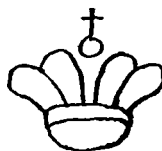
"Copenhagen, 25th March, 1865.

(Signed) "S. DANNESKIOLD SAMSØE.

"To all the

"Post and Despatching Offices."

Issue of January and April, 1865.



Royal attributes (crossed Sceptre and Sword, surmounted by a Royal Crown) on a solid ground, in an oval frame of engine-turned pattern, inscribed above "K G L. POST-FRM." and with value in a small oval below, a numeral followed by a letter "s", with a stop below the letter.

The two values were separately engraved by Ph. Batz, but differ from one another in very minor details only.

The stamp is impressed, in colour and relief, in the right upper corner of envelopes of creamy white, wove paper, having water-marked on the flap a Crown, 22 mm. high, with four divisions in the upper part and a small orb and cross, separate from the rest of the Crown; the lines of the device are thin (see A above).

Size of envelopes, 147 × 84 mm.

Gum (a) and (c).

April 1, 1865. 2s., ultramarine (pale to bright).

Jan. 1 " 4s., red, bright red.

There are variations in the gum on the flap which are worthy of notice, and which also serve to distinguish originals from the reprints. The following varieties may be met with in the different issues:—

- (a) Short gum (55 to 70 mm.), white
- (b) " " (" "), brownish.
- (c) Long " " (90 to 100 mm.), white.
- (d) " " " (" "), brownish.
- (e) " " " (120 to 135 mm.) "
- (f) " " " (110 to 130 "), pale yellow.
- (g) Long (135 mm.) and wide, the whole of the middle of the flap gummed, brownish.

Contrary to the usual practice, stamps cut from envelopes (and also those from wrappers, cards, etc.) could be used for franking letters. I have in fact seen letters bearing stamps cut from these articles which had passed through the post without being charged with postage (see also the *Circulars* dated 1st May, 1872, under *Wrappers*, and 29th March, 1871, last paragraph under *Post Cards*).

The two values differ in type as follows: The Sceptre and the Sword differ in their ornaments and are differently spaced.

The Cross at the top of the Crown is thinner in the 2 sk. than in the 4 sk., and in the latter it has three balls at the ends of the arms.

The Crown in the 4 sk. has an ornament at lower left which does not exist in the 2 sk.; the second row of pearls in the Crown contains four pearls in the 4 sk. and three in the 2 sk.; at the base of the Crown there are three horizontal lines in the 2 sk. and four in the 4 sk.

The letter "G" of "K G L." is more closed, and the letter "L" is wider in the 4 sk. than in the 2 sk.

The letter "O" of "POST" is rounder, and the "S" more closed in the 4 sk.

There are also some small differences in the engine-turning, especially at foot, to the right of the little oval containing the value.

Reprints were made in 1901. They can be distinguished by the tint of the paper, which is *yellow*; the gum is also *yellowish*, and extends over almost the whole of the flap (form *f*); the impressions also are in quite different shades.

2 s., Prussian blue, deep blue.
4 s., vermilion.

Essays. I have seen proofs on white wove paper.

4 s., black.
* * *

I do not know whether the letter "s" after the numeral of value was any cause of annoyance to the public, but the fact remains that the letter disappeared in the next edition, without the change forming the subject of any circular addressed to the Post Offices; neither was there any announcement of the changes in the shape of the figures, the dates of which I can only give from the information that appeared in the magazines or from used copies that have been met with.

Issue of January 1st, 1866.

This differs from the preceding only by the suppression of the letter "s", and in the shape of the numeral. The die is that of the 2 skilling, which is also that of all the subsequent issues down to 1895. The watermark of the flap is Type A. The paper varies from *creamy white* to slightly *bluish*.

The figure of value is wide, with a vertical serif at the right-hand end of the horizontal bar. Gum (*a*) and (*b*).

4 (sk.), red.

Manufacture. Instead of the system adopted for the issue of 1865, which had a separate die for each value, the issues of 1866 and later had only one die for the various values, the little oval in the 2 sk., of 1865, being left blank for the insertion of the required numerals.

Essays. Proofs are known without the value, the figure being removed.

No value, black.

* * *

Issue of July 1st, 1869.

The figure "2" is wide; the figure "4" is narrow, but still with serifs. Gum (*b*), (*c*), (*d*), or (*g*).

2 (sk.), ultramarine (shades); (*c*), (*d*),
4 (,,), vermilion (shades); (*b*), (*d*), (*g*).

Reprints were made in 1901, but can be easily recognized by the shades of the impressions; the paper also is too *yellow*, and the gum has the same *yellowish* tint.

2 (sk.), Prussian blue (*f*).
4 (,,), vermilion (shades); (*d*), (*f*).

The gum (*d*) of the reprints is merely an accidental variety of (*f*).

* * *

Issue of, 1871.

The numeral is wide and is open at the top, thus "4." The paper is *creamy white*, or sometimes *bluish*. Gum (*c*), (*d*), (*e*), or (*g*).

4 (sk.), red (bright to pale).

The numeral varies in shape; in some cases the vertical bar at the end of the horizontal stroke is close to the vertical stroke, which ends in a small horizontal serif; in others the vertical bar is further from the vertical stroke and the serif of the latter is wider.

* * *

Issue of January, 1872.

Narrow numeral; paper as last; gum (*d*), (*e*), or (*g*).

2 (sk.), ultramarine (shades).

* * *

Issue of, 1874 (?).

Open figure of value, narrower than that of 1871, and set slightly slanting. Gum (*c*).

4 (sk.), pale red.

Reprints were made in 1901. The type is identical with that of the originals, but

the paper is *yellow*, the colour is too deep, and the gum is variety (*f*).

4 (sk.), red.

* * *

The Postal Notice of 19th December, 1874, which has been quoted in connection with the postage stamps of 1875 (see page 109, vol. xviii, *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*), announced the creation of new envelopes, in consequence of the change in the currency, and they appeared on the 1st January following, without any change in the design but merely in the figures.

Issue of January 1st, 1875.

Type of the preceding; the paper is white, sometimes *creamy*. The figure "4" is that of 1869, narrow, closed at top and with a serif to the horizontal stroke; the figure "8" has the lower part more open than the upper.



Gum (*e*) or (*g*).
4 (öre), ultramarine (shades); (*e*), (*g*).
8 " vermilion " (*g*).

Variety. With the watermark of the flap misplaced, sideways, at the opposite side to the stamp.

4 (öre), ultramarine; (*e*).

* * *

Issue of July (?) , 1879.

The figure "4" is in the type of 1871, open at the top and wide. Gum (*d*), (*e*), or (*g*).

4 (öre), pale ultramarine; (*g*).
1880 (?) 4 " Prussian blue; (*d*), (*e*).

The 4 öre, *ultramarine*, of this type was chronicled in *Le Timbre-Poste* of August, 1879.

There are no *reprints* of the above.

* * *

Issue of the end of 1884.

A little retouching was done to the engineering, most noticeable at the right-hand side of the little oval containing the numeral. The pearls of the second row in the Crown are invisible. The upper and lower parts of the figure "8" are equal in width. Gum (*d*).

8 (öre), red, brick-red.

I have seen a copy used on the 8th December, 1884.

* * *

Issue of October 1st, 1888.

The figure "4" is closed, and has the end of the horizontal stroke turned up, i.e. the

serif does not extend below the stroke. The second row of pearls in the Crown has disappeared. Gum (*d*).

4 (öre), Prussian blue.

* * *

Issue of , 1891 (?) .

Figure open at top as in 1874, but narrower, and sloping a little to the left. Paper *yellowish*; gum (*f*).

4 (öre), Prussian blue.

I assign the date 1891 to this issue, on account of the gum, as variety (*f*) commenced to make its appearance about that period, before the change in the paper.

Variety, with misshapen figure, owing to defective printing or to an accident to the die.

4 (öre), Prussian blue; gum (?).

This variety was described in the *Nordisk F. Tidskrift* of September, 1907.

No *Reprints* are known, and according to information that I obtained from an official source none were ever made.

* * *

Issue of February (?) , 1891.

The 4 öre is of the type of October, 1888, and the 8 öre of that of 1884. The paper is *creamy white*, *very thick*. Gum (*e*) or (*f*).

4 (öre), Prussian blue.
8 " bright red.

The 8 öre has been seen used on 11th February, 1891.

* * *

Issue of February (?) , 1894.

Paper of last issue. Watermark on the flap, Type B, the upper part of the Crown in five divisions with the orb resting upon the central one; and the design drawn with thick lines. Gum (*f*).



B

1. Figure "4" as in 1888 and Feb., 1891.
4 (öre), Prussian blue.

2. Figure "8" as in 1884 and Feb., 1891.
8 (öre), bright red.

3. Figure "8" of 1875, with the lower part wider than the upper.
8 (öre), yellowish brick.

The 8 öre has been seen used on 28th February, 1894.

* * *

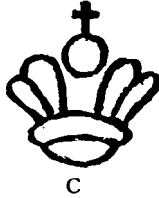
Issue of, 1895 (?).

Reversion to the figure "4" of 1875, with complete serif at the end of the horizontal stroke. Paper and watermark as last. Gum (S).

4 (öre), Prussian blue.

Same paper; watermark Type C, the Crown with four divisions, a large orb, separate from the Crown, and the design in thick lines. Gum (S).

4 (öre), Prussian blue.



All these envelopes were superseded on the 1st July, 1901, in accordance with the document that follows.

* * *

"Official Communication.

"No. 22. 25th June, 1901.

"It is hereby notified, that from the 1st July of this year there will be introduced new stamped envelopes, of larger size than those at present in use, and furnished with an interior impression, in blue, as a control mark.

"Of these envelopes, which up to the present have been manufactured with impressed stamps of the values of 4 and 8 öre, colours blue and red respectively, and issued in packets of 25 copies, there will be sent to the post offices at the end of this month, without previous requisition, supplies which should be brought on charge in the stamp accounts of the month of July.

"These envelopes may be sold in smaller quantities than a whole packet, and the price will then be as before 5 and 9 öre each; on the other hand, the charge for packets is 1 crown 20 öre and 2 crowns 16 öre, respectively, which should be entered in the accounts in the ordinary manner, at 96 öre and 1 crown 92 öre, respectively, as receipt for stamps, under headings 1 and 2, and the remaining 24 öre under heading 8.

"From the same date the 4 and 8 öre envelopes now in use will be withdrawn, and will no longer be available for use.

"The remaining stocks should be struck off charge in the account of stamps for the month of June, and should be despatched as early as possible to the Stores Department of the Administration of Posts."

Issue of July 1st, 1901.

Numeral on solid ground in a circle, surmounted by a Royal Crown, branches at each side, and a Posthorn below, within an oval band inscribed "DANMARK" at top, "POSTFRIM. 4" (or "8") "ÖRE" at bottom.



Engraved by Ch. Danielsen, each value separately, and struck

in relief and colour in the right upper corner of envelopes of white laid paper. The watermark of the previous envelopes is replaced by a device in blue, covering almost the whole of the interior of the envelope; this device consists of a large Crown over two Posthorns, in white on a solid ground, on the upper flap, and a pattern of alternate Crowns and Posthorns, between wavy lines, outlined in white on colour, over the rest of the inside.

Size of the stamp, 21 x 24 mm.

" " envelope, 151 x 122 mm.

4 öre, blue.

8 " red.

These envelopes were withdrawn from use on October 1st, 1902.

* * *

On the 27th August, 1902, a Postal Circular (see under the adhesives, page 163, vol. xviii, of the *Monthly Journal*) announced the issue of two envelopes, values 5 and 10 öre, replacing the preceding.

Issue of September 1st, 1902.

Similar in every respect to the envelopes of 1901; there is again a separate die for each value, engraved by the same artist, Ch. Danielsen.

5 öre, green.

10 " red.

* * *

In order to utilize the 4 and 8 öre envelopes of the preceding issue, for which there was now no use, the stamps were surcharged with the new values, which produced a little profit to the Post Office and at the same time cleared out the obsolete stock. This proceeding was announced as follows:—

"Official Communication from the Director-General of Posts.

"No. 7.

March 22, 1904.

"III. It is hereby notified that the remaining stocks of the stamped envelopes and letter-cards at 4 and 8 öre are surcharged, so as to give them the values 5 and 10 öre, both as envelopes and as letter-cards.

"All the Post Offices may expect to receive, after the 1st" [of next month] "a supply of these values which will be sold and entered in the accounts like the ordinary 5 and 10 öre envelopes and letter-cards.

(Signed)

"C. SVENDSEN.

"C. L. LAGE."

In accordance with this circular the following envelopes made their appearance:—

Issue of April 1st, 1904.



Envelopes of July, 1901, with value surcharged in blank figures on a ground of engine-turned pattern, in *black*, covering more or less accurately the inner oval of the original stamps. The figures "4" and

"8" in the oval band are also overprinted "5" and "10," respectively.

"5," in *black*, on 4 öre, blue.
"10" " " 8 " red.

The quantities thus treated were :—

84,525 of the 4 öre.
93,650 " 8 "

(To be continued.)

The Stamps of some of the Native States of India

By E. B. EVANS

(Continued from page 56.)

Nowanuggur—continued

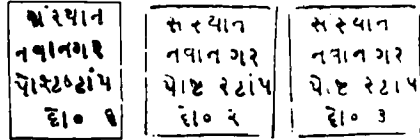
WE now return to the type-set stamps, the 1 docra of which was probably superseded by the *blue* stamp in 1877, but which seems to have been reissued with the two higher values in 1880.

Issue of 1880.

Type-set, as described under 1875, but as I now have the stamps before me I can describe the arrangement of the sheets and the peculiarities of some of the numerous settings that were made up from time to time. I do not profess to describe all the settings; it is probable that we do not know them all, and I do not possess all that are known. In the last catalogue published by Moens, in 1892, there are illustrations of no less than thirty-six sheets of these stamps, representing fourteen different settings. The type was evidently reset, to a greater or less extent, every time any stamps were required; all three values were probably printed each time, the character denoting the number being altered, and thus causing some shifting of the type; different forms of some of the characters employed are differently mixed up in the various settings; and, finally, there are three distinct arrangements of the sheets, which I place under separate headings.

In Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue these stamps are divided into two groups, according to their width; those measuring 15 to 18 mm. and those measuring 14 mm. only. This is not a very satisfactory division, because the stamps vary greatly in width on the same sheet, as I shall describe later. Among those in the first division I have a setting on which the stamps vary in width from 15½ to 18 mm., of intermediate settings I find more than one in which the stamps vary from 14 to 15, and I have only one setting in which there are no stamps more than 14 mm.

wide. Still, the arrangement may stand, for want of a better, but it should be remembered that it is quite an arbitrary one, and does not indicate the order of issue.



Under this arrangement my list would be as follows :—

Black impression on coloured paper. Stamps 15 to 18 mm. wide. *Wove* paper.

- 1 docra, *dull magenta*.
- 1 " *bright* "
- 1 " *bright rose*.
- 2 " *yellow-green*.
- 2 " *blue-green*.
- 2 " *greenish blue*.
- 3 " *deep yellow*.
- 3 " *yellow*.
- 3 " *pale yellow*.

Laid paper; stamp 15 mm. wide.

- 3 docras, *dull yellow*.
- 3 " *pale* "

There is only one stamp on the *laid* paper sheets that is as much as 15 mm. wide.

Stamps not more than 14 mm. wide. *Wove* paper.

- 1 docra, *dull magenta*.
- 1 " *bright rose*.
- 2 " *yellowish green*.
- 2 " *blue-green*.
- 2 " *greenish blue*.
- 3 " *yellow*.
- 3 " *pale yellow*.

Laid paper.

- 3 docras, *dull yellow*.
- 3 " *pale* "

As listed above the stamps are comparatively simple, but I must now endeavour to describe some of the numerous settings of the sheets, which are much more complicated.

The stamps are arranged in all cases in vertical rows of five, but the sheets in some settings contain three vertical rows and in others two only, so that there are in some cases fifteen varieties of type in the sheet and in others only ten. These may be said to constitute two main divisions.

I have had illustrations prepared of two

case of the block of ten, from the top to the bottom of the sheet, providing a separate outline for each row, and leaving in both cases a fair space between the vertical rows of stamps. Horizontally also, each stamp has a separate frame line, there being two short pieces of rule between the stamps in the vertical rows, but these pieces very frequently fail to print clearly; they are often much shorter than they should be, and so close together that great care is necessary in cutting the stamps in order to give to each as complete a frame as the printer provided for

संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २
संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २
संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २
संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २
संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २
संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २

संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २
संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २
संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २
संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २
संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २
संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २	संस्थान नवानगर पोष्ठस्टॉप ₹० २

sheets, which are quite sufficient to show the arrangement, and by examination of these illustrations it is easy to see the method employed in setting up the stamps.*

There is a frame line of four pieces of printer's rule enclosing the block of stamps, and this forms part of the outline of the stamps which touch it. The other vertical sides of the stamps are also composed of continuous pieces of rule, running, in the

* These illustrations have not come out very well, owing perhaps to the originals being on coloured paper. There should be no breaks in the top frame line of the sheet of fifteen, which should be continuous all the way across. The large gaps in the vertical lines in both sheets are due to the characters in those places being too close to the line and the latter consequently failing to print.

it. In the case of the second illustration it should be noted that there is a space below the bottom row of stamps inside the frame line of the sheet, and that each stamp in the bottom row has a separate bit of frame line to itself. The earliest sheets contained fifteen stamps, without the space at foot, being like the sheet of ten in the illustration, merely having three vertical rows instead of two. Thus we have three distinct arrangements: Sheets of fifteen without space at bottom; sheets of ten without space at bottom; and sheets of fifteen with space at bottom. And the printings seem to have been: First, in sheets of fifteen without the space; second,

in sheets of ten without the space; third, in sheets of fifteen, again without the space; and fourth, in sheets of fifteen with the space. And there was more than one variety of setting each time.

Now if we turn to the stamps themselves, we shall find some variations in the characters employed which will enable us to distinguish the various printings and settings.

The characters are in four horizontal lines, as described for the first issue of all. In the top line are five characters, with usually a dot above the space between the first and the second; the second character is usually shaped like an italic letter "f" reversed, and has a horizontal line across it, but it is sometimes replaced by one resembling that which represents the figure "2" and which seems always to be the right-hand character of the second line. This second line contains six characters, and I find no variation in it, except that the fifth character sometimes is in two parts, as may be seen in the illustration of the sheet of fifteen. The third line shows more important variations; looking at the top pair of the sheet of ten, we see that in the right-hand stamp this line consists of eight characters, while in the left-hand stamp it consists of seven only, the third and fourth characters from the left in the former stamps (a kind of figure "o" and incomplete reversed letter "s") being joined together in the latter.

All except two, Nos. 1 and 10, on this sheet have these characters separate, and I consider that the presence of this form of the characters indicates the earlier settings, as all the later settings have them joined together throughout, as shown in the other illustration. It should also be noted that in the first illustration this line is always in two groups, with a small space between them. The second group commences with the character like a reversed "f" which is not infrequently replaced (as in the top line) by the one which seems to be a figure "2."

The fourth line indicates the value, denoted by a character resembling an inverted figure "3" with an accent over it, followed by a vertical stroke and a dot, reading I believe "do," and a numeral. The figure "1" is shown rather imperfectly in the illustration of the 1 docra, its correct shape is something between a comma and a tadpole; the "2" is shown in the two sheets; and the "3" is like an ordinary figure "3," as shown in the third illustration at the head of this issue.

Of the characters which I describe as like a reversed letter "f" and a figure "2" there are two varieties, which may be seen in the illustration of the sheet of fifteen. On the majority of the stamps on this sheet the reversed letter "f" has a central bar straight across it, but on Nos. 12 and 14 the character in the middle of the third line has the

right-hand part of the bar higher up than the left-hand. The ordinary form of the figure "2" is shown in the value and at the end of the second line on both sheets, but in the middle of the third line of No. 11 is a character, which I believe to be also a figure "2," with a loop at the top. In bad impressions it is difficult to distinguish this from the second form of reversed "f."

In almost all the sheets some of the characters fail to print completely, dots frequently being absent from this cause, but I do not propose to take much notice of varieties of this nature, which may only occur on a single sheet.

July (?), 1880. *Sheets of fifteen without space at foot.*

(a) Stamps 15 to 15½ mm. wide, sheet 56 × 93 mm. Nos. 2, 4, 7, 10, and 13 have seven characters only in the third line; all the rest have the eight characters. Nos. 1, 4, and 10 have the character for "2" in the top line, instead of the reversed "f"

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12
13	14	15

(there are some others in which the form of this character is rather doubtful); and Nos. 1, 4, 7, 8, 10, 13 (and 14 in the 1 and 2 docras), have the "2" in the middle of the third line. In No. 5 there is hardly any appreciable space between the two groups in the third line.

The outlines of the stamps and of the sheet are thin throughout, and I have always believed this to be the first setting of 1880, though I cannot produce any actual proof of this.

I have a fragment of a sheet of the 1 docra, which shows that two impressions were sometimes struck side by side, *tête-à-tête*; my fragment shows the top row of one sheet and the bottom row of another, inverted, alongside. No. 3 on this sheet had a very much larger figure "1" than the others; I have a minor variety of this setting, in which the printing is rather heavier, especially the outline of the sheet at the left side; the large figure "1" is in No. 12, instead of No. 3, and No. 14 plainly has the reversed "f" in the middle of the third line.

With eight characters in the third line.

1 docra, *dull magenta*.

2 ,, *yellow-green*.

3 ,, *deep yellow*.

Varieties. With figure "2" in the top line.

All three values.

With figure "2" in the third line.

All three values.

With large figure "1" (No. 1 or No. 12).

1 docra, *dull magenta*.

With seven characters in the third line.

Same three values (and also the varieties with figure "2").

In regard to the question of the earliest setting, I ought to state that the first plates given by Moens in his Catalogue of 1892 show sheets with seven characters in the third line throughout; but the illustration* given in *Le Timbre-Poste*, when the stamps were first chronicled, November, 1880, shows a curious variety with some of the characters in this line misplaced, the third being one form of the figure "2," and the fifth the "o," these two characters being transposed. I cannot trace this variety either on my sheet or in any of Moens' plates, but it is plain that the first stamp seen by him had eight characters in the third row. The stamp was a 1 docra.

I therefore add:—

An unknown setting of 15, including—
Error, with eight characters in the third line, the third and fifth being transposed.

- 1 docra, *magenta*.
- 2 ,, *yellow-green* (?).
- 3 ,, *yellow* (?).

(b) A similar setting, with eight characters in the third line throughout, but No. 1 has the reversed "f" and No. 3 has one form of the figure "2" in place of the "o" in the third line. The stamps are 15½ to 16½ mm. wide, and the whole block measures 55 to 56½ × 95 mm. The frame lines are thick, except that at the left of the sheet, which is as thin as before; the horizontal bits are a little wider apart. Nos. 3, 5, 7, and 10 have the figure "2" in the top line; and Nos. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, and 15 have this character in the middle of the third line. No. 13 has the last character but one in the third line, a kind of letter "i," omitted.

- 1 docra, *dull magenta*.
- 2 ,, *green to yellowish green*.
- 3 ,, *yellow*.

Errors. With reversed "f" for third character and figure "2" for fifth character in the third line (No. 1). All three values.

With figures "2" in the top line and in place of the third and fifth characters in the third line (No. 3). All three values.

With the seventh character in the third line omitted (No. 13).†

All three values.

Varieties. With figure "2" in the top line.

All three values.

With figure "2" in the middle of the third line. All three values.

Moens gives an illustration of this setting of the 1 docra, only, and dates it "1887," but I think he was mistaken about the date, and I am confirmed in this opinion by finding the other two values (which are not listed by Moens) in the Breitfuss Collection, under

* This is the illustration that I give of the 1 docra stamp.

† This is not a case of "failed to print," there is no space for the missing character.

the date "Juillet 1880." I think it quite possible that this was the first setting of all, and that Moens' illustration of November, 1880, shows the error in No. 3 badly corrected.

1883. *Sheets of ten without space at foot*
It was in October, 1883, that *Le Timbre-Poste* copied from *L'Ami des Timbres* the announcement that these stamps had appeared in sheets of ten varieties only. Moens agrees with me in placing first the setting shown in my illustration of the sheet of ten. Leaving a couple of letters for further early settings yet to be discovered, I call this—

(e) Nos. 1 and 10 have seven characters in the third line; all the rest have eight. Nos. 5, 7, 8, and 9 have the figure "2" in the top line; Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 9 have the "2" in the middle of the third line.

1	2
3	4
5	6
7	8
9	10

I have two varieties of this, in one of which the whole setting has dropped, leaving a blank space inside the frame at top, and spaces at foot between the ends of the vertical lines and the bottom line of the frame. Moens illustrates all the three values without this spacing, and I have all three with the spacing; the stamps in the former are 15 to 16 mm. wide, and the sheet measures 25½ to 27 × 92 mm.; in the latter (which seems to have spread a little) the stamps are all about 16 mm. wide, and the sheet measures 27 × 98 mm.

With eight characters in the third line.

- 1 docra, *dull magenta*.
- 2 ,, *blue-green*.
- 3 ,, *yellow*.

Varieties. With figure "2" in the top line.

All three values.

With figure "2" in the middle of the third line. All three values.

With seven characters in the third line.

All three values (but not the varieties with figure "2").

(f) Similar setting; stamps 15½ to 17 mm. wide; sheet 27½ to 28 × 93 to 94 mm. *All the stamps have the seven characters only in the third line*, and this is the case in all the later settings. Nos. 4, 5, 7, and 9 have the figure "2" in the top line; all except Nos. 4 and 7 appear to have the "2" in the middle of the third line, but these sheets are not very clearly printed.

- 1 docra, *dull magenta*.
- 2 ,, *blue-green*.
- 3 ,, *deep yellow*.
- 3 ,, *yellow*.

Varieties. With "2" in the top line.

Same values and colours.

With "2" in the middle of the third line. Same values and colours.

(To be continued.)

The 1903 Surcharges of Guadeloupe

By JOHN N. LUFF

(Continued from page 58.)

Postage Due Stamps

HERE the specialist will find a few minor varieties. On Nos. 14 and 45 the ornament at the left upper corner of the rectangular frame is turned sideways, and on No. 48 the left lower ornament is similarly turned. These are all in variety ii. of the surcharge, or Nos. 517, 521, 525, and 529 of the Catalogue. Nos. 2 and 33 have the "G" broken; on No. 42 only part of the bottom curve of the letter remains; while on No. 9 we find only a dot or sometimes nothing at all. No. 38 shows only part of the curve of the letter "D." These are of variety iii. I have seen a copy of No. 44 (var. iv.) with the "G" slightly broken, but the variety does not appear to be constant, and may have been caused by a speck of dirt on the sheet.

I would suggest that instead of using the tables on page 258 of the *Monthly Journal*, the collector refer to the Catalogue, as the latter contains a number of additions to and corrections of typographical errors in the *Journal's* lists. Though I may be a little ahead of my story, this seems to me an appropriate place to call attention to certain varieties which my study of the settings has shown me should be added to or deleted from the current Catalogue. The collector who cares to follow this article will easily confirm my conclusions.

Add to the Catalogue:—

236a on 169.	237d on 176.
236b ,, 170.	237e ,, 177.
236c ,, 171.	237f ,, 178.
237a ,, 173.	237g ,, 179.
237b ,, 174.	237h ,, 180.
237c ,, 175.	237k ,, 181.

237l on 181a.

(Note that the stamp at present listed as 237a here becomes 237f.)

280g on 181a.
283a ,, 171.
283b ,, 176.

Delete from the Catalogue: 323a, 354, and 355, which do not exist.

I now take up the subject of the overprint "1903," in a rectangular frame with ornaments at each corner (the scoffers call them "bugs"). Of this overprint there are five settings, which I name H I, K, L, and M. These settings have been overprinted in various colours on the 40 c. on 1 fr., setting E corrected, and on the 1 fr. on 75 c., settings F and G. I shall describe them briefly, and list the varieties to which they give rise. I need scarcely say that some of the varieties

occur more than once in a setting, and are also to be found in several settings.



Settings H, I, and K are closely related. In all of them the overprint "1903" is of Type 23 in the Catalogue, in various positions.

Setting H has "1903" placed horizontally across the *bottom* of the rectangle, except on three stamps in the left pane. On No. 1 it is placed vertically at the right side, reading upward; on No. 35 it is vertically at the left side, reading upward; and on No. 45 it is vertically at the left, reading downward. This setting was printed in *carmine* and in *blue* on the 40 c. on 1 fr. (setting E corrected), and in both colours on the 1 fr. on 75 c. (settings F and G).

Setting I has "1903" placed horizontally across the *top* of the rectangle, except on three stamps in the left pane. On Nos. 1 and 35 it is placed vertically at the left, reading upward, and on No. 45 it is vertically at the right, reading downward. This setting was printed in *carmine* and in *blue* on the 40 c. on 1 fr. (setting E corrected) and the 1 fr. on 75 c. (setting G). The *carmine* overprint is known inverted on the 1 fr. on 75 c. I have seen part of a sheet of the 40 c. on 1 fr. with the *carmine* overprint so misplaced that the top row of stamps escaped the overprint. This not only made pairs with and without the overprint, but also brought the overprint which normally fell on No. 35 upon No. 45. Thus we have No. 264 of the Catalogue (Type 23, vertically, on No. 212) but with "1903" at the left, reading upward, a position which it does not otherwise occupy on this particular type of the 40 c. on 1 fr.

In setting K the normal position of "1903" is at the right side of the rectangle, vertically, reading upward. This occurs on forty-four stamps, one of which, No. 10, has also a thin vertical line down the middle of the rectangle. Nos. 39 and 45 also have "1903" at the right, but reading downward. No. 35 has it at the left, vertically, reading upward. On No. 12 it is placed horizontally across the middle of the stamp; on No. 40 vertically in the middle; and on No. 48 horizontally at the bottom. This surcharge exists in *carmine*, *blue*, and *black* on the 40 c. on 1 fr.

(setting E corrected), and in *carmine* on the 1 fr. on 75 c. (setting G).

In settings H, I, and K, Nos. 14 and 20 have the left upper ornament turned sideways, and No. 48 has the left lower ornament similarly turned. From these three settings we obtain the following varieties, for which I give the Catalogue numbers rather than a detailed description:—

1903 in *carmine* over 40 c. on 1 fr.
(Setting E corrected.)

1903 at bottom : 260, 261, 262.
1903 at top : 260, 261, 262.
1903 across middle : 260.
1903 at right, reading upward : 260, 263*a*, 263*b*.
1903 at right, extra line in middle : 263.
1903 in middle, reading upward : 263.
1903 at right, reading downward : 263, 264.
1903 at left, reading upward : 263, 264.

Left upper ornament sideways.

1903 at bottom : 260.
1903 at top : 260.
1903 at right, reading upward : 263.

Left lower ornament sideways.

1903 at bottom : 262.
1903 at top : 262.

Antique "t" in "et."

1903 at bottom : 260.
1903 at top : 260.
1903 at right, reading upward : 263.

"G" and "et" close together.

1903 at bottom : 260, 262.
1903 at top : 260, 262.
1903 at right, reading upward : 263, 263*b*.
1903 at left, reading upward : 263.

"G" raised.

1903 at bottom : 262.
1903 at top : 262.

"D" dropped.

1903 at bottom : 262.
1903 at top : 262.
1903 at right, reading upward : 263*b*.

Vertical pair, one without 1903, one with it horizontally at top : 260.

Vertical pair, one without 1903, one with it vertically at left, reading upward : 263.

1903 in *blue* over 40 c. on 1 fr.
(Setting E corrected.)

1903 at bottom : 284, 285, 286.
1903 at top : 284, 285, 286.
1903 across middle : 284.
1903 at right, reading upward : 287, 288, 289.
1903 at right, extra line in middle : 287.
1903 in middle, reading upward : 287.
1903 at right, reading downward : 287, 290.
1903 at left, reading upward : 287.

Left upper ornament sideways.

1903 at bottom : 284.
1903 at top : 284.
1903 at right, reading upward : 287.

Left lower ornament sideways.

1903 at bottom : 286.
1903 at top : 286.

Antique "t" in "et."

1903 at bottom : 284.
1903 at top : 284.
1903 at right, reading upward : 287.

"G" and "et" close together.

1903 at bottom : 284, 286.
1903 at top : 284, 286.
1903 at right, reading upward : 287, 289.
1903 at left, reading upward : 287.

"G" raised.

1903 at bottom : 286.
1903 at top : 286.

"D" dropped.

1903 at bottom : 286.
1903 at top : 286.
1903 at right, reading upward : 289.

1903 in *black* over 40 c. on 1 fr.

(Setting E corrected.)

1903 at bottom : 292.
1903 across middle : 291.
1903 at right, reading upward : 293, 294, 295.
1903 at right, extra line in middle : 293.
1903 in middle, reading upward : 293.
1903 at right, reading downward : 293, 296.
1903 at left, reading upward : 293.

Left upper ornament sideways.

1903 at right, reading upward : 293.

Left lower ornament sideways.

1903 at bottom : 292.

Antique "t" in "et."

1903 at right, reading upward : 292.

"G" and "et" close together.

1903 at right, reading upward : 293, 295.

"G" raised.

1903 at bottom : 292.

"D" dropped.

1903 at right, reading upward : 295.

1903 in *carmine* over 1 fr. on 75 c.

(Settings F and G.)

1903 at bottom : 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 236*a*, 236*b*, 236*c*, 237, 237*a*, 237*b*, 237*c*, 237*d*, 237*e*, 237*f*, 237*g*, 237*h*, 237*k*, 237*l*.

1903 at top : 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 233, 234, 235, 236*a*, 236*b*, 236*c*, 237, 237*a*, 237*b*, 237*c*, 237*d*, 237*e*, 237*f*, 237*g*, 237*h*, 237*k*, 237*l*.

1903 across middle : 237.

1903 at right, reading upward : 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 259*a*.

1903 at right, extra line in middle : 237*c*.

1903 in middle, reading upward : 246.

1903 at right, reading downward : 243, 244, 254.

1903 at left, reading upward : 242, 249, 254.

Left upper ornament sideways.

1903 at bottom : 229, 236, 237c, 237g.
 1903 at top : 237f, 237h.
 1903 at right, reading upward : 253, 257.

Left lower ornament sideways.

1903 at bottom : 229.
 1903 at top : 229.

Overprint inverted.

1903 at bottom : 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 233, 234, 235, 236a, 236b, 236c, 237, 237a, 237b, 237c, 237d, 237e, 237f, 237g, 237h, 237i, 237l.
 1903 at right, reading downward : 242, 246.
 1903 at left, reading upward : 244.

1903 in blue over 1 fr. on 75 c.
 (Settings F and G.)

1903 at bottom : 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 280a, 280b, 280c, 280d, 280e, 280f, 280g, 280h, 280i, 280k, 280l, 280m, 280n, 280p, 280q.
 1903 at top : 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 277, 278, 279, 280a, 280b, 280c, 280d, 280e, 280f, 280g, 280h, 280k, 280l, 280m, 280n, 280p, 280q.
 1903 at right, reading upward : 281, 283a.
 1903 at right, reading downward : 283, 283b.
 1903 at left, reading upward : 282, 283a, 283b.

Left upper ornament sideways.

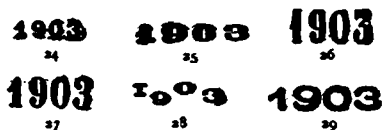
1903 at bottom : 273, 280, 280g, 280m.
 1903 at top : 280g, 280m.

Left lower ornament sideways.

1903 at bottom : 273.
 1903 at top : 273.

There are a few instances in which a stamp has two distinctive features, such as a type of the 1 franc surcharge which occurs only once in the setting and a sideways ornament at the corner of the rectangle. Two such instances are found in the foregoing list. No. 179 occurs only once in a sheet of the 1 fr. on 75 c., the twentieth stamp; when overprinted with settings H, I, and K we find it with the addition of "1903" at bottom, top, or side (Nos. 237g and 257). But on this particular stamp the "1903" overprint has the ornament at the left upper corner turned sideways. It will be noted that I have listed it first as Nos. 237g and 257, and afterwards as the same numbers with the ornament sideways. I admit this is not strictly fair, since it is making two specimens out of one stamp; but no one can tell how far the advanced specialist will wish to go, and certainly this list is for him if it is for any one.

We now come to settings L and M, which are grouped together in the Catalogue, where we find the following illustrations of the numerals used for the overprints and a table of the types :—



The same stamps surcharged as Type 23.

- (iii.) With date as Type 24, horizontally.
 (iv.) " " " " vertically.
 (v.) " " " 25 " "
 (vi.) " " " " diagonally.
 (vii.) " " " 26, vertically.
 (viii.) " " " " diagonally.
 (ix.) " " " 27, horizontally.
 (x.) " " " " vertically.
 (xi.) " " " 28 " "
 (xii.) " " " 29 " "

In setting L the majority of the stamps are overprinted with "1903" of Type 24, which is placed horizontally at the bottom of the rectangle on forty stamps in the sheet (iii.). On Nos. 5 and 46 we find the same type of overprint, but placed vertically, at the left side of the stamp, reading upwards (iv.); while on No. 7 it occupies the same position at the right of the stamp, but in this instance it is set up irregularly, so that the figures "1" and "3" are much above the line of the "90." Nos. 10 and 41 have the overprint of Type 25 placed diagonally (vi.), reading from lower left to upper right. No. 1 has Type 26 placed diagonally (viii.) inverted, reading from lower right to upper left; while No. 45 has the same diagonal surcharge, but placed right side up and reading from upper left to lower right. No. 50 has Type 27 placed horizontally (ix.) at the bottom of the stamp; No. 26 has Type 28 placed vertically (xi.) at the left side, reading upward; and No. 28 has Type 29, vertically (xii.) at the left, reading upward. This setting was printed in *carmine* on the 40 c. on 1 fr. and the 1 fr. on 75 c., resulting in the following varieties as given in the Catalogue :—

1903 in *carmine* over 40 c. on 1 fr.

(Setting E corrected.)

- 1903 (iii.) at bottom : 326, 327, 328.
 1903 (iv., out of alignment) at right, reading upward : 329.
 1903 (iv.) at left, reading upward : 329, 330.
 1903 (vi.) diagonally : 331.
 1903 (viii.) diagonally : 332, 333.
 1903 (ix.) at bottom : 334.
 1903 (xi.) at left, reading upward : 335.
 1903 (xii.) at left, reading upward : 336.

Left upper ornament sideways.

1903 (iii.) at bottom : 326.

Left lower ornament sideways.

1903 (iii.) at bottom : 328.

Antique "t" in "et."

1903 (iii.) at bottom : 326.

"G" and "et" close together.

- 1903 (iii.) at bottom : 326, 328.
 1903 (iv.) at left, reading upward : 330.
 1903 (viii.) diagonally : 332.
 1903 (xi.) at left, reading upward : 335.
 1903 (xii.) at left, reading upward : 336.

1903 in *carmine* over 1 fr. on 75 c.
 (Setting G.)

- 1903 (iii.) at bottom : 297, 298, 299, 300, 301,
 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309,
 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 315a.
 1903 (iv., out of alignment) at right, reading
 upward : 316.
 1903 (iv.) at left, reading upward : 317, 318.
 1903 (vi.) diagonally : 319, 320.
 1903 (viii.) diagonally : 321, 322.
 1903 (ix.) at bottom : 323.
 1903 (xi.) at left, reading upward : 324.
 1903 (xii.) at left, reading upward : 325.

Left upper ornament sideways.

- 1903 (iii.) at bottom : 311.

Left lower ornament sideways.

- 1903 (iii.) at bottom : 300.

No. 323a of the Catalogue does not exist. It is quite apparent that it has crept into the Catalogue through a confusion of Type 24 with the figures out of alignment and Type 28. The reader will please note that in the 40 c. on 1 fr., Nos. 330, 332, 335, and 336 always have the "G" and "et" close together, and therefore are duplicated in the foregoing list.

Setting M contains only four types of "1903," which in every instance is placed vertically, at the left, reading upward. On thirty-five stamps the overprint is of Type 25 (v.); on Nos. 8, 10, 20, 30, 40, 48, and 50 it is of Type 26 (vii.); on Nos. 2, 11, 21, 22, 31, 41, and 45 it is of Type 27 (x.); and on No. 1 it is of Type 29 (xii.). This overprint exists in *blue* on the 40 c. on 1 fr. and the 1 fr. on 75 c., and from it we obtain the following numbers in the Catalogue:—

1903 in *blue* over 40 c. on 1 fr.
 (Setting E corrected.)

- 1903 (v.) at left, reading upward : 369, 370, 371.
 1903 (vii.) at left, reading upward : 373, 374.

- 1903 (x.) at left, reading upward : 378, 379.
 1903 (xii.) at left, reading upward : 381.

Left upper ornament sideways.

- 1903 (v.) at left, reading upward : 369.
 1903 (vii.) at left, reading upward : 373.

Left lower ornament sideways.

- 1903 (vii.) at left, reading upward : 374.

Antique "1" in "et."

- 1903 (v.) at left, reading upward : 369.
 1903 (x.) at left, reading upward : 378.

"G" and "et" close together.

- 1903 (v.) at left, reading upward : 369, 371.
 1903 (vii.) at left, reading upward : 373.
 1903 (x.) at left, reading upward : 378.
 1903 (xii.) at left, reading upward : 381.

1903 in *blue* over 1 fr. on 75 c.
 (Setting G.)

- 1903 (v.) at left, reading upward : 337, 338, 339,
 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347,
 348, 349, 349a.
 1903 (vii.) at left, reading upward : 350, 351,
 352, 353, 354a.
 1903 (x.) at left, reading upward : 356, 357, 358,
 359, 360, 361, 362.
 1903 (xii.) at left, reading upward : 363.

Left upper ornament sideways.

- 1903 (v.) at left, reading upward : 346.
 1903 (vii.) at left, reading upward : 354a.

Left lower ornament sideways.

- 1903 (vii.) at left, reading upward : 351.

No. 381 of the 40 c. on 1 fr. always has the "G" and "et" close together, and No. 354a of the 1 fr. on 75 c. always has the left upper ornament turned sideways. To this extent there are duplications in the above table.

In conclusion I can only echo the words of the elder Weller: "Whether it's worth while going through so much to learn so little, as the charity boy said when he got to the end of the alphabet, is a matter of taste. I rather think it isn't."

Philatelic Notes and Queries

By E. B. EVANS

SOME ingenious person, imbued with a taste for Proverbial Philosophy, seems once to have remarked that "the proper study of Mankind is Man," with, no doubt, occasional excursions into that most difficult branch of the subject the Study of Woman. In like manner, I may venture to suggest that the proper study of the British Philatelist is British Stamps, and that not only because they are British, but because they form a particularly interesting subject for study. We are always finding out some-

thing fresh about them, and always finding some fresh point that requires study.

Within the last few years, a great deal of attention has been devoted to the letters in the lower corners of the early Penny and Twopence, which letters are occasionally found inverted, double, defective, malformed, or slightly abnormal in one respect or another; and it is by means of these letters and their varieties of type, position, defects, etc., that it may some day be possible to assign impressions of these early stamps (or

some of them) to the particular plates from which they were printed. We know that different forms of these letters were used, differing from one another as different founts of printer's type differ, and it is possible that these variations were intentional, and indicate that experiments were made with a view to obtaining letters that should be quite clear and distinct, the final choice being the *sans-serif* letters that appear in the four corners of the Twopence of 1858 and the One Penny of 1864.

The letters were punched into the corners of the impressions, upon the soft steel plate, with hard steel punches; soft steel is not a very soft substance, and a question has been raised as to the durability of these punches, one student of British stamps suggesting that each punch may have produced only one single letter, and have been too much damaged or blunted in so doing for further use. A few weeks ago, however, Messrs. C. Nissen and Co. showed me a block of four Penny stamps, Die II, on Large Crown paper, perf. 14, lettered "S-K," "S-L," "T-K," "T-L," with both the letters "S" inverted. Copies with inverted letters are scarce; indeed, I understand that these are the first stamps upon Large Crown paper that have been found with inverted letters; it therefore appeared almost certain that these two letters were done with the same punch, as it is extremely unlikely that the workman would use two punches the wrong way up, one after the other.

In these circumstances, I appealed once more to Mr. James D. Heath, the Managing Director of Perkins Bacon and Co., Limited, who has so kindly given me information on previous occasions, and he assures me that the hardened steel punches would last for some years and would be used over and over again. He goes on to say:—

"The way in which the punching was done was this:—There was a small holder, one of which we still have, into which the punch was slipped, and it was then struck with a hammer. The double impressions no doubt arose from the man who did the work holding the tool unsteadily, and it shifted before the second blow was struck. This gave the first rough impression. The corner of the stamp was then burnished to take off any burr, and the lettering finished with a graver, so that you see there was an opportunity for any amount of variation in the letters, just as the engraver was inclined, and possibly at one time he may have finished off the letters much neater than at other times. You can see also from this explanation how a letter like 'S' could have been turned out upside down."

This explanation no doubt accounts for some of the abnormal varieties that are

known, and possibly also for some of the variations in the form of the letters, especially in cases where different forms are found upon the same plate; but it will certainly not account for all the variations, as the different founts of letters are too uniform and too regularly employed to be accidental variations due to the graver's tool. Probably also the early punches, which produced *Roman* capitals, with thin lines and serifs, which would be very liable to injury, did not last so long as the later punches, which produced the *sans-serif* letters, much simpler in form and of the same thickness throughout.

Students of the minute details of stamps have not, I think, made sufficient allowance for the fact that even the Perkins Bacon process of reproduction did not in this case produce absolutely perfect results. The most important portions of the design, the head and its surrounding background, were faithfully reproduced, but the intentionally varying letters in the corners had of course to be put in separately, and there was a good deal of cleaning up required, both round these letters and round the edges of each stamp, in order to remove the rough metal displaced by the pressure of the engraving upon the roller and by the punching in of the letters; and we thus have little variations, some of which are visible without the use of a microscope.

* * *

I have just received *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* for August 1, with a brief account of the A. P. A. Convention, as it is familiarly termed, at Columbus. I greatly regret to learn that the President, Mr. J. N. Luff, was prevented by illness from being present, and I sincerely trust that he is convalescent by this time, and that a little trip across the Atlantic is all that is necessary to complete his recovery. With this very unfortunate exception, the Convention appears to have been a most successful one, business and pleasure being combined in the usual manner. One rather important, though merely nominal change has been made, the title being altered from American Philatelic Association to American Philatelic Society, and we must in future speak of the A. P. S., instead of the A. P. A. I am not quite sure that the change is an altogether happy one; *Society* seems to be a less comprehensive title than *Association*, as the latter might well imply a union of a number of Societies, which is the object of a great national body. The general arrangements remain as before, and *Mekeel's Weekly*, which has done such excellent work for the *Association* in the past, remains the official journal of the *Society*, and will no doubt do the same good service in the

future. A full report of the proceedings is to be issued at an early date, on receipt of which I may find occasion to make a few more remarks upon a Society which differs essentially from any philatelic body that exists in this country, and which holds meetings such as many British philatelists would like to see promoted over here.

* * *

Two British stamp periodicals have indulged of late in some more or less pungent remarks upon the subject of "Postmarking to Order." Both are edited by philatelists of some experience, and as their views on the point in question are diametrically opposed to one another, it may be well to place their remarks side by side and discuss them a little.

Mr. Cornelius Wrinkle, in *The Postage Stamp*, says:—

"This most objectionable practice goes merrily on. When a sheet of stamps is postmarked and sold in mint unused condition by the sheet it is nothing more or less than an attempt to sell, to such as are easily gulled, stamps purporting to be used that have never been through the post.

"Messrs. Pemberton and Co. tell us in their journal that they recently inspected the stock of a dealer from Iceland, part of which consisted of many sheets of the new Iceland 1 eyr value, all of which were minus gum and plus a neat, but genuine, obliteration."

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News replies:—

"All credit to the dealer from Iceland, say we! A postmark is not and never has been a guarantee that a stamp has been through the post and it is ridiculous to say it is. One and the same postmarker is often used for cancelling stamps used on letters, telegrams, postal receipts of all kinds and various other documents. One might just as well suggest that a bank-note has been through the post because it is postmarked. (It is a practice in Post Offices to postmark bank-notes cashed by them.) A genuine postmark on a stamp signifies nothing more nor less than that it has been cancelled by a genuine postmarker, but as to where, when and by whom there is no evidence other than that which may be shown on the stamp itself. Take for instance a postmarker inscribed 'Birmingham, 9. 7. 08,' and cancel a stamp with it; the postmark should be evidence that the stamp was cancelled at Birmingham on 9. 7. 08 and nothing more. There is nothing to indicate whether the stamp was on a letter doing postal duty; it might have been on a receipt or a postal order or on a telegram or even on a savings-bank collecting card or in the case cited, one of a sheet cancelled to order for a stamp dealer."

If the curious theory put forward in the second of these quotations were generally received and understood by stamp collectors, there would certainly be no objection to "Postmarking to Order," neither would there be any possible object in it. But is such the case at all? So far as I am aware, the idea

of the collector of so-called *used* stamps is that the postmark does imply that the stamp has been *used* for some postal purpose; and if he were persuaded that it simply meant that the stamp had been defaced at a certain place on a certain date (not in any way guaranteed), he would cease to regard *used* stamps with the respect with which he looks upon them at present. In the case of stamps of high facial value, which the authorities may be willing to cancel and supply at low prices, for the benefit of collectors and of the postal revenue, there is a certain amount of excuse, but such copies are (from a philatelic point of view) on exactly the same footing as copies marked "Specimen," which, curiously enough, collectors do not regard with favour—and this very fact is sufficient to prove that a postmark, to those who prefer postmarked stamps, is supposed to mean something quite different from merely "Cancelled."

It is hardly likely that these 1 eyr. stamps were supplied at less than face value, and they would certainly not be retailed at a lower price than the same stamps unused. Indeed there may have been an extra charge for postmarking. There is an old tale, probably untrue but none the less *ben trovato*, according to which a continental dealer was once doing business with a wholesale *confrère*, and having purchased a stock of a certain stamp *unused*, asked to be also supplied with a few dozen *used*; when the account was made out, the purchaser was shocked at finding that a higher price was charged for the *used* than for the *unused*, and on his asking with some indignation the reason for this, was met with the reply: "I must pay my clerk something for putting the postmarks on." So also probably the post office clerk received something for his trouble in "putting the postmarks on" the sheets of stamps referred to.

As some of my readers are perhaps aware, I am not in the fullest sympathy with those collectors who refuse to admit any but *used* stamps into their collections, and maybe this is because I know too well how difficult it is to prove that a stamp has really been *used*; but I have always understood that collectors who are thus minded do not collect *used* stamps merely because they prefer a defaced specimen to one that is undefaced, but because they have a preference for veterans that have done some duty, which the "postmarked-to-order" things have not.

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New Issues and Discoveries

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.

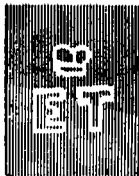
FRANK PHILLIPS, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

Greece.—Dr. Socolis calls our attention to the fact that there exist two distinct types of the 5 lepta "Mercury" stamp of 1901 issue. In Type I (A) there is a white space between the two exterior vertical lines of the frame enclosing the word "ΕΑΛΑΣ" (Greece) on both sides of the stamp. In Type II (B) this space is filled in with short horizontal lines.

The illustrations below show these types considerably enlarged.



15



16



A



B

1901. *Wmk.* Type 16. (b) *Perf.* 13½.

351 8½ 5 l., green (A).
351a 11 5 l. " (B).

Nicaragua.—We have been shown three values of the overprinted fiscal stamps chronicled in our issues of 11 July, 25 July, and 22 August, numbered 365 to 371 and 460b to 460e, with an error of lettering in the overprint, which reads "CORROE" instead of "CORREO." We chronicle four values, as it is absolutely certain that the fourth value exists, although we have not seen it.

We have also seen a minor variety of the same fiscal stamps surcharged "VALE," etc. numbered 375 to 380, and 460f to 460k, showing the "9" of the date "1908" replaced by a dropped in-

verted "6." We do not think this variety is worth cataloguing.



45

CORREO-1908

46

1908. Type 45 (fiscal stamp) overprinted vertically upwards with Type 46, in black. *Perf.* 14, 15.

Variety. "CORROE" instead of "CORREO."

372 5 c., orange-yellow.
373 10 c., turquoise-blue.
374 1 p., ochre.
375 2 p., pearl-grey.

B

Dpto. Zelaya

23

1908. Type 45 (fiscal stamp) overprinted in green with Type 23, reading upwards, and in black with Type 46.

Variety. "CORROE" instead of "CORREO."

460f 5 c., orange-yellow.
460m 10 c., turquoise-blue.
460n 1 p., ochre.
460p 2 p., pearl-grey.

Panama.—We have recently been shown by a friend in New York some interesting errors in the issue of 1906, Catalogue Types 49, 50, and 53.

The errors consist in the fact that the centres are *inverted*, and although these errors got out to Panama nearly two years ago, they do not seem to have been recorded previously.

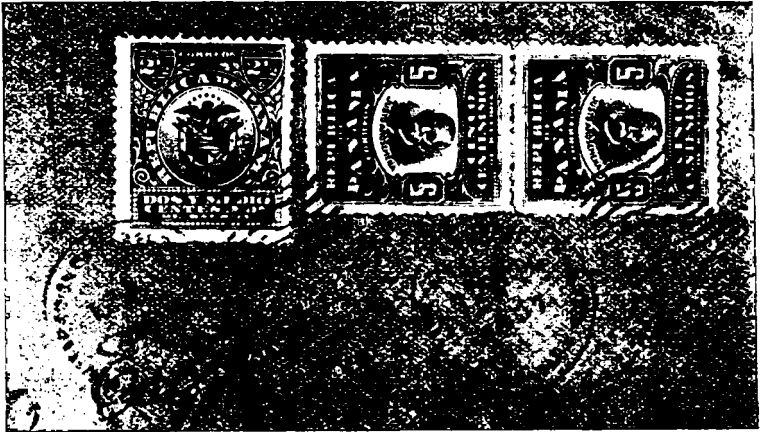
We have before us as we write three letters franked with errors. These are as follows:—

1st. A letter addressed to New York from Colon and postmarked "Nov. 11. 07," franked with a normal 2 c. and a ½ c. with the central design *inverted*.

2nd. Another letter to New York, dispatching office illegible, franked with two 5 c. and a 2½ c. stamp; both the 5 c. have the head *inverted*. Dated "12 Nov. 1907." (See below.)

3rd. A letter sent from Colon to San Salvador franked with a 10 c. stamp and a 2 c. stamp, and dated "Nov. 11. 07." The 2 c. has the head

inverted. These are undoubtedly *bona fide* errors, and it appears to us that from the method of printing there must have been at least a sheet of each of these values with the head *inverted*. Buyers of these stamps wholesale will be well advised to search their stocks.



Nov., 1907. *Centre inverted.*

½ c., carmine, blue, green, and orange.
2 c. " and black.
5 c., blue and black.

Paraguay.—We have been shown a variety of the 20 c. on 24 c., blue, provisional of 1902, with the surcharge *inverted*.



Habituado
on
20
centavos

1902. Type 29 surcharged with Type 32, in vermilion. *Variety. Surcharge inverted.*
722, 20 c. on 24 c., blue.

Our agent in Asuncion forwards us the provisional and variety chronicled below.



Habituado en
5
CENTAVOS

1908. Type 66 surcharged as Type 44, in black.
5 c. on 1 c., greenish blue.
Variety. Surcharge inverted.
5 c. on 1 c., greenish blue.

Switzerland.—Messrs. P. L. Pemberton & Co. very kindly forward us quite a new Swiss stamp: it is surface-printed in two colours, the figure of Helvetia, the figures of value, and the inner border-line being in *orange-yellow*; the solid background in *purple*; and the tiny Alpine scene in the lower right-hand corner, the sword, and the Swiss cross in *white*. The paper is granite, and appears to be without any watermark, and the perforation gauges 11½, 12.



16

AUGUST, 1908. Type 16. *Figures of value, figure of Helvetia, and border-line in first colour. No wmk. Granite paper. Perf. 11½, 12.*

244/40 c., orange-yellow and purple.

Tasmania.—We have discovered a minor variety in the current 2d. pictorial, watermarked Crown and double-lined A, and perforated 12½. No. 220a in the Catalogue. The variety consists in a white dot in front of the letter "T" of "TASMANIA"; the dot is unmistakable, as it is about 1 mm. in diameter. We are told that this variety occurs once in every sheet.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 10
Whole No. 192

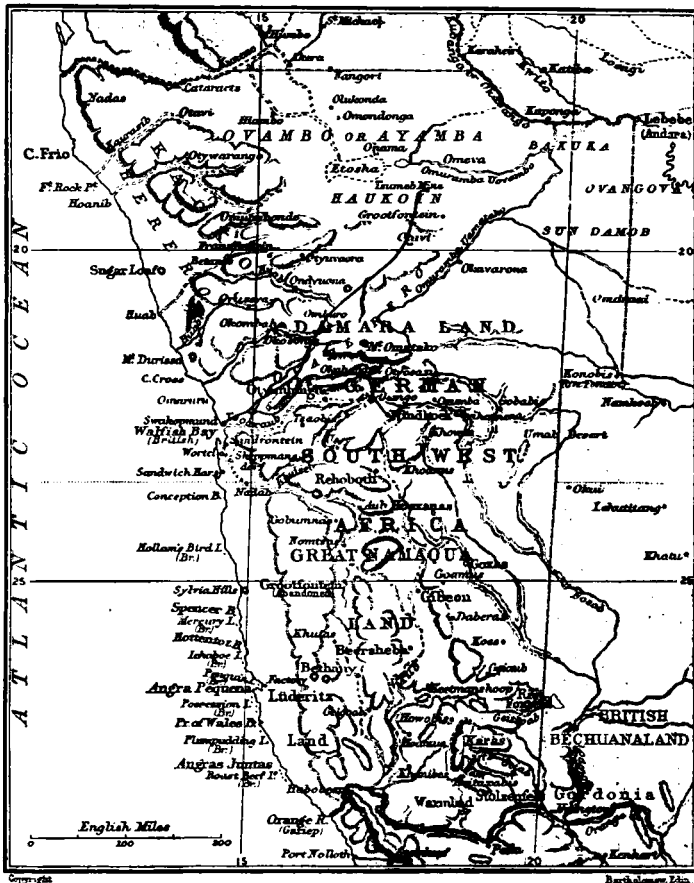
5 SEPTEMBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

German South-West Africa



GERMAN South-West Africa includes the region lying between Portuguese West Africa and Cape Colony, except Walfish Bay, bounded on the west by the Atlantic Ocean, and on the east by the British sphere including Bechuanaland. The total area is estimated at 322,450 square miles, and the population at 200,000.

Before 1884 this region was coloured red on most maps in accordance with the view that it formed part of British South Africa, and was a legitimate sphere for the future development of Cape Colony and Rhodesia. Some of the coast islets, such as Roast Beef, Plum-pudding, etc., as well as the district on the mainland round Walfish Bay, were even occu-

pied and officially recognized as British territory. Walfish Bay, now an enclave in the German possessions, remains a dependency of Cape Colony, and is not likely to be relinquished by Great Britain. It is used as a naval station, and is the only sheltered outlet for a region of 400,000 square miles, extending from Angola to the Cape and inland to Rhodesia; in the hands of an alien Power it might prove a very convenient base of operations.

Undeterred by the above facts, an enterprising Bremen merchant, Herr Luderitz, concluded a series of political and commercial treaties with native chiefs whereby a claim was instituted over Angra Pequena and vast districts in the interior between Orange River and Cape Frio. On 7 August, 1884, the German flag was hoisted at Angra Pequena, and on 13 October of the same year a German protectorate was suddenly declared over the territory now being discussed. The name first given to the protectorate was Luderitzland, but it was afterwards changed to its present title. After the usual protests and diplomatic wranglings the German claim was duly recognized and boundaries settled with Great Britain and Portugal by conventions in 1884, 1886, and 1890.

The acquisition of Angra Pequena is an interesting point in the history of European colonization. It was the first annexation made by Germany beyond Europe, the foundation stone, so to speak, of her colonial empire which has since developed with such surprising rapidity.

The country comprises the ill-defined territories of Ovampo, Damaraland, and Great Namaqualand, and was long supposed to be a sandy waste with no natural resources beyond its inaccessible mineral wealth. This is true only of Namaqualand, probably the most thinly-peopled and unproductive district of any of equal extent on the surface of the globe. Ovampo is fertile and suited to agricultural pursuits, whilst Damaraland is pastoral. The latter seems to promise best for the future, and might afford support for a limited number of European stock breeders. Here are a few ostrich farms, and a beginning has been made with the cultivation of cotton, tobacco, and vines. The chief industry is undoubtedly pastoral, and large herds and flocks of cattle and sheep belong to natives. There is little agriculture, but market gardening is common, a great variety of vegetables and fruit being grown. Copper has been found in Ovampo, and mining is carried on at Otavi and Tsumeb, both of which places are connected by railway with Swakopmund, the chief port. The natives understand the art of smelting and manufacture excellent ware. Diamonds are said to exist in the neighbour-

hood of Gibeon. Gold has been found, but not in sufficient quantity for working, and marble, asbestos, graphite, and other minerals have been observed.

In 1844 some Boers established themselves in the Ondango district, and founded Upingtonia in honour of the well-known statesman of Cape Colony. Though the district was fertile and well watered the climate was malarious, and the Republic gradually decayed. After the murder of the leader, Mr. Jordan, in 1886, it collapsed, and the Boer settlers accepted the German protectorate.

The natives are Bantu in the north and Hottentot in the south. In Damara or Herero land there has been a continuous struggle for supremacy between the two races. Here under the "civilizing" agencies of European luxury (drink, etc.) the natives are gradually dying out, and when they have sufficiently thinned down it is the intention to introduce white settlers. It is to Damaraland that the colony looks for its future prospects, as in the other parts the natives quite hold their own against foreign invasion. There have been serious native revolts against the Germans, especially in 1904, when the Hottentots in Namaqualand and the Hereros in Damaraland united, and progress was in consequence greatly delayed.

The capital is Windhoek, 237 miles inland, connected by railway with the chief port Swakopmund, north of Walfish Bay. This port is likely to become useful with artificial aid. Other ports and important towns are Sandwich Haven; Omaruru, the chief market of the Hereros; Angra Pequena, with good anchorage but little use, lying in barren district destitute of fresh water; Otyimbingue, Okahandja, Gobabis, and Keetmanskooop. There are no towns in the interior, only a few missionary stations and trading places. Postal communication, as in all German possessions, is well looked after, and between thirty and forty different postmarks are known. The coast lands are held by the German New Guinea Colonial Company. The exports at present are inconsiderable, but the imports, mainly from Germany, amount to a good figure, and consist chiefly of articles of consumption.

Philatelic History

This follows the course of other colonies lately described, viz stamps of the mother country specially overprinted, followed by a series in the general colonial type. All the stamps are easily obtained, and provide but little joy to the general collector. The overprinted stamps are divided into two sets, the first with a hyphen between "Sudwest" and "Afrika," the second with "Sudwestafrika" in one word. In the first set the 25 and 50 pf. were similarly prepared for use, but not sent

to the colony, so collectors are saved two spaces. The 25 pf. in the second set is a rather scarce stamp. In the colonial types a few stamps have appeared on the water-marked paper.

Deutsche
Südwest-Afrika

Deutsch-
Südwestafrika

German stamps of 1889 overprinted in black.
1897 (with hyphen).

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3 pf., brown	0	8	0	9
5 " green	0	8	0	9
10 " carmine	3	6	5	0
20 " ultramarine	1	3	1	3

1898 (without hyphen).

3 pf., brown	0	3	0	4
5 " green	0	4	0	5
10 " carmine	0	8	0	8
20 " ultramarine	1	6	2	0
25 " orange	40	0	—	—
50 " red-brown	2	0	3	0



1900. Frame in second colour. Perf.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3 pf., brown	0	1	0	1
5 " green	0	3	0	4
10 " carmine	0	4	0	2
20 " ultramarine	0	4	0	3
25 " black & red on yellow	5	—	—	—
30 " " orange on buff	6	—	—	—
40 " " carmine	7	—	0	8
50 " " violet on buff	8	—	—	—
80 " " carmine on rose	2	—	—	—
1 m., carmine	—	—	—	—
2 " blue	2	8	—	—
3 " violet	—	—	—	—
5 " carmine and black	—	—	—	—

1906-7. As last, but wmk. Losenges.

3 pf., brown	0	1	—	—
5 " green	0	1	—	—
10 " carmine	—	—	—	—
5 m., carmine and black	—	—	—	—

(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

Relative Rarity of old Australians

I HAVE recently purchased an old and extensive correspondence, consisting of many thousand letters addressed to this country and mostly franked with stamps of Victoria and New South Wales, the dates being from 1852 to 1863 inclusive.

This correspondence has never been picked over by a collector, and therefore, to a certain extent, one may gather from it some little information as to the relative rarity of stamps which were in the correspondence by hundreds. In attempting to do this it is important to bear in mind the fact that the letters were all sent here, and I think that the minimum postage for a single letter was 6d., therefore the figures I quote below as showing the percentage of stamps in the correspondence are hardly fair for 1d. stamps, which are much commoner on local correspondence. On the other hand, stamps of 2d. and 4d. I find were used very largely in pairs and strips to make up the single and double letter rates.

I will note first the Victoria "Emblems" issue, of which there were a good many hundreds in the correspondence.

Roughly speaking, the following is about the percentage of these stamps:—

Cat. No.	1d., green.		Cat. Price.
	s.	d.	
48 Wmk. Star., imperf.	35	p.c.	7 6
54 No wmk.	6	"	6 0
57 " rouletted	6	"	25 0
61-2 " perf. 12.	47	"	8 0
70 Laid	2	"	22 6
72 Wmk. value	4	"	5 0
100			

From these figures it looks as if Nos. 48 and 61 are priced too high and Nos. 54 and 72 too low, but, as I stated before, a local correspondence (say from Melbourne) might give quite a different percentage.

Cat. No.	2d., lilac.	Cat. Price. s. d.
55	No wmk., imperf.	54 p.c. 4 0
68	Laid hor., roul.	32 " 3 6
69	" " " " " " " " " " " "	14 " 4 0
		100

The Catalogue prices are not far out; perhaps Nos. 68 and 69 should be priced a little higher.

Cat. No.	4d., rose.	Cat. Price. s. d.
49	Wmk. Star., imperf., verml. 15½ p.c.	3 6
50	" " " " " " " " " " " "	23 " 1 6
52	" " roul.	40 0
60	No wmk.	8 " 5 0
64	" " perf. 12	13 " 1 6
65	Laid vert., imperf.	2 " 20 0
67	" " roul.	23 " 1 6
71	Laid hor., perf. 12	15 " 1 9
		100

The Catalogue prices seem to very well represent the relative rarity. Nos. 50, 64 and 71 might be quoted a little higher. I note that in many hundreds there was not a single copy of No. 56, the 4d. no wmk., imperf., which is catalogued at 40s., and must be well worth that price.

In the 6d. stamps of 1854 (Nos. 29 and 30) there are nearly two hundred copies, including a number in strips and a block of six, but there are *very few* of the really *deep orange*; the difference should be much more than that between 4s. and 5s., as shown in the Catalogue. In this lot of sixpennies there was not a stamp either rouletted, serrated, or serpentine perforated.

In the "Registered" of 1854 a very interesting thing is a strip of three stamps, used on one letter for postage, and not for registration (which only required a single stamp). I think this is very rare in a strip, and I cannot call to mind that I ever had even a *pair* of this stamp.

Of the 1s. octagon of 1854 and 1860, the imperf. stamps are nearly three times as plentiful as the perforated.

In the New South Wales there was only one 2d. Sydney.

There was a nice lot of "laureated," including some 6d. and 8d.

In the "diademed" issue, a number of pairs of the rare 3d.

Both "laureated" and "diademed" 3d. stamps, of which there were about a hundred, were carefully examined for the error wmk. "2," but not a copy was found.

In the "diademed" 2d., imperf. (Cat. 91-93), the pale blue is at least twenty times as scarce as the blue or deep blue.

About 10 per cent of these stamps had the

error of wmk. "5," and I notice that this is on a thicker and more opaque paper than the common stamp. wmk. "2."

In the square stamps, imperf. (1854-5), there was a fine lot of 6d.; about 5 per cent have the error of wmk. "8."

It is seldom nowadays that English dealers get an old unpicked lot of Australian stamps, and when such a case does occur it is interesting to see what we can learn from it.

Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition

MR. I. J. BERNSTEIN writes as follows:—

5 August, 1908.

I notice in to-day's issue of the *Weekly* a paragraph re our Exhibition. I am very much obliged for the publicity, and we shall be glad to have as many pairs as you care to give us, only we should like them correct. I don't know who your informant was, but as a matter of fact we have not yet got one ha'penny towards the expenses, and have not thought it advisable to ask for donations and subscriptions until the season starts. I hope your paragraph will not lead people to believe that we do not want money; so far it has simply been a question of our Committee guaranteeing all preliminary liabilities.

I regret very much that the information in the number referred to was not correct. It came to us from a Manchester correspondent who is usually especially well informed.

I hear that the Committee of the Exhibition are going to make a great feature of the Philatelic Congress, and that Messrs. Beckett and Gibson will be strongly identified with this section.

Bound Vol. VII of "G.S.W."

THESE are now ready, and can be supplied at the price of 4s. 9d. post free. Subscribers to our paper will remember that with the commencement of this volume we had to trim the margins down, on account of the heavier paper we used being too heavy for the halfpenny per number. With this current volume we have gone back to the full-sized margins.

In order to keep the bound volumes symmetrical, we have decided to make the binding covers the same height as previous volumes, and this gives a rather awkward appearance to the volume, but it seems to be the best way out of the difficulty.

No. 2 of "G.S.W."

NO. 2 of Vol. I is the rarest number of the whole set, and is missing in many libraries. We have just secured a few copies, which we can supply at 3s. 6d. each as long as our supply lasts.

Portable Leather Case for Albums

I HAVE been asked to draw special attention to this very useful case. Owing to a new

contract we have placed to manufacture them in large quantities, we have been able to largely reduce the price, and can now supply in two sizes. For particulars see our advertisement pages.

Visit of French Philatelists to London

A VISIT of French philatelists to London had been planned to take place from August 4 to 9, but I have received a letter from M. Coyette informing me that the arrangements fell through, as a sufficiently large party could not be got together, owing to the holidays being in full swing in Paris and the fact that most of the collectors are now in the country or at the seaside with their families.

I trust that later in the year—when the holiday time is over, and before the close of the Franco-British Exhibition—we may be favoured with a visit from our French confrères, and I am sure that they may depend upon receiving a most friendly welcome.

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

Turkey.

TWO really fine stock books, including as they do the balance of the Mann and Breitfuss collections.

Most issues are well represented, and there are a number of rare errors, such as inverted overprints, stamps printed on the back, etc. etc. The stamps of which large remainders have recently been sold by the Turkish Government have been largely reduced in price.

Serbia.

Another strong stock book very complete, and including some of the rarest perforations. The 1 and 2 para of 1866 are an exceptionally fine lot, and include several uncut sheets of the twelve types and three used stamps, which are exceedingly rare thus, as the stamps were used on newspapers, and nearly always destroyed when the papers were opened.

Antigua, Bahamas, Nevis, and Seychelles.

A good book with all issues well represented. The Nevis are a fine lot, and include a number of uncut sheets, among which I notice the very rare 4d., orange, engraved, the 6d., lithographed, and a number of the 1d. and 1s. sheets.

Curaçao and Surinam.

A fairly good lot, but a lot of varieties are missing in the rarer perforations and in the rarest types of the "Unpaid" stamps.

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

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British Possessions in Asia—continued

Labuan—continued

1 January, 1907.

Provisional issue. 1902-3 series of Labuan, overprinted STRAITS SETTLEMENTS in small fancy serifed capitals, in two lines, in red, at the top of the stamp over the word LABUAN on the 1, 2, 3, 8, 25, 50 c. and \$1, and with a new denomination in tall, thin sans-serif capitals, in addition on the 12 c. in red, and on the 18 and 16 c. in black; also in one line in red on the 10 c. denomination. Surcharged in the local printing press at Victoria, Labuan, in complete sheets of 100; ten rows of ten, with control number in black in right-hand top corner. Figures in brackets indicate the total number of each stamp overprinted.

- 1 c., violet and black (6000).
- 2 c., green and black (4000).
- 3 c., brown and black (10,000).

- 4 c., in red, on 12 c., yellow and black (25,700).
- 4 c., in black, on 16 c., brown and green (28,200).
- 4 c., in black, on 18 c., pale brown and black (48,400).
- 8 c., vermilion and black (28,800).
- 10 c., slate and brown (41,700), straight surcharge in one line.
- 25 c., greenish blue and deep green (46,200).
- 50 c., lilac and purple (42,600).
- \$1, orange and brown (45,800).

Unlike most issues of surcharged stamps, the above does not contain many varieties, and only one of any real importance, showing that the overprinting was very carefully done and strictly supervised. The single major variety contained in this issue remained undetected for a considerable time after the stamp had been in use, but re-

cently fell a victim to the eagle eye of Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, whose aptitude for hunting out varieties is well known.

Variety.

The eighth and fifty-eighth stamps on the sheets of the 4 c. on 18 c. value of the above listed provisional issue have the full stop missing after the word CENTS.

No stop after CENTS.

4 c. on 18 c., pale brown and black.

Shade.

A few sheets of the 8 c. stamp have been discovered printed in an entirely different shade of brown from any in which this stamp had been previously known, the shade being a bright buff, almost approaching pale orange-yellow; in which shade the stamp is extremely scarce.

8 c., bright buff instead of yellow.

As was stated in the section of this work headed BRUNEI, the stamps surcharged as above are in entirely different shades, with the exception of the 1 c., from any in which these values had been previously issued or from those in which the stocks on hand at the British North Borneo Company's offices in London are printed, and consequently really dangerous forgeries of this issue cannot be made. "For this relief, much thanks!"

Unpaid Letter Stamps.

About July, 1901, the current series of North Borneo already overprinted LABUAN for use in that colony, were additionally surcharged POSTAGE DUE vertically in black, for use as Unpaid Letter stamps, the inscription reading up. There was really no necessity for the issue of these stamps, and the idea was only another excuse for getting money out of long-suffering stamp collectors, as is shown by the fact that stamps bearing this inscription, and supposed to be affixed by the postal authorities only, to letters upon which the postage was insufficiently prepaid, and upon which there was money to

collect, could be purchased by the general public upon application at any of the Labuan post offices, either unused or cancelled to order, at a fraction of their face value, whilst like the other issues of the island they were on sale to all and sundry at the Company's offices in London, until January, 1906, when a special order was issued by the British North Borneo Company prohibiting their sale to the public, and ordaining that they should only be affixed by the postal authorities themselves to letters upon which there was a charge to collect.

NOTE.—Most of the values are printed in different colours from those employed in printing the same stamps used in North Borneo.

July (?), 1901.

Regular pictorial series of North Borneo, 1897-1900, surcharged LABUAN, additionally overprinted POSTAGE DUE, in tall, thin sans-serif capitals, in one line, vertically, in black. Engraved, printed and overprinted by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, in London. Centres in second colours. No wmk. Perf. 12½, 15.

2 c., green and black (Roussa or Malay Stag, 1900).

3 c., ochre and black (Palm tree, 1897).

4 c., carmine and black (Orang-outang, 1900).

5 c., pale blue and black (Argus Pheasant, 1897).

6 c., deep brown and black (Badge of Company, 1897).

8 c., rose-red and black (Malay dhow, 1897).

12 c., vermilion and black (Crocodile, 1897).

18 c., olive-bistre and black (View of Mount Kini-Balou, 1897).

24 c., grey-lilac and blue (Arms of Conpany, 1897).

Error.

The 12 c. denomination of the above Postage Due series exists with the surcharge inverted, reading down instead of up, but I am not aware as to how many copies were found in this condition, or what position the error occupied upon the sheet from which it was taken.

Inverted overprint.

12 c., vermilion and black.

(To be continued.)

Notes of a Provincial Junior

By YOKEL

NOW, you favoured juniors of the London and other large societies, please be lenient with me, for I, a poor lone philatelist, am about to give you some experiences and opinions that may be contrary to your views. As far as my memory serves me, I started to collect stamps about 1886, and then, after two years, abandoned the pursuit till about 1897. Of course, as a schoolboy—which I was in 1886—I collected

everything in the shape of a postage stamp, and there is not the least doubt that one must collect stamps generally at first to be well-grounded in the intricacies of Philately.

The insight gained, if well learned, is never wasted, no matter how keen a specialist one becomes, especially if it teaches us to see good in another's bloated specialist collection. When, however, my collection was brought to light again (after my articles

were served and my exams passed), after a lapse of over ten years, my sympathies were in favour of British Colonials. I started to collect these generally, and have up to the present not collected anything outside their scope, although I have developed into a specialist (if I may presume to this title) of one or two groups.

I may remark here that used stamps are and always were my favourites, and that these notes are intended principally for collectors of used stamps. For a collector of moderate means, who devotes his attention to the older colonial issues, it is impossible to get together anything like a representative collection of unused stamps, and if used and unused are mixed there does not seem any harmony in the collection.

My first album, I remember, was an Oppen, but when I devoted all my attention to Colonials I bought Part I of the Imperial Postage Stamp Album, eighth edition.

I still make use of this album for some of my duplicates, and although I cannot pretend that it is in perfect condition, it is truly remarkable what a wonderful amount of wear and tear it has withstood for the last ten years.

I am perfectly convinced that it is impossible to purchase an album superior in arrangement and of such good quality. My album has a patent expanding clasp, and this is undoubtedly responsible for the wonderful way it has withstood the hard wear of ten years.

When, however, I devoted most of my attention to one or two groups of our colonies, of course the Imperial had to be partly abandoned for these stamps. I purchased one of Gibbons' Philatelic Albums, but as it is very bulky it was not exactly appreciated, although that is the chief complaint I have against it, except that friction is rather great in a weighty album of this class.

The Oriel Albums are, I believe, the best albums now on the market and are quite large enough.

Three or four years ago I bought a "Cistafile" for some of my stamps. Although it has several advantages it is not altogether a success. The chief advantages are that the cards are stiff and that a specially prepared transparent paper is attached to the front of each sheet, and this undoubtedly reduces friction to a minimum. In a Cistafile, however, the cards are vertical and are threaded on a bar running through the bottom of the case, and as the protecting sheet is gummed to the bottom of each card, this sheet has not to be turned down to half the extent that it would have to be in an album, where it would be necessary to attach it to the inside of the page and outside the linen joint, and it would, of course, be necessary to turn it quite back and even to hold it in

position when mounting stamps, as it would not be advisable to fold it back.

It will be seen that to carry out the idea of a protecting sheet to the front of an album page presents several difficulties, but I am sure Messrs. Stanley Gibbons will overcome them if it is possible.

I have started a collection of "used abroad," and am putting these stamps in my old Philatelic Album, which is doing yeoman service. I have even washed the old mounts off several pages, and it is wonderful how well the pages have recovered their freshness. When, however, I have as near as possible arranged the lines I shall ultimately collect on, I shall look out for an album similar to the "Facile Oriel," but I trust by that time it will have the protecting sheet on front.

Having reviewed the albums I have used, we will now proceed to the stamps they have contained.

In the first place, I have bought most of my best stamps from three or four London dealers and from two exchange clubs. For a general collector (even if only of Colonials) good exchange clubs form a happy hunting ground, but there are certain fine stamps (not rarities) that are never seen on their sheets, and of course any real bargains are snapped up by the secretary, who is generally a collector. I remember about ten years ago that an exchange club in the Midlands had a secretary who (if he was a philatelist) never bought stamps from the sheets, and till he retired this club was one of the best that I have been a member of.

Exchange clubs, however, are not so useful to a specialist. It is wonderful how the postages do tot up for exchange packets, and when packet after packet is seen, which does not contain one's wants, and purchases are made rather than send on the packet without buying anything—well, I am sure this is not an economical way to collect.

I am very fond of used pence Ceylon, and I have spent about £175 on these issues, but from I may say a hundred or so exchange packets I have bought but £5 worth of this amount.

There are two dealers in London who (although I am not a really good customer) very kindly send me their books, or small selections of these stamps as they buy them from time to time. Of course I supply them with my want list, and as they know the standard of my stamps, I am not troubled with selections I am not interested in.

With regard to auctions, I have of course bought several of my stamps at these now popular institutions. Here one is able to buy individual stamps at a fair price, but to buy mixed lots one is faced with the difficulty of disposing of the duplicates. This may of course be done by sending them to

exchange clubs, but unless the lots contain a fair proportion of stamps that one wants for his collection, it is generally advisable to leave these alone. In buying at auctions it is absolutely necessary to view the stamps before bidding, and when a provincial pays postage down and back to London, and, if he happens to be the purchaser, pays postage down again, it adds a fair percentage to the price paid, unless the buying is heavy, when of course it is infinitesimal.

Again, one is sometimes able to buy fine stamps from private collectors, but it is difficult to get into communication with them, and then it is often found that the prices paid are but little less than those charged by dealers; so after finding one good collection—after having had perhaps five from various sharks—the balance is on the wrong side.

Having seen the various sources by which we may get our stamps, we will consider the classes of selections that may be had.

I presume most collectors start with a good packet, and then branch out in various lines, not with any fixed purpose at first, but gradually making their way to some imaginable goal.

How this goal is reached, and the various methods by which it is reached, can only be told by each individual collector; but the temptations to divert from the straight path are numerous, and at the finish one often finds that his collection is but a motley array without cohesion, without he has had the strength of will to resist buying stamps which were outside the limits of his branch. It is necessary, therefore, to have selections suitable to one's requirements, and, as I have said before, it is advisable to get on good terms with one or two good dealers, and supply them with the want list of your pet country or countries.

I have never had much trouble to get the stock books of my favourite countries sent down by nearly all the best London dealers, and I am sure that for a collector who is anything of a specialist, this is the only method of getting a really representative lot together without burdening oneself with numerous duplicates. May I again remark that these are the views of a provincial who has never had the advantage of but one philatelic friend in his neighbourhood, and that my readers will make allowance for any local differences in their cases? When one has a selection on approval, it is sometimes difficult to decide which specimen to buy. It has always been my endeavour to collect only the finest specimens; but if this rule were carried out by all collectors, there would not be any sale for 90 per cent of stamps.

It must therefore be left to the individual opinion of each collector as to what class of

stamps he will collect. I always buy, when possible, a superb specimen which passes the following conditions: (1) It must be well centred, and if imperf. it must have margins *all* round; (2) it must be clear of postmark on the face or central design; (3) it must be of a good colour; (4) it must have corner perfs. nearly perfect—a stamp with rounded corners never looks well.

It is wonderful how few stamps of some countries pass the first test. Many stamps have good margins on two or even three sides, but to get them with fair margins all round is extremely difficult.

To meet test (2) it is necessary to pass over 99 per cent of certain stamps, but the odd 1 per cent pays for the trouble of finding. It is also better for the postmark to be at the back of the head, as the postmark in front of the nose has not a happy effect (it conjures up images of a fist).

The third and fourth tests are not so difficult.

It will be seen, however, that stamps which pass these four tests are really difficult to find, and are therefore worth a reasonably enhanced price.

If one has a fixed standard of condition, it is extremely difficult sometimes to resist the temptation to purchase an inferior copy, and if one often succumbs to the weakness, it is better to lower one's standard at once generally. One poor stamp on a page does not, as might be thought, emphasize the fine condition of the remainder.

Of course, each collector has to find by experience what countries are suited to his taste. Several countries have too many complicated varieties of perforations in their stamps; other countries have one or two rare stamps which exclude the collector from completing the country.

During the past five years I have devoted my attention principally to line-engraved stamps, and I will now proceed to give a few opinions as to the difficulty in obtaining certain specimens.

As pence Ceylon are my first favourites, I will take this country first. Any numbers mentioned in this article are those in S.G.'s 1908 Catalogue.

No. 1 Ceylon, 1d. blue on blue paper, is a very difficult stamp to obtain in fine condition, and the price as now quoted in the new Catalogue reflects its real value more truly than the previous edition did. It is more difficult to obtain than the 6d. claret on blue paper in similar condition.

The 1d. imperf. on white is found in three distinct shades—pale blue, dark blue, deep bright blue, and the two latter are scarcer. It is extremely difficult to obtain these stamps with fair margins all round; and this remark applies equally to all values of this issue.

I have a strip of five, and the stamps are

spaced not more than $\frac{3}{4}$ millimetre apart, and one space is less than $\frac{1}{2}$ millimetre. The die for these stamps was not placed to a level line on the plate, and in the above-named strip of five the stamps are stepped to the extent of 2 millimetres in the length of the strip of five. It will thus be seen how difficult it was to cut the stamps with margins all round, even if extreme care was taken.

A superb range of shades is met with in the 2d. imperf., and these stamps have a very handsome appearance.

I have a nice strip of five, which is very uncommon, and all pairs and strips are difficult to obtain in all the stamps of this issue, and blocks are extremely rare.

The 5d. imperf. is not a difficult stamp to obtain in fine condition in the ordinary shade, but there is a yellowish brown shade that is not so easy to find.

The 6d. claret, No. 9, is met with in several fine shades, and is not uncommon, but No. 10 is a very difficult stamp to obtain in fine condition in a true brown shade. The catalogue price of this stamp has been correctly raised, but it does not even now indicate the relative rarity with the claret shades.

The 8d. imperf. is not difficult to find at the present time, and is not more difficult to find than the 2s. in really fine condition. The 4d. rose imperf. is undoubtedly the great stumbling-block, and is rarely met with in really good condition.

No. 12 is met with in two distinct shades.

The 10d. imperf. is not an easy stamp to obtain with fine margins, whereas the colour is the chief difficulty one has to face in finding good specimens of the 1s. lilac imperf.

The 1s. 9d. imperf. is really more difficult to find used than unused, if one is very particular as to condition.

As I have before remarked, the 2s. value imperf. will take a lot of finding.

The two surface-printed $\frac{1}{2}$ d. lilac stamps, imperf., are not easily found used, and of the one on blue paper I have seen but few copies that reach my standard.

The issue of 1861, perforated, is the great drawback to the beauty of a collection of pence Ceylon.

This issue was printed from the same plate as the imperf. issue, and, as I have remarked, the stamps were printed very close together. When, therefore, the stamps were perforated, the perforations in many cases cut into the design of the stamp, even when well centred. But as the perforations as a rule were not regularly spaced, many stamps are too poor. This remark applies more particularly to the rectangular designs.

All the stamps in this issue are difficult to obtain with real clean-cut perforations on all sides, except the 5d., 8d., and 1s. values. Nos. 22, 23a, and 28 are rarely met with,

and No. 25 is not by any means common with real clean-cut perforations all round.

Nos. 34, 36, 40, 41, and 42 are the most difficult stamps to find rough perf., and No. 38 is the one presenting the least trouble to find.

In the "no wmk." issue of 1862, Nos. 46, 47, and 52 present the most difficulty. The prices in the Catalogue seem to reflect the relative rarity of stamps of this issue.

No. 53 in the Catalogue is described as orange. As this stamp is very like No. 40 orange-vermilion, and differs considerably from No. 72 orange, it is often mistaken for No. 73 orange-red, as it is perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$, and the wmk. is not very clear.

The 10d. orange-red, No. 53a, is really a dark shade of the ordinary variety and is not readily found.

We now come to the wmk. Crown C C issue. There are two stamps in this issue that are really hard to find, and the collector is fortunate who finds superb copies of No. 59, 2d. emerald-green, and more especially No. 60, 2d. yellow-green, which is really rare.

No. 54, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. lilac, is, like all lilac stamps, not easy to find, as these stamps are very sensitive to light; besides, the obliterations are more heavy on these stamps than is usual in Ceylon stamps. No. 58 is found in a shade which has a bluish tinge, and is a really scarce stamp.

The maize, No. 62, is more difficult to find than the yellow shades. No. 64, 5d. purple-brown, is often met with in fine condition, but 65a and 66 are not easy to find.

There are various shades of the 6d., but the only one that calls for comment is a red-brown shade, which, although uncommon in used condition, is the one most often met with unused. In the 9d. value there is a bistre shade that is rather difficult to obtain.

No. 73, orange-red, is a distinct shade, and must not be confused with the deep shades of the 10d. orange, No. 72. The 2s. is rather difficult to obtain with light cancellations.

I have given my experience as to difficulties I have had to obtain certain specimens. It is sometimes found, however, in looking through one dealer's stock book, that a certain variety is not represented by a single copy, whereas another dealer may have three or four fine copies of what one had considered a "difficult" stamp.

I have confined my attention in Ceylon to the pence issues, which are practically all line-engraved.

A very fine used collection of these issues can be obtained for £250, and I am sure that, if well arranged, the collection will form one of the most handsome parts of a collection.

Overprints and Surcharges—*continued*

By CHARLES S. QUENTON

WE have never felt any confidence in the "On Service" stamps of Ceylon, especially the King's issue, which are catalogued at good prices, since the type of surcharge (known as "De Vinne") is in very common use, and presents no difficulty whatever to the would-be imitator. When, as in the recent forgery case at Brighton, we see an amateur, with an amateur press and amateur matrices, producing what must be pronounced as very good forgeries since they deceived so many people, some peculiarity akin to a "secret mark" should be introduced into the type of surcharges as a preventative to forgery. There are not many types that could be taken from a type-founder's specimen-book that could provide these "secret marks," but many founts provide alternative letters, and by a studied arrangement of these, not once on a sheet but in single stamps, some protection could be given to the philatelist, if not indeed to the revenue. Something of what we mean is seen in the 1895 issue of Natal, where eight varieties, or combinations of varieties, occur in the word POSTAGE. Again, there is the well-known second printing with the peculiar "M" of the Admiralty and Army Official overprints of our own stamps, and the peculiar large-top "F" in the Army Official which occurred on the stamp just above the central letter in the earlier halfpenny and penny sheets. Even a mixture of two somewhat similar founts of type—what Gibbons terms "Antique" (really "old style") with "Roman" (i.e. "Modern") in the Siam surcharges—or as is seen in the ONE CENT on 2, 4, 6, 8, 12 cents Straits Settlements (Nos. 79-83)—would safeguard against imitation. But an engraved surcharge is really the most effective. The Canadian two cents of 1899 (S.G. Type 33) "shows considerable variation," we are told; the stamp is not worth forging probably, but as these variations are known to exist, forgery becomes more difficult. Surcharges that are double, that are omitted wholly or in part, that are inverted, etc., affect another branch of the printing trade, and their existence is not easily explained. We all know *how* they are made, but *why* they are allowed to exist and to pass current is never satisfactorily explained.

There are other varieties of surcharge more arbitrary in character even than the printer's. These are the surcharges made "on the counter" by the postmaster, and made also "on demand." His office in

these times is no sinecure where speculators exist, for the demand is not limited by the supply, but by the postmaster's patience, or his sense of propriety. These surcharges are manuscript, initialled or not; the Trinidad pennies of 1892 are not initialled, but the British East African provisionals of 1891 are. These surcharges are perhaps the most dangerous of any surcharges from a philatelist's point of view, for when the value averages £7 a stamp, as the East African, the stamps have to be very carefully watched when they come on the market. Then there are the rubber-stamp surcharges, naturally in violet ink, as this colour seems inseparable from rubber; and those handstamped with metal type, "one stamp at a time," as the catalogues rather unnecessarily inform us, supposing the reader might imagine he did a whole sheet at one punch. There exists a variety in this last method, where the stamp is cut diagonally and then surcharged. We remember seeing a lot (comparatively) of the Falkland Islands halfpenny on half of the penny (S.G. No. 11) and were under the impression, at the time, that the surcharges were the result of an act of brigandage, that the postmaster was blindfolded, and surcharged the various halves not only twice, but three times, upside down, across the cut, and, generally speaking, anywhere. Colonial postmasters should be collectors, for their "uncatalogued varieties" will add to their pensions one day. It might be an instruction to colonial postmasters of the future to provide themselves with typewriters, for whereas we have the typewritten stamps of Uganda, we have no typewritten surcharges yet; but we imagine they will come, as the process would be an easy one.

In conclusion, we should like to remark on the letters in a surcharge that are convertible by breakages or damage into others. Most of these will be found listed in the "errors" of various countries, so need no further particularizing:—

B	R	made into	P
E		"	F
G		"	C
L		"	I
O		"	C
P		"	F
Q		"	O

In addition to these, the letter "I" and the figure "1" are alternative characters, and the capital "O" and the figure "o," both Roman and italic.

The Question of £ s. d. as applied to Philately

By R. E. R. DALWIGK

WHILE sauntering leisurely round the hall at the Juniors' recent exhibition of British Colonial stamps, I was particularly interested in the conversation of two collectors. Quoth number one: "By Jove, what a grand collection of Cape triangulars!" But it was number two who made the statement about which I should like to say a few words. The reply of this individual to his comrade's remark was somewhat as follows: "It's all very fine saying what a fine collection, but then the chap who owns those stamps has plenty of money, and it means simply going to a dealer and buying whatever you may require. Stamp collection is all right for rich people, but with my small amount of spare cash it's useless trying to get a decent collection together."

H'm! Rather a dismal way of looking at the situation.

Well, now, let us consider the full meaning of this—too common—statement. *Is* it necessary to be wealthy in order to get enjoyment out of the hobby; is there no chance for the man of small means; is the Great Mogul to dominate all things, and leave his poorer friends out in the cold? I think not.

Our friend in making the above statement overlooked one *very* important point, namely, that Cape triangulars are very rare, and are of course beyond his reach: but are there not *cheaper* countries which appeal to impecunious philatelists? It is obvious that triangular Capes, early Mauritius or British Guiana stamps are only for the fortunate minority; but then, why give up collecting? Surely such an excuse is feeble in the extreme. If the collector would only learn to choose a country which suits his means, why should he not be able to get a specialized collection as good—in *its way*—as a specialized collection of a more highly priced country or district? It is not necessary—in fact, it is quite useless—to grumble because you cannot touch certain countries; all the rarities in their infancy were cheap, so why should not some of our present-day countries turn out to be as valuable in the future as Mauritius and other famous districts?

It has always been a source of wonder to me why collectors invariably take up a country which is generally both beyond their experience and means. Surely a small

country complete is better than a large one incomplete.

Those collectors who imagine that all small and cheap countries can be bought complete—if sufficient capital is available—would do well to try their luck in the stamps of the Cayman Islands. The reason I mention Cayman Islands is because I do not doubt that these stamps will require hard searching, although the rarest regular issued stamp is only catalogued at 10s. I was "doing" some of the leading London dealers a few days ago, and I was quite amazed at the scarcity of Cayman stamps, most of the dealers having no stamps whatever, whilst those who did have anything to show—well, at the best it wasn't much!

I have taken the Cayman Islands for my example simply because they are a modern, cheap, and very small stamp-issuing dependency, and yet they afford the small specialist as much keen interest as does Mauritius the Great Mogul! In talking about Cayman Islands stamps, don't imagine you'll get the islands complete in singles, pairs, etc., at the first shop you enter, because you won't. I very much doubt if a representative collection is to be got together by those starting *now*—at least for the moment.

This little example ought to illustrate the point I am endeavouring to drive home, namely, that a small district may afford as much amusement as a larger one, and at the same time keep one within reasonable bounds. Do not be disheartened or put off your purpose simply because such-and-such a country is beyond your grasp; old issues are all very well and grand in their way, but would it not be almost a treat to see some new countries, new issues, new novelties? It would, at any rate, be a change from the ever-popular old stamps, old countries, all so nice to look at, but as far out of *our* reach as the Cullinan diamond!

If you have only a small amount of stamp-money, set to and make a new country look attractive and interesting; and when you are once an old man—well, then your "new" will have become an old and "seasoned" district, and your small outlay will have multiplied considerably if you have made a sensible choice.

A good round yearly income is very welcome; but if you haven't got it, what's the use of being discontented? You can always

buy stamps very cheap if advertisements in various papers are regularly watched, and then you always have the satisfaction of knowing that your stamp is a bargain; whilst your wealthy friend has to pay double, as he usually does not bother to look out for what he wants in cheap circles, but

obtains it elsewhere at a considerably higher quotation.

Moral: Don't give up collecting on account of the £ s. d. question, but stick to your stamps, and in the end you won't regret it. Remember the saying, "Once a collector always a collector."

The Arms on the Stamps of Württemberg

By NORMAN THORNTON

THE first issues, bearing the arms of the kingdom, being embossed, it is difficult to distinguish the device, and the student of Philately usually wants to know just what is depicted upon his stamps, and why.



In 1817 King William of Württemberg simplified the arms of the kingdom, the proper arms of the royal house having become too complicated through additions at various times. The arms now consist of an oval shield divided into two parts or fields, surrounded by a wreath of oak leaves, in gold, surmounted by a gold helmet bearing a royal crown.

The two fields are:—
On the right, for Württemberg, three stags' antlers, in black, placed one upon the other, on a golden field; the two upper antlers have each four points, the lower one but three. These are the original arms of the Counts of Württemberg, and have reference to their office of Hereditary Grand Huntsman.

On the left, for Swabia, three black lions, one above the other, also on a golden field; the lions have their tongues hanging out of their mouths, and their right paws are raised. These are the three lions of Hohenstauffen, and were only added to the arms of Württemberg in 1806 by King Frederick, in memory of the famous family of Hohenstauffen, which in former times occupied the country which now forms Württemberg.

The supporters of the shield are, on the right, a black lion bearing a golden crown; and on the left, a golden stag. The proper colours for the ribbon bearing the motto are purple with a black reverse, and the motto itself, in gold letters, reads "Furchtloss und treie," i.e. "Fearless and true."

Dear Mrs. Toddles Talks to her Philatelic Lodger

By W. WARD

"LOOK 'ere, young man," said dear Mrs. Toddles the other day to one of her lodgers who collects stamps—"look 'ere, young man, I'm about tired of your messin' my best front parlor with them there bits o' paper what you call furrin stamps, an' what are no earthly use whatever, sin' they are old ones. When you have gone to your fillytelic meetings, dear Mrs. Jones next door comes in, sort of ter keep me company an' hev' a drop o' g—tea. She being a perfect laidy, I has ter take 'er into my best parlor. An' 'ere you goes an' 'as basins of water on the sideboard, and your thingomejigs laid all wet on pieces of that there blotting paper, all over me beootiful mankelpiece, wot my pore

dear 'usband painted with his very own 'ands. 'Ere's you, a young feller-me-lad, a-wasting your time with bits o' useless paper when you might be a-courting a nice young woman—though they aren't so substantial as in my day. My pore dear 'usband used to tell me how he met me, one morning, wiv' my 'air done up tidy-like. In these 'ere days young women goes about in the morning wiv' their 'air in these 'ere new-fangled curlin' tongs. An' when they 'as a young man ter meet, they does their 'air up speshul about 'arf a yard 'igher than their nose. 'Ere's a nice young man like you a-getting on in age—of course this is sort of confidently between you an' me, and you needn't tell that there stuck-

up boarder wot k'lects butterflies and them other 'orrid things, in the next room. Yes, you's a-getting on, and you might be thinking about some particular feminine instead o' wasting your spendin' brass on bits of sticky paper wot's no good to any one except you and that there black 'aired felly wot comes to see you every Sunday when you oughter be at church. I always 'as a mess of a Monday morning, wot wiv' bits o' paper wot you a-calls mounts a-sticking to me fumbs an' fingers, an' them there filly-telic papers a-littering up my red-and-green bookcase, wot my pore dear 'usband' a-made just arter we were married—they was days—afore he started a-going to that there club wot's a perfect wickedness for any young man who's got a wife a-crying her eyes out at home. Then there's that there

pair of sugar-tongs wot yer 'olds ther' stamps wiv' for a-fear of messing them—wot yer might put in yer bottom drawer until yer are promised to some sensible young woman wot'll put her feet down an stop yer wasting good 'ard-earned money. If yer ever gets inter decent kumpany o' sensible men and women—like me—keep yer mouth shut and don't let them know yer messes about wiv' bits of old used-up furrin stamps, or they'll think you're a bit dotty-like. There's that front top-room lodger's bell again, an' me a-getting over fifty years of age tramping upstairs for 'im. Anyhow, mind what I tells yer, an' if yer 'aven't sense to find a nice young woman, don't mess my front parlor up and make me ashamed when I asks Mrs. Jones to come and have a cup o' tea wiv' me!"

Some Random Remarks

By PAUL HOWARD

Ceylon Service Stamps

IT is common belief that forgeries abound among King's Head Ceylon Service stamps, but the number of people who can detect one of these forged stamps at sight seems to be very limited, and it would be interesting to know how many of the forgery collections of Great Britain contain a copy. From time to time, during the last three or four years, I have possessed several dozen copies of the 2, 3, 15, and 30 c., but have not yet come across a spurious overprint; also, I have corresponded with a collector fresh from Ceylon who had never heard of forgeries. In years to come it will probably be found that forgeries are scarcer than they are thought to be.

Belgium "Sunday" Stamps

These are a bit scarcer to find with the label attached than they used to be. When you come to think of it, the label only holds good on Saturdays; throughout the rest of the week it has no meaning. On other days the temptation is apparently great either to tear off the label or to strike it through with a pencil; judging from the increasing number of copies thus treated, these two practices seem to be gaining ground.

Most collectors of course prefer the variety that bears a label. In some quarters the stamp, when minus its lower half, is viewed as being only half a stamp. Yet these "half-stamps" seem to be by far the more numerous, and they are gradually becoming something of a puzzle to those who have them to sell. What is to be done, for example, with a 1 franc Belgium of the current issue when its label is struck through with a pencil-mark? As it stands it seems a dis-

figured stamp, yet to tear away the label altogether would make it practically unsaleable on a club sheet. Multitudes of the current 10, 20, 25, and 35 c. values exist without the label—probably from five to ten times the quantity that are postmarked whole. Here is a class of stamps that seem to have no definite value, since the catalogue quotation is apparently, in every case, for a whole stamp.

But I fancy I have made a discovery. The two halves of each stamp of the 1893 issue were evidently not intended to be separated; only when the label is attached has the stamp the appearance of a perfect whole. Remove the label and at once there is a sense of something missing, something a trifle unsightly and incomplete. But this is not the case with the new issue.

The stamps now in use bear the engraver's name beneath the *upper half* of the stamp—not beneath the label; this might be taken to mean that the stamp proper ends where the label begins. Thus the stamp may be viewed as entire even when shorn of its label. The current 35 c., as an illustration, certainly looks well—it looks as if the engraver had *meant* it to look well—without the label. It has an air of completeness about it which the upper halves of the 1893 issue never possessed, and this air of finish may perhaps be intentional. The growing tendency to tear off the label may have been in the engraver's mind at the time, leading him to design a stamp that would look as well without the label as with it.

The illustrations in the Catalogue (page 46) seem to favour this view: the old varieties are there depicted as disintegrable, but the new issue is illustrated each with a blank

space between stamp and label. I should say that the upper half is the stamp proper, the label beneath being simply an accommodation which the user may, or may not, take advantage of, and which a philatelist is at liberty to disregard if he chooses. I beg to submit that the seven stamps of the new

set should on this account be equally acceptable to a collector whether bearing labels or otherwise. When clean they make a pretty row across the page—seven framed portraits, each complete in itself without any necessity for an appendage.

Foreign Correspondence

A Chatty Letter from the Philippine Islands

By L. GREGRIO

MANILA, P.I.

AFTER nearly ten years' absence, I am again at home. When I left, the country was upset with the American War. Matters are much more settled now, and affairs seem upon the advance. There are still several sections of the people who do not take kindly to the Yankee rule—notably the extreme Catholic section. However, speaking broadly, we are much better off now than when we had to put up with Spanish officialdom.

Comparatively speaking, there is very little stamp collecting done here from a philatelic point of view. There are, on the other hand, a multitude of persons engaged in collecting stamps of the East Indies in quantities, which they send to Hong Kong, Europe, or the United States. To a much greater extent is this done in Hong Kong. During my short stay in the latter place I was interested with the great number of Chinese stamp dealers. Hong Kong is a cosmopolitan island, and its inhabitants include people from all parts of the world. Then, again, the gambling dens in Macao, the Portuguese colony on the mainland opposite, are responsible for so many varied races.

Whilst in Hong Kong I tried to get some high values of this British Possession, but they are scarcer to get than anywhere else. There has been a big bother in the post office there. It appears that some of the dealers have been selling lightly cancelled copies of the higher-value stamps to the assistants in several of the smaller branch post offices. These officials have stuck them upon letters for the customers and postmarked them again. A well-known Hong Kong dealer, Mr. Ellis, had noticed for some time that many of his higher-value Kongese stamps bore two different obliterations of different offices and dates. He informed the chief postmaster, and showed him a number of such instances of double-postmarked stamps, with the result that several of these wily Chinese have been detected and punished, it being an easy matter to trace the offending office from the latest date postmark.

Another dodge that has evidently proved a source of profit is the cleaning of rubber-stamp cancellations off the new revenue and postal stamps of the Straits Settlements. The mode for doing this is remarkably simple. The stamps being printed in fugitive colours naturally prevents any tampering with the design. "Johnnie" does not even trouble to attempt any erasure: he just leaves the stamps in the sun for a few days, and lo! their cancellations disappear. In case the original colour is just a little faded, he soon restores with a liquid preparation he has. But he cannot replace the original gum.

Both in Manila and Hong Kong a big trade is done with the incoming European and American visitors. Enormous quantities of Japanese "fakes," tea and fiscal stamps, must be sold to innocent collectors. These are mounted attractively upon sheets of tissue paper, and I doubt whether there are half a dozen genuine postage stamps included, and those of the commonest kind.

Reverting back to home, most of the higher values of our stamps are hard to get, we rarely seeing many other sorts than the 2, 4, and 10 centavos of the current stamps. The old Spanish stamps seem to be hard to get now, and most of the better-value surcharged American stamps have long since found their way across to the United States, where there is a big demand. Public opinion would like a full set of Filipino stamps. Filipinos do not appreciate a long list of Yankee and Spanish celebrities. The 2 centavo portrait of poor Rizal soothes the feelings of the Nationalists to some extent. Most of us hope that we shall be free some day like Cuba.

Collectors should take great care not to crease our stamps, as they are printed on very bad paper, and crack right across when doubled. The gum used is also very thick and of bad quality, but, on the other hand, easy to detach. The best stamps suited for our climate are the British, Dutch (Javan stamps, by the way, being very common here), and Japanese, since they have a thin but strong-holding adhesive matter.

On 1 October next we shall have the new

rate of postage to Great Britain and her colonies, 4 centavos. This will make a big difference, and the higher-value stamps received from Hong Kong, which, together with Singapore, are our chief trading centres with Manila. It will also see a lessening of the 5 c. value of the former country—a stamp, I believe, by no means common in Europe, but plentifully used on correspondence received here.

The reduction will also apply to those ports in China in which Great Britain maintains a branch post office. Among the larger towns served by the British Post Office are Port Edward, Wei-Hai-Wei, Chefoo, Shanghai, Liu-Kung-Tau, Ningpo, and Foochow, all in the Chinese Empire proper. The stamps from these ports are easily distinguished by their round, oval, or square named and dated postmarks. The stamps chiefly used are the 2, 4, 5, 10, and 20 c. Hong Kong. A big commercial and banking business is done between all these ports and Manila, besides the United States. The latter Government maintain a receiving and forwarding depôt at Shanghai. Numbers of U.S.A. stamps postmarked Yokohama, etc., Japan, are to be found over here. These are used on letters from the U.S. vessels in the China and Japan seas, the mails being forwarded to Japan for transmission. Evidently the U.S. Government are under some

agreement with Japan, for none of the packets are restamped with Japanese franks or surcharged for postage due.

Japanese stamps without any surcharge are now coming across from Corea, being just cancelled with a large round violet postmark containing the words "Chemulpo—Corea," and the date is 15.4.08, but without any Japanese or Corean inscription whatever. All the Japanese post offices in China use similar obliterations without any native characters.

I hear that China is on the eve of having a new set of postage stamps. If so, we can rely upon having stamps worthy of this great nation and its four hundred odd millions of people. The new 3 c., all red, and 4 c., purple, of Straits Settlements are to hand. It will be very likely that the 3 c., brown, and 4 c., black and red, of the Malay States Federation are changed to red and brown respectively, for the Straits dollar is used there as well. Mentioning the Settlements reminds me that a short time ago a native was imprisoned at Singapore for tearing a small piece off stamps where the obliterator had only just caught, and using them again.

I miss the companionship of many of my English stamp-collecting friends here—a friendship that helped to keep me from feeling homesick during those long, rainy, dismal days of the past nine and a half years.

New Issues and Discoveries

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.

Argentine Republic.—We have received a third value, a 15 c., of the new set, of which the first two values were chronicled in February last.



7*

JULY, 1908. Type 72. Wmk. "Sun," Type 67.

Perf. 13, 1½.

18815 c., light yellow-green.

Dutch Indies.—We quote as follows from *Even's Weekly Stamp News* (15.8.08):—

"A little over a year ago (*E. W. S. N.*, No. 402) we quoted as follows from the *Java Bode* ('Java Mercury'): 'In a few months special stamps are to be issued in Java and Madura.

The Dutch Indies stamps sold at these offices will bear the surcharge JAVA or MADURA. The stamps in use in the other islands (Sumatra, Borneo, Celebes, etc.) will on the other hand remain as at present without surcharge.'

"During the last fortnight these surcharged stamps have begun to come over, but the second set is overprinted BUITEN BEZIT instead of MADURA. These two words are Dutch for 'outlying territory.'

"The earliest date of use of the new stamps is reported by Mr. R. Kingma, Editor of the *Postzegelnieuws*, who tells us he has the 10 c. Java postmarked 'Soerabaja, 20.6.08.'

"Mr. A. Chippindale sends us the first specimens for inspection, both of the Java and the Buiten Bezit set.

"Mr. O. Marsh informs us that he has had the Java 2½ c. used on piece with an unsurcharged 25 c., so that presumably the latter have not been demonetized and any that were not surcharged are being used up, so that there will be no remainders."

We ourselves have received some values, and are able to give correct illustrations below.



10



11



13

J A V A.

14

JUNE, 1908. Types 10 ($\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 5 c.), 11 (10 c. to 50 c.), and 12, surcharged in black.

(i.) As Type 14, horizontally; for use in Java and Madura.

120	$\frac{1}{2}$ c., mauve.
121	1 c., olive-green.
122	2 c., brown.
123	$2\frac{1}{2}$ c., green.
124	3 c., orange.
125	5 c., rose.
127	10 c., dull blue.
128	$12\frac{1}{2}$ c., deep blue.
129	15 c., brown.
131	20 c., olive.
133	25 c., mauve.
134	30 c., chestnut.
135	50 c., lake-brown.
136	1 g., dull lilac.

B U I T E N

B E Z I T .

15

(ii.) As Type 15, vertically upwards. Space between two lines of surcharge 13 mm. on $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 15 c., and 10 mm. on other values. For use in the remaining islands of the Dutch Indies, other than Java and Madura.

140	$\frac{1}{2}$ c., mauve.
141	1 c., olive-green.
142	2 c., brown.
143	$2\frac{1}{2}$ c., green.
144	3 c., orange.
145	5 c., rose.
147	10 c., dull blue.
148	$12\frac{1}{2}$ c., deep blue.
149	15 c., brown.
151	20 c., olive.
153	25 c., mauve.
154	30 c., chestnut.
155	50 c., lake-brown.
156	1 g., dull lilac.

Italian P.O.'s in the Levant.—Signor Glavany tells us that there is to be a fourth issue of surcharged stamps during the next few days (we have only listed two, as we condemned the first "issue" as unissued to the public; see *G.S.W.*, 11 July, page 28). The issue will consist of the

following values, which will be surcharged in the quantities given:—

100,000	each of 10, 20, and 30 paras.
50,000	" 1 and 2 piastre.
5,000	" 4 and 20 piastres.

In addition to the above it is rumoured that there will be 5000 8 piastres on 2 lire. The 30 paras has already been issued.

It is a scandal that these speculative issues should be allowed to continue; they are manipulated by a small ring of speculators with the connivance of the postal officials, and we are obliged to catalogue the rubbish as they take good care that a few copies be sold to the public, and used in a legitimate manner.

30 PARA

8ac

AUGUST, 1908. Contemporary stamps of Italy, surcharged in red.

(iii.) Local surcharge. Type 8ac.

844/36 par. on 15 c., slate.

New South Wales.—Mr. Jon. Dixon has shown us a 6d., on the Victoria paper, in orange-yellow instead of in orange. He states that this stamp is not a faded specimen, but a true shade, as he bought a quantity from the Post Office last year when they were current.



40



58

JULY-AUG., 1907. Wmk. Crown and Δ , Type 58.

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

483a/406d., orange-yellow.

Uruguay.—We have been shown a minor variety of the 7 c., brown, of the 1906-7 issue, No. 293 of the Catalogue. The variety consists in a small, slightly diagonal white hyphen joining the "L" and "1" of REPUBLICA. Of course, this variety is not of sufficient importance to include in our Catalogue.

Victoria.—According to *The Australian Philatelist* (1.7.08), the 4d. Postage Due has been issued on Crown and A paper.



111

1908. Type 111. Wmk. Crown and Δ (Type 77).

Perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ or $12 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

536a/1 4d., rosine and yellow-green.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 11
Whole No. 193

12 SEPTEMBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Germany

(Thurn and Taxis, North German Confederation, and German Empire)



GERMANY, from the Latin *Germania*, is the English name of the country which the natives call *Deutschland* (by derivation "Fatherland"), and the French *Allemagne*. It occupies the central portion of Europe, is a region of high historic renown and great political importance, and until 1866 was of much greater extent. Germany is still the third country in Europe with regard to size, but the name is now

confined to the German Empire constituted 16 April, 1871, in consequence of the military struggle between France and Germany. This is a strong Confederation of twenty-six sovereign States, each possessing its own independent form of government, but, for the common affairs of the Empire, all subordinate to the central Government.

Though the present Empire is the successor of the old German or Holy Roman

Empire, it is essentially different. Germany was included in the vast dominions of Charlemagne, who was crowned, by the hands of the Pope, Emperor of the West in the year 800. With him began the long line of Emperors of Germany, extending through a thousand years, or till the commencement of the last century. After the extinction of his line the throne was filled by election, first by the vote of all the princes and great nobles, but later by the choice of a limited number of princes, who were called Electors. This great Empire at one time included the territory of the present Empire (with the exception of the north-eastern provinces), the remaining States of Central Europe, Switzerland, Belgium, and the Netherlands. In time it became split up into many hundred powerless fragments—temporal and spiritual principalities, free cities, even imperial villages—scarcely held together in a nominal Empire. Only two of these practically independent little States attained any real importance. One of these grew into the Austrian Duchy in the south-east, with the Habsburgs for rulers; the other was the State of the Hohenzollerns, which spread until it occupied, as Prussia, the whole of the north-east of the German Plain.

The power of the great Napoleon brought the old German Empire to an end in 1806. Napoleon's victories and the defection of subordinate princes to him induced Francis II to resign the German crown and assume the title simply of Francis I, Emperor of Austria. Then followed the short-lived "Confederation of the Rhine," in which those States were included whose rulers were subservient to the views of France. This was succeeded by the feeble "Germanic Confederation," consisting of the minor Powers, with Austria and Prussia at their head, which lasted from 1815 to 1866. This union terminated with the war of 1866, which was really a struggle between Prussia and Austria for the leadership of the Confederation, and led to the definite withdrawal of Austria. Thus the way was prepared for the new German Empire, under the leadership of Prussia, which was founded after the united forces of the German States defeated the French attack in 1870. William I of Prussia was constituted Emperor, and the imperial dignity was made hereditary in his family, the House of Hohenzollern.

The States composing the Empire consist of four kingdoms (Prussia, Bavaria, Saxony, and Württemberg); seven Grand-Duchies (Baden, Hesse, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Saxe-Weimar, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and Oldenburg); five Duchies, seven Principalities, the three free towns of Lubeck, Bremen, and Hamburg, and Alsace-Lorraine. They may be distinguished into North German and South German as the course of their de-

velopment was affected by one or the other of the great commercial areas of Central Europe—the northern depending on maritime trade, the southern on trade over the Alps or by the Danube.

The total area is 208,780 square miles, and the population in 1905 numbered 60,641,278.

It were idle here to attempt anything like a description of the physical or political features of the country; they are probably very well known to every reader of this magazine. Germany stands almost as a synonym for industrial and commercial progress. The "Made in Germany" is, alas! far too frequently to be met with in England, and in commercial competition abroad Germany is also a formidable rival.

The commerce of the Empire is under the administration and guidance of special laws and rules, emanating from the Zollverein or Customs Union. Since 1879 Germany has been protectionist in her commercial policy, and the duties levied in 1906 amounted to 18 per cent of the value of the imports subject to duty. The total imports in 1906 were about £400,000,000, the chief items being agricultural and animal products, raw minerals, and textile substances. The exports for the same period were about £330,000,000, of which Great Britain took 10 per cent. The chief exports are sugar, hardware, aniline dyes, and manufactured fabrics. The chief ports for commercial intercourse are Hamburg and Bremen, and the merchant fleet is second only to that of the United Kingdom amongst European States.

Germany supports nine-tenths of her population by her own produce, but is becoming more and more a manufacturing country.

The German is not so quick and versatile as the people of the warmer countries of the South, but his inclement winters have given him a regard for the domestic hearth, fostered the family sentiment, encouraged a depth of feeling and habits of contemplation, led to a love for reading and thinking, and to the cultivation of science. Compulsory attendance at school and military service have exercised a most salutary influence on the intellectual and physical life of the nation. Education is on a very high footing, and great attention is paid to continuation schools.

The railway system is one of the largest in the world, and there is scarcely a point in the Empire which cannot be reached within twenty-four hours from Berlin. Most of the systems are owned by the Imperial or State Government. In addition to the railways, internal communication is carried on by means of navigable rivers and a fine system of canals.

Germany being one of the Great Powers, and having very long frontiers, has to main-

tain a large army. Latterly great efforts are being made to increase the navy, and a big building programme is laid down.

Postal matters are conducted with the efficiency displayed in other branches of public convenience, and the authorities set other countries a good example by the maintenance of an admirable postal museum and official collection. Accounts of these have appeared in our publishers' magazine from time to time, but amongst other treasures the collection possesses may be mentioned the two "Post Office" Mauritius.

Philatelic History

The most interesting philatelic history attaches to those States which issued particular stamps. Those of the German Empire and the other groups mentioned in the title are all common used and, with some exceptions, not very difficult or expensive to obtain unused.

In dealing with Germany it has been thought convenient to deal with the stamps of Thurn and Taxis and the North German Confederation at the same time. These cannot be allocated to any particular State, and as they were the precursors of the German Empire stamps they come in very well here. This is generally the method adopted in describing these groups, and especially by the late Mr. W. A. S. Westoby, in his admirable work on the *Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe*. His explanation is so clear that one cannot do better than give it *in extenso*.

In the seventeenth century the postal service of the whole of Germany was a monopoly in the hands of the Princes of Thurn and Taxis, but the wars of the French Revolution, followed by those of the First Empire, so dislocated the service that Austria, Baden, Bavaria, Brunswick, Hanover, Luxemburg, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Oldenburg, Prussia, and Saxony withdrew, or purchased their freedom, and formed their own postal administrations. Wurtemberg purchased its freedom in March, 1851, for something over £100,000, when the postal service of the Thurn and Taxis office became confined to those parts of North Germany comprised in the Electorate of Hesse, the Principalities of Reuss, Schwarzburg-Sondershausen, Waldeck, and Lippe, the Grand Duchy of Saxe-Weimar, the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Strelitz down to 1864, and the Hanseatic

towns of Hamburg, Bremen, and Lubeck, in each of which there was an office. In South Germany its monopoly extended to the Grand Duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt, the Principalities of Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, the Duchies of Nassau, Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Saxe-Altenburg, and Saxe-Meiningen, the Landgraviat of Hesse-Homburg, and the town of Frankfurt-on-the-Main.

The North German Confederation was formed in 1866, its policy being directed by a Parliament composed of members from Prussia and twenty-one other German States, which met from time to time at Berlin. In the early part of 1867, Prussia purchased from the Prince of Thurn and Taxis the remainder of the monopoly of the postal service throughout Germany and from 1 July, 1867, and carried it on till the end of that year, when the whole service throughout Germany was merged by the Confederation into one general administration, with its centre in Berlin, with the exception of Baden, Bavaria, and Wurtemberg, which continued to preserve their separate administrations though, after the re-establishment of the German Empire on January 1, 1871, that of Baden ceased to exist, and was absorbed in that of the Empire.*

It might be considered more logical to place the stamps of Thurn and Taxis under a separate heading, as has been done with those of the German States that were merged into those of the North German Confederation, or the Empire; but as the service extended to several States in North and South Germany they are not localized, and have been usually placed under the head of Germany, and it is perhaps better to conform to custom.

The postage-stamp history of Germany will therefore be considered under the following heads:

1. *The Stamps of the Thurn and Taxis Post Office*, from the time of their first issue, on 1 January, 1852, down to the purchase of it by Prussia in 1867, when, on 30 June of that year, the stamps were withdrawn and ceased to be issued.
2. *The Stamps of the North German Confederation*, issued 1 January, 1868.
3. *The Stamps of the German Empire*, issued at the end of 1871, and which superseded those of the North German Confederation.

It will be seen that this arrangement leaves a hiatus between 30 June, 1867, and 1 January, 1868, during which time the service was conducted by a special issue of Prussia, for the particulars of which reference must be made to the stamps of that country.

* Wurtemberg has since relinquished its separate postal establishment, viz. from 1 April, 1902.—W. P. B.

(To be continued.)

Topical Notes

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Proofs and Essays

I WAS much interested lately in an article by Mr. R. E. R. Dalwigk under the above title, which appeared in the July number of *The Stamp Lover*.

The following paragraph is, to say the least of it, astonishing, and I should like to know where Mr. Dalwigk got his information from, or what has been his personal experience in the sale of rare proofs and essays.

... And yet unpopularity—and unpopularity *only*—accounts for the fact that the rarest proofs are nothing more than dregs on the market.

Well, I don't know what is a "dreg" on the stamp market, but I can give my actual experience in the sale of proofs and essays during the past year, and I can only say that I could have sold several times over every *rare* essay or proof that I have had in my hands.

In the Breitfuss Collection I had *many thousands* of proofs and essays, and now in only a year I have not *many hundreds* left on hand. Only last week I sold one unique block of four essays for £75, and I have sold a great number of European essays at from £2 to £20 each, and some few over the latter figure. The worst of it is that once these rare essays are sold I am unable to replace them in stock; many such things that I had in the Breitfuss Collection existed only there and perhaps in Government collections.

There are many excellent points in Mr. Dalwigk's article, and I recommend my readers to study it for themselves.

With one of the concluding paragraphs I am so much in accord that I venture to reproduce it:—

It is the general opinion of well-informed philatelists that proofs and essays are the "boom" of the future, and it is quite certain that the day is not far distant when the craze for proofs of all kinds will be the matter of the moment, and then we shall see the wise ones complimenting their foresight.

Sets of Postage Stamps

By the time this appears in print, I think the list of "Sets" that has been appearing for some months in our advertisement pages will be complete, and collectors will have had the choice of about 1200 remarkably cheap sets of stamps; in fact, the average reduction from the catalogue price of single specimens is about 30 per cent. Next to buying packets, the purchase of fine sets of

genuine stamps is the best means the collector can adopt of adding to his collection at an advantageous price.

Notice to New Zealand Collectors

WE have received several complaints from collectors in New Zealand that our New Zealand agents, Messrs. Wilcox, Smith, & Co., cut out the advertisements from the back of our Catalogues and sell the Catalogues at full price in this mutilated condition. This is entirely against our wishes and instructions, and as this is not by any means the first time we have heard about this method of business, we think it best to give notice that New Zealand collectors can now book the next edition of our Catalogues (1909) direct from us by sending in a remittance of 5s. 7d. in current New Zealand stamps (high values only), and each volume of the Catalogue will be posted direct upon the day it is published. Collectors in New Zealand will by this means receive the Catalogue some two weeks earlier than if sent by cargo steamer in cases to Dunedin and reposted from there.

One well-known New Zealand collector writes us, under date 28 June, 1908:—

I think it is far from right that such proceedings should be allowed to continue, as I think that a great deal of useful information is often derived from the advertisements; and I think it is a piece of impudence to charge 3s. 3d. for your Catalogue and to abstract half of it.

The "Philatelic Record"

IN taking stock the other day we came across a large number of bound copies of the earlier volumes of the *Philatelic Record*, dated from the time when it was jointly published by Pemberton, Wilson, and Co., and Stanley Gibbons and Co.

In order to make a clearance of this parcel we offer them at the following extremely low prices. Of Vols. I and III we have only one bound volume each.

Vol.	Feb.	to Jan.	Portrait of	Price post free.
				s. d.
I	1879	1880	E. L. Pemberton	10 0
III	1881	1882	C. W. Viner	10 0
IV	1882	1883	V. G. de Ysasi	2 6
V	1883	1884	W. A. S. Westoby	2 3
VI	1884	1885	E. B. Evans	2 9
VII	1885	1886	A. Legrand	2 0
VIII	1886	1887	M. Burnett	2 9
IX	1887	1888	T. K. Tapling	3 6
X	Feb. to Dec.	1888	W. E. Image	3 0
XI	Jan. to Dec.	1889	P. La R. von Ferrary	3 3
XII	"	1890	M. G. Caillebotte	4 0

These books contain some of the finest articles upon stamps ever written, and are real

bargains at the low prices at which we offer them to clear them out of our stock rooms.

Indian Stamp Robbery

CHARLES MILES, 34, bookbinder, of Sabine Road, Battersea, was charged on remand, before Mr. Hutton, with stealing 2000 unissued Indian stamps (Cochin and Bhopal), value £10, belonging to his employers, Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. (Limited), stamp printers, Southwark Bridge Road.

Mr. Sydney appeared for the prisoner.

Detective-sergeant Hodson, H division, said the prisoner had borne a good character, but only 500 of the stolen stamps had been recovered, and it was a serious matter for the prosecutors that 1500 had got upon the market.

Mr. Sydney.—Your worship will remember how easy it was for the prisoner to dispose of the stamps. A man in the Borough gave him a guinea for a lot of them, and didn't ask him who he was, but only "Where did you get them from?" and my client said, "Oh, they came from India."

The Magistrate.—Yes, and they didn't appear on his books.

Mr. Sydney appealed to the Court to take a lenient view of the case. The prisoner had a wife and four children, and was only temporarily employed. Being under notice, he yielded to a sudden impulse and took the stamps.

Mr. Hutton regretted to be unable to grant leniency in the circumstances. It was a serious case of robbing employers, and the prisoner must go to hard labour for three months, as an example to others.

Morning Advertiser, 20.7.08.

Important Notice to Collectors who use our Stock Books

FOR some months past we have been busy making up *special books* in *yellow* covers of rare stamps of all countries, and for this purpose we have withdrawn many of the finest and rarest stamps from our stock books, and such stamps will not in future be included in the large stock books.

There are several reasons that have induced us to take this step. One is that we have found by rather bitter experience that *fine* stamps are damaged in the stock books, especially by young collectors who call at our shop, and who cannot resist the temptation to turn up a real rarity, to look at gum, watermark, etc. By such means we have had many stamps damaged by dirt or by being creased.

Another reason is that, owing to the enormous growth of our approval business, especially on the Continent, we now have large demands for extra fine stamps, and it seems best to keep such stamps in a series of these

yellow books, under our special care, and all ready to send out to collectors.

We already have some £20,000 worth of stamps mounted in these books, and they are being added to daily.

We shall be glad if *collectors* who wish to purchase rarities which they fail to find in our stock books will be good enough to ask for our special rarity books of the countries they wish to see.

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

Brazil.

Two stock books, rather weak in the older issues, but containing a representative lot of each issue and a fine lot of blocks. The later issues are very complete in most varieties of perforation, shade, etc., and some new discoveries have been included.

Niger Coast, Falkland Islands, Northern and Southern Nigeria.

A strong book, and one that is in great demand. We have to remake it very frequently, as it is so soon stripped. In Niger Coast there are a number of the *very rare* surcharges, such as those of which only from nine to twenty stamps of each variety exist.

Afghanistan.

We have just arranged two of the best and most complete books of this country that we have ever put together.

During the past year there has been a considerable increase in the demand for these fine stamps. This is probably due to the publication of a special handbook on the stamps by Sir David Masson.

Nearly all the early stamps are numbered below in pencil with their respective positions on the plate; so advanced collectors who are reconstructing the plates will have no difficulty in finding the stamps they want.

All issues are well represented; and, to show the strength of the book, I just note that in the rare "tablet" type dated 1293 there are no less than *thirty-nine* of these fine stamps.

Many uncut and reconstructed plates are also included.

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.

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*

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British Possessions in Asia—*continued*

Maldive Islands

A N archipelago in the Indian Ocean, 500 miles due west of Ceylon, forming a British possession under the direct control of the Ceylon Government, of which colony it is a dependency.

The islands number several hundreds, of which, however, only about 200 are inhabited, having a population of 30,000. The climate is moist and unhealthy. The natives closely resemble the Singhalese and are Mohammedans by religion.

Some little trade is done with Ceylon, whence tortoise-shell, cowries, coir, cocoanuts, and copra are exported.

In 1518 the Portuguese, who had settled in Ceylon, also established factories on these islands, from whom they received the name of "Maldiva" or the Thousand Islands, and continued under their rule until 1645, when the native Sultan placed himself under the protection of the Dutch Governor of Ceylon, the islands being subsequently transferred to England on the cession of Ceylon by the Dutch in 1796.

The capital of the group is the island of Malé, which has an area of a mile and three-quarters, and a population of 2000.

Every year an embassy with presents is sent to pay homage to the Governor of Ceylon, on behalf of the Sultan of the "Twelve Thousand Islands."

Currency.—Same as Ceylon.

Stamps first issued 9 September, 1906.

Arrangements for the establishment of a post office in these islands were first made during the annual visit of the Maldivian ambassador to Colombo in the autumn of 1905, and it was recorded in a Ceylon paper that this dignitary spent considerable time during his visit to the island, which lasted from 28 October, 1905, to 12 January, 1906, in making himself familiar with the workings of the General Post Office, with a view to the establishment of a postal system in his own country. It was finally decided to open a post office on the island of Malé, through which it was said that over 30,000 letters and postal packages were wont to pass annually, and the necessary paraphernalia for so doing was ordered from India, it being proposed to inaugurate the new system

some time in April, 1906. In anticipation of the needs of the new Post Office, the following quantities of current Ceylon stamps were delivered to the Government Printing Office at Colombo to be overprinted with the name of the group in which they were to be used, the stamps being finally delivered by the local Treasury to the General Post Office, overprinted with the word MALDIVES in small, thick sans-serif capitals in one line in black at the top of the stamp, obliterating the original inscription of CEYLON POSTAGE, on 6 March, 1906.

Maldive Islands. First printing.

- 2 c., red-brown (2400).
- 3 c., green (600).
- 4 c., yellow and blue (1200).
- 5 c., lilac (4800).
- 15 c., blue (1200).
- 25 c., bistre (1200).

Owing to the non-arrival of the necessary fittings, forms, etc., from India, there was considerable delay in the opening of the Maldive Islands Post Office, and it was not until 9 September, 1906, that the new surcharged stamps were placed on sale there, rather more than six months after they had been prepared for use. As only very small quantities of each value were printed, dealers experienced great difficulty in obtaining supplies, and this, coupled with the fact that on their appearance these stamps were in great demand in Europe, served to make them rather expensive compared to the ordinary run of new issues.

9 September, 1906.

Contemporary stamps of Ceylon, 1904-5. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14. Unsurfaced paper, excepting the 5 c., which is chalk-surfaced. Typographed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., in London, and surcharged MALDIVES in small, thick sans-serif capitals in one line, in black, at the top of the stamp, obliterating the inscription CEYLON POSTAGE. Overprinted in complete sheets of the 3, 4, 15, and 25 c. denominations, and in half-sheets of the 2 and 5 c., at the Government Printing Office, Colombo, Ceylon.

- 2 c., orange-brown.
- 3 c., green.

5 c., lilac (chalky).
15 c., blue.
25 c., pale brown.

What with the supplies purchased by stamp dealers and collectors, and the stamps actually required for postal use, the first printing of these stamps was exhausted in a very short time, and a second had to be made, which was delivered by the Treasury for shipment to Malé on 15 October, 1906. From this printing the two higher denominations of 15 and 25 c. were omitted, as it was found that, excepting by the philatelic fraternity, they were in little demand, and were not required for purely postal use. The quantities surcharged at this second printing were as follows:—

Maldivé Islands. Second printing.

2 c., orange-brown (2000).
3 c., green (3000).
4 c., yellow and blue (1000).
5 c., deep lilac (14,000).

The 5 c. value is in a new shade, and is printed from Plate II. I have therefore to chronicle—

Shade.

5 c., deep lilac instead of lilac (issued 15 December, 1906).

The supplies of the second printing were all sold out at the Malé Post Office by 2 March, 1907, and about that time a decree was issued by His Excellency the Governor of Ceylon, ordaining that no more surcharged stamps were to be issued for use in these islands, and that in future only unsurcharged Ceylon stamps should be employed at the local post office, "as such stamps appear to be bought up in no time by philatelists, creating thereby a constant demand for more supplies at the Maldives Post Office." Thus after a brief existence of about seven months the Maldivé Islands passed out of existence as a stamp-issuing country. The postal system is said, however, to be continuing to work very satisfactorily, and the local traders consider it a great boon.

Ceylon stamps used in these islands may be distinguished from those employed in that colony by means of their postmarks.

(To be continued.)

Scientific Stamp Collecting

By C. M. C. SYMES

HAVING regard to the multitudinous number of stamps issued and also to the impossibility of obtaining anything bordering on a representative collection of the world, it becomes necessary for all classes of stamp collectors to assign themselves a certain way and method of collecting. The question then is, in what way shall I limit myself in the method of collecting and in the purchase of stamps? If the collector has a tendency toward general collecting, by all means let him pursue his desire, but at the same time a limit must be imposed unless he be a Cræsus. The way I consider best for general collectors to limit themselves is to collect either used or unused. This old theme has been discussed over and over again, and though it is as old as the hills, it still has an unflagging interest, for yet the issue is in the balance. Many high-standing collectors are greatly in favour of unused, and in a discussion with them they would undoubtedly state that only the unused stamp possesses any *locus standi* in Philately. This I entirely disagree with, and though the unused has much to say in its favour, I unhesitatingly throw in my lot with the collector of used. Postage stamps are, I take it, labels impressed with a value to represent payment of a rate for services rendered by Government. Postage, therefore, is a tax, because letters cannot be transmitted until the tax has been paid, so

that until the service has been rendered the stamp has not done its duty. This is one point greatly in favour of used specimens. Advocates of unused specimens tell us that a collection looks much better in an unused state than in a used, but I contend that collections are not made to look at. A point which collectors of unused stamps are fairly strong on is this, "Is it the stamp or the obliteration that is valuable?" If we say the stamp is valuable, then "Why not get perfect specimens, viz. unused?" Or if we say that the cancellation is valuable, "Why is it that collectors of used always prefer copies with as little of the postmark as possible, i.e. incomplete cancellations?" Here we may apply the theme above mentioned, that a stamp is not collectable until it has done its primary duty. Again, in many cases a stamp plus its cancellation is much more valuable than one minus it, and thus we have cancellations more valuable than the stamp. In most cases of this sort a complete postmark is necessary, to wit, British stamps used abroad; and also *complete* postmarks are the only clue to scarcity, as may be seen in "Chilian Stamps used in Peru."

Another point which unused collectors put forward is that a mint stamp twenty years old has still the power for which it was created, whilst a used stamp has lost its power. Hence I conclude from this statement that

an unused stamp having had the power to be used (which was the reason of its creation) has eluded its proper duty, and thus it should be relegated to the tribe of unemployed. On the other hand, a used stamp has fulfilled the purpose of its creation, and thus it may be placed in a region of honour. I may here say that a mint stamp twenty years old is worth only its face value, whilst in a used condition it is worth infinitely more. To illustrate my point, a British Guiana 2 c., rose (circular), could still be used to prepay a letter through the post, thus proving its intrinsic value is still 2 c. To regard the situation from the point of view of completion, it is obvious that the collector of used stands in a much better position to attain his desire; on the whole, used stamps are cheaper, and thus they are sought after by the majority. Besides this, the postmark conveys to us the date of use and also town where it has been used—points which are of invaluable use to specialists. However one may decide which to collect, used or unused, and though I would lay down no hard-and-fast rule, I cannot refrain from casting my vote to used side of the controversy.

Having decided the method of limitation, the next pressing question is, How shall I collect—what method shall I adopt? Here we have before us two methods of collecting, general collecting and specialism. Here, again, we have a well-worn controversy; but still opinions are divided, and apparently they are likely to continue so. At the outset I may say that I am strongly in favour of specialism, but I should not advise anybody who has not been a general collector to study this branch of our hobby. Here I enumerate a few of the advantages we have in specializing. Firstly, that a specialist is an essential, in fact indispensable factor of stamp collecting: my reason for saying this is that were it not for the complete, scientific collections formed by specialists, general collectors would be left with little or no knowledge of the stamps they collect. Secondly, that from an investment point of view specialism is untouched, because a collection of one country or group of countries complete in differences of shade, design, perforation, watermark, etc., will fetch an infinitely higher price than any general collection of the same outlay. Thirdly and lastly, that completion, the goal of most collectors, is attained or more nearly attained by specialism than by any other form of collecting. In the first place, one might say that from a very fine general collection one could collect all the necessary information required. If, however, the general collection is indeed a very fine one, the odds are that the general collection is a collection of specialized collections, and thus the argument drops through. Taking up the

standpoint of investment, it is well known that the best way and practically the only safe way is to specialize. By thus doing you acquire a collection complete in minor details, and often come across stamps and varieties hitherto unchronicled. Thereby you have a collection practically complete and which has a ready sale, whilst a general collection containing stamps of each country has not nearly the chance of realizing any appreciable profit. Practically every collector has a hope of completing his collection, and it is only in this way that this object may be acquired, for it is utterly impossible to obtain a complete general collection of the world's postage stamps. It may be well for a moment to look at the so-called dark side of specialism. Hints are often thrown out to us that we do a large amount of harm by our method of collecting. Our contemporaries say that we are like sheep, and that where the leader goes the others follow. I cannot agree with this fully, though I admit there is a certain amount of truth in the statement. I say and believe that simply because one or two influential collectors start specializing a country, not many specialists are likely to follow their lead. There is, I know, a class of specialists who make it their point to study and collect countries on the boom, but they are in the minority and their actions are not of a very fruitful character. Another point against specialism is that it may often turn beginners against stamp collecting. As I mentioned before, it is wholly inadvisable to take up specialism without having previously had the experience of general collecting, without which it is difficult to appreciate relative philatelic value. There can be no doubting the delights and advantages that specialism affords, for when is a philatelist more happy than when unexpectedly he finds a new variety, some minor difference in perforation or some irregularity in colour? I can say from personal experience that, despite the many bombs which are hurled at this form of collecting, it still stands far ahead of all other methods of accumulation, and collectors day by day are readily realizing the many advantages it extends to them. In order to dispose of the allegation that the majority of collectors follow their leader in the choice of a country, I am sure it will be universally agreed that many collectors, instead of specializing "booming" countries, take up and study countries wholly out of the fashion. In the past it has been realized that it is nothing more nor less than folly to study fashionable countries; and since philatelists have come to their senses, they have spent and are spending their energies upon countries which, though not "apples" in the specialist's eye, yield fruitful study and profitable investment. It must be remembered

that if one is a "generalist" he should limit himself to some reasonable degree, and I have good reason to believe that if one limits himself to securing either unused alone or used alone, he will doubtless build a collection which is not only interesting, but profitable. Of course, to be a generalist or

a specialist is a matter of personal choice; each has its advantages and of course its disadvantages; but in recommending specialism in preference, one is able to combine scientific observations, interesting and helpful study, to a higher degree than is possible by adopting generalism.

A List of Minor Varieties in the Stamps of the Straits Settlements surcharged for use in the Native Protected States

By WILLIAM BROWN

SINCE I published my work on the above countries in 1894, I have met with many varieties not chronicled therein, which, by the courtesy of the Editor, I am now able to give to the readers of the *Weekly*.

The numbers before the stamps are those where the stamp is wanting in my book, and the numbers in brackets after indicate the type of surcharge illustrated in Gibbons Catalogue, 1908 edition.

JOHOR.

II. SURCHARGED "JOHORE."

3. *Surcharged in small, thin, wideblock capitals, punctuated.*
- 6a. 1885. 2 c., rose, 14 × 2 mm. including stop (2).
- 6b. 1885. 2 c., rose, 13 × 2 mm.; double surcharge (2).
4. *Surcharged in narrow roman capitals.*
- 7a. 1886. 2 c., rose, 11 × 2½ mm.; second "o" misplaced, too low (2).

III. SURCHARGED "JOHOR."

1. *In thick, upright block capitals.*

a. All letters narrow.

- 9a. 1884. 2 c., rose, 12½ × 2½ mm.; small "j" ONE (9).
- 11a. 1884. 2 c., rose, 13½ × 2½ mm.; "H" and "R" too high (9).
- 11b. 1884. 2 c., rose, 13½ × 2½ mm.; "O" too high, "H" too low (9).
- 13b. 1884. 2 c., rose, 14½ × 2½ mm.; small "H" (9).

2. *Surcharged in thick, narrow roman capitals.*

- 18a. 1885. 2 c., rose, 9 × 3 mm.; "J" with slanting serif (13).
- 18a in book should now be lettered 18b.

3. d. *Surcharged in ordinary roman capitals, punctuated.*

e. *Narrow "J."*

- 25a. 1886. 2 c., rose, 15½ × 3 mm. (16).

f. *Wide "J," narrow "R."*

- 29a. 1891. 2 c., rose, 13 × 2½ mm. (17).

k. *Narrow "J," "OR."*

- 29b. 1891. 2 c., rose, 13 × 2½ mm. (17).

III. *Surcharged JOHOR TWO CENTS in three lines and bar erasing value on Straits Settlements 24 c., green.*

- 31a. 1891. 2 c. on 24 c., green; narrow "J."
31a should now be 31b (21).

PERAK.

4. *Surcharged in roman capitals.*

- 47b. 1883. 2 c., rose, 15 × 2½ mm.; "P" misplaced (15).
- 47c. 1883. 2 c., rose, 15 × 2½ mm.; "P" missing (15).
- 47d. 2 c., rose, 15 × 2½ mm.; shorter letters (15).
f. *Narrow "K" and "R."*
- 56a. 2 c., rose, 15 × 2½ mm.; small "A" (18).
6. *Surcharged in antique capitals.*
- 63a. 1886. 2 c., rose, 12 × 3 mm.; "P" too high (21).

IX. *Surcharged ONE CENT PERAK in three lines on the 2 c., rose.*

1. *Surcharged in italics.*

- 96b. 1886-9. 1 on 2 c., rose; double impression (33).

2. *Surcharged ONE CENT in italics, PERAK in italic block capitals.*

- 99g. 1889-90. 1 c. on 2 c., rose; "T" of CENT, "P" "A" "K" of PERAK too low (34).
- 99h. 1889-90. 1 c. on 2 c., rose; "T" of CENT too low, "R" of PERAK too high, "AK" too low (34).
- 99j. 1889-90. 1 c. on 2 c., rose; defective "A" ("A") (34).
- 99k. 1889-90. 1 c. on 2 c., rose; space between "E" and "R" of PERAK (34).

6. *Surcharged ONE CENT in thick roman, PERAK in upright block capitals.*

- 105b. 1889-90. 1 c. on 2 c., rose; ONE spaced (40).

7. *Surcharged ONE CENT in thick roman, PERAK in thin roman capitals.*

- 106b. 1889-90. 1 c. on 2 c., rose; ONE spaced (41).

Surcharged PERAK ONE CENT and bar erasing value on the 2 c., rose.

4. *Surcharged PERAK and CENT in small capitals, ONE in thick roman.*

- 113a. 1891. 1 c. on 2 c., rose; space between "P" and "E."

POSTAL FISCAL (?).

Straits Settlements 2 dollar fiscal stamp surcharged in small roman capitals as No. 61.

149. 2 dollars, green and blue.

NOTE.—I cannot say whether this stamp was ever used postally. My copy has a postmark which reads: "Ipoh Post Office, 8 Ju 98."

SELANGOR.

1. *Surcharged in block capitals.*

t. "S" "L" wide. *Crown and C A.*

36a. 1883. 2 c., brown (33).

5. *Surcharged in small antique capitals.*

48c. 1886-9. $17 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ mm., 2 c., rose; space between "G" and "O" (43).

NOTE.—I am not sure whether this is the punctuated surcharge or not, as my copy is badly printed, the "R" being on the next stamp on the sheet.

48d. 1886-9. $16\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$, 2 c., rose; smaller surcharge (43).

48e. 1886-9. $16\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$, 2 c., rose; "OR" too high (43).

Life's Little Trials

Lost in Liverpool at Night-time

By PIERRE MAHÉ

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THE life of a stamp dealer does not entirely fall in with the accepted belief; it would seem that such a life would be quiet, and that none of the trials that ordinary mortals are called upon to undergo would find a place therein; but this is not so; sudden changes of fortune, varied happenings, generally unexpected and sometimes the reverse of agreeable, are the lot of the stamp dealer.

During my career, already somewhat extended, quite a number of things have happened; I will proceed to describe one of them, which is certainly not the least curious.

Quite a long time ago, twenty-five years or more—I believe it was in 1882—one of my best customers said to me, "Mr. Mahé, would you do me a favour by going to Liverpool on business for me?" "Most certainly, my dear sir," I replied, thinking how nice it would be for me, as I had not travelled much up to then, and had never been in Liverpool. I was very pleased, as my one desire was to see that part of the country. "And when shall you be able to go?" "At once, this evening."

My client then explained what he wanted me to do. He had had offered to him a collection, which belonged to Mr. B—, of Bucharest, entirely composed of stamps of the allied principalities of Moldavia, Moldo-Wallachia, and Roumania. The collection was reputed to be particularly complete, and a high price was asked for it; at least, the price was high for that time, as the stamps of these countries were nothing like so highly priced as they are now; even though the prices show signs of a further rise, by the way! The owner of this collection refused to send it to Paris, and it was certainly neither possible nor advisable to conclude such an important piece of business

without having seen the stamps; all the more so when one remembers what stamps they were. No; it was absolutely necessary to undertake this journey to see exactly what they were.

I left the same evening, arriving in London the next day, and took the first train for Liverpool, where I arrived in the afternoon.

As regards the expenses of my stay, my client had given me a free hand, and had provided me handsomely with the "where-withal." He had particularly asked me to see that I was comfortable, and had recommended me to put up at the Adelphi Hotel. The "Adelphi" is a first-class hotel—big, luxurious, with every convenience, such as a telegraph office—the telephone was not invented in those days; there was a money-changer's office, the papers of all countries, an excellent cuisine, and a well-stocked cellar. Last, but not least, the attendance! . . . and what attendance! In front of the hotel was a balcony, from which one could see the beauties of the town, walking in the evening, and numbers of girls carrying immense baskets of fish on their bare heads; they appeared to find some difficulty in keeping them balanced, having to use one or both arms to prevent them from falling; this gives them a pose that would delight an artist. Their blouses were of coarse linen—they might have been white some time ago, and were open at the throat; very short skirts completed their attire, and thus they were robed quite simply, but in a manner that appeared quite natural, thanks to their robust appearance.

I had no sooner arrived at the hotel than I telegraphed to the person in charge of the collection, making an appointment for the next day, and at the same time I engaged the services of an interpreter, so that I might

not be cheated. That reminds me! The uniform worn by that interpreter was similar to that worn at the Grand Hotel, Paris; one of the gentlemen from the latter hotel used to accompany my old friend Mr. C. J. Phillips in the days when he was not so familiar with our language. Really the likeness between these interpreters seems to me so amazing, that I should very much like to know if they are not one and the same gentleman. Perhaps he removed the seat of his labours from Liverpool to Paris.

The next day, escorted by my dragoman, I went to call on the people with whom the collection was deposited. A surprise was in store for me there, for I found that all the employés of that firm, as well as the manager, spoke French even better than myself! This discovery did not appear to be welcome to the interpreter, who thought his morning would be wasted, but he was quite pleased when I told him not to go away, as he might possibly still be of service to me.

I was then shown the collection, which was by no means so good as one might have imagined from hearsay: it contained nothing worthy of special mention, and the great rarities were missing—in a word, it was a good second-class collection, but worth nothing like the big price asked for it. There was nothing more to be done, so I beat a retreat, and immediately advised my client that our hopes were in vain.

The evening before, Thomas Ridpath had called on me at the hotel, as I had advised him of my impending arrival, without telling him the reason. We had made an appointment to lunch together the following day. So, as soon as we left the stamp people, the interpreter and myself made our way towards Duke Street, where my friend Ridpath was waiting for us. It was not late enough to lunch, so we all three paid a visit to the town. In a small bar, situated in some little lane or other, I made my first acquaintance with "fine orange bitters," of which I drank one delicious glass. I have never been able to get such another, as one evening when I was alone I tried to find my way back there, but failed.

An edge was soon put on our appetites by the exercise and open air, so we were pleased when our guide took us to an immense popular restaurant where workmen and clerks took their daily meal under the best possible conditions. We made a very good dinner there by dint of ordering a few "extras" in addition to the ordinary menu.

Having made an end to the feast, I dismissed my interpreter, well paid, well fed, and happy, while Ridpath and I started off on a tour of inspection of the principal sights. We visited the docks, the "boxes" where poor emigrants were waiting for their ships, and the bank, where we saw subterranean

strong-rooms, which had not been imitated in Paris at that time.

We walked along till I was so overcome by the wonderfully cheap prices set forth in advertisements that I entered a tailor's and bought a splendid suit of clothes for a sum of £3 8s.; it would have cost at least 130 francs (£5 4s.) in Paris! Then I bought some alpaca for my wife, and a hundred and one other small articles such as one is supposed to bring one's friends when returning from a journey.

As I wished to start for home the same evening, I said good-bye to Ridpath, and returned to my hotel to write news of my impending return to Paris, and to my preparations for the journey: then my adventures commenced!

Before dinner, I told a young porter, who spoke French very fairly, to meet me later on in the evening, and to carry my bag to the station. He had faithfully promised to do so, as I had presented him with a five-shilling piece, foolishly enough, in advance! So I felt at peace with the world, and must confess that I made a remarkably good dinner . . . one must keep up one's strength before setting out on a journey! And after dinner, I sat on the terrace smoking cigars, and took a cup of excellent coffee, with the usual accessories!

At the time I had agreed upon, I settled my bill, and had my luggage brought down. Then I set out to look for my porter, but no porter could I find. He had quietly gone home to bed, with my five-shilling piece in his pocket!

Nobody was to be obtained at the hotel, as there were only a waiter and the door-keeper to be found, and they could not leave their posts. I found myself in a horrible mess. No porters! No cabs! And I was all alone. You may believe me when I tell you that I was not in the best of tempers!

I had only a handbag with me, and a rug, in which I had rolled up all my superfluous belongings: it made an enormous roll, which resembled a beer barrel more than anything else. It was decidedly weighty! What could I do? Something *had* to be done, and that quickly. I had no choice. I left the hotel with my bag in my left hand, and my right arm balancing my bundle on my shoulder: it was quite as much as I could do to keep it there.

The way had been pointed out to me carefully, and I understood as much about it as was possible from the instructions of an Englishman to a Frenchman knowing little or nothing of English. I may have been wrongly directed, or I may have misunderstood, but there was no doubt about it that I had gone astray. This, in spite of having addressed the query, "Railway, please?" to one of the infrequent passers-by; it was about half-

past ten then ; he had made a sign to me to turn to the right. So I turned to the right, but I did not find anything at the end of the dark road, which was shaped like a crescent, and I began to be seriously alarmed.

Troubled thoughts coursed through my mind : I reflected how easy it would be for two or three marauders to set upon me ; they would have no difficulty in seizing my bag, and I carried valuable securities on my person. I could expect no help in that out-of-the-way spot.

At the very moment when my thoughts were of the bitterest, a young woman came towards me ; she looked as though she were on her way home after a day's work. Blessings be upon her head, for when I put my usual question of "Railway, please?" she understood and she signed to me to go towards the left. I did so without delay, as that seemed to me to be the right direction.

But time was getting on and I trembled for fear I should miss the train. I set off at all speed down the road, which was luckily downhill. I went as fast as I could for the burden I carried, and at last I reached the station. Saved at last !

No sooner had I arrived than a new terror possessed me ; the ticket office was shut, and there was only a minute or two before the departure of the train !

What luck ! A good old inspector, ailing in health, and with a white beard, saw my trouble and came to my aid. He soon saw from my appearance that I was a French-

man, and said, "To Paris?" "Yes, to Paris," said I, but he made me say, "To Paris," again, before he rapped on the window of the ticket office. It was soon opened, and, having slipped a coin into his hand, I paid my fare. He took my baggage and handed me my ticket, and then hurried me off to the train. I was soon hustled into a carriage, and when I saw him throw my bundle into the rack I felt as though I could have kissed the good man !

I shall always have a corner in my memory for my saviour, as well as for the young woman who put me on the right road.

Next day, after a short rest, I left London and arrived at Paris without further adventures, except for one rather comical incident at the customs house : an officer made me open my bundle and paid great attention to my new suit. He asked me its value, and when I answered "Eighty-five francs," he seemed to think it remarkably cheap. I had noticed that the man was a good bit bigger than I was, and wishing to amuse him, said, quite innocently, "Well, as you like it, I would even do you the favour of letting you have it for the price I paid." He threw me a comical glance, as much as to say, "You rascal, you know quite well that I could never get it on." He went off, and an hour later I was between the sheets.

I think this adventure is, to say the least of it, a little bit out of the usual run of things.

Our Italian Letter

By EMILIO DIENA

SOME months ago several of the philatelic journals announced, on the authority of the lay Press, that a certain rich Sicilian gentleman, Signor Enrico Santoro, had died at an advanced age in Constantinople, after having lived there for many years, and had left his collection of postage stamps to the National Museum at Palermo, his native town. This news is substantially accurate, but other information given at the same time is rather the other way. I have been privileged to inspect the collection, and I thought that the few notes I made might interest some of the readers of *G. S. W.*

The collection was arranged in six large movable-leaf albums, made by a well-known Parisian firm, and contained no stamps issued after 1890. Unfortunately the older stamps, with which the collection was started, were stuck down to the pages, but later specimens were mounted in the usual manner.

Three albums were supposed to contain adhesive stamps only, but I found a good

many entire envelopes and post cards in them. The other three albums were devoted exclusively to entires, and another small book contained document stamps, and other fiscals, of little or no value.

How often the daily Press makes mistakes when dealing with matters philatelic is confirmed once more by the report that the nucleus of the collection consisted of the rare Moldavian stamps of the 1858 issue ; of course they were all forgeries, and well-known, very poor imitations at that : I saw one 54 paras, two each of the 81 and 108 paras, but none of the 27 paras.

But we will pass from these forgeries to the genuine good stamps. I noticed a Great Britain, 1840, 1d., V.R., a very fine copy, with a trial cancellation consisting of eight concentric circles ; this was on part of original. In Spain I saw the 2 reales, unused, of the 1851 issue ; the 1 and 3 cuartos, unused, of the 1853 (Madrid) issue ; and the 2 reales, used, of 1852 and 1853. In France there were some fine *lête-bêche* pairs,

and the error 15 c. on *rose* of the 1875 issue *se tenant* with a 10 c. (in horizontal unused pair). Also—

- Russian Levant* . . . 2 and 20 kop., 1865 issue.
Geneva 5 c. + 5 c., used, of 1843.
Tuscany Used copy of the 60crazia of
Naples 1860, the $\frac{1}{2}$ trinacria of
 November, and the $\frac{1}{2}$ t.
 with Neapolitan cross,
 both poor copies, with
 very little margin.
Neapolitan Provinces. Used copy of the 50 gr.,
 slate-grey, 1861 issue.

As Signor Santoro was a Sicilian by birth, I had expected to find a fine specialized collection of Sicily, but with the exception of two fine sets of good shades, there is nothing worthy of note.

In Mauritius there are several copies of the 1d. and 2d. "Post Paid," both medium and late states of the plate, a 2d. "fillet" of the October, 1859, issue, 4d. on 1s. of 1854, and a few other good stamps in the early issues.

- Cape of Good Hope.* Average copies of the 1d. and 4d. of the 1861 issue.
Egypt 5 piast., rose, first issue, surcharged 10 piast., but the cancellation showed a date, and appeared doubtful to me. It was on a portion of the original cover.
Ceylon 8d. and 2s., imperf.
Scinde The white and blue stamp of 1852.
British Guiana . . . 1 c. and 4 c. of 1852; 4 c., magenta, of 1856.
New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. 6d. and 1s., used.
Newfoundland . . . 2d. and 4d., scarlet-vermilion. 4d., 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and 1s., orange-vermilion; all fine copies.
United States . . . I admired a complete set of the Departmentals; the \$2 "State" is a used, defective copy, but the \$5, \$10, and \$20 are in mint state, with gum.
Dominican Republic. A few good stamps, including the first issue complete.
Antioquia The first issue complete and genuine.
New South Wales. A few used Sydney Views, and a Laureated 8d.
New Zealand . . . 1d. on blue paper, Colonial print, unused; slightly sulphuretted, but a fine copy.
Buenos Aires . . . A complete set of the Ship type.

After having carefully examined this collection, I seem to have the impression that it belonged rather to a "dilettante" than to a philatelist. In addition to the forgeries I have already mentioned, I noticed the 2 soldi and 3 lire of Tuscany, several Swiss Cantonals, the 80 c. Parma, two 3 pf. Saxony,

1850 issue, and many others. I saw some forged copies even in Turkey.

Nevertheless, taken altogether, it is a very fair general collection, and will have the merit of being the first collection on view in an Italian public museum. The donor was a well-known philanthropist, and left large sums of money to charitable institutions; we ought to be grateful to him for the collection.

I have been told that a small portion of the collection will soon be on view in one of the rooms of the National Museum of Palermo, probably in the room set apart for coins and medals. I hope it may be instrumental in giving Philately an impetus in Sicily, where, sad to relate, there are but few collectors, and, as far as I know, not a single old collection.

The Italian stamps of the 1901 issue are slowly disappearing from view, of course with the exception of the 1 c., 2 c., 20 c., 45 c., 1 l., and 5 l., which are still current. It is worth calling attention to the shade of the last printing of the 50 c. of 1901, which is *bright violet*, and is quite different from the *lilac-violet* of the earlier printings. This shade ought certainly to find a place in the catalogues. I may add that the 80 paras on 50 centesimi, Albania, is the same shade.

I see that the avalanche of surcharged stamps for use in the new offices of the Levant were referred to at length in No. 184 of *G.S.W.*; therefore I need not refer to them.

I would only say that you were in error in speaking of surcharging done in "Rome," as the stamps were done in Turin. Again, it was not necessary to catalogue the 20 paras on 10 centesimi (Turin surcharge), as the identical stamp was first issued in 1908 for the Italian Office at Janina (Albania), which you have already listed.

To complete the information given on page 28, I would add that the offices were opened on the following dates:—

Valona	. . . . .	5 May
Smyrna	. . . . .	16 "
Salonica	. . . . .	26 "
Galata (Constantinople)	. . . . .	1 June
Pera	"	1 "
Stamboul	"	1 "
Jerusalem	. . . . .	1 "

As you may know, there will soon be other new issues.

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.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

The International Reply Coupon

A FEW days ago one of our friends in Brussels remarked how little use was made of the new reply coupon, which was supposed to have been one of the most modern ideas adopted at the last meeting of the last Postal Congress. Most of the great Powers accepted the new coupon, amongst others being Germany, Austria, Hungary, France and Colonies, Great Britain, Greece, Spain, Italy, Luxemburg, Denmark, Holland, United States of America, Sweden, Norway, Roumania, Siam, Mexico, Dutch Indies, Japan, Hayti, Egypt, Danish West Indies, Crete, Corea, Costa Rica, Chili, Bulgaria, and Bosnia.

For many years past people have asked for an international postage stamp, which it was claimed would be of enormous value in business; but now they have got it, or rather the next best thing, the international reply coupon, hardly any use is made of it; in fact, the general public do not seem to be aware of its existence. As proof of this, that so very few are issued at the chief post offices of important continental towns.

I suppose everybody knows what this "International Reply Coupon" really is? The name is sufficient indication. It is a rectangular slip of paper, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide. It can be exchanged in nearly any country for a $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp, or its equivalent, and is sold for 3d. in Great Britain (or 28 c. in Belgium). It has only to be enclosed in a letter to a correspondent in another country, whose answer one wishes to prepay; so very simple, isn't it?

But, as we said, little use is made of it, in spite of its extreme simplicity, as we found out on paying a visit to Mr. Renson, the courteous chief of the Head Post Office at Liège (Belgium). The following conversation took place:—

"Are many of the reply coupons sold at this office?"

"No, very few. I will let you have the approximate figures in a minute or two."

Mr. Renson disappeared, only to reappear within the minute.

"As I said, the sale is very small; never more than one hundred in a month."

Mr. Renson then told us that even at Brussels the sale only averaged ten a day.

After hearing what a few were being used, it struck us that perhaps the general public was still ignorant as to the existence of these coupons, but then the Post Office can hardly be expected to advertise their wares.

La Revue Postale.

Switzerland's Projected New Designs

MR. SIMOND, of Neuchâtel, has kindly sent me an official Post Office circular, dated 4 August, 1908, and numbered 83. I give a translation *in extenso*:—

"We hereby inform you that the high-value postage stamps, i.e. those from 20 centimes to 3 francs, which have hitherto been line-engraved, are also to be the subject of a change; the new issue will be surface-printed in two colours.

"The new design will show a figure of Helvetia sitting on a rock, with her right hand leaning on a sword, and bearing the federal cross on her breast. The figure stands out from a solid background of colour. In the lower right-hand corner a view of the Alps may be seen, and in the upper part of the stamp the value appears twice.

"In addition to the values now in use, a new value, viz. 70 centimes, will be put on sale on 1 November.

"The colours of new stamps will be as follows:—

20 c.	figure	light yellow,	background	orange-red.
25 c.	"	light blue	"	deep blue.
30 c.	"	greenish yellow	"	brownish yellow.
40 c.	"	yellow	"	red-violet.
50 c.	"	light green	"	deep green.
70 c.	"	yellow	"	deep brown.
1 fr.	"	greenish grey	"	carmine.
3 fr.	"	lilac	"	blue-violet.

"As far as can be judged from the stock in hand of the current issue, all the above values will not be issued on the same date. The 40 c. will be the first to appear, then, in the order given, the 30 c., 50 c., 3 fr., 20 c., 1 fr., 70 c., and lastly the 25 c. All values will be issued by January, 1909.

"Instructions are hereby given to all post offices to use up all they have in stock of the present issue before placing the new stamps on sale.

"The stamps now current will continue to be available for use until further notice.

"Later on further orders will be issued specifying a time by which all stamps of the issue now current must be used, when they will be demonetized."

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 1s.; post-free in Great Britain, 1s. 2d.

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

New Issues and Discoveries

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.—In our stock we have found a copy of the 10 reis of the 1897 issue having the perforation compound of the two varieties.



45

1897. Type 45. Centre in first colour.
(c) Perf. compound of 11, 11½, and 12½ to 14.
232|10 r., blue and carmine.

By courtesy of Messrs. Th. Champion & Co. we have been shown the two long-expected commemorative labels just issued in Brazil. They are both 100 reis stamps and are both dated 1908, and have the sign of the engravers and "The American Bank Note Co., N.Y." at the bottom. One is to celebrate the opening of the 1908 Exhibition in Rio de Janeiro, and the other was to commemorate the promised visit of the late Dom Carlos, King of Portugal. Unfortunately the preparations for the issue of the latter were too far advanced before his assassination to cancel them.



114

1908. Type 114. Issued to celebrate the opening of the National Exhibition. Perf. 12.
715|100 r., rose-carmine.



115

1908. Type 115. Issued to celebrate the intended visit of King Carlos of Portugal. Perf. 12.
716|100 r., vermilion.

Danish West Indies.—We have received the first three values of the new set bearing a portrait of King Frederick VIII. They have the usual small Crown watermark, and are perforated 12½, 13.



13



4

August, 1908. Type 13. Wmk. Crown, Type 4.
Perf. 12½, 13.
70|5 bit, green.
71|10 " brick-red.
73|25 " blue.

Ecuador.—Messrs. Th. Champion & Co. have shown us the full set of seven values of the latest issue. We chronicled the 1 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 20 c. in our issues of 15 and 22 August, but we repeat them, as we are now able to illustrate and number them correctly.



84



(Garcia Moreno.)

85



(Alfaro.)

86



(Abelardo Moncayo.)

87



(Archer Harman.)

88



(Sivewright.)

89



(Mount Chimborazo.)

90

Printed by Waterlow & Sons, Ltd.

JUNE, 1908. Types 84 to 90. Vignettes (2 c. to 50 c.)
in black. Perf. 14.

- 331 1 c., red-brown.
332 2 c., dull blue.
333 5 c., claret.
334 10 c., ochre.
335 20 c., green.
336 50 c., grey-black.
337 1 s., black.

Correspondence

Uruguay's 1882 Issue

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

SIR,—Mr. Davis's letter in your issue of 1 August is very interesting. Only fancy reprints being printed off alongside of the originals!

I must say I am sceptical about these reprints, so will Mr. Davis submit copies to you, Mr. Editor, and I will submit copies of my reprints.

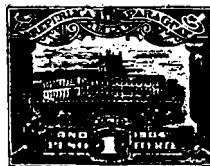
The "reprints" that I know and have are forgeries, and have been offered to me both in Montevideo and Buenos Aires. I got them from

Guatemala.—Mr. W. G. Campbell draws our attention to an error in our chronicle of the new surcharged stamps in our issue of 18 July. We reversed the colours of Nos. 214 and 215, the correct descriptions being as follows:—

- 214 2 c. on 12½ c., black and blue.
215 6 c. on 20 c. " purple.

Paraguay.—Our agent in Villa Rica sends us quite a new provisional, a 1 peso, showing a view of the Government buildings, with the word OFICIAL added below the figure "1," and then overprinted with the word "Habilitado" and a black bar to obliterate the word OFICIAL, thus transforming the stamp from an Official stamp into a postage stamp. The stamp has not yet been issued bearing the word OFICIAL and in an unsurcharged state.

This stamp will come after No. 140 in the Catalogue.



Habilitado

JULY, 1908. Type 40, with OFICIAL added under figure of value, overprinted in black as Type 42, but space between "Habilitado" and bar 14 mm. (instead of 7 mm.)

1 p., black and orange.

Turkey.—We have found three more varieties of the 1905 issue in our stock.



23

1905. Type 23.

(b) Perf. 13½.

- 1800/10 par., green.
1810/10 pias., dull orange.

(c) Perf. 12 and 13½ compound.

181½/10 par., green.

a collector in Montevideo, who was, I believe, the discoverer of the forgery.

Their history is simple; they were made by an engraver and lithographer, an ex-employé of Mege and Aubriet, he was also mixed up in other forgeries. His name escapes me at the present moment, but any old collector in Montevideo can tell Mr. Davis his name.

Yours, etc.,

G.

12.8.08.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 12
Whole No. 194

19 SEPTEMBER, 1908

Vol. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Germany

(Thurn and Taxis, N. German Confederation, and German Empire)—*continued*

Thurn and Taxis

AS has been explained, Thurn and Taxis was not a political division of Germany, but is a designation applied to the stamps issued in connection with the monopoly of postage affairs held by the princely house of this name. This monopoly dated back to the fifteenth century, when the Emperor Frederick III granted to the Taxis family the working of the posts in his dominions. In 1520 the Emperor Charles created Baptiste de Taxis "Postmaster-General of the German or Holy Roman Empire," and this office was made hereditary.

The Thurn and Taxis Post Office had its headquarters in Frankfort, and the extent of its monopoly about the year 1850 has already been detailed. From the latter it will be seen that its operation included States some of which used the North German currency of *silbergroschen* and others the South German one of *kreuzer*, thus necessitating two series of stamps. Before, therefore, dealing with the stamps, some explanation of this monetary system seems desirable.

The Northern group, with a few exceptions, had for its unit the *thaler*, equal to about 3s. of our money. This was as a rule subdivided into 30 *silbergroschen*, *groschen*, or *neugroschen*, each of which was equivalent to 12 *pfennige*. Thus in English money 1 *silbergroschen* equalled 1½d. In Hanover and Brunswick the *thaler* was divided into 24 *gute groschen* of 12 *pfennige*, whilst in Bremen 72 *grote* made up the unit. Hanover in 1858 adopted the subdivision of 300 *pfennige* = 30 *groschen* = 1 *thaler*, thus coming into line except as regards the lowest denomination; whilst in Mecklenburg 48 *schilling* made up the *thaler* of 30 *groschen*. Schleswig, Hamburg, Lubeck, and Bergedorf employed the *Hänover mark* (1s. 2d.) as the unit, it being divided into 16 *schilling*. Practically, therefore, all the currency of North Germany can be reduced to *silbergroschen*.

The monetary unit for the Southern States

was the *gulden* or *florin*, divided into 60 *kreuzer*. This was at one time worth 2s. or two-thirds of a *thaler*, so that 3 *kreuzer* exactly equalled 1 *silbergroschen*. Eventually the value of the *gulden* fell to about 1s. 8d., but, as will be seen later, the equation mentioned served as the basis of issue of concurrent series of stamps.

The stamps of Thurn and Taxis were issued under the provisions of a postal convention dated 6 April, 1850, establishing a German-Austrian Postal Union. This convention was of much importance, since by it the postal arrangements over a great portion of Central Europe were regulated and uniform rates established. By the terms of this convention stamps of 1 *kreuzer* were allowed to correspond to the ½ *silbergroschen*, a distinct advantage for the Southern States.

The design of the stamps was after the model of those of Baden, Bavaria, and Württemberg, and printed in a similar manner on paper of different colours. A contract for the paper was made with a paper-manufacturer at Hanau, and another contract was made with C. Naumann, printer, at Frankfort, for the construction of the plates and the printing of the stamps, which were to be in sheets of 150, the plates being composed of separate blocks clamped together.

The first issue was made 1 January, 1852, and consisted of four values for each division, those corresponding in the different currencies being of the same colour. The stamps for the Northern States have the numeral of value enclosed in a square-shaped frame; those for the Southern have the numeral within a circular frame. The numerals are on an engine-turned ground, the pattern of which differs for each value. The inscription to the left refers to the above-mentioned German-Austrian Postal Union. These stamps continued in use till 1859-60, and there were several printings, especially of the ½ sgr. and 1 kr., and the 1 sgr. and 3 kr. In consequence many shades are to be found. These first issues are scarce un-

used in good condition, but, as the following prices determine, easy to obtain used.

On 1 January, 1854, the rate on single local letters, prepaid by stamps, posted and delivered in the Northern States, was reduced to $\frac{1}{4}$ sgr., and a stamp of this value was added to the series. It was similar in design to those of the first issue, but the value in the centre is on a ground of wavy lines.

On 1 July, 1858, a new value of 4 pfennige or $\frac{1}{3}$ sgr. was issued for the purpose of franking printed matter under band from those parts served by the Thurn and Taxis office, where the currency was in silbergroschen, to other parts within the range of the office. This stamp was also of similar type to the rest of the series, but the central background has a pattern resembling numerals of "3" interlacing one another.



1 January, 1852-8. Black on coloured paper. Imperf.

Northern District.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{4}$ sgr., on red-brown	25 0	1 6
" " flesh	5 0	5 0
" " green	80 0	0 6
" " blue	200 0	0 6
" " rose	140 0	0 8
" " yellow	90 0	0 6

Southern District.

1 kr., on green	7 6	0 3
3 " " blue	120 0	0 2
6 " " rose	100 0	0 4
9 " " yellow	80 0	0 4

In 1859 the Thurn and Taxis office abandoned the use of coloured paper and printed all its stamps in colours on white paper, and as the old stocks became exhausted those on white paper were substituted. But before any of the latter stamps were issued, two new values were put into circulation, viz. 5 sgr. and 15 kr. and 10 sgr. and 30 kr. These were on white paper, and somewhat resembled the other stamps then current. The inscriptions at the sides were each in one line instead of two as previously. The central background of the 5 sgr. and 15 kr. is composed of a network pattern in which the figures "5" and "15" respectively are repeated in Arabic and Roman numerals. In the background of the other values the repetition is only in Arabic numerals. There were no further printings of these stamps, and they were not

rouletted later on like the lower values. Specimens so rouletted or perforated (some are known thus) are unofficial and of no philatelic value. Large remainders of these high values were sold to dealers some years later, which accounts for the trifling prices in the Catalogue.



1859. Coloured impression on white paper. Imperf. Northern District.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 sgr., lilac	0 3	3 0
10 " " orange	0 4	25 0

Southern District.

15 kr., lilac	0 3	2 6
30 " " orange	0 4	12 6

The other values printed on white paper are of exactly the same types as the 1852-8 issues, and appeared at intervals during 1859 and 1860, with the exception of the $\frac{1}{3}$ sgr., which was not issued till 1863, the stock in hand printed in black on flesh being very large. The colour of this value had by then been altered, but the other values were printed in the same colours as those of the paper on which they were first printed. There is one exception, viz. the 3 sgr., which appeared in a red-brown shade instead of yellow, and for which the writer has seen no explanation. As this value was changed in colour to brown in 1861 this may have been an intelligent anticipation, but the corresponding value of 9 kr. duly appeared in yellow.

For some years a 3 kr. printed in green was looked upon as an error in the colour of the 1 kr., but the best authorities discredit the alleged issue and regard such stamps as "proofs."

1859-60. Types as 1852-8. Coloured impression on white paper. Imperf.

Northern District.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{4}$ sgr., brown-red	6 0	1 0
" " green	35 0	1 6
" " blue	40 0	0 8
" " rose	6 0	2 6
3 " " red-brown	15 0	0 10

Southern District.

1 kr., green	6 0	0 2
3 " " blue	75 0	0 4
6 " " rose	60 0	3 0
9 " " yellow	80 0	2 0

(To be continued.)

PLBASE 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

Sale of the Turkish "Remainders"

SOME years ago the Turkish Post Office handed over its huge remainders of postage stamps, cards, and envelopes, amounting to nearly 18,000,000, to the Commission of one of the railways.

This stock was offered by the different Turkish embassies in this country, France, Germany, and no doubt in many other countries, and we were informed that £8000 would be accepted for the lot.

A sale was found to be impossible at this price, and eventually the stock was sold on 21 May last in Turkey for a much lower price—probably rather under £5000.

I understand that the stamps are in the hands of wealthy merchants of Constantinople (not stamp dealers), and that they are offering the stock in one lot at a high figure.

I do not think that a sale will be effected at their figures, and I am informed that they are prepared to keep the stamps for some years if necessary. Therefore no great reduction in prices seems likely for some time to come.

So that collectors may know what stamps are in this remainder, I give a translation of an "official" list of the stamps it contains.

It will be noted that no perforations are given, and it is therefore not always possible to say to which number in our Catalogue a particular lot refers, but to guide collectors I attach a list of our Catalogue numbers as nearly correct as I can fix them without seeing the stamps.

TURKEY.

Cat. Nos.	Date.	Value and Colour.	No. of Stamps in the Remainder.
13	1864-5	10 paras, green	25,657
14 & 20	"	20 " yellow	55,421
15 & 21	"	1 piast., lilac	6,195
16 & 22	"	1 " pearl-grey	8,406
17	"	2 " deep blue	25,315
26	1866-7	2 " blue	1,710
18	1864-5	5 " carmine-rose	42,270
27	1867	5 " red	30,004
313	1864-5	10 paras, deep brown	217,453
314	"	2 piast. "	376,175
315	"	2 " brown	27,246
316	"	2 " "	61,383
317	"	25 " deep brown	2,469
42-43	1871	20 paras, green	835
32	1868-9	1 piast., yellow	31,499
47	1870-1	2 " brick-red	167,535
37	1868-9	5 " grey	14,181
34	"	5 " blue	1,495,851
35, 36	"	5 " light blue	446,730
38	"	25 " light red	25,991
318	1867	20 paras, light brown	2,620
323	1868-9	20 " brown	2,820
326	"	5 piastre, brown, dark border	206,472
327	"	25 " "	213
63	1874-5	1 piast., yellow	7,439

Cat. Nos.	Date.	Value and Colour.	No. of Stamps in the Remainder.
45	1870-1	2 piast., red	59,233
333 ^a , 336	"	1 " light brown	335
335 ^b , 337	"	2 " deep brown	69,209
334, 338	"	5 " " "	1,327,949
339	"	25 " " "	6,156
See Note A	1872-3	10 paras, deep yellow	139
62	1874-5	20 " green	1,514
69	1875-6	10 " (½ Pre) violet	116,604
70	"	20 " (½ Pre) green	42,203
71	"	50 " (1½ Pre), deep rose	521,437
72	"	" (2 Pre), light brown	3,228
73	"	5 piast. (5 Pre), blue	182,131
64	1876	10 paras, lilac	495,970
65	"	20 " green	971,064
67	"	1 piast., yellow	78,403
67a	"	1 " deep yellow	1,212,627
80	"	10 paras, black on lilac	103,205
82	1876-7	50 " blue on yellow	589,510
83	"	2 piast., black on yellow	603,274
(Note B) 84	"	5 " red on blue	50,045
85	"	25 " dull red on rose	20,607
86	1880	20 paras, black on rose	2,625
88	1881	5 " black on yellow	136,068
81 (?)	1881-2	20 " greyish	161,217
83	"	2 piast., brick-red	553,014
90	1884	10 paras, black on deep blue	127,506
104	"	10 " green on light green	372,982
105, 106	"	20 " red	799,217
107, 108	"	1 piast., blue on bluish	495,778
109	"	2 " deep yellow on pale yellow	275,607
110	"	5 " deep brown	108,568
112	1886	5 paras, black	257,374
114, 119	"	2 piast., orange	710,261
115	"	5 " greenish	105,898
117	"	25 " brown	6,377
128	1888	5 paras, green	176,991
129	"	2 piast., lilac	576,742
130	"	5 " brown on grey	100,560
131	"	25 " red on yellow	10,108
340, 342a	"	20 paras, black	267,802
341	"	1 piast. "	249,485
342	"	2 " "	333,990
137, 142	1890	2 " deep yellow	516,429
Not catalogued	"	2 " greenish on yellow	4,650
138, 143	"	5 " yellow on grey	168,853

EASTERN ROUMELIA.

Cat. Nos.	Date.	Value and Colour.	No. of Stamps in the Remainder.
13	1880-1	5 paras, black on yellow	91
15	"	20 " black on rose	196,610
16, 17	"	1 piast., black on blue	6,861
18	"	5 " red on blue	13,722
20	1884	10 paras, green	198,170
21	"	5 " violet	198,420
Not issued	"	20 " rose	498,759
Not issued	"	1 piast., blue	296,300

Also about 139,000 envelopes and 158,000 post cards.

NOTE A.—I cannot identify this stamp. In the official list it is entered as "10 Paras jaune foncé, 1872-3, 1288." It is the only stamp in the list with the Mohammedan "1288." It may be part of a sheet of 10 paras, printed in error in the colour of the 1 piastre, and of which the rest has been sold.

NOTE B.—It would be interesting to examine this lot and see if any sheets contain the error 25 piastres in the colour of the 5 piastres.

All the dates and colours are given as in the official list of the remainders, and not as in our Catalogue.

Record Dates of Victoria Stamps

IN the *Monthly Journal* for May, 1907, Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg published a list of the earliest dates he had met with on Victoria stamps.

Mr. W. R. Rundell, of Melbourne, who has been over here on a visit for some months, has been good enough to allow me to inspect his collection, and has given me the following list of Victoria stamps which he has (mostly on letters) with dates earlier than those given by Mr. Hausburg.

In all cases the numbers quoted are those of Stanley Gibbons 1908 Catalogue.

Catalogue No.	Hausburg.	Rundell.
44-45	17. 6.59	30. 5.59
62	25. 7.60	21. 1.59
64	16. 4.59	19. 2.59
70	1. 5.60	15. 9.59
72	26. 9.60	23. 7.60
73	8.61	22. 7.61
74a	No date mentioned	28. 9.61
83	15. 2.61	31. 7.60
87	4.11.62	15. 9.62
90	12.11.62	15.10.62
91	No date mentioned	2. 5.60
92	25.10.62	10. 6.62
93a	No date mentioned	18. 3.65
95	23. 1.62	23.12.61
105	27.10.64	17.10.64
99	21. 2.68	14.10.67
112	No date mentioned	28.12.66
107	2. 1.65	22. 6.64
106	21. 2.66	2. 2.66
115	No date mentioned	25. 1.65
108a	25.11.64	24.11.64
108	3.11.63	15. 9.63
100	31. 3.64	19. 3.64
100a	27. 1.64	25. 1.64
151	4. 7.68	29.10.66
131	4.65	14. 4.66
122	27.11.67	2. 9.67
125	22. 1.68	30. 8.67
120	21. 9.68	17. 8.68
153	No date mentioned	21.12.67
155	22. 8.81	25.11.70?
146	10. 7.76	23. 4.74
159	28.12.77	16. 5.76
162	No date mentioned	?3.77
167	11. 6.77	25. 2.70
168	No date mentioned	10. 4.74
171	"	25. 5.78
172	"	29. 5.76
173	"	21. 7.77
174	"	21. 3.78
177	10. 1.75	14. 4.75
177	No date mentioned	15. 1.74
175	"	2.10.73
178	"	27. 6.75
178	"	20. 3.78
179	"	1. 3.78
182	"	30. 3.78
112	22. 3.79	16. 9.79
		7. 2.79

South and Central Americans

IN commenting on a few notes I recently published in this paper on these stamps, *The Philatelic Record* for August states:—

We may give some of our readers pleasure during the coming season by drawing attention to certain South and Central American countries, the stamps of which are certainly worthy of the notice of the earnest collector and philatelist.

I am very pleased to see this note, and shall look forward to some interesting reading. There is yet much to be learnt about Guatemala, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Colombia and her States, Peru, Uruguay, Argentine, etc. etc., and articles on any of these countries from the pens of the earnest philatelists of the Manchester school will be read and studied by all who are keen philatelists.

The Postage Stamps, etc., of the Fiji Islands

I HAVE pleasure in announcing that I have written a short work under the above title which we shall publish in October as one of the series of *The Stanley Gibbons Philatelic Handbooks*. The work is now being printed; it is similar in get-up and size to the publications of the Royal Philatelic Society and contains fourteen chapters, and there are numerous illustrations in the text, and in addition there are fifteen full-size sheets of photogravure reproductions.

At present I am unable to state the price, but it is rather expensive, owing to the high cost of the plates.

Russian Stamp Frauds

NEARLY three-quarters of a million sterling has been stolen in the past three years from the Russian Post Office Department by a gang of swindlers, headed by a post office official of Moscow. Over a score of arrests have been made in and about Moscow and in Warsaw. The Moscow official advertised for used stamps, and bought them in millions, both in Russia and in Germany. These were sent to Warsaw, where the postmarks were cleaned off, and the stamps, made up in packets of thousands, returned to Moscow. They were sold mostly in small shops that make a business in Russia of keeping a stock of postage stamps to save the public the endless delays involved in a visit to a Russian post office. Numbers were also disposed of at the Moscow head post office by the official interested, who offered them to impatient customers tired of waiting their turn in the *queue*.

The *modus operandi* of the Warsaw Jews accused of cleaning used stamps is simple in the extreme. It is said that nothing more is needed to remove the Russian postmarks than to soak the stamps for a time in petroleum, after which they are dried, and only an expert eye can then detect the fraud.

It is believed the frauds extend much beyond what has yet been discovered, as large quantities of bill stamps have also been found to be clever forgeries. These stamps are not susceptible to the cleaning process, as the usual way of defacing them, at any rate in large offices, is with a perforating machine.—*Standard*, 27 August, 1908.

As is often the case, the Russian authorities have to thank the stamp dealers for posting them up about these frauds. Some three months ago we received certain communications from Poland which clearly pointed to fraud. We immediately sent the correspondence to the postal authorities in Russia, and congratulate them upon the clean sweep they have made of the guilty parties.

Speculations in Stamps

AT the Norwich Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday, before Mr. Registrar Cooke, the public examination took place of the Rev. Edward Peers Wickham, late of Norwich, and also lately residing in Ripley Road, West Worthing, clerk in Holy Orders, whose gross liabilities were given as £702 18s. 4d., expected to rank £691 5s. 10d., and deficiency £659 3s. 4d. In reply to the Official Receiver, debtor said he took orders in November, 1903, and was at once instituted as curate at St. James's Church, Norwich, his stipend being £130 as a deacon, and eighteen months after that £150. At that time he had about £70 in hand, and all his liabilities were created while he was in Norwich. In January last he left Norwich in order to see his mother, who was ill, he having resigned the curacy six months previously, and while away he also was taken ill. His circumstances were involved, and in March, through a Bexhill solicitor, he executed a deed of assignment to one creditor. Subsequently he heard that other creditors would not assent to this, and that one of them, a money-lender, intended to make him bankrupt. He had had several loans from money-lenders, once borrowing £190 in three months, and this

money was chiefly for current expenses. He was a stamp collector, and a specialist in those from particular countries. In order to complete his collections of those countries, he bought whole collections from other people, and sold what he did not want. In November he bought a collection for £140, and had since split it up and sold it for £38, as some of the stamps which he thought valuable proved worthless. In fifteen years he had been engaged in stamp transactions amounting to £6000, while he had been involved in several litigations which cost him £200. The examination was closed.—*Sussex News*, 28 August, 1908.

Mr. Wickham has found amateur stamp dealing does not pay. A very considerable knowledge is required, and I am told that Mr. Wickham bought collections containing repaired stamps which were not marked as repaired, and which he valued at high prices when he bought the collections, but found to be worth only a small proportion of catalogue value when he came to sell them.

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

Gambia and Gold Coast.

A FAIRLY representative book of these popular little countries.

Victoria.

Two really good books, very strong in fine used stamps of the early issues, as we have included a large number of stamps from the large correspondence we recently purchased.

Some interesting blocks and strips, and many plate flaws, etc., are included, which will be of use to the advanced collector, and to those less advanced. An early choice of the superb copies will be found to be advantageous.

Lagos and Sierra Leone.

A good book of these two popular West African countries, almost all issues well represented in both used and unused.

A Novel Competition

AN office boy has collected twenty-five stamps with various portraits and scenes depicted upon them, and has written under each stamp his idea of what the designs on the stamps actually represent.

We insert his description of his stamps, and will give prizes as below to the readers who fill in most correctly the Catalogue types of the real stamps which the descriptions represent. The following conditions must be observed:—

1. All answers to be sent in by 1 December, 1908.
2. All answers to be made by the types of illustrations in Stanley Gibbons 1908 Catalogue and Supplement.
3. All answers must be on the printed forms provided and sent free in this paper; any extra number of forms may be sent in, and blank forms can be supplied at one penny each post free.

4. In filling up the entry forms it is only necessary to put the name of the country and the number of the *illustration* in our Catalogue; the Catalogue number of the stamp is not wanted.

The prizes will be as follows:—

1st prize.	Sets of Stamps value	£3 0 0
2nd "	Packets "	2 0 0
3rd "	Publications "	1 0 0

The following is the letter from the "Office Boy":—

Too the Rite Honbul Pressident Fillups of Sir Tainly Givems Kumpnay.

Onnerd Sir,

Yore Royle Eyeness, Greetin, 'ow are yer my Printz of Flat Lists—and Marster Frank and orle the rest of the famby, abel to sit up and take a littel nurrishment I ope. Bein doti too I venchur to offer you a sugestshun. The Sitty of London Flat Lists had a Kompetishun the other day as to oo shud send in the best lot of Twenti fife stamp Porkrakes. I sent in a lot—sneeked offn mi gunver, oos a dottl Flat List too, but they giv me nuffin but a vote of thanks wich dont ermont ter much even wif suggor an lemmon. They sed summer my lots waz subjicks not porkrakes an those as waz Porkrakes I'd been and giv the rong names to. Orle I can say is as the fokes waz more like the wans I sed than their-selves so I send the lot onter you thinkin you mite set your readers a guessin oo thay are from mi deskripshuns and the wan that gesses most rite you kan giv sumpn outer the bean bag. Ferinstans wonner mi lotz waz that grate big plaster number 553 in yore list of United States, you call this yer wun "Franklin" I mayntayn its the "Grate Lick"

(Founder of the Grate American observe-a-Tory) so called because thay had to keep boyze to do nutthin else but lik them. Wot a life! Livin' on gum! I rekin I aint arf ticked off them suphragets in sum er mi selekshuns! Well. So-long.

Rite soon.
Yours Feckshernutly,
OFFICE BOY.

The following is the list of stamps with their description by the "Office Boy."

- | | |
|-------|---|
| No. 1 | A Pleesman. |
| " 2 | Bufler Bill. |
| " 3 | Unkel Remus. |
| " 4 | Queer Hardie. |
| " 5 | C. J. Fillups. |
| " 6 | Sir Wilyum Harkort. |
| " 7 | } Suphraget Butee Show. |
| " 8 | |
| " 9 | } Suphragets after the Erf. |
| " 10 | |
| " 11 | Watin for a Tram in a fog. |
| " 12 | Suphraget Droppin on Men. |
| " 13 | Our Lidy of the Snows. |
| " 14 | Plukkin chikkens in a hot kitchen. |
| " 15 | Venus Helpin the Cook. |
| " 16 | E Pie or Nix. The Erly Burd. |
| " 17 | The Mishin Link. |
| " 18 | Cotter Bowling Temp. 120°. |
| " 19 | Mokes at Margit. |
| " 20 | Hakkensmit Restlin. |
| " 21 | Mr. Munki Bran, wont wash cloze. |
| " 22 | Sampel of Lundin Water. |
| " 23 | Wot Vasko sore goin' home after a nite of it. |
| " 24 | L.C.C. Stemebote. |
| " 25 | My ole Pal Jumbo—Wat O the Zoo. |

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

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British Possessions in Asia—continued

North Borneo

NORTH BORNEO, or more correctly speaking British North Borneo, comprises, as the title infers, the northern portion of the island of that name, which is the third largest in the world.

The territories which form this British protectorate are 30,000 square miles in area, and were ceded to Great Britain by the Sultan of Brunei in 1842, and formerly constituted the State of the same name. In 1881 the control of this portion of the British Empire was leased to a private company, which was incorporated under Royal Warrant in London on 1 November of that year,

under the title of the British North Borneo Company. In organization it is similar to the old Honourable East India Company and the Chartered Company of British South Africa, and is privileged to administer sovereign power within its own dominions, to draw up its own code of laws, to maintain its own form of government, and to keep a standing army, etc. In 1888, together with Brunei and Sarawak, it was placed under British protection.

The country is mountainous and unhealthy, but on the whole fertile and rich in mineral resources. It produces opium, edible birds nests, timber, tobacco, sago, rice, gums

gutta-percha, coconuts, rattans, etc., for export; whilst, in addition, sugar, tapioca, and gambier are cultivated in large quantities, and coal and gold are mined for.

The interior of the country is densely wooded and mountainous, the highest peak being Mount Kina Balou, 13,700 feet, a view of which figures on the current 18 cents postage stamp of the country. The population is estimated at 175,000, composed chiefly of Malays, with some Indian and Chinese traders, who, attracted by the superior resources of the country, have immigrated from the adjacent colony of Labuan, whilst the interior of the country is peopled by aboriginal tribes of Dyaks given to head-hunting and cannibalism.

The country is being rapidly developed, the trade being chiefly in the hands of private concerns who have received concessions from the British Borneo Company itself. A railway has recently been built connecting Beaufort with the town of Jesselton, on Gaya Bay, a distance of fifty-six miles, and another is in course of construction connecting the capital Sandakan with Brunei, the chief town of that State. Sandakan is linked by cable, via Labuan, with both Hong Kong and Singapore, and also possesses a telephone system. For the maintenance of order a force of Dyak armed constabulary is maintained by the Company under British officers, with one machine and four mountain guns. For administrative purposes the country is divided into ten districts, each with a white Resident, and subject to the supreme control of a resident Governor, who is appointed by the Board of Directors subject to the approval of the Secretary of State. The laws of the country are based upon the Indian Penal Code.

British North Borneo has an extensive coast-line, nearly 900 miles in length, which contains many excellent harbours. The capital and chief port is Sandakan, situate on the north-east coast of the island, and having a population of about 7000. The other important towns are Gaya, Jesselton, Kudat, Silam, and Mempakol.

Currency.—100 cents = \$1 = 2s. 4d.

British North Borneo entered the Postal Union 14 February, 1891.

Stamps first issued in 1883.

Reference to the doubtful methods employed by this Company in connection with its postal issues, has already been made in the preceding chapter on Labuan. In January, 1906, however, the fiat went forth that no more stamps were to be cancelled to order for sale to dealers, and that no stamps were, under any circumstances, to be defaced excepting those which had actually passed through the post. No mention was made, unfortunately, as to whether the practice of having the current series on

sale at the British North Borneo Company's offices in London was also to be discontinued.

About July, 1901, two new values were added to the current series of these territories, of the denominations of 10 and 16 cents respectively. Like the remaining values of the series, they were of a pictorial nature and handsome design. The former shows a Bruang or Malay tree-climbing bear, one of the fauna of the country; whilst the latter has for its central design a view of a Borneo forest, showing one of the trains on the new railway from Jesselton to Beaufort passing through. The stamps are inscribed STATE OF NORTH BORNEO at the top, and POSTAGE & REVENUE, and have the value in words in English at the foot, and in numerals in circles in all four corners of the design, with inscriptions in Arabic and Malay at either side of the stamp on decorative panels.

July (?), 1901.

New values. Oblong pictorial designs. No wmk. Perf. 14, 15. Engraved and printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, in London, in sheets of 100; ten rows of ten. Centres in second colours.

10 cents, slate-lilac and brown.
16 „ chestnut and green.

North Borneo had been placed under British protection in 1888, but having exhausted every other excuse for the issue of a new series of postage stamps, the whole of the current series of the State was overprinted with the words BRITISH PROTECTORATE, in order that this fact might not be lost sight of by an unsympathetic and forgetful public. The subjoined is the official announcement made by the Secretary of the Company on the occasion of this issue:—

North Borneo having been a British Protectorate for some years, the Court of Directors decided that, in order to make this fact more generally known, the stamps should be surcharged accordingly.

All values with the exception of the 10 and 16 c., listed above, and the \$1 denomination were placed on sale on 8 October, 1901, the 10 and 16 c. receiving this overprint in the following July, whilst the \$1 was not issued with this surcharge until January, 1904.

1901-4.

Designs of 1897-1902 surcharged BRITISH PROTECTORATE in two lines, in tall thin capitals, in various coloured inks, the colours of which are indicated by initials given after each value thus: R., red; Bl., blue; B., black; G., green. Engraved, printed, and overprinted by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, in London. No wmk. Perf. 14 to 15. Centres in second colours. Designs as described.

1 c., black and bistre-brown (Dyak chief), R.
2 c., green and black (Malay stag), R.

- 3 c., dull purple and green (Palm tree), B.
 4 c., carmine and black (Ourangoutang), G.
 5 c., orange-vermilion and black (Argus pheasant), G.
 6 c., deep brown and black (Badge of Company), R.
 8 c., dull purple and black (Malay dhow), Bl.
 10 c., slate-violet and brown (Bruang), R.
 12 c., dull blue and black (Crocodile), R.
 16 c., chestnut and green (Railway train), B.
 18 c., green and black (Mt. Kina Balou), R.
 24 c., lake and blue (Arms of Company), B.
 25 c., indigo (Badge of Company), R.
 50 c., violet (Arms of Company), R.
 \$1, scarlet (Arms of Company), B.

The values from 1 c. to 24 c. of the above series were surcharged in complete sheets of one hundred, in ten rows of ten, from stereotype plates at two impressions, fifty stamps or one half-sheet being overprinted at each operation; a horizontal row of five surcharges being set up and ten stereos taken therefrom, and arranged one above the other for overprinting fifty stamps at one time. The higher denominations are printed in sheets of fifty stamps only, and are so surcharged, fresh stereos being used for the overprinting of these values, arranged in five rows of five capable of surcharging one half-sheet of these stamps at each impression. The surcharge on the denominations of 2 c., 8 c., 10 c., 16 c., and 18 c. is much closer together than on the remaining values.

Shade.

In a printing made about June, 1904, the 6 c. denomination of the above series received the overprint in a shade of carmine quite distinct from the red ink first employed.

- 6 c., deep brown and black, with surcharge in carmine instead of red.

Varieties.

All stamps in the third and seventh vertical rows of the sheets of the first printing of the 10 c. value with the BRITISH PROTECTORATE surcharge have the full stop omitted after the word PROTECTORATE, this variety being corrected in subsequent printings. The 6 c. also exists with this same variety, but I do not know in what position on the sheets nor in what quantities. This variety also occurred as No. 40 on the first sheets of the 25 c. denomination overprinted, but only about one hundred copies are known, as the error was corrected in the second printing of this value, the first consisting of one hundred sheets only.

No stop after PROTECTORATE.

- 6 c., deep brown and black (red surcharge).
 10 c., slate-lilac and brown (red surcharge).
 25 c., indigo (red surcharge).

One sheet of the 25 c. denomination was discovered with the surcharge on half the sheet inverted. As has been explained above, the stamps were overprinted at two operations, half the sheet of twenty-five stamps being overprinted at one impression. In this manner twenty of the stamps had the inverted surcharge, and there were five pairs across the centre of the sheet which were *tête-beche*.

Inverted Overprint.

- 25 c., indigo (red surcharge).
Tête-beche in horizontal pairs.
 25 c., indigo (red surcharge).

By way of using up an unnecessarily large stock of certain values of unsurcharged stamps of some of the older issues of the State, nine values of the series of 1894 and 1897 were uniformly surcharged "4 cents" and so issued. These stamps were entirely unnecessary and purely speculative in origin, and were for the most part sold to dealers from the Company's offices in London in complete sets, either unused or cancelled to order, and it is doubtful if any of the surcharged stamps ever saw Sandakan at all. They were issued about November, 1904.

1904.

Various denominations of the issues of 1894-7. Surcharged "4 cents" in two lines in black. Engraved, printed, and overprinted by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons in London. No wmk. Perf. 14, 15. Centres in second colour.

- 4 c. on 5 c., vermilion and black (Argus pheasant).
 4 c. on 6 c., deep brown and black (Badge of Company).
 4 c. on 8 c., rose-red and black (Malay dhow).
 4 c. on 12 c., dull blue and black (Crocodile).
 4 c. on 18 c., green and black (Mount Kina Balou).
 4 c. on 24 c., lake and blue (Arms of Company).
 4 c. on 25 c., indigo (Badge of Company).
 4 c. on 50 c., violet (Arms of Company).
 4 c. on \$1, scarlet (Arms of Company).

Varieties.

One sheet of the 4 c. on 6 c. of the above series has been discovered with the overprint inverted.

Inverted Surcharge.

- 4 c. on 6 c., deep brown and black.

In August of the following year an apparently genuine demand for this denomination arose in the State itself, and three of the high values of the current series were surcharged in a similar manner to the series listed above, not in London, but in Sandakan itself, and were on sale there for a short time only.

August, 1905.

High values of 1881. Surcharged "4 cents" in two lines in black, in the British North Borneo Company's press at Sandakan, in complete sheets of fifty stamps, in ten rows of five. Large square stamps. No wmk. Perf. 14. Engraved and printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons in London.

4 c. on \$2, dull green (Arms of Company).

4 c. on \$5, mauve (Arms of Company).

A new stamp of the value of \$2 was added in February of the same year to the series surcharged BRITISH PROTECTORATE, the designation being superimposed in red upon the \$2 stamp of 1888, whilst late in that year, in November, a further supply of the \$1, scarlet, with the same overprint was issued, the surcharge being, however, this time in red like the two dollars instead of black as originally. Of this latter stamp only a very small quantity was surcharged in red, and by the beginning of February, 1906, all were exhausted, and a fresh printing presumably made with the black overprint.

February and November, 1905.

High denominations of 1888. Overprinted BRITISH PROTECTORATE in tall thin capitals, in two lines, in red. Large square stamps. No wmk. Perf. 14. Engraved, printed, and overprinted by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons.

\$1, scarlet.

\$2, dull green.

Unpaid Letter Stamps.

About October, 1901, a series of Unpaid Letter stamps, similar to that overprinted for use in Labuan in the preceding July, was issued for use in this Protectorate, and was, of course, also placed on sale at the London offices of the Company. The series contained nine values identical with those surcharged for the island colony, the designs being partly those of 1897 issue of the State, and the remainder those issued in 1900. As has already been stated under LABUAN, these stamps could, until 1 January, 1906, be purchased over the counter at the Company's post offices, or could be obtained in London, either unused or cancelled to order, in complete sets; but since that date they have only been allowed to be affixed to letters, upon which there was a charge to collect, by the postal officials themselves.

October (?), 1901.

Regular series of 1897-1900. Surcharged POSTAGE DUE in tall thin sans-serif capitals in one line, in black, vertically. No wmk. Perf. 14, 15. Engraved, printed, and overprinted by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons in London. Centres in second colours. Designs as described.

2 c., green and black (Roussa or Malay stag).

3 c., dull purple and olive-green (Palm tree).

4 c., carmine and black (Ourangoutang).

5 c., orange-vermilion and black (Argus pheasant).

6 c., deep brown and black (Badge of Company).

8 c., brown-purple and black (Malay dhow).

12 c., dull blue and black (Crocodile).

18 c., green & black (View of Mount Kina Balou).

24 c., red and blue (Arms of Company).

Varieties.

The following varieties exist on stamps of this series, but I have no particulars as to their numbers or positions on the sheets.

Full stop after DUE.

3 c., dull purple and olive-green (Palm tree).

5 c., orange-vermilion and black (Argus pheasant).

Surcharged horizontally instead of vertically.

8 c., brown-purple and black (Malay dhow).

Same, and stop after DUE.

8 c., brown-purple and black.

In July, 1904, four values of the current series of the State overprinted BRITISH PROTECTORATE were issued additionally surcharged POSTAGE DUE horizontally in one line in black, between the two words of the first surcharge, for use as Unpaid Letter stamps, and in December of the same year a further value, viz. 1 c., was added to this series.

1904.

Series of 1901-4 surcharged BRITISH PROTECTORATE additionally overprinted POSTAGE DUE horizontally in one line in black, between the words BRITISH and PROTECTORATE. No wmk. Perf. 14, 15. Wove paper. Engraved, printed, and overprinted by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons in London. Centres in second colours.

1 c., brown-ochre and black (Dyak chief).

2 c., green and black (Roussa or Malay stag).

4 c., carmine and black (Ourangoutang).

5 c., orange-vermilion and black (Argus pheasant).

8 c., dull purple and black (Malay dhow).

Variety.

The variety of the 8 c. value without the stop after PROTECTORATE was likewise surcharged and issued as above.

No stop after PROTECTORATE. Surcharged POSTAGE DUE.

8 c., dull purple and black (Malay dhow).

On some of the sheets of 5 c. stamps surcharged POSTAGE DUE the tops of some of the letters in the word POSTAGE failed to print satisfactorily, thus giving the word the appearance of PUSIAGE.

PUSIAGE instead of POSTAGE DUE.

5 c., orange-vermilion and black (Argus pheasant).

About 11 July, 1906, the 2 c. value of the above Postage Due series made its appearance with the words POSTAGE DUE printed across the top of the stamp instead of between the words BRITISH and PROTECTORATE.

Surcharge at top instead of in centre of stamp.

2 c. green and black (Roussa or Malay stag).

(To be continued.)

Cataloguers and Colour-names

By "FORMICA"

AS any one who has tried housekeeping knows, fortune and a blessing await the man who shall invent a fresh animal to provide joints which may serve to break the monotony of beef and mutton; in the same way blessings would certainly be showered upon any one who could suggest to a harassed cataloguer half a dozen entirely fresh colour-names. In the early days it was simple enough; red, blue, yellow, green, brown, and black, with an occasional mauve or violet, served well enough to describe stamps which were mostly all in one colour; but the advent of aniline dyes and art shades has put a very heavy tax upon his ingenuity, and recourse must be had to very composite descriptions, some of which sound more like racing colours than anything else: apricot, black cap—I mean centre. I don't think apricot actually occurs in S.G., but it must be a close candidate. Vegetables, flowers, and fruits are freely drawn upon, chestnut, myrtle, olive, sage, and, at Mr. Luff's suggestion, *reseda* (don't be alarmed, this is only a fancy name for *mignonette*!). The only wonder is that ginger and mustard have not been pressed into the service; then "maize"; I wonder how many philatelists know exactly what shade maize is until they see the stamp, or if they know even then!

There is one thing about using these fancy colour-names: you are not likely to be contradicted! I did once venture to question the suggestions of a cataloguing friend of mine. "I say, old chap," I asked him, "do you think that is quite a 'claret'?" "Well, what else would you call it?" he said; and when I suggested "Burgundy," he got quite annoyed. Silly, I call it; I was only trying to help him.

Of course, different people do see the same colour in a different light and call it something else; even the same person does not see it alike on two different days. Take this friend of mine, for instance; it's all a matter of liver with him: he comes up one morning in a very good temper, feeling pretty fit; a new stamp has just arrived, and he catalogues it, say, "rosy lake"; or, if things are not going very well with him (the kid was fretful in the night, and the breakfast toast was burnt), then that stamp goes down to posterity as "dull magenta." That's a sad fate for a stamp, to be labelled "dull magenta."

The great stumbling-block of many of those who compile catalogues seems to be our old friend "mauve." Mauve is used as

a generic term for any colour with red and blue in it. Now I can't describe to you what "mauve" really is, but I know it when I see it, and to my eyes it must have a large predominance of red over blue; if the predominance is the other way, it may be violet or possibly purple, as used by most cataloguers. The real Tyrian purple (*πορφύρεος*) seems to have been what we should now probably call "crimson," which is really the shade of "royal purple." Of course, the colour-names used in any catalogue must be more or less comparative; that is to say, the great thing is to describe the stamp near enough to recognize it. If there is only one green stamp of one shade in the set, "green" plain and simple is quite good enough; but if the shades differ with successive printings, they must be distinguished in some way for the benefit of the specialist, and the result is a list as follows, taken from our publishers' Catalogue: Deep green, green, pale green, dull yellow-green, bright yellow-green, sage-green, and grey-green. This is a very bad case indeed, enough to strike terror into the heart of any ordinary collector; for which of them, having acquired a specimen of this stamp (it is the 10 centimes of 1869, Belgium), shall say off-hand which of these many greens it may be? He will adopt a negative method, and decide upon two or three which it is NOT. He considers his one specimen, which in his guilelessness he had imagined was merely green, and he goes away very sorrowful.

But the task of the cataloguer is just as hard in a different way, for he has these seven stamps before him in order (and if you mixed them, it is ten to one he would never get them the same again), and he must allot a name to each. Two or three is all very well—but seven different greens! That is just the sort of proposition which requires Mr. Luff and his "*reseda*" to come to the rescue; he appears to have overlooked the name in this particular case, however. It will be seen from this example that it is not mere caprice which governs the choice of some of these fantastic titles, and they must be accounted as the result of the vagaries of ink-mixers, and the poor cataloguer credited with an honest endeavour to lead collectors to a right way of classifying their treasures.

British Stamps used Abroad—*continued*

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP V—*continued*

IN this, the last division, we propose simply to give a list of the postmarks and the varieties found with them, and will not attempt to allocate them to any particular place. They are evidently the distinctive obliterations allotted to the different post offices which served our various squadrons in the Far East, the South African and North Atlantic stations. There is unfortunately nothing reliable on these covers that would serve to denote the locality, not even a date stamp which would have given some idea of the distance of the place of dispatch from London, as the London date stamp nearly always shows clearly the date of arrival. They were in use from 1860-6. Prior to 1860 all stamps on these letters were cancelled with the London district office marks. After that date even, one finds the same cancellations on letters bearing evidence of dispatch from the fleet in the Atlantic, etc., and these were probably dispatched by mail boats returning direct to Great Britain and which did not have a travelling post office.

It is, we think, from the evidence of the covers, safe to assume that the numbers A 79-A 89 were used on the Pacific station, A 91-A 99 on the Atlantic, and B 03, B 12, B 56 on the African.

C 79 is an obliteration which we have found on a cover marked "Officer's letter, Hong Kong," so presumably this was used somewhere in the Far East.

All these numbers were vacant in the 1864 list of obliterations, but allotted to Jamaica, English, and Welsh towns later.

The varieties known and which are undoubtedly used abroad, are as follows:—

- A 79. (Used at Balaclava, Jamaica, after 1870.)
4d., Large Garter, carmine.
- A 81. (Used at Pedra, Jamaica, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
6d., plates 1, 5, and 6 spray.
1s., plate 1.
- A 82. (Used at Middle Quarters, Jamaica, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
6d., plates 1, 5.
- A 80. (Used at Mount Charles, Jamaica, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
- A 81. (Used at Pedra, Jamaica, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
6d., plates 1, 5, 6 spray.
1s., plate 1.
- A 82. (Used at Middle Quarters, Jamaica, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
6d., plates 1, 5.
- A 83. (Used at Trinity Villa, Jamaica, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
4d., Large Garter, carmine.
6d., plates 1, 5, 6 emblem.
1s., plate 1.
- A 84. (Used at Brasted, Kent, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
- A 85. (Used at Talog, Wales, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
6d., plates 1, 3.
- A 86. (Used at Upper Cwmtwrch, Wales, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
1d., plates 94, 114.
3d., plate 4 emblem.
6d., plates 1, 5.
- A 87. (Used at Forestfach, Glams, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
6d., plate 6 spray.
- A 88. (Used at Ynshir, Wales, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
1d., plates 74 and 80.
6d., ,, 1, 4, 6 spray.
- A 89. (Used at Pontyclan, Glams, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
- A 90. (Used at East Liss, Hants, after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
- A 96. (Used at North Cave after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
- A 97. (Used at South Cave after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
- A 98. (Used at South Bank after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
6d., plate 1.
- A 99. (Used at Chwilog after 1870.)
1d., red; Large Crown; perf. 14; stars.
- B 03. (Used at Northfleet after 1870.)
6d., plate 8.
- B 12. (Used at Bickley Station after 1870.)
6d., plate 5.
- B 56. (Used at Troedyrhiw after 1870.)
6d., plates 5, 6.
- C 79. (Used at Purley, Surrey, after 1870.)
6d., plate 6 emblem.

We have seen entires with stamps obliterated marked as from the following places:—

- | | | |
|-------|---|---|
| A 81. | { | Hong Kong.
China.
Japan.
Yokohama.
Gibraltar. |
| A 83. | { | Nagasaki.
Yokohama. |
| A 85. | | Yokohama. |
| A 87. | { | Ningpo.
Gibraltar. |
| B 12. | | Hong Kong. |

- | | | |
|-------|---|--|
| B 53. | { | Yokohama.
Canton.
Sydney, N.S.W. |
| B 56. | | Hong Kong. |
| C 79. | | Hong Kong. |

It is, of course, quite impossible that these numbers were actually used at all the places thus marked, and one can only assume that these particular letters were placed on board mail boats by men-of-war whose last port of call is indicated on the letters.

In addition to these the obliterations T 01-T 07 were probably used in the same manner, but where or how it is impossible to ascertain.

(To be continued.)

British North Borneo

A Few Notes

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

BY many collectors the British North Borneo Company is supposed to have committed all the sins in the philatelic calendar, but, as in many other cases, I think a little careful consideration will prove that this way of viewing things is chiefly due to habit or fashion. "Give a dog a bad name and it will stick to him" is a trite saying that is particularly applicable regarding this Company.

Collectors of the more or less "advanced" order have so got into the habit of anathematizing everything in the shape of a stamp emanating from North Borneo, that they are unable, or unwilling, to look at the matter from all points of view and arrive at a really just conclusion regarding the collectability or otherwise of these stamps. An impartial critic will, I think, agree that the earlier issues are as interesting and philatelically "clean" as those of most other countries.

Now, what is the sum total of the philatelic "crimes" of which North Borneo has been guilty? It has been guilty of selling sets of most of the stamps current since 1889 in "postmarked-to-order" condition, and of issuing a number of very unnecessary surcharges. I quite agree that both these practices are reprehensible in the greatest degree from the collector's standpoint, but I do not see that one must necessarily take the view that all the stamps of North Borneo are worthless and uninteresting because of them.

The stamps of British North Borneo have had so many kicks of recent years from writers in various philatelic publications that it is small wonder if the more ignorant section of readers (I mean those ignorant in philatelic knowledge), unable to reason

out the matter for themselves, are beginning to look upon the stamps of North Borneo as several degrees worse than Seebecks.

The remarks made by Mr. R. E. R. Dalwigg, in a recent number of *G.S.W.* (18 July, page 46), on the subject of these stamps, are not only ludicrous, but of so unfair and intemperate a character that they cannot be allowed to pass without challenge.

The much-maligned issues of Borneo are by no means so bad as Mr. Dalwigg makes out, and, though I do not doubt his remarks were made with the best of intentions, I fancy that had he given the least thought to the subject he would have modified his opinions very considerably. As it is, he merely echoes the opinions of older writers, to whom British North Borneo is somewhat akin to a red rag to an enraged bull.

Mr. Dalwigg invites comparison by stating that Brunei is "a nice little country." Well, that may be, but at the rate it is going on now it will soon out-distance North Borneo at its most prolific period. A set of twelve surcharged provisionals, including a rare "error," a set of eleven "permanent" stamps, and a number of colour changes in prospective, is not bad for less than two years for a country that few collectors had ever heard of prior to the issue of stamps. It would be interesting to know how many stamps are used for legitimate postal purposes as compared with those sold to collectors.

Again, we are told Ceylon is a good country. Certainly, and a very popular one too, but the majority of the surcharges issued since 1885 can hardly be said to be free from the speculative and "made-for-collectors" taint. Are they so much better than the unnecessary surcharges of Borneo?

Mr. Dalwigg says —

British North Borneo is about the last country in existence that I would recommend any one to specialize in, or even to collect any miscellaneous stamps whatever of. Certain collectors and various people have at odd periods declared such-and-such an issue to be quite all right and thoroughly worth collecting. In most cases they are speculators who bought up quantities with the hopes of making money, but have since then found to their disadvantage that they have burned their fingers somewhat badly. I do not for one moment think that there is a single issue—or even a single stamp—of North Borneo which is worth a place in any good album.

Such a nonsensical tirade of abuse should hardly deceive any one, but simply shows the writer is, in the apt colloquialism of the Man-in-the-street, "talking through his hat." It is full of misstatements and inaccuracies.

I have "no axe to grind," for I do not collect the stamps of Borneo, nor do I hold any brief for the British North Borneo Company; but I do profess to have studied the earlier issues of this country with much interest and, even at the risk of being thought a wicked "speculator," I should like to write a few words in reply to Mr. Dalwigg's all-too-sweeping statements. *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* is intended primarily for the general collector, including, I take it, a large proportion of beginners, who may be tempted to attach too much importance to the paragraph quoted above, and it is, therefore, as well they should see the other side of the picture.

To start with, I am at one with Mr. Dalwigg, and every other right-minded collector, regarding the rubbishy nature of post-marked-to-order stamps. But British North Borneo is not alone in this iniquity. Respectable colonies like Victoria and Fiji have sold sets of stamps cancelled to order at much below face value, and quite recently sets of the Bosnian pictorial stamps were sold in London in this condition by even the most highly respected dealers. These are just a few instances, and compared with the Victorian, Fijian, and Bosnian sets, which are unblushingly sold as genuinely used, the postmarked-to-order sets of Borneo are positively virtuous. The cancellation is of such a nature that the stamps can be identified for what they are, and need never be confused with postally used stamps by the veriest tyro.

Mr. Dalwigg's remarks about speculators burning their fingers are really too funny for words. A glance at any catalogue will show that the "speculators" who bought the early issues at face value would now make a handsome profit. The majority of the stamps are quoted high as compared with face value. I never heard of any issue of Borneo being bought up by speculators, and one thing to the credit of the Company is that no unused

stamps have ever been sold below their face value. Of one issue only, that I know of, were there any remainders. This occurred in 1889, when the $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 10 c. inscribed POSTAGE & REVENUE replaced the similar values inscribed POSTAGE only. The remainders of the latter were sold at, I believe, more than face value.

The many "4 cents" surcharges of Borneo are as unnecessary as they are foolish-looking, but the collector need not include these unless he likes. One point I may, perhaps, be permitted to bring forward in their favour, and that is the whole lot can be purchased for a few shillings, and they do not mulct the collector in "heavy damages" like many other unnecessary or commemorative issues. Personally, I think the official responsible for the Bornean surcharges ought to be "tickled to death with garden rakes," if for no other reason than lack of ingenuity in devising something more artistic and alluring with which to attract the bawbees from the pockets of collectors.

But the fact that Borneo has a number of unnecessary surcharges and postmarked-to-order varieties to its discredit does not in any way detract from the interest and philatelic attractiveness of the earlier issues. In the following brief notes I have endeavoured to point to the merits and defects of the various issues.

The British North Borneo Company was incorporated by Royal Charter on 1 November, 1881, and in May of the following year it was successfully floated as a Company by the gentlemen who had obtained the original concessions.

Exactly a year later the first postage stamp for use in the territory was issued. This bore the facial value of 2 c., and was of the design shown in the accompanying illustration. The stamps were manufactured



by Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades (who are perhaps better known as cheque printers than as stamp manufacturers) by the electro-type process. From the original engraved matrix fifty electrotypes were made, and these clamped together in five rows of ten formed the printing plate. Owing to the method of production there are minute dots and defects on the stamps by which it is possible to plate this variety.

Later, $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 1 c., 4 c., 8 c., and 10 c. values were issued in a similar type. One would have imagined that the printers would have

taken impressions from the original 2c. matrix (with, of course, the value and native inscriptions deleted), and from this produced the dies for the other values. Instead of this, however, a special die was engraved for each value, each differing in minute particulars from the others, and all undoubtedly copied from the first 2 c. That there were separate dies for each denomination the specialist can soon prove after a study of the stamps. Especially noticeable points of difference are the number and length of the oars protruding from the side of the vessel. All values were in sheets of fifty, but whether there was more than one plate for any value I cannot say. That is a point for a specialist to decide.

At about the same time as the low values, 50 c. and \$1 stamps were issued, these being



available for both postal and fiscal purposes. These were also produced in sheets of fifty, but whether it is possible to plate them or not it is at present impossible to say. The stamps are scarce, and in large blocks are of the very greatest rarity.

Some of the low values of the set may be found in two distinct perforations, but even the most biased critic will hardly assert that this was done with the object of getting money from collectors.

Prior to the arrival of the regular 8 c. stamps, provisionals of this value were created by surcharging the first 2 c. as shown below.

8 Cents

**EIGHT
CENTS**

No one can, however, call these any more unnecessary than any other provisionals, and they are far more legitimate than the recent surcharges of, say, the Cayman Islands.

In 1886 it was decided that the stamps ought to be inscribed BRITISH NORTH BORNEO instead of merely NORTH BORNEO, so the original dies of the ½ c. to 10 c. values were altered as required, and the printing plates made as before.



There were two plates for each value except the ½ c., and all the stamps can be plated, as I was able to prove in an article

dealing with this issue that appeared in the *Monthly Journal* (December, 1906, to April, 1907). That the original mother dies were used can be proved by a careful comparison of the two issues.

At the same time the 50 c. and \$1 stamps were redrawn, and 25 c. and \$2 values were



added to the set. These are all well worthy of study, for at present nothing of any importance is known regarding them.

Practically at the time the lower values of the set just referred to were on the way to North Borneo, it was found that 3 c. and 5 c. stamps were necessary, and provisionals were made by surcharging some of the then current 4 c. and 8 c. stamps as illustrated. At the same time a revision in the



fiscal charges of the territory made stamps of a lower face value than 25 c. a necessity. The ½ c. and 10 c. were in some demand, and these were surcharged "and Revenue" to make them available for both postal and fiscal purposes.

So urgent was the necessity for stamps available for revenue charges, that an order was sent to Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades for a supply of values from ½ c. to 10 c., to be

inscribed POSTAGE & REVENUE, and this order included the new 3 c. and 5 c. values.



It was at this time that some evil genius suggested the postmarking-to-order game, but as the stamps are all good unused and scarce genuinely used, I don't think it detracts in any way from their philatelic interest.

This set, from ½ c. to 10 c., forms a fine opening for philatelic study. It will be found, I think, that the original dies were again requisitioned in making the clichés, and that the stamps can be plated like their predecessors.

In 1888, new plates for the 25 c., 50 c., \$1, and \$2 were brought into use, but that this was done to increase sales to philatelists it would be foolish to assert. The differences between the stamps from the new plates and

those from the old are only sufficiently striking to appeal to specialists.



(To be continued.)

New Issues and Discoveries

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, 361 Strand, London, W.C.

British South Africa.—Messrs. Bridger and Kay have shown us a properly gummed *imperforate* block of four of the 1d., pale red, number 60a of the Catalogue. It would appear that one or more sheets were issued in this condition, but before listing it we should like to see a used copy.

Costa Rica.—In our issue of 16 May, and also in the current Supplement to the Catalogue, we listed a set of new Official stamps, giving the overprint OFFICIAL as Type O7 of the Catalogue.

OFICIAL

09

We now have a set of these stamps before us, and find that the overprint is not O7, but a new type, O9, which we now illustrate. We would ask our readers to make careful note of this correction.

Danish West Indies.—In addition to the three values listed in our issue of last week we have received a 20 bit of the same design.



13

August, 1908. Type 13. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Crown, Type 4. Perf. 12½, 13.
72|20 bit, deep blue and yellow-green.

German P.O.'s in the Levant.—According to *Champion's Bulletin* (25.8.08) five of the current German stamps have been surcharged

diagonally, as illustrated below, with a new value in centimes. We are told that they are for use in the Turkish Empire, but up to now the value has been indicated in *paras* and *piastres*, and we can see no reason for the change; perhaps offices are being opened elsewhere in the Near East—Crete, for example. We should be glad of any authoritative information our readers could give us.



10 Centimes

17

72

AUGUST, 1908. Contemporary stamps of the German Empire, as Type 17, with *wmk.* Lozenges, as Type 20, surcharged in black as Type 72, diagonally upwards.

T60	5 c. on 5 (pf.), green.
T61	10 c. on 10 ,, carmine.
T62	25 c. on 20 ,, ultramarine
T63	50 c. on 40 ,, black and carmine
T64	100 c. on 80 ,, ,, ,, on rose.

Lourenzo Marques.—In our stock we have found a second distinct shade of the 5 reis of current issue.



6

Type 6. Name and value in black. (a) Perf. 11½.
36a| 5 r., orange-yellow.

Nicaragua.—Our New York house sends us yet another variety on the fiscal stamp. It is similar to number 460b, listed in our issue of 25 July, except that the "Zelaya" overprint is upright, and is in black instead of in green.



CORREO-1908

B

Dpto. Zelaya

46

45

23

1908. Type 45 (fiscal stamp) overprinted in black with Types 23 and 46.
5 c., orange-yellow.

N.B.—This stamp should come after No. 460c.

Nyasaland Protectorate.—Mr. W. T. Wilson now sends us nearly the full set of the new stamps to which we referred in our issue of 27 June. We are able to illustrate the low values, but not those from 2s. 6d. (incl.) upwards; these latter are large rectangular in size.



13

AUGUST (?), 1908. Type 13. *Wmk.* Crown CA, Type w. 6. Perf. 14.

75| 1s., black on green, C.

AUGUST (?), 1908. Centre in first colour. Type 13 (3d. to 6d.); high values are large rectangular, new type. *Wmk.* Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

76	3d., green, O.
77	1d., carmine, O.
80	3d., purple on yellow, C.
81	4d., black and red on yellow, C.
82	6d., lilac and mauve, C.
84	2s. 6d., black and red on blue, C.
85	4s., carmine and black, C.

Victoria.—We have seen a copy of the latest printing of the current 1s., and we notice that the shade has now altered from orange to pure yellow.



76

1908. Type 76. *Wmk.* Crown and A. Type 77.
(a) Perf. 12½ or 12 x 12½.

300| 1s., yellow.

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 x 9½; available for mounting stamps, 6½ x 8½. The title-page is printed in the Royal Colours, with the King's Cypher Monogram and Crown. Strongly bound in cloth, bevelled boards, with the Official Cypher Monogram and Crown in gold on cover.

Post-free, 8s.; abroad, 8s. 9d.

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

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 13
Whole No. 195

26 SEPTEMBER, 1908

Vol. VIII.

The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies

By L. HANCIAU

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(Continued from page 53.)

II. Kingdom of Italy—continued

ALL these manœuvres with M. Sparre were no secret to anybody; but what was the result? Simply that both parties were filled with hopes, and that the Post Office Department was inundated with new suggestions.

The first was that of a M. Lattuada, of Milan, in the form of three different designs, but little known to collectors. The idea of the designer seems to have been to portray various Italian celebrities on certain stamps.

1. The first design shows the bust of a woman's three-quarter face to right in an oval within a lozenge; on her head is a helmet; all enclosed in a rectangular frame, with figures denoting the value set diagonally in the four corners; above the figures in the upper corners is the word "CENTES," and below the lower figures the word "CENT."

This woman is supposed to represent Italy.

2 c., blue-green, bistre; on *white*.



2. In this design we have a portrait of Pierre Micca, three-quarter face to left. The head is in an oval with solid background, which itself is shown on a shield, having a background composed of horizontal lines; the whole is enclosed in a rectangular frame with quadrillé background. In the centre of the upper portion of the shield is a numeral enclosed in a transverse oval; in the lower portion of the design is a scroll bearing the inscription "5 CENTESIMI 5" in white on a solid coloured ground.

5 c., grey on *white*.

Pierre Micca was a private soldier in the Piedmontese Artillery, born at Andorno (Biella) in 1666. He attained celebrity on the night of the 29th August, 1706, by sacrificing his life to save Turin, which was besieged by the French army, under the command of the Duke of Orleans. The French had already carried the outer fortifications and were about to storm the citadel, when Micca seized a match and threw it into a powder magazine, blowing up himself together with a large number of the enemy. Thanks to this soldier's brave action, the combined armies of Austria and Sardinia, commanded by Prince Eugene, were able to come upon the scene in time to force the French to raise the siege.

In 1828 King Charles Felix had a medal struck to commemorate this memorable act, and in 1837 Charles Albert caused a bronze monument to Micca to be erected in the arsenal at Turin; finally, in 1864 a magnificent statue of the hero by Giuseppe Cassalo was erected in one of the public squares of that town.

3. Portrait of François Sforza, three-quarter face to right, in an oval, enclosed within a rectangular frame, having the figures "20" in a circle in each of the upper corners; these figures are repeated in the centre below on a tablet with coloured ground, and bearing the word "CENTESIMI" at foot.

20 c., blue, bistre, on *white*.

The indication of the name of the country is conspicuous by its absence on all three types.

François Sforza was born at San Miniato on the 23rd July, 1401. He was a natural son of the celebrated condottiere Jacques Muzzo, who was nicknamed Sforza because he obtained everything by *force*. On the death of the latter, which occurred in 1424, François Sforza succeeded him in the command of his army of mercenaries. Of the most conspicuous bravery, he sold his services to the highest bidder, but was ready to betray him the moment his own interests

were at stake. In 1441 he married Bianca Maria, a daughter of Philippe Maria Visconti, Duke of Milan, the duke having offered Sforza his daughter in order to attach him to his own interests; but that did not prevent Sforza from subsequently turning against his father-in-law. After the death of this duke in 1447, Sforza succeeded in getting himself proclaimed Duke of Milan (February 26th, 1450), instead of Valentine Visconti, and in this manner he became the founder of a new ducal line.

François Sforza died on the 8th March, 1466.

The choice of this personage for representation upon a postage stamp does not appear to me to be a very happy one.

After all, he was only a mercenary soldier, who had all the vices of his time, and who owed his position to nothing less than cruelty and treachery. There are certainly others who have far more right to have their portraits reproduced upon stamps.

There is a set of six values by M. Re, of Milan, all of which were embossed; in addition there is a second design for the 15 centesimi. The effigy upon all of these is that of Victor Emmanuel II, to right, with a different frame for each type or value. Of this still-born proposal the following proofs are known to me:—



1. *A. White paper.*

5 c., blue (deep to pale), mauve, rose, carmine, bright carmine, green, pale green, red-brown, yellow-green, deep yellow.

15 c., blue, pale blue, yellow, pale yellow, green (pale, bright to deep), rose, carmine, mauve (pale to deep) lilac, no colour.



30 c., blue, slate, slate-grey, yellow-green, green (pale to deep), ochre-yellow, carmine, bright carmine, yellow (pale to deep), orange, violet, red.

40 c., blue, pale blue, indigo, yellow, deep yellow, green, deep green, carmine, rose, violet, deep violet, mauve with centre in green.



60 c., blue, pale blue, indigo, yellow, deep yellow, mauve, deep mauve, green, (pale, bright to deep), carmine, deep carmine, violet.



1 l. 50 c. (?)

2 lire, blue, pale blue, indigo, green, deep green, yellow, pale yellow, rose, carmine, bright carmine, mauve, black-violet.

B. *Bluish paper.*

15 c., carmine.



2. Similar design to that of the 15 c. The oval containing the head is framed with pearls, and is a little less wide than in the first design; the ornaments in the spandrels also are different.

15 c., mauve, bright mauve.

Towards the end of 1862 Messrs. Pellas Frères, the clever engravers of Genoa, entered the contest and produced a litho-

graphed design for a stamp, which they submitted to the Post Office Department, and undertook to engrave it on metal, should it be adopted, so that it might be printed typographically.



This design shows a profile to left of Victor Emmanuel II, as if in relief, in an oval frame bearing at top "POSTE ITALIANE," and at foot "DUE CENTESIMI"; the whole is enclosed in a rectangular frame, in the four corners of which are white figures, those in the lower corners being inverted. Size 21 x 25 mm.

The sheets contained eight stamps, in four horizontal rows of two; the name "Pellas" may be found underneath each vertical row of four stamps.

White glazed paper.

2 c., black, flesh, blue (pale, bright, to deep), blue-green, pale yellow-green, yellow, pale yellow, lemon, orange, deep orange, bright violet, rose, carmine, brown, vermilion.

It is much to be regretted that this design was not accepted. It possessed the necessary qualifications, such as beauty of design and perfect execution, but there were reasons "of an exceedingly delicate nature" which prevented its adoption.

Later on Messrs. Pellas Frères submitted samples of various designs, as specimens of what they were able to do.

First of all, we have six designs of the size of postage stamps; they are all printed on one sheet in two horizontal rows; designs which do not tell us very much:—



1. A lighthouse within an oval frame of engine-turned pattern; in the corners of the outer rectangular frame are figures in small circles.

2. A white figure "5" in an oval frame, inscribed "Editori FRATELLI PELLAS

Editori GENOVA"; there is an outer rectangular frame with engine-turned ground.



3. White figures "10" in a circular garter, inscribed "FRATELLI PELLAS GENOVA"; enclosed in a rectangular frame of engine-turning, with figures "10" in the spandrels.

4. An ornamental letter "P" in an oval band inscribed "Editori FRATELLI PELLAS Editori—GENOVA"; within an oval frame of engine-turning.



5. A female profile to right, with a mural crown, in an oval band inscribed as in No. 4; enclosed in a rectangular frame of engine-turning.

6. A Coat of Arms (the Savoy Cross) on a Royal Mantle, in a rectangle inscribed "FRATELLI PELLAS" at top, and "GENOVA" at the bottom; the whole enclosed in an engine-turned rectangular frame.

Lastly, separate from the others, a rectangle of engine-turning enclosing a fancy oval, in which is the inscription "10—PELLAS—10—GENOVA—10," in five lines.

All the above were lithographed in black and blue, or in black and mauve, on thin, glazed, white card.

Further suggestions were received from M.M. Michel et Trouillet, of Paris. These gentlemen stated that before deciding to lay before the Government the means which appeared to them the best for preventing fraud, whether forgery by photographic or lithographic reproduction, or in the use of the same stamp more than once, either by soaking it off or by cutting it out, they had conducted elaborate experiments with various processes, both of printing in fugitive ink, the adoption of embossing, and the use of a specially prepared paper; and that they were convinced that these processes were

more specious than satisfactory. After careful examination these gentlemen were of opinion that the true means for obtaining security against fraud and forgery were the following :—

1. The use of materials and designs for stamps of the highest artistic perfection, together with absolutely accurate methods of reproduction.

2. To print the adhesive stamps in colour, on a ground of the same colour but lighter in shade, both to be printed by typography, on white paper, in two successive operations.

3. To have the postage stamps obliterated with a date stamp, which M. Trouillet had patented in Italy, France, and England.

The following is a table of the prices at which this firm were prepared to manufacture the postage stamps.

	Price per 1000 stamps.	
	Paris. francs.	Turin. francs.
1. For the first 60 millions (minimum)	1. 10	1. 20
2. From 60 to 120 millions	0. 75	0. 85
3. „ 120 „ 200 „	0. 60	0. 70
4. „ 200 „ 300 „	0. 50	0. 60
5. Exceeding 300 „	0. 40	0. 50

These prices included the supplying the paper, the printing, gumming, and perforating. In the case of the manufacture being carried out at Turin, in a building to be provided by the authorities, the contractors would require permission to install a steam engine there.

M. Michel, who was described as “an electrotypist and typographer, formerly printer and patentee, the first and most skilful worker of the galvanoplastic process in France,” was represented as having already executed, in the public stamp-printing office in Paris, work in connection with the adhesive stamps intended for use on foreign bills.

It was further stated that M. Trouillet had been specially engaged for fifteen years in the study of the production of bonds, etc., and the practical means of preventing fraud, and that they had been accepted by the French Government in 1862 for the manufacture of the adhesive stamps for bills of exchange, the supplying of which did not take place owing to the rejection of the proposed law.

In spite of the many attractive features of this proposal, the Post Office Department decided not to tempt fortune any longer, and in order to avoid such experiences as they had had with the Count de Sparre, the authorities declined the offer that had been made them, and contented themselves with negotiating with a firm of good standing, such as Messrs. De La Rue and Co., of London, who had already supplied the Italian Treasury Department with adhesive

fiscal stamps in a regular and satisfactory manner.

In the meantime the good M. Matraire continued to supply stamps, and a 15 centesimi produced by him was announced by the following Royal Decree :—

“VICTOR EMMANUEL II,

“By the grace of God and by the will of the Nation

“KING OF ITALY.

“In reference to the Regulations for the execution of the Law of the 5th May last, sanctioned by our Decree of the 21st September :

“On the proposal of the Minister of Public Works,

“We have decreed and do decree as follows :—

“Art. 1. The introduction of the postage stamps sanctioned by the above-mentioned regulations is provisionally deferred, and in the meanwhile postage stamps of the design and value at present in use will continue to be employed for the franking of correspondence.

“Art. 2. From the 1st of January next the 20 centesimi stamp will be abolished, and instead there will be introduced a stamp of similar shape and colour, but of the value of 15 centesimi.

“We ordain that this decree, duly sealed with the Great Seal of the State, be inscribed in the official records of the laws and decrees of the Kingdom of Italy, and we command all whom it may concern to obey it, and to cause it to be obeyed.

“Given at Turin, November 30, 1862.

“VICTOR EMMANUEL.

“Countersigned by the Keeper of the Seals,
“A. RATAZZI.”

As this decree does away with the postage stamps of M. Sparre, the Department of Posts caused fresh instructions to be issued to the various offices, informing them that, although the Royal Decree of the 21st September, 1862, had authorized new designs and colours, and different values for the postage stamps, it was found impossible to introduce these innovations by the 1st of January, and that therefore, for a time, the stamps now in use would continue to be used, with the exception of the 20 centesimi stamp, which would be replaced by another of the value of 15 centesimi, colour *blue*, like the former.

The offices were further informed that, on the 31st December, 1862, they must call in all stocks of the 20 centesimi stamps which might remain on that date in the possession of the various agents for the sale of postage stamps, replacing them with the 15 centesimi stamps.

It was nevertheless provided that correspondence bearing 20 centesimi stamps, if they correctly represented the amount payable to the Administration of Posts, should be deemed to be properly prepaid, but after the period* had elapsed, such stamps would

* No date seems to be given.—ED. M. J.

no longer be accepted, and correspondence bearing them would be subject to the charge fixed by Art. 8 of the law of the 5th May, 1862.

It is worthy of remark that, through the non-execution of Article 68 of the regulations sanctioned by the Decree of the 21st September, 1862, the 2 centesimi stamp, which had been abolished, survived that decision.

Issue of January 1, 1863.

Similar to the stamps of 1855; replacing the 20 centesimi, which was suppressed, and of which it assumed the colour.

15 c., pale, bright, and deep blue.

A copy has been seen, used on the 1st January, 1863, in the *pale blue* shade, which is therefore the first colour.

Varieties.

Head inverted.

15 c., pale and bright blue.

A copy of this last stamp has been seen used at Monza, 14th January, 1863.

Perf. 12½, unofficial.

15 c., blue.

*Essays (or Proofs).—*Printed on white paper.

15 c., black, dull blue (pale and deep).

Head inverted.

15 c., black-blue, deep blue, deep dull blue.

Head omitted.

15 c., blue.

Printer's trials.

15 c., black, on the 15 c. postage stamp of 1863.

15 c. ,, on the 10 c. Postage Due of 1863.

In December, 1862, the Department of Posts notified the various post offices that the double operation of printing and embossing the 15 centesimi stamps caused so much loss of time that it would not be possible to obtain sufficient quantities to supply the various post offices with them; consequently a decree that had been submitted to the King sanctioned a new type of 15 centesimi postage stamp, colour *blue*, which would have the effigy of the Sovereign no longer embossed but engraved, and which would bear in the frame, in coloured letters: "FRANCO BOLLO POSTALE ITALIANO. C. QUINDICI."

It was announced that the issue would take place very shortly, but the post offices were directed to supply this stamp to the public concurrently with the embossed stamp, as, although the latter had ceased to be manufactured, it would not be withdrawn from circulation.

Shortly afterwards the following decree was published:—

"VICTOR EMMANUEL II,

"*By the grace of God, and by the will of the Nation*

KING OF ITALY.

"On the proposal of Our Minister of Public Works:

"We have decreed and do decree as follows:—

"Art. 1. The 15 centesimi postage stamp will bear the effigy of the King, not in relief but engraved. In the frame will be inscribed in coloured letters, in blue, the words: 'FRANCO BOLLO—POSTALE—ITALIANO. C. QUINDICI.'

"Art. 2. The indiscriminate use of the current 15 centesimi postage stamps and those of the new design is permitted until the end of February next, after which date the stamps with impression in relief will cease to have legal circulation, but they may be exchanged by the post offices for those of the new design up to the end of March.

"We ordain that the present decree, duly sealed with the Great Seal of the State, be inscribed in the official records of the laws and decrees of the Kingdom of Italy, and we command all whom it may concern to obey it, and to cause it to be obeyed

"Given at Turin, January 11, 1863.

"VICTOR EMMANUEL.

"F. MENABREA."

On the 17th of January, 1863, the Minister of the Interior took the following steps; remarking that the law of the 5th May, 1862, fixed a lower rate for prepaid letters, and seeing that in country places there was some difficulty in procuring postage stamps, he decided to grant the sale of stamps to the mayors and their agents if they requested permission, with a commission of 2 per cent. on prepayment of the amount of the stamps ordered. This decision was communicated to the "Préfets," so that they might issue instructions on the subject to the mayors by the 18th March, 1863.

(*To be continued.*)

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The Postage Stamps of Afghanistan

A Review by E. B. EVANS

THE Philatelic Society of India sets an example which one would gladly see followed more generally. Not only does it produce excellent work, but it does not hesitate to expend time, study, and hard cash upon the production of books which are hardly likely to pay their way directly, since they treat of subjects which appeal to a very limited number of collectors. I do not, of course, refer to the volume upon the *Stamps of British India* which appeared twelve months ago, but to those dealing with the stamps issued by *Bhopal, and Jammu and Kashmir*, and the stamps surcharged for use in other Native States, which are, perhaps not altogether unnaturally, neglected by the great majority of collectors.

It is to this financially unremunerative work that one would gladly see the energies and surplus funds of Societies devoted; the ordinary philatelic publisher, who is almost invariably a stamp dealer, cannot be expected to expend money upon publications that can be profitable neither directly nor indirectly, and thus issues which have once become unpopular sink deeper and deeper in philatelic opinion, partly because there is no demand for them and consequently only a limited supply in the markets, and partly because little is known about them and nothing is published.

There are few issues to which these remarks apply more fully than to those of Afghanistan, and perhaps few which are less deserving of such a fate. Curious in appearance, interesting in their variety, and absolutely straight from a philatelic point of view, they have been singularly little studied by British collectors, and those who studied them could find no one rash enough to undertake the publication of the results of their studies, with the costly illustrations that would be necessary to make the work of use to others. The late Mr. Gilbert Harrison had got together a very fine collection of the stamps, and had also accumulated a mass of notes upon the papers and types; after his death his notes passed into the hands of Mr. E. D. Bacon, with a view to their being prepared for publication when a convenient opportunity should arise. That opportunity never came; but we need not regret this in view of the fact that the work has been most admirably carried out by philatelists who are not only nearer the home of the stamps themselves, but are also conversant with the language and characters of the inscriptions upon them, and are therefore able to describe them more fully and

accurately than could be done by philatelists in Europe, whose knowledge of oriental languages is derived for the most part from their study of the stamps upon which such inscriptions appear.

The valuable work that has at last made its appearance, under the auspices of the Philatelic Society of India, has been compiled by two of its members, Sir David P. Masson and Mr. B. Gordon Jones, whose names are a sufficient guarantee for the thoroughness with which their task has been accomplished. Official documents, postal notices, etc., seem to have been quite unobtainable, as was perhaps to be expected, and, with the exception of a brief account of the country and of its rulers during the last two centuries, the contents of the book consist of detailed descriptions of the designs and varieties of the stamps, and of the papers upon which they are printed; and with these descriptions and the two dozen full-page plates, showing all the varieties of type, no philatelist need remain ignorant about the stamps of Afghanistan.

The supposed stamp of 1868, No. 1 in the Gibbons Catalogue, is unhesitatingly condemned as *bugus*. If it ever had any legitimate existence, it seems certain that it cannot possibly belong to the period to which it has been assigned, and the authors assure us that "the faulty formation of the Arabic characters, and the irregular circle, denote an illiterate engraver," which is perhaps sufficient evidence of its nature.

There is one expression employed in the general description of the early issues to which I venture to take exception. They are stated to show their "Design and inscription *in relief* on a coloured ground." The words I have put in italics are not, I think, correct; the stamps being lithographed there is, of course, no actual *relief*, and I cannot find that this term is technically employed to denote, what is the case here, that the designs and inscriptions are in white (or the colour of the paper) on a ground of the colour of the ink used for the impression. It is not a matter of very great importance, but although collectors who know the Afghan stamps will understand what is meant, it is possible that others might suppose that the stamps were embossed in some way.

In the case of the two values of the issue of 1871-2 (dated "1289"), it is stated that these have been reproduced in *black* (*forged* apparently), and that no originals exist in that colour. On the other hand, the 1 shahi

in sixty varieties of type, dated "1290," is recognized as existing in *dull purple*, as well as in *black*, but only on one of the varieties of paper on which the stamps of that plate are known.

The troublesome stamps of 1880 and later, dated "1298," are arranged by colours and papers, full lists of the varieties of tint and of the minor variations of the different natures of paper being given in the body of the book, and the values found in each colour on each of the principal varieties of paper are quoted in the reference list; it is wisely recognized as impracticable to sort out all the minor varieties that exist upon the "surface-ribbed" and "*bâtonné*" papers, some of which it is impossible to distinguish except in unused copies with good margins. It is amongst these stamps alone that any varieties of at all dubious character are to be found; certain impressions on coloured papers showing more than one value together may perhaps have been struck to order for some favoured person; but these, even if they must be regarded as fancy impressions, may fairly be forgiven as the only evidence

of philatelic influence in a long career of postal purity.

It appears that the issue of special stamps for the Registration Fee commenced earlier than has hitherto been supposed; there was a 1 rupee stamp for this purpose connected with the issue of 1892, and similar in type and colour to the three stamps of that date, but rather larger in size. It is believed to have been very rarely used, the charge being too high.

Of the new issue we learn that the 1 rupee is in sheets of four types only, and that this value has appeared recently with a fairly clean-cut perforation, gauging nearly 12, which will no doubt be applied in due course to the other values also. It may be presumed that both this and the zigzag perforation of the two lower values are considered to be official, as nothing is said to the contrary.

The book is a most interesting and useful one, filling a want that must have been long felt by others besides myself, and I most heartily congratulate the authors and the publishers upon the successful completion of a good work.

"Old-Time Memories"

By L. HANCIAU

(Continued from page 267, Vol. XVIII, "Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.")

THE following letter shows the mishaps which sometimes occur in sending stamps. (This letter was addressed to M. J. B. Moens.)

MEDELLIN, February 14, 1887.

DEAR SIR,

I was writing to you in reference to the stamps which were missing from my last packet, when I had the pleasure of receiving your letter of December 24th, to which I hasten to reply. I think we are on the track of the truth, and this is what appears to have taken place.

An employé of the Posts, by name Luis Diez Grenados, from whom you have received stamps and who is now in prison awaiting trial, turns out to be one of the most cunning and impudent thieves. Luckily he has been arrested in time to prevent him from committing any other misdeeds, for in the space of one month he has stolen property to the value of more than £2000. His last crime was probably that which he committed to my prejudice, and it is only during the drawing up of the case against him that it has been discovered that it was probably he who extracted from my letter the stamps which I was sending you.

He must have seen me buying the Colombian stamps at the Post Office, and after having put them inside the letter, I handed it to him to be registered. He must then have simply opened my letter, taken out some of the stamps and then despatched it with the rest of the stamps

inside it. You will see how clever he must have been, for the letter showed no sign of having been opened, as you said, and I was right in telling you that I had certainly put the stamps into the envelope. In his registration book my name appeared twice under the date of July 14th; once rightly, and the second time wrongly; for it was he himself who sent you the second packet. It was entirely owing to this false entry that the secret was found out. Since then the police have intercepted all letters arriving for him at the Post Office, and among them they found yours informing him that you had sent 600 and odd francs for his account to Lucien Fourguez et Demoullis, of Paris, as the proceeds of the stamps. I was therefore asked whether I had really sent you two letters on the same day, July 14th, and on my answering "No," it was seen that there was a false entry in the registration book which was in his keeping. Having been summoned as a witness in this affair, I have had an opportunity of seeing your letter to this man among the contents of the "dossier," and I saw that he had sent you two 2 pesos stamps, probably those which were missing from my letter, and fifteen 50 centavos stamps, among which were doubtless those which were also missing. In any case, the stamps which he sent to you were not his own, for he had stolen all of them. Were these stamps, of which I speak, the Antioquia 2 and 5 pesos? If they were, then they were certainly mine, because this individual was employed in the national post office, and it was there that he committed his crimes, and not in the State post office,

which is completely independent of the former and with which he had nothing to do.

I have entered into all these details because I wished to convince you that I had indeed sent you the stamps which were missing from my packet.

That piece of trickery recalled another of which I was told by the late Mlle. Moens :—

A collector, a rich merchant, after making a purchase at the Galerie Bortier, carried off a copy of Moens' Catalogue, 1892 edition, which he certainly could not have put into his pocket, for the book was a large one; it may be that it was a case of absence of mind, but he must surely have become aware of it in time. Nevertheless, the book was never brought back!

* * *

HERE are some details, which I have just turned up and which have not yet been published. They refer to Chili.

The Law of October 20th, 1852, brought about a considerable reduction in the rates of postage for letters and ordered for the first time the use of stamps of 1, 5, 10, and 20 centavos. Article 1 of the Law says :—

Letters sent from one point to another in the Republic by land-post will be charged the following postage :—

Every letter not exceeding 5 adarmes, or ninety decigrammes, will be charged $\frac{1}{2}$ réal or five centavos.

Every letter above 5 adarmes, or ninety decigrammes, will be charged 1 réal or ten centavos.

Every letter weighing more than half an ounce, or one hundred and forty-four decigrammes, and not exceeding one ounce, or two hundred and eighty-eight decigrammes, will be charged 2 réales or twenty centavos.

Letters weighing more than one ounce will be charged at the rate of 2 réales or 20 centavos for every ounce or two hundred and eighty-eight decigrammes.

Art. 5. The President of the Republic will have the corresponding stamps sent out; these stamps will be sold at the revenue offices which the President will appoint, without any further payment for this new service.

Art. 9. Printed matter may be sent by express under the following conditions :—

1. Newspapers or periodical publications will be charged one centavo per number if the postage is prepaid and two centavos in the contrary case.

2. Reports, reviews, and other printed matter will be charged at the rate of one centavo per ounce or fraction thereof up to half an ounce and the double in case the postage is not prepaid.

There is no mention here of the date of issue; probably it was January 1st or July 1st, 1853. According to this Decree there must have been four values of stamps, 1, 5, 10, and 20 centavos. But it must be supposed that two values only were ready or ordered, for we have another Decree, which

completes the preceding issue; it is dated November 8th, 1861 :—

With reference to the foregoing note, in order to facilitate the circulation of correspondence, and in virtue of the authority conferred on me by Article 5 of the Law of October 20th, 1852, I ordain :—

From and after January 1st of next year (1862) postage stamps of the value of 1 and 20 centavos will be put into circulation.

In accordance herewith, the Director-General of Posts, in view of the requirements of the various provinces, and in conformity with the provisions of Article 133 of the General Postal Ordinance, will make requisition to the Government in due time for the number of sheets required of the special paper for ordering a consignment.

(Signed) FERNANDO PEREZ.
M. ALCALDE.

These two values 1 and 20 centavos appeared on January 1st, 1862.

The Law of September 13th, 1866, made fresh regulations for the collection of taxes by means of stamped paper, and contained the following instructions :—

Art. 4. The tax will be collected by means of stamps, either by stamped paper or by a special stamp.

Art. 5. The stamps are of five classes :—

1st of the value of one centavo.	
2nd	two centavos
3rd	five "
4th	ten "
5th	twenty "

A Decree of November 6th, 1866, runs as follows :—

By virtue of the power conferred on me by Articles 26 and 27 of the Law of September 13th last,

I have resolved and decreed :—

Art. 1. The Law of September 13th of the present year will come into force to its full extent and throughout the whole territory of the Republic on and after January 1st of the coming year, 1867.

Art. 3. The stamps referred to in the said Law will be the same as those used for paying postage, and both these stamps and the stamped paper will be provided by the Stamp Department* in the same form as at present.

(Signed) FERNANDO PEREZ.
A. REYES.

The date January 1st, 1867, is applicable only to the fiscal stamps; the Post Office was still distributing the stamps of 1852-62, and did not begin to issue new ones until June 1st, 1867, for the 2 centavos, and January 1st, 1868, in the case of the other values.

* The original says "l'estanco," meaning "monopoly." Presumably some person or company had a monopoly of the sale and supply of stamps.—TRANS.

On January 8th, 1872, the following decree was published :—

In view of the foregoing Note, and considering that the use of correspondence cards offers great advantages to the public and facilitates communication by the saving made by employing these cards, and also that the trial of them made by the postal authorities of Santiago and Valparaiso has been received favourably, I decree :—

The use is introduced of correspondence cards, which will enjoy the same privileges as do private letters, for free circulation in all the territory of the Republic, both by land and by sea, by the coasting lines of steamers and as well by the national lines as by those of the English company subsidized by the State, provided always that the said correspondence cards be delivered at the post offices duly prepaid by means of 2 centavos stamps for those cards going by land and of 5 centavos for sea-borne cards.

(Signed) FERNANDO ERRAZIEREZ.
E. ALTAMIRANO.

The 2 and 5 centavos cards here spoken of were issued on January 1st, 1873, and it was then only that the provisional use ceased, and became general throughout the Republic.

According to the preamble, upon which it was based, the Decree of February 16th, 1878, established the following regulation :—

Art. 1. On and after April 1st next (1878), the use of postage stamps for payment of the tax established by the Law of September 1st, 1874, will be abolished.

This payment will be made by means of special stamps which will be distributed by the authorities of the "Estanco."

Art. 2. The Ministry of the General Treasury will send to the "Estanco" the stamps intended for this purpose, so that the latter establishment may distribute them accordingly, and hand them over to the various departments.

(Signed) PINTO.
A. MATTIE.

The postage stamps of 1867 ceased therefore to be used for fiscal purposes from the beginning of April, 1878, the date at which certain fiscal stamps were issued.

* * *

I HAVE also the following letter, which does not seem to me to lack interest; it is from Mr. F. Drew :—

WINDSOR, *January 25th*, 1878.

SIR,

A post was established long ago at Kashmir and at Jummoo, indeed before the introduction of stamps in 1866 (1923). I was at Jummoo at that date. The most important line of posts, and, during a certain part of the year, the only one, is from Jummoo to Siránagar. Jummoo is the capital of the whole territory, and the Maharajah usually resides there. Siránagar is the chief town of Kashmir; it is governed by

a Governor or Viceroy of the Maharajah, and the latter goes there almost every year for some months. The distance between the two towns is about 160 miles; the country is excessively rough and extends over several chains of mountains.

As a rule it takes a traveller twelve days to cover this distance; but the post makes arrangements for doing it in twenty-four or twenty-six hours. Carriers are posted at intervals of 1½ miles, and these men receive the bag and carry it to the next station, running as fast as the rough ground will allow them.

The post offices are not managed very systematically, but there has certainly been some improvement since postage stamps have been introduced.

There are no letter-boxes, but the letters are handed to the person in the post office.

The difficulty of distributing the letters is increased by the absence of any names to the streets. It is therefore necessary to write upon the envelope a quantity of details so that the persons for whom the letters are intended may be discovered.

This is all I can remember that would be of interest to you. I trust these few lines may be of some use.

I remain, etc.,

(Signed) FREDERIC DREW.

To conclude, here is something that I read not so very long ago, in a newspaper of which I have forgotten the title. It referred to imitations of stamps, and incidentally to the forgery of a 1000-franc French banknote. The newspaper said :—

For having forged a 1000-franc French banknote M. Gatebourse was condemned to the galleys, and, as everything in his career must needs be extraordinary, the unfortunate man lost his way on the coast of New Caledonia, in trying to escape with a companion, and *both of them were found shortly afterwards completely devoured by the crabs.*

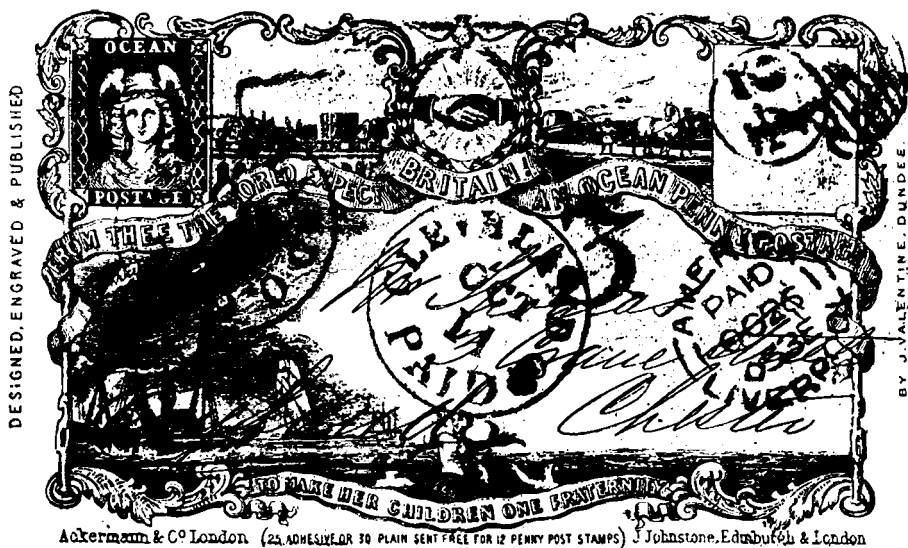
To be recognized *after* having been eaten up entirely by crabs is not at all bad. And if he was really recognized after being completely eaten up it must have been after he had been digested by the crabs. I think the newspapers exaggerate sometimes, and possibly in other cases besides that which I have quoted. [The tale sounds rather "fishy" certainly.—TRANS.]

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Ocean Penny Postage

By E. B. EVANS

ON the first of next month a notable addition will be made to the list of countries to which we can send a letter for the small charge of One Penny. By the introduction of Penny Postage between Great Britain and the United States another long step has been taken in the direction of the Universal Penny Postage, which has been advocated so long and which some of us may yet live to see, and the importance of that step lies in the fact that this cheap rate is now, for the first time, extended to a country that is neither a British colony nor under British guidance, but is a great independent State, united to us by ties of relationship and friendship, which Penny Postage should do much to strengthen.

Under the circumstances it is natural that we should be reminded of earlier efforts to reduce international rates of postage, and more especially to the proposal of "Ocean Penny Postage," so zealously advocated some sixty years ago by Elihu Burritt, himself a native of the United States.

Elihu Burritt, however, had in view something far more important and (may we add?) far more impracticable, than a mere scheme of cheap postage. This grand idea was a League of Universal Brotherhood, which should bring into actual operation that Peace and Goodwill which Christianity has been preaching for nineteen hundred years, but which Christians seem still to regard as

Utopian. Abolition of Slavery would have been a natural result, and standing armies were to follow. Cheap postage was merely a means towards the desired end; bring all the nations of the earth into frequent and easy epistolary and commercial communication, and if they did not all learn to love one another they would at least find good business reasons for keeping the peace. Such was the idea, and a very good idea too.

For reasons which will be explained later, the advocacy of cheap postage seems to have been carried on for the most part in this country, where Elihu Burritt spent a good many years; the pictorial advertisements of the scheme, consisting for the most part of illustrated envelopes, appear to have been all designed and published here, as was also the pamphlet in which the nature and limitations of the plan were fully set forth. Some of these illustrated envelopes are well known to collectors of stamps, indeed a supposed *stamp* cut from the corner of one of them was not infrequently found in old collections. It is not unlikely that a good many of these envelopes found their way across the Atlantic, addressed by Elihu Burritt and his English fellow-workers to their friends on the other side. We may suppose that it was far more rarely that specimens of these envelopes were used in the United States for correspondence with Great Britain; I happen to possess a couple of copies thus

used, the only specimens I have seen, and an illustration of one of them forms an appropriate heading to this article. It is rather heavily postmarked, but the marks being all in red do not appear so disfiguring in the original as they do in the illustration. The design is the familiar one with the device for an "Ocean Postage" stamp at upper left, and a space for an adhesive at upper right. In this space is struck a plain circular mark containing figures "24," probably denoting that the postage was 24 cents; above this and partly overlapping it is a circular obliterating mark of bars. There are two impressions of a mark inscribed "CLEVELAND . O . PAID," in a circle, with the date "OCT 11" in the centre, one of them partly covering a larger figure "3," which perhaps denotes the inland rate of postage. Finally, there is the postmark "AMERICA—LIVERPOOL," in a circle, enclosing "PAID—OC 26—□ 53 E."

In spite of the fact that articles were published, in philatelic and other papers, a few years ago,* showing exactly what Elihu Burritt's proposals were, many people still suppose that the Ocean Penny Postage of his time was the same thing as the International Penny Postage that has been advocated in later days, and with a considerable measure of success. But such is not the case at all. "Ocean Penny Postage" meant simply what it said, and no more; in its great advocate's own words it meant:—

That the single service of transporting a letter, weighing under half an ounce, from any seaport of the United Kingdom to any port beyond the seas at which the British mail packets may touch, shall be performed by the English Government for one penny and *vice-versâ*; or, one penny for its mere conveyance from Folkestone to Boulogne, Southampton to Bombay, Hull to Hamburg, or from Liverpool to Boston. As we would not ask the English Government to perform any other than this single service on a letter for a penny, consequently the entire charge upon one transmitted from any town in the United Kingdom, either maritime or inland, to any port beyond the seas, would be *twopence*—one penny for the inland rate, the other for the sea rate.

And there would, of course, have been in addition the inland rate of the country to which the letter was addressed.

The scheme was also, we see, limited, in the first instance at all events, to mails carried to or from Great Britain, under contracts with the British Government; this, no doubt, included a very much larger proportion of the world's Ocean Mails than it would do now, but we may presume that a letter from any part of Europe, passing through England on its way to America, would have been charged: first, the inland rate to the continental port; second, a penny

from the continental port to the British port; third, another penny for the British inland rate; fourth, a penny for the carriage from Liverpool to Boston or elsewhere, and, finally, the inland rate in the United States. Possibly this would have amounted to a good deal less than the postal charges of those days, but practically the greatest advantages of Ocean Penny Postage would have been enjoyed by the inhabitants of these islands and their correspondents. The inscription on the envelope illustrated above: "Britain! From thee the World expects an Ocean Penny Postage to make her children One Fraternity," was not in reality quite so appropriate as that upon another of the same period, which reads: "Britain! Bestow this Boon, and be in Blessing Blest. Ocean Penny Postage will link all lands *with Thee* in Trade & Peace."

In point of fact the highest aspirations of the advocates of Ocean Penny Postage were more than realized years ago, in the Two-pence-halfpenny rate of the Universal Postal Union; and Elihu Burritt, whose far more modest proposals were never carried out, would

Confess himself beaten
By Henniker Heaton,

who has succeeded in extending the inland rate of those days to the uttermost parts of the earth, though not at present to our nearest neighbours—but that will come.

All honour to the early advocates of Postal Reform, whose proposals, had they been adopted, would have vastly improved the arrangements of their own time. Taking the case of the envelope shown in the illustration; under the Ocean Penny Postage scheme the charge would have been three cents for inland postage in the United States, two cents for Ocean Postage, and two cents for inland postage in Great Britain, or seven cents in all; a great reduction on the twenty-four cents which appear to have been paid, but at the same time forty per cent. higher than the Postal Union rate of five cents, which modern reformers tell us is so extortionate.

"A Penny all the way" was undreamt of by practical reformers sixty years ago; at the present day we seem to regard it as something which ought to have been given us much sooner, and we want a "Tuppenny Tube" under the Atlantic to make the thing complete.

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* See *Monthly Journal* for January, 1899.

Philatelic Notes and Queries

By E. B. EVANS

AN article in *The Stamp Lover* for July laments the unpopularity of "Proofs and Essays," and endeavours to prove that they are "worthy of more popularity" than they at present possess. The argument appears to be that Proofs and Essays, being much rarer than stamps, should therefore be much more valuable, and for the same reason more popular. It does not quite follow, and in this instance there is a very simple answer to the argument, and that is that Proofs and Essays are not *Stamps*, and therefore there is no reason why the collector of stamps should admit them into his collection at all. They are never likely to be popular, if only on account of the rarity of all those of them that are of any real interest. *Proofs*, that is to say, impressions of adopted types, taken either before the completion of the engraving or printed from the completed die itself, and *Colour-trials*, printed for submission to the authorities, will always be of interest to the specialist, who wants to illustrate the whole history of his *stamps*; but as it is unlikely that there will be more than a dozen specialists in the stamps of the same country at the same time, a dozen copies of these Proofs and Trial impressions will meet the demand. *Essays* are on a very different footing and vary very greatly in interest, from those submitted in response to an official request to those got up spontaneously by speculators on the credulity of collectors. The multiplication of the latter class effectually destroyed all demand for Essays some years ago, when any one who could get up a pretty, or even an ugly, little design, submitted it to some Postal Authority (even this little formality was not always gone through), and on its desired rejection printed off copies in all the colours of the rainbow and sold them to all who were foolish enough to buy them. As specialism increases and the historical method of collecting spreads, there will doubtless arise a wider demand for these things, that is to say there will be the same limited demand for Proofs and Essays of a greater number of countries than there is now. But I see no reason to suppose that the demand will ever be otherwise than extremely limited, for the simple reason that the great majority of Stamp Collectors will content themselves with collecting *Stamps*.

The above was written before I had seen Mr. Phillips's note on the same subject in the number of the 12th inst., from which I gather that genuine Proofs and Essays are

not even now so unpopular or unsaleable as the writer of the article in question supposed; but still it is not to be expected that there will ever be the same general demand for these things that there is for actual stamps.

* * *

AS we are all aware, overprints seem to take a delight in varying themselves in fashions alike unexpected and undesired (except by those who speculate in the results), but now and again we hear of little efforts in this direction which seem to be really too ingenious to be possible. On some of the French stamps, both the 15 c., *slate-green*, and the 10 c., *rose-carmine*, overprinted "F. M.," there is a single stamp—to be exact, the left-hand stamp in the second horizontal row of the entire sheet—which shows no stop after the letter "M." After careful examination, a writer in a French journal has come to the conclusion that the missing stop is not really lost, but has managed with unwonted modesty to hide itself amongst the strokes of the "M," where it must cause that letter great inconvenience. Another journal not only confirms this curious discovery, but adds that the stamp immediately above the one in question on the 10 c. sheet possesses both the stop after the letter and the one in the middle of it, and believes that these erratic periods are some sort of "marque de contrôle," the elusive "secret mark" which was so constantly discovered by earlier students. I must say that I was brought up to believe that a stop was a thing that stopped where it was put; still I know now that such a thing can be omitted or may even disappear, but I never before heard of a stop that floated about and mixed itself up with a letter, and I rather incline to the belief that the letters "M" in question are suffering from swollen joints, the result of overprinting.

* * *

THE vexed question of the minor variety and what shall we do with it, is always with us, and probably always will be. It is even a disputed point, in some cases, what is a minor variety and what is a major. Incidentally, I may remark that I have never yet met with any one who collects majors, there seems to be no demand for them, but perhaps this is irrelevant. The question at the present day is not as to the existence of minor varieties, of that there is no possible doubt, neither is it altogether a question of

collectability. Anything that exists is collectable, and besides collectors are free, if they only knew it, to collect what they please, regardless of catalogues. The real question is, are all these minor varieties to be catalogued, or not, and if not all, which are to be admitted and which excluded? There are advocates on both sides and there are good arguments for both sides. Some people say that a catalogue should be as comprehensive as possible, should include everything, and collectors should be left to choose for themselves what they will take and what they will leave; others maintain that a catalogue should give some guidance to collectors and enable them to discriminate between the important varieties and those of less importance, leaving the latter to the specialist, who requires no catalogue, or can make one for himself.

I confess that I see excellent reasons for agreeing with both and for disagreeing with both. A catalogue, a dealer's catalogue (no others are talked of nowadays), is in the first place a list of what the publisher has or may have for sale, and as a matter of business it is to his interest to make it as comprehensive as possible, seeing that so many collectors collect by the catalogue, and accept what is in it and reject what is not. Such a catalogue should, of course, be consistent in its comprehensiveness, which as a rule is not the case. On the other hand, there is a great deal to be said in favour of making the dealer's catalogue a guide to the general collector, and leaving the specialist to the stock books, where he may sometimes pick up bargains! But will the majority of collectors be pleased with this? I very much doubt it. The inclusion of minor varieties is not by any means solely due to the greed of the dealer, who wants to sell as many stamps as possible. There are collectors who are anxious to see in the catalogue every minor variety that they possess, especially if they happen to have a duplicate or two of it—curious, but perhaps not entirely unnatural, for it is wonderful what a difference inclusion in a catalogue makes in the market value of a minor variety.

The Australian Philatelist for June contains some remarks, with which I fully agree, upon the subject of overloading the catalogues with varieties of shade which are most difficult to describe and to identify, and which are usually quite unintentional; and also upon the question of inverted and sideways watermarks, and chalky paper. The chalky surface is, of course, a variation in the paper which is intentional and of some little importance, but it certainly seems unadvisable to catalogue separately the varieties thus produced in the current and recent stamps of Great Britain and divers British colonies. The surface seems to be

less perceptible and permanent than in the case of some of the stamps of New South Wales, and of Portugal and colonies, it seems to disappear altogether with a little usage and washing, and under those circumstances it should be sufficient to indicate in the catalogue the fact that certain stamps exist upon *surfaced*, or *unsurfaced* paper, or both.

The position of a watermark is a matter of little or no importance, and unless it happens to afford an additional means of recognizing a variety of shade with which it may be connected, it is hardly worthy of notice. In connection with the question of inverted watermarks, *The Aust. Ph.* makes one statement which puzzles me: "In some cases the varieties may be accidental, in others deliberate; as for instance some of the New South Wales stamps which are placed *tête-bêche* on the plate." What are these *tête-bêche* New South Wales? I cannot find them in the catalogue, but possibly some of the plates consisted of panes set two different ways, if so, unsevered impressions of them appear to be unknown. I can only think of certain stamps of Great Britain and Grenada intentionally arranged on the plates in such a manner that half of them must inevitably have the watermark inverted.

The journal I have quoted makes one excellent recommendation. It points out that in certain countries, such as Great Britain, France, and the United States, the gauge of the perforation has not varied for years, and suggests that Australia would do well to strive after similar uniformity; and indeed it would be an excellent thing, but apparently too good to be hoped for; uniformity in any point seems to be the last thing that the postal authorities of Australia seek for.

* * *

The Colonial Office Journal, of which I have before me the first number of its second volume, always contains a few pages upon "Colonial Stamps," from which a good deal of information may be derived by the discriminating reader. There was a tendency at first, on the part of some philatelic journals, to treat the announcements of stamps that were to be expected in the near (or distant) future, as if they were actual chronicles of new issues, and thus a few items found their way into the catalogues somewhat prematurely. Wiser counsels now prevail in most quarters, and these semi-official predictions are allowed to await accomplishment before the stamps referred to are formally listed.

The very uncomplimentary remarks that have been made of late on the subject of Colonial Post Offices which run out of stamps with suspicious frequency, and are always

ready to issue *provisionals*, have naturally attracted the attention of the *Journal*, and the latter has, equally naturally, attempted a general defence of officials who unavoidably run short of necessary values and have to supply their places with temporary make-shifts.

The whole case of course turns upon the question of unavoidable necessity. The belief of most people who know anything about the matter is that real necessity very seldom arises, and that with reasonable care it would never arise at all—well, hardly ever! If it were once fully understood by all concerned, from Commissioners to Postmasters and Postmistresses, that running out of stamps was a thing that must not occur, and that provisional stamps were not to be issued under any circumstances whatever, all this nonsense would be put a stop to at once. Of course opportunities have been afforded by the action of higher authorities in allowing little places like the Cayman Islands to have separate stamps of their own; in a climate like that of the West Indies it is impossible to keep on hand stocks of stamps sufficient for several years' consumption, consequently the stock of a low value is always at the mercy of a speculator. But a Postmaster can protect his stock if he finds it running low by refusing to sell large quantities at a time to any one person—as is often done in the case of these precious provisionals—and, in one of these little insignificant places, if there were no stamps at all on hand for a week or two, very little inconvenience would be caused; and if it were understood that, if stamps ran out, postage was to be received in cash and the letters marked "paid," stamps never would run out. The remedy for the Cayman Islands disease is to withdraw altogether the privilege of having special stamps, which has been so disgracefully abused, and which need never have been granted, and let the inhabitants revert to the use of the stamps of Jamaica, which I suppose they used down to 1900, if indeed they required stamps at all.

* * *

I GREATLY regret to see in a well-known stamp journal such a recommendation as the following:—

Our advice to Colonial postmasters is to be *practical*. If you can get rid of your old stock by surcharging it, then surcharge it; collectors are not compelled by law to buy it, and if they do so, it is a fair assumption that they do so because they like it.

This really seems to me the most disastrous and deplorable advice that could possibly be given. Supposing that it were extensively followed for about twelve months, what would be the result? Well, one result would be

that the collecting of New Issues, or at least of Provisional and Surcharged stamps, would practically be dead; the goose that lays the golden eggs would take to sitting tight upon them, and would lay no more. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, from which the above paragraph is quoted, would be needed no longer, nor would any other *Weekly* stamp paper; and stamp collecting generally would suffer a very considerable shock. It is all very well to say that collectors are not obliged to buy certain stamps, but if they do not buy them, the old stock will not be got rid of. They do not buy these unnecessary things because they like them, many collectors are thoroughly disgusted with the constant raids that are made upon their pockets; but all collectors want to keep their collections up to date, and if they give up buying certain stamps, it means that they give up collecting the stamps of a certain country, and this gradual boycotting of countries that deserve it is as bad for Philately as it is for stamp dealing.

Post offices are not established solely for the sale of stamps and for the purpose of getting rid of old stock, in preparation for the introduction of the latest fashions. Enthusiastic philatelists seem sometimes to forget that the real business of a post office is the transmission and delivery of letters, etc., and sometimes of telegrams, and that stamps are not for the sole purpose of collecting revenue from those who collect stamps, but for indicating prepayment of postage.

* * *

THE postal authorities of New Zealand appear either to be totally devoid of any sense of humour or else to have that faculty abnormally developed. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have had some most interesting correspondence with them on the subject of the King Edward VII Land stamps, upon which I have made a few cursory remarks already—in another place.

The Ipswich firm wrote out to New Zealand in December last as follows:—

We enclose a cutting from a London newspaper stating that the Government of New Zealand has approved the proposal for opening a Post Office in King Edward VII Land, and that a "suitable" surcharged stamp will be issued. We do not quite understand the paragraph in question, as we take it that King Edward VII Land is uninhabited except by penguins and seals, who do not use postage stamps or write letters. We assume that the stamps in question are to be put on letters, sent home by members of the *Nimrod* Expedition to the South Pole, and that they are being issued merely as curiosities and not for *bona fide* postal use.

We should be much obliged if you could give us any further information concerning these labels, and if they are really a legitimate issue, where we can obtain a supply of them.

In his answer to this letter, the Secretary to the General Post Office at Wellington took no notice of Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.'s insinuations as to the nature and character of the inhabitants of the territory referred to, and their epistolary capability (indeed, it is evident that where there are *Penguins* there must be *pens*, and *seals* are equally handy articles of stationery), so he gravely wrote on the 10th February :—

In reply to your letter of the 24th December last, to the Chief Postmaster, Auckland, about King Edward VII Land postage stamps at id., I beg to inform you that the stamps are sold only at the King Edward VII Land Post Office.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. seem still to have entertained some doubts, for they wrote again :—

We are in receipt of your letter of the 10th ultimo, informing us that King Edward VII Land postage stamps of id. are sold only at the King Edward VII Land Post Office. From this we can only assume that there really is a Post Office in King Edward VII Land, and we shall therefore be obliged if you will inform us of its exact locality, in what town it is situate, and whether, if we address a letter to the place, accompanied by a remittance, we may depend upon receiving a supply of the postage stamps in due course. Also please inform us if registered letters are accepted for transmission to the place above-mentioned.

This elicited the following rather vague information :—

In reply to your letter of the 21st March last, No. 162,356, I have to inform you that the Post Office at King Edward VII Land is in the South Polar Regions, and if you address a communication to the Postmaster, it will be despatched in the mail to that office by the first opportunity, which will probably be about a year hence. Registered letters are accepted for transmission to King Edward VII Land. The Postmaster is not bound to supply stamps on requisition by post.

The Secretary is evidently quite equal to the occasion, and is doubtless a gentleman of infinite jest. Long service in the New Zealand Post Office has rendered him quite capable of dealing with any little philatelic problems that may arise. But he came perilously near what is known as a "terminological inexactitude" when he stated that "the Post Office at King Edward VII Land is in the South Polar Regions," for it seems improbable that the expedition has yet reached the Promised Land, and in that case the Post Office thereof cannot yet have come into existence. However, the nature of these labels with a "suitable" surcharge is pretty well understood by collectors, who will treat them as they feel disposed. It is only fair to add that, so far as I am aware, there has been no attempt at present to make use

of them for speculative purposes, and, unless a little stock has been retained in New Zealand, we shall probably hear no more of them for another year or two. In the meantime, if the expedition should be so unfortunate as to lose any of its baggage, the case containing the stamps would be amongst the articles that could be most easily spared. "It never would be missed" by philatelists at any rate.

* * *

MR. F. J. MELVILLE, the indefatigable President of the Junior Philatelic Society, has sent me another of those little books by means of which he has done so much for the popularization of Philately. It is entitled *A Penny all the Way: the Story of Penny Postage*, and is inspired by the same event as that which led to the inditing of a few remarks upon "Ocean Penny Postage," which appear on another page of this number.

Mr. Melville goes further back and, commencing with the Penny Posts of some two hundred and fifty years ago, gives us a most interesting account of the early attempts at introducing cheap postage, local and general, and of the struggles of the promoters, who as soon as their undertakings began to pay were charged with infringing the monopoly of persons who either did not do the same work at all, or who charged very much higher rates for the same service.

After tracing the history of local Penny Posts down to the time when Penny Postage was established throughout the United Kingdom, the author passes on to the consideration of the efforts made a little later to extend the rate further, and tells us of the "Ocean Penny Postage" plans and of the proposals for Universal Penny Postage, which, as stated elsewhere, have so nearly attained their accomplishment.

In addition to portraits of Postal Reformers and Postmasters-General (they have not always been united in the same person), and illustrations of the Mulready and other pictorial envelopes, etc., the book contains a reprint of one of Elihu Burritt's pamphlets, an important document showing exactly what the reform was that he was aiming at in the middle of last century.

I congratulate Mr. Melville upon having produced a most timely little work, illustrating the close connection between Philately and the study of postal history.

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New Issues and Discoveries

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.

Brunei.—In *G.S.W.*, No. 190, an error crept into the description of some changes of colour here. The 8 c. was mentioned as having been altered. This is wrong; the 8 c. remains as before, but the 5 c. now appears in black and orange, the colours of the 8 c. Possibly later there will be a change for the latter value, but meantime the chronicle in the above number relative to the 8 c. (No. 29) should be cancelled and replaced by the following:—



1908. Change of colour. Type 4. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.
28| 5 c., grey-black and orange-yellow.

East Africa and Uganda.—*Le Coll. de Timbres-Poste* hears that the 1 c., grey-brown, issued at the beginning of this year, has been changed in colour to brown-red. We shall not formally chronicle this until we have seen the stamp.

Rio de Oro.—According to *Le Coll. de Timbres-Poste*, the 75 c. of last year has been surcharged 15 c., similarly to No. 39 in the Supplement, but in black instead of carmine.



1908. Type 3 surcharged with Type 7 in black.
40| 15 c. on 75 c., orange-brown.



Roumania.—According to *The Postage Stamp* (12.9.08), the *Bazaar* chronicles the discovery of a specimen of the 1 bani of 1902 perf. 13½ all round. The 15 bani of the same date has been known with this perforation for some time.



16
1902. Type 16 (inscribed "16 BANI"). Novwmk. Perf. 13½.
433a| 1 b., brown.
Present No. 433a becomes 433b.

Switzerland.—We have received the new 30 c. Swiss stamp, which is of the same type and nature as the 40 c. described in *G.S.W.*, No. 191. The colours, in our opinion, do not coincide with those mentioned in *Foreign Notes* recently. In the chronicle of the above-mentioned 40 c. the stamps are described as having no watermark. As a matter of fact, it is watermarked with the Large Cross, Type 13, and the 30 c. has also this watermark. For the sake of regularity it would be well to cancel the description in No. 191 and substitute as follows:—



16
13
AUG.-SEPT., 1908. Type 16. Figures of value, figure of Helvetia, and frame line in first colour. Granite paper. Wmk. Type 13. Perf. 11½, 12.
243| 30 c., pale green and golden brown.
244| 40 c., orange-yellow and purple.

Tasmania.—*The Australian Philatelist* (Aug.) reports the issue of the 6d. on Commonwealth paper perforated 12½. We have already chronicled this value perf. 11.



29
1908. Type 29. Wmk. Crown over Δ, Type 33. Perf. 12½.
6d., lake.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 14
Whole No. 196

3 OCTOBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Germany

(Thurn and Taxis, N. German Confederation, and German Empire)—*continued*

Thurn and Taxis—*continued*

THE States composing the German-Austrian Postal Union in 1861 decided to secure more uniformity in the colours of the stamps circulating within its districts, and to this end the following colours were agreed upon: 4 pfennige or $\frac{1}{4}$ sgr., green; 6 pf. or $\frac{1}{2}$ sgr., yellow; 1 sgr., rose; 2 sgr., blue; and 3 sgr., brown.

At the same time the 1 kr. was deemed equivalent to $\frac{1}{4}$ sgr. instead of $\frac{1}{2}$ sgr. as previously. This necessitated five changes for the Northern District (the 3 sgr. evidently not being considered a proper brown), and but three for the Southern District, as the 1 kr. was already green.

The change of colour began to take effect in 1862, when in April the 1 sgr. appeared in rose. The $\frac{1}{2}$ sgr. was issued in February, 1863, and the $\frac{1}{4}$ sgr. in the May following. The 3 sgr. appeared in September of the same year in what is known to collectors as bistre. The 2 sgr. was altered in January, 1864, and in July of the same year the $\frac{1}{4}$ sgr. appeared in black, doubtless altered to prevent any confusion with the brown of other values. Corresponding changes were made during 1862 in the colours of the 3, 6, and 9 kreuzer. All the stamps remained imperforate.

1862-4. *Types as before. Colours changed. Imperforate.*

Northern District.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{4}$ sgr., black	1 0	1 6
$\frac{1}{2}$ " green	1 3	4 0
$\frac{1}{4}$ " yellow	7 6	0 6
1 " rose	10 0	0 6
2 " blue	2 0	2 0
3 " bistre	0 9	1 0

Southern District.

3 kr., rose	6 0	0 2
6 " blue	0 9	0 5
9 " bistre	1 0	0 3

In 1865 it was decided to introduce the convenience of perforation, but this took the form of *rouletting*, much in favour amongst the German States, instead of the ordinary

perforation adopted by most other countries. The work was entrusted to Naumann, the printer, and the new stamps began to appear in November "rouletted in line" rather roughly. The colours were the same as before, though for the most part in paler shades. The electros making up the plate were so closely clamped together that there was little or no space left for the rouletting, which frequently encroached on the stamp. This was remedied in the following year by rearranging the plates (or printing formes) so as to leave a space between the stamps. In this was inserted a fine line of printer's dotted rule made of brass, which produced what is technically termed "rouletting in coloured lines." The rule has a sharp edge, divided into short lines (in this instance sixteen in the space of 2 centimetres), and as they stand out a little higher than the electros of the stamps, they cut into the paper when the impressions are printed; thus the printing and perforating are done at one operation. This system has this advantage, that the stamps are always well centred. General collectors need hardly trouble to take both sets, and as the later set unused is the more slightly as well as the cheaper, this will probably have the preference. If used specimens are sought for, the later set is still the more desirable, from the fact that it first made an appearance in February, 1867, only a short time previous to the transfer of the office to Prussia, and in consequence some of the values are very scarce.

The prices given in the following lists are for the cheapest varieties.

1865-7. *Types, etc., as before. Rouletted plain or in colour.*

Northern District.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{4}$ sgr., black	0 2	8 0
$\frac{1}{2}$ " green	0 4	4 0
$\frac{1}{4}$ " yellow	0 3	1 6
1 " rose	0 2	0 8
2 " blue	0 1	2 0
3 " bistre	0 3	1 0

Southern District.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 kr., green	0 1	0 6
3 " rose	0 1	0 9
6 " blue	0 2	0 6
9 " bistre	0 2	1 0

In 1867 Prussia purchased the entire rights of the Prince of Thurn and Taxis throughout Germany for a sum of 3,000,000 thalers (£450,000). The use of the stamps ceased on 30 June, 1867, and the whole of the old stock was subsequently sold for what it would fetch.

As Prussia was in North Germany and used the *silbergroschen* currency, an issue in *kreuzer* was necessary to supply the South German States formerly served by Thurn and Taxis. Hence the Prussian issue of 1867, the stamps of which are comparatively scarce, owing to their short life.

North German Confederation

An explanation has been given concerning the formation of the above, both politically and philatelically. The new Postal Union was inaugurated 1 January, 1868, by an issue of stamps adapted for the Confederation, and all separate issues for the German States or Free Towns, except for Baden, Bavaria, and Wurtemberg, ceased on that date.

Two sets in different currency were issued, but a new basis of equation was adopted, bringing the values nearer to intrinsic worth. Thus 1 kr. now equalled $\frac{1}{3}$ sgr.; 2 kr. = $\frac{1}{2}$ sgr.; 3 kr. = 1 sgr.; 7 kr. = 2 sgr.; and 18 kr. = 3 sgr.

The stamps are not very elegant and be-taken hurried preparation. The two sets bear a family likeness, but are sufficiently distinct. The inscription NORDDEUTSCHER POSTBEZIRK means "North German Postal Circuit (or District)."

The dies and plates were made in the Government Printing Works at Berlin, and the stamps were printed there in sheets of 150. As a precaution against forgery, the paper, before being used for the stamps, was overprinted on the face with a network in invisible ink. If placed in a solution of sulphuretted hydrogen, this network will appear in brown. It is interesting to recall that the plates for printing this network were used for printing the background of the so-called "Alsace and Lorraine" issues. By the way, the latter stamps were really sub-issues of the North German Confederation, but as they have already been described in *G.S.W.* (No. 28), no further comment is needed here.

The Confederation stamps were "rouletted in line" in gauges varying from $8\frac{1}{2}$ to 13; but all the values are known *imperf.* The latter must not be regarded as officially issued. Owing to pressure in dispatching supplies,

some sheets were probably sent out without being perforated, and specimens are known which have passed through the post. The colours conform to the decision of the Union in 1861, and the only alteration in this respect from the last issue of Thurn and Taxis is in the $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. The demand necessitated several printings, and many shades of some values are to be found.



1868. Rouletted.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{4}$ gr., lilac	2 0	0 6
$\frac{1}{2}$ " green	2 0	0 2
$\frac{1}{2}$ " orange	5 0	0 2
1 " rose	4 0	0 1
2 " blue	12 0	0 1
5 " bistre	15 0	0 3
1 kr., green	4 0	1 0
2 " orange	6 0	1 3
3 " rose	10 0	0 3
7 " blue	17 6	1 0
18 " bistre	2 0	2 0

In February, 1869, the stamps began to appear machine-perforated $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$, but the old stocks of rouletted stamps were used up before they were superseded by the perforated issues. Hence some values did not appear with the new perforation until the next year. A case in point is the 18 kr., and as this value was little in demand it is quite scarce used. When the stamps became obsolete the remainders were sold to dealers, a fact which is reflected in the low prices at which most of the values unused can be purchased. In this series the shades are again numerous.

1869. Same types. Perf. $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{4}$ gr., lilac	0 6	0 6
$\frac{1}{2}$ " green	0 2	0 2
$\frac{1}{2}$ " orange	0 2	0 2
1 " rose	0 2	0 1
2 " blue	0 2	0 1
5 " bistre	0 3	0 3
1 kr., green	0 4	0 5
2 " orange	2 0	3 6
3 " rose	0 3	0 1
7 " blue	0 6	0 4
18 " bistre	6 0	25 0

On 1 March, 1869, two stamps of 10 and 30 groschen were issued. The designs were evidently inspired by the stamps of similar values issued by Prussia in 1866 on the so-called "goldbeater's skin." They were not for the use of the public, but were affixed by the postal officials to heavy packets or registered matter requiring high postage

and prepaid in cash. Instructions were also given to cancel in pen and ink, hence the comparatively high prices of postmarked copies. The background of the two stamps is composed of the words: ZEHN GROSCHEN and DREISSIG GROSCHEN, respectively, many times repeated.



March, 1869. Perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14$.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 gr., grey	10 0	10 0
30 ,, blue, P.C. 25.	6 0	20 0

design that of the kreuzer, but without any numeral in the centre or any value expressed on it. This was issued, like the other stamps, first rouletted and afterwards perforated.



1868-9. No value expressed.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. a.	s. d.
Rouletted (1868).		
($\frac{1}{2}$ sch.), purple-brown	4 0	2 0
Perf. $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ (1869).		
($\frac{1}{2}$ sch.), purple-brown	0 2	0 3

The stamps of the North German Confederation continued in use until they were superseded in 1872 by those of the newly formed German Empire.

(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

Presents for the Prince

THE two sets of the special Tercentenary stamps for the Prince of Wales are contained in handsome caskets. One set is placed in small gold boxes, enclosed in a large box of morocco leather. The second set is in a large gold box. On the cover of the large box is the Prince's crest and a gold plate inscribed as follows: "Set of Canadian postage stamps issued upon the occasion of the Quebec Tercentenary, 1908. Presented to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, Postmaster-General of Canada." *Western Daily Press.*

South and Central Americans

OUR New York manager, Mr. E. B. Power, was recently over here on his usual yearly visit, and in discussing stamp matters with him he told me that there is a really wonderful demand in America for stamps that have been much neglected in this country.

I think that one of the chief reasons for this demand is owing to the steps that have been taken by various collectors and dealers to clear the reprints out of such countries as Salvador, Nicaragua, Ecuador, etc. An-

other reason why many people in America take up the study of the stamps of such countries is that there is still much to learn about the earlier issues and the different settings of the provisionals, etc., and also almost all the stamps are cheap, and a fine collection can be formed without much outlay of capital.

In British Colonials—outside the Australasian group—I really do not see many countries about which there is much to be learnt, but in very many European and foreign countries no really exhaustive study has taken place, and it is to such countries the real student of Philately naturally turns his attention.

We luckily have in Great Britain a few wise philatelists who have formed magnificent collections of countries that are more or less despised by the ignorant: among such I would mention Mr. T. W. Hall, with his grand and matchless collections of Argentine and Peru; Mr. W. T. Wilson, the authority on Mexico, who has backed his belief in these stamps by investing more money in them than all the other English dealers combined; Mr. H. Griebert, who has formed superb collections of Uruguay

and Turkey, and who by close study of these stamps has found out many points hitherto unsuspected.

The philatelic world is very wide now, and in reviewing matters appertaining to stamps we must not be guided entirely by our own insular views, which would naturally cause us to pay attention to British Colonials to the neglect of many interesting fields of research in other lands.

A Postmaster's Satire

AN amusing story comes from one of the outlying country towns of New Zealand, where the postmaster exercised his ingenuity by posting up a new set of rules in his office. They were—

As all postmasters are expert linguists, the addresses may be written in Chinese or Hebrew. Persons are not compelled to lick their own postage stamps and envelopes; the postmaster will do this for them. Persons are earnestly requested not to send post cards with money orders attached, as large sums are lost in that way. It is particularly requested that lovers writing to each other will please confine their gushing rhapsodies to the inside of the envelope. When watches are sent through the post, the sender should put a notice on the outside; the postmaster will then wind them up and keep them in going order.

A Spanish Philatelic Congress

SPAIN intends to hold its first Philatelic Congress for the purpose "of discussing important philatelic problems awaiting solution in Spain." The initiative has been taken by the "Unión Filatélica Valenciana," and the Congress is to be held in the second fortnight in September, in Saragossa the Unconquerable. We notice that D. Miguel Aleña, manager of the *Madrid Filatélico*, D. Miguel Gálvez, of Madrid, D. Carlos Llorca, manager of *El Eco Postal*, and D. Enrique Laso, of Madrid, will receive the names of all who are interested in the project.

Labels Resembling Postage Stamps

THE Postmaster-General has issued the following notice:—

The practice has recently been adopted by some persons of affixing to the covers of letters adhesive labels, somewhat resembling postage stamps, which are used for advertising or other purposes. Although these labels are obviously not issued with any intention of defrauding the revenue, their use on postal packets, especially when they are placed on the address side, causes embarrassment to the officers of the Post Office, and gives rise to delay in the treatment of other correspondence. In these circumstances, the Postmaster-General has deemed it necessary to issue instructions that, after 31 July, any letter or other packet observed in the post bearing on the front a private label in any way resembling a postage stamp shall be returned to the sender.

The Times, 22.7.08.

New-size Mounts

SINCE we started the sale of mounts in tin boxes (about two and a half years), I find that we have sold over *thirty millions*, a number that is a sure sign of both the cheapness and the excellence of the mount.

Some collectors have asked us for a mount rather smaller in size, so we have prepared a quantity in *green* boxes, which we term size B. The mounts are double gummed and easily peelable, and of the best quality. The price is the same—in either size, sixpence per 1000, or post-free sevenpence.

Zanzibar's Sultan Philatelist

THE young Sultan of Zanzibar, who has recently visited this country, is reputed to have still a collection. An old Harrovian says he was a keen collector when at that famous school. One doubts this—at least if he has anything to do with the numerous stamps of his East African home—but if this year's issue is to last for some years, we will forgive him. He came over to England in 1902 for the King's coronation, in which year he succeeded his father and also married his eleven-year-old cousin—himself being only sixteen years of age.

Trade Advertisements

NOW and again one sees some really humorous philatelic announcements, but we think the following takes the biscuit:—

We will give 5000 stamp mounts free to any person who can prove that our mounts are injurious to the tongue.

We hope no one will accept our generous contemporaries' offer. Whether the advertising of stamp hinges fosters mixed metaphors we have not personally discovered, but we can recollect seeing the following self-praise a few years back:—

Our mounts are *the cheapest* in the world *at the price*.

Pax Vobiscum

OUR office-boy has lately been "reading up" the "Penny Post of 1680," and has unearthed this original storyette:—

Customer: But you say you guarantee all your stamps genuine?

Dealer: Yes, sir, I guarantee all.

Customer: Why has this Mexican got UN REAL printed on it?

He says he has not seen it before. We trust our readers haven't.

New Season's Auctions

MESSRS. GLENDINING & CO., LTD., of 7 Argyll Street, Regent Street, London, W., the well-known stamp auctioneers, have favoured us with advance catalogues of their first two sales.

As usual with this firm, the catalogues are issued and sent to their *foreign* clients from four to six weeks before the sale takes place, and by this means the large buyers in Europe, America, etc., are enabled to send commissions to their agents in London. By thus taking care of their clients' interest this firm have built up the position of the leading stamp auctioneers of the world, and last season sold at auction a greater value of stamps than any other firm.

The first sale takes place on 6 and 7 October, and catalogues were posted abroad by 25 August.

This sale is composed chiefly of two properties. The first one is an "Official Collection" formed, over thirty years ago, by an official at the Colonial Office, and given to a little girl. The second property is the balance of the stamps left by the late Mr. Sach-Sommer, of Hamburg.

In this sale I draw attention to: I.R. Official 5s. and 10s., mint. Naples, $\frac{1}{2}$ t., Arms, unused and used. Switzerland, 4 rp. Zurich, unused. Ceylon, 8d., yellow, Star, unused; 2 r. 50 c., perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$; 24 c., plum, etc. Hong Kong, 96 c., yellow, C C, unused, mint. British Guiana, rare Officials, unused and undoubtedly genuine, as they are from the old official collection. New Brunswick, 1s., unused. United States, August, 1861, a fine

set of the *premières gravures*, comprising the 1 c., 3 c., 10 c., 12 c., 24 c., and 30 c.

The second sale of the season takes place on 20 and 21 October, and consists almost entirely of a fine general collection formed by a well-known American collector during his residence in Paris.

All countries are well represented, and this collection is noted for the generally fine condition of the stamps. The collection is divided into over five hundred lots, and every lot is worth attention, as the whole collection is for sale without reserve.

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

Barbados.

A FAIRLY good book, all issues well represented. Among the rarities on hand I note the 1d. on half of 5s., a mint unsevered pair, very rare unused; also three pairs used showing several types, and several singles.

British New Guinea and Papua.

A very fine lot, divided into sets showing the different papers, position of watermarks, and many minor varieties in the overprint. This book is well worth the attention of specialists, both used and unused being strongly represented.

Some Notes on Varieties and Sheets of the Stamps of Chili

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

HAVING recently purchased a fine specialized collection of the stamps of Chili which was formed in South America, I find in it a number of interesting varieties which it may be as well to place on record.

The unused stamps of the early issues are exceptionally fine, and amongst them I draw attention to the following:—

1 July, 1853.

5 c., very fine, unused, with gum.

10 c., first wmk., on very blued paper, a variety not in our Catalogue.

1854. *Lithographed.*

Two superb unused, which are exceedingly rare, and two pairs and five singles used.

August and October, 1854.

A superb lot of the 5 and 10 c., unused. There are eight shades of the 5 c., and also eight of the 10 c., including some of the finest colours I have ever seen.

1901. Type B.

There is a horizontal pair of the 2 c., lake, rouletted all round and imperf. between.

1903.

10 c. on 30 c., orange-red.

Two new varieties to catalogue (these will be found listed in the Supplement).

(a) Double surcharge.

(b) Double surcharge, one of which is inverted.

There are also two entire sheets of this stamp with normal surcharge; one is a pale chestnut-brown and the other is a dark brown.

1904. *No tail to the huemul.*

There is a 5 c. used, with double overprint. These stamps are printed by the American Bank Note Company, New York, in sheets of 200 stamps, which are divided into two panes of 100 each before issuing to the post offices. The space between the two panes is not perforated, and the sheets are cut with a knife edge, and therefore each issued sheet of 100 stamps has a plain edge either on left or right-hand side. The American Bank Note Company have their imprint six times on each full sheet of

200 stamps : twice on top, twice on bottom, and once on each side.

In this issue there are some very interesting sheets of 100 stamps showing misplaced overprints.

In the 2 c. there is a sheet which has the overprint diagonal, and on which twenty-six stamps show no portion of the overprint.

On another sheet the overprint is too high, and the bottom row shows only the lower portion of the tablet containing the word *CORREOS*.

Another sheet of 2 c. has the overprint slanting slightly, and five stamps have no overprint. A sheet of 5 c. has a slanting overprint, and ten stamps on it have no overprint.

1904. *With tail to the huemul.*

A new variety here is a 5 c., red, with overprint *inverted*, used on part of letter which is dated "8.4.1905."

These rare stamps with tail are printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co. in sheets of 200, but are perforated between the two panes, and so show no straight edges. The imprint of the firm is twice only on each full sheet, both on the bottom margin.

1904. *Telegraph stamps with head of Valdivia.*

There is a block of four 1 c. on 20 c., blue, imperf. horizontally.

The 12 c. on 5 c. comes in two colours, bright red and brownish red.

The variety "no star at left of *CENTAVOS*" occurs only once—on stamp No. 56—on each sheet.

Official Stamps.

In the rare Official stamps of January, 1907, I note the following varieties :—

Type O. I. Imperf.

No. 308 with the large E P *inverted*.

As last. Perf. 11.

Brown stamp with *PAQUETE* in green, *inverted*.

Brown stamp with *PAQUETE omitted*.

Red stamp with *OFICIO inverted*.

Red stamp with *OFICIO omitted*.

Blue stamp with the blue inscription and anchor all double printed.

Postage Due Stamps.

Of the issue 1895 (Types U 2 and U 3) there are four different sets included in this collection :—

1st. Paper bright yellow, stamps measure 24 × 28 mm.

2nd. Paper bright yellow, stamps measure 28 × 24 mm.

3rd. Paper buff, stamps measure 27 × 22 mm.

4th. Paper buff, stamps measure 22 × 27 mm.

There is a full sheet of the buff-paper stamps, and the make-up of the sheet is as follows :—

2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40

A 10 c. and a 30 c. on the sheet have been struck twice, giving two double impressions. The 10 c. is circular, all the other stamps are oval.

There is a sheet of the Unpaid Letter stamps of 1895, perf. 11; the values are arranged as follows :—

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	40	40	40	40	40
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
50	50	50	60	60	60	80	80	1	1

peso/peso

In the 1896 issue there are three sheets all different. The perforation is 13½ in all cases. The first printing was probably that containing all the values as follows :—

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
20	20	20	20	20	40	50	60	80	100

In the next printing I suppose that it was decided to do without the high values, and the sheet* was arranged as follows :—

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20

The last printing, of which I have a sheet, is again quite different, and goes up to the 10 c. value.

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

Taking together these three different settings of the stamps perf. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$, one set of the three sheets would contain the following numbers of each denomination :—

1 centavo	.	.	.	.	50
2 centavos	.	.	.	.	60
4	”	.	.	.	40
6	”	.	.	.	20
8	”	.	.	.	20
10	”	.	.	.	90
20	”	.	.	.	15
40	”	.	.	.	1
50	”	.	.	.	1
60	”	.	.	.	1
80	”	.	.	.	1
100	”	.	.	.	1
					<u>300</u>

BARBADOS

By E. D. Bacon and F. H. Napier

With a History and Description of the Star-watermarked Papers of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.

This important publication, consisting of 120 pages, is illustrated with three sheets of autotypes of stamps (specially showing all the varieties of the 1d. on half of 5s.), three facsimile reproductions of the Star watermarks, an Appendix containing copies of original correspondence, etc. etc., a list of the number of Stamps of each value printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. and Messrs. De La Rue & Co.

Price 7s. 6d. in strong cover, or 10s. 6d. well bound in cloth, gilt edges; post-free 3d. extra.

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

British Stamps used Abroad—continued

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP VI

IN this group we have assembled the post offices opened by the Imperial Government for the use of the army on active service and where British stamps were issued. They are three in number, viz. :—

- Crimea, 1854-6.
- Egypt, 1882-5.
- South Africa, 1899-1902.

As a matter of fact, the offices in the Crimea were the first British post offices abroad to issue postage stamps, and there is no doubt that the success of their use must have led to other offices adopting them.

In the Egyptian campaign the operation of the Army Post Office was limited and purely supplementary to the Egyptian offices, and the stamps so obliterated are very rare.

The South African war was by far the most prolific, and that is accountable for by

various facts. In the first place, the campaign extended over four years. The number of troops engaged was larger than Great Britain had ever previously put in the field, and the advancement of learning made every man a letter-writer instead of only a small percentage.

In this campaign any stamp that was handy was used, and one finds Cape of Good Hope stamps, Natal stamps, British Bechuanaland, Orange Free State, and Transvaal stamps used, as well as British, by the Army field force.

Crimea

War had been declared on 28 March, 1854, and large masses of troops were sent to the East, which after remaining at Gallipoli and other places sailed for Varna, where they arrived by 29 May. The invasion of Russian territory having been decided on, the 25,000 British, with their French and

Turkish allies, sailed from Varna and landed some thirty miles from Sebastopol on 14 September, 1854.

In addition to the necessity of providing postal communication for the forces at the front, the Post Office felt the effects of a state of war most severely, owing to the fact that it became necessary to release a number of steamships (which, by the way, were none too numerous in those days) from the mail service, in order that they might be used for transports and troopships. By favour, however, of the French Government—in fact, by express command of the Emperor—letters were conveyed through France in the charge of a special body of messengers, and conveyed by French packet to Constantinople twice weekly, at the same rate as was charged upon the correspondence of the French troops, viz. 3d. per quarter-ounce for letters and 2d. for newspapers.

From Constantinople the arrangements for transmission to the front had perforce to be left to the Commander of the Forces; firstly, owing to the necessity of finding ways and means, and secondly, owing to the uncertainty of the points to which mails would have to be carried.

In addition to the above service, letters were carried by all men-of-war, troopships, and other Government vessels as occasion offered at a charge of 1d. each. An experienced official, Mr. Smith, who after the war was engaged by the Turkish Government to put their Post Office in order, and subsequently assumed the Postmastership of Leeds, was selected to proceed to the front as Postmaster of Her Majesty's forces, and later three assistant postmasters and seven regular letter sorters. Stamps and obliterators, horses and mules were supplied for the exclusive use of his department. We may gather, therefore, that the postal arrangements were more efficient than might have been expected, and certainly more so than those of the Commissariat Department, for instance.

According to the Postmaster-General's report for 1856 one and a half million letters were received from the Army and Navy from April, 1854, to 31 December, 1855; but of course by far the larger number of these were sent either before we had landed in the Crimea or from the soldiers and the seamen of the Black Sea and Mediterranean Fleets. Again, a large number of letters were cancelled on arrival in England, and mostly bear the London district mark. Two obliterators were used, one consisting of a Crown with a star at each side, in the small horizontal oval, and the later type of two cyphers separated by a star, also enclosed in the same shape oval. The earlier one is undoubtedly the scarcer of the two.

In the *Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles* it is mentioned that although perforations had been officially employed on all stamps since January, 1854, later on in the year some sheets had been issued imperforate, but where they had been used was not known. Some, if not all, found their way to the Crimea, because the 1d., red, imperforate, is known with this obliteration. All these stamps are of very great rarity. Peace was declared in April, 1856, but the Crimea was not finally evacuated by the Allies till 12 July, 1857; consequently we can assume British stamps were used there from about November, 1854, till 12 July, 1857.

The varieties known are:—

Crown and stars.

1d., red; imperf.
1d., S.C.; 16. Die I.
1d., S.C.; 16. Die II.

Cyphers and star.

1d., red; imperf.
1d., S.C.; 16. Die I.
1d., S.C.; 14. Die I.
1d., S.C.; 16. Die II.
1d., S.C.; 14. Die II.
1d., L.C.; 14.
2d., S.C.; 14.
2d., L.C.; 14.
6d., octagonal.
1s., octagonal.
4d., Large Garter.

Arrangements for forwarding letters to the fleet engaged in warlike operations in the Baltic were made, and the rates on those sent via Belgium to Dantzic, whence they were conveyed by a steam vessel specially employed by the fleet, were 8d. per officer's letter and 5d. per seaman's or soldier's letter per half-ounce.

That was the speediest and most direct communication with the Baltic Fleet, but mails were made up and dispatched by every vessel of war, Queen's ship or transport, proceeding from England to the fleet, and the postage by such ships was only the ordinary charge of 6d. per officer's letter, and 1d. for sailor's or soldier's. Newspapers were carried free.

As, however, no special obliterator was used for this service, it is impossible to say whether stamps were actually used or any special post office established for the fleet.

(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.

Philately in the Green Room

By GEORGE ROBEY

[The famous actor-comedian Mr. George Robey gives an account specially for *G.S.W.* as to why he is a stamp collector. That he can shine as a philatelist as well as in the rôles of Queen Elizabeth and Shakespeare is at once apparent by a peep at his magnificent collection of Spain, Mexico (which latter has, by the way, a large number of the early bisected provisionals), Australians, Europeans, and last, but by no means least, his wonderful lot of Portuguese India and other colonies, which Mr. Robey makes his speciality. Whilst having his weaknesses for certain countries Mr. Robey desires it to be understood that he is a general collector.

Having sat with Mr. Robey during the "waits" between the "calls," we realize how he feels the want of a hobby to counter powder and paint—especially in the case when he is touring the provinces, away from his friends.—W. W.]

I FIRST collected stamps, like most people, when at school. On the other hand, unlike also most boys, I have continued my collecting ever since. Of course, there have been the several times when my enthusiasm has diminished to zero, and stupidly I have sold my collection, only to regret it very soon after, when taking up again the threads of Philately. Travelling about, and going up and down and out of the country, I have had very many facilities for gathering together stamps of more than ordinary choiceness.

If I did not collect stamps, I suppose I should play golf, or go fishing. Neither of these is of any use to me in the dressing-room, when, between my "shows," time passes miserably slow. Stamps are wonderful things for teaching you, not only the geographical situation of foreign towns and lands, but they give one a knowledge of the customs and peculiarities of other nations—and, I can assure you, a broad view of life is of great use to men (and women, too) of my profession.

Where could there be a more convenient, as well as instructive, pastime than Philately for people of our profession? The management will not allow the artistes to leave the theatre between their turns. We get, perhaps, to a strange town, where we have no friends to while away our hours of imprisonment. We simply have to hang about.

Besides, it is often I get hold of "bags," through having my stamps on my dressing-room table. Brother artistes, newspaper representatives, and many others have often

turned out to be fellow-collectors, or have had some stamps, procured in their youth, put away somewhere.

I admire neatness of arrangement, and I must have good condition. I use and prefer the old Imperial Album. Blank albums are all right, but to a general collector there is bound to be a country in which he is not so well up as in the remainder. He must therefore have some guide for the arrangement of his stamps. Then, again, how can we show our collections to friends, if they are not properly mounted?

What countries do I prefer? Well, I do not care for new issues and commemoratives, so kindly provided by paternal Governments in order to look after the pennies of small boys and innocent adults who should know better.

Personally, I like all kinds of old issues, with an extra fondness for Europeans, Mexicos, Brazils, and especially Portuguese Colonies. Further, I collect only used stamps. I consider it more philatelic to confine oneself to used stamps. How often is a postmark of great use in the correct division of varieties. But, most of all, by declining unused stamps, the collector does not foster the making of unnecessary issues—neither does he help to fill the coffers of any "busking" Government.

Bargains? Well, certainly, I have had several, notably split Mexican provisionals. I also once got hold of some of the 10 c. Congo with inverted centre, but had them stolen at Salisbury, S.A. I consider that all enthusiastic collectors are bound to pick up bargains that the half-hearted collectors pass over. Doubtless, our Press is the chief mainstay of Philately—and the greatest enjoyment I have and really look forward to is *G.S.W.* Maybe for two or three days one has been busy and stamps are slightly "off," but the arrival of *G.S.W.* rekindles the enthusiastic fires. Unfortunately, my business forbids me to attend exhibitions and meetings, and I must therefore rely upon the philatelic Press to keep me posted with the latest news. My message to collectors is, "Stick to your hobby like a mount to a stamp, but don't peel off."

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.

Pity the Poor "P.M.G."

A Curious Suggestion

By EBORACUM

SOME people may think Philately a most uninteresting hobby, and very few who are not among us would expect to find a humorous side to what is so often called "the mad scramble after bits of paper"; but much that crops up in the general Press, most especially in the correspondence columns, gives us opportunities for a good hearty laugh.

The suggestions that are made to the "P.M.G." by Press correspondents are usually of the most impracticable sort (*vide G.S.W.*, 15.8.08, p. 106), but one of exceptional extraordinariness appeared in the columns of an excellent provincial daily as follows:—

THE KING OF HEARTS.

To the Editor of the —

SIR,—For the benefit of the short-sighted, the people in a hurry, and the inconsequent, could not the King's head on a penny postage stamp be printed in a different colour to the background? Every day, in a big correspondence, people notice stamps stuck on the wrong way up by pure accident.

And it looks, if not disloyal, at least impolite to stand the King's effigy on its head. A solution of the difficulty might be found in printing the design with two heads of the King, like the kings of a pack of cards, with a margin of hearts as

King of Hearts, and the symbolic inference that the most gracious Monarch Europe ever saw can never be turned down.

Yours, etc.,

It is obvious, or at any rate let us hope so, that the writer of that letter is no philatelist, but we can all thank him for having given us a good joke to laugh at. "Formica" speaks of Mr. Buxton's temptations with 6d. stamps and "Olympic Games" issues; but whatever suggestions these strange unphilatelic beings make, I hope he will ignore them all quietly. A correspondent in the same paper two days later makes a short but sweet comment upon that choice piece, by remarking that the writer "talks of the King as if he were a bed, to be 'turned down.' . . . It is less his sentiment than his English that is at fault"!??

So much for the English, but what of the sentiment? *Firstly*, the people who stick stamps on upside down are *not* the short-sighted, etc., and would continue to do so even if the head were in a different colour. *Secondly*, the Postal Union colour for a 1d. stamp is red, and no other. *Thirdly*, if the suggestion made were adopted (though it is hardly likely), one portrait of His Majesty would *always* appear inverted, thus adding to the insult.

The Young Writer in Philately

An Open Letter

By "UNCLE NEMO"

MY DEAR JOHN,—You ask me to give you a few hints on the matter of writing original articles for the stamp journals.

I presume you have just read Mr. C. J. Phillips's note on page 100 of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in which he says: "I am very pleased indeed to see so many of the younger school of stamp collectors giving us their views on many interesting subject-matters in connection with our hobby, and I think it is a good sign of the times as showing us that a thinking and studious class of collectors is growing up amongst us, many of whom will, I trust, develop into writers upon advanced philatelic matters."

This is an excellent sentiment and one with which we older philatelists are in entire agreement. The older you youngsters write on stamp matters the better we like it, but—a word of warning mixed with the wisdom of the ages—do not write for the sake of writing,

or on matters you do not understand, but write when you have something to say that will interest or is new to your philatelic brothers.

If you will read a little further, you will note Mr. Phillips also says: "There is one point I wish to make as clear as possible, and that is that the opinions and views stated in many articles are very often *not* our opinions or views, but are only those of the writers of the articles in question. Very often we disagree *in toto* with some opinion expressed by one of our writers, but above all I wish to open the columns of my paper to one and all, and to have discussed the most interesting matters in connection with postage stamps from every point of view."

The fact is, my young friend, you young writers are not always too careful, and, as your articles are read by many collectors as inexperienced as yourselves, your effusions

should, I think, be vigorously sub-edited where questions of *fact* are concerned. As to the expression of *views* on any philatelic matters I would give you youngsters an entirely free hand, but when, as you so often do, you make glaring misstatements of facts, editorial notes for the guidance of the general reader should always be added. These mistakes should be rectified at once, as much for the benefit of the writers of the articles themselves, as for the readers who might otherwise form entirely inaccurate impressions.

Those journals which make a special feature of catering for the younger generation of philatelists, such as *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, are especially in need of this editorial supervision as a "counter irritant" to the curious remarks so often made by young writers.

Now, my young friend, let me endeavour to give you a few hints. First of all, before committing anything to paper be confident that it will interest your fellow collectors. Be sure of your facts, and if you have something new to say write smartly, brightly, and get to the point at once.

Don't be too ambitious at first. Remember you must learn to walk before you can run, in Philately as in everything else. When you learned to play cricket you were content to "go slowly," weren't you? So it is with Philately: don't start with the idea that you "know it all," or you will soon come a cropper.

Don't, once you have attained the "glory of print," immediately cultivate an attack of "expanded brain bulb" by imagining editors are anxiously and readers are feverishly awaiting your next effort. Editors are "kittle cattle," and have usually a very good idea of the class of article that will appeal to their readers. Of course there are "editors" who will print the most utter rubbish so long as they do not have to pay for it. Be careful here, my young friend. If your article is worth printing it is generally worth paying for.

When you write, let it be about something you have really studied and understand. Don't tackle difficult and abstruse questions that even the most hoary-headed sinners in philatelic lore are content to handle warily. Remember the old adage regarding fools rushing in, etc.

As I said above, don't be too ambitious, or you will soon get out of your depth. A case in point. A certain young writer I wot of is writing a serial article on "Specialism" — a subject wary, experienced philatelists would consider beyond them. The consequence is one-half his time he is simply displaying his ignorance to those in the know, and, in default of sufficient editorial notes, altogether misleading the more inexperienced of his readers. Let me explain. He

tells us that most of the issues of Labuan are worthless, and then lauds the praises of the speculative waste-paper that has disfigured the issues of Persia of recent years. In speaking of Shanghai, we are told that the design resembles the issues of China proper to a great extent. As Shanghai issued stamps thirteen years before the first Chinese stamp appeared, the boot would appear to be on the other leg. Then, worst of all, in the case of Sarawak, he says that the first two issues were typographed, and, "as in the case of most early typographs, there are innumerable flaws." A writer who does not know the meaning of "typographed" should be more careful. These early Sarawaks were lithographed, not typographed, and it is in lithographed stamps that flaws are so frequent. These are all mistakes due to carelessness, for there are plenty of articles to which this writer could have referred and obtained accurate information. The moral of all this, my young friend, is, in the words of the popular song, "Be very, very careful, do." Again, don't be pedantic and "stodgy" in your writing. Don't waste fifty words in describing something that can be better and more clearly expressed in two. Choose a short, crisp, and attractive headline for your article. I know one writer who instead of writing "The Genus Homo in Philately," would rather choose something like this: "An Anthropological Study and Survey of the various Phases of the Human Form or Figure as Portrayed or Depicted upon the Postal Emissions of the Various States of this Rotating Sphere. Written, compiled, and indited by," etc. Which appeals the more to you, my friend? Take it for granted that there is rarely any necessity for a six-line heading. It may look grand, but it isn't literature or common sense.

One more point. Don't be too thinskin. Having written your honest views on a subject and exercised the greatest care in your statement of facts, don't feel hurt if some brutal personage proceeds to pulverize your pet theories and, metaphorically, trample you underfoot. It is unsafe for any one to enter into the controversial realms of philatelic writing unless he has a hide somewhat akin to that of the rhinoceros for thickness.

But, above all, *study* your stamps. Then read all that others have had to say on the subject, and by exercising a becoming modesty you will not go far wrong.

Now I must bring this epistle to a close, in the hope that these hints will be of some service to you, and that I shall shortly have the pleasure of reading a bright, sensible little article from your pen.

Your sincere friend,

UNCLE NEMO.

Our South American Letter

By A. H. DAVIS

MONTEVIDEO, 20 August, 1908

Argentine

THE Buenos Aires papers are calling attention to certain postal anomalies which exist, and cite especially the case of the return receipt of a registered letter or packet, which takes three months to come back from Europe, and thirty days from Uruguay; and considering we are only one hundred miles away, with numerous steamers passing to and fro daily, it does seem absurd that these receipts should take so long.

The new 2 c. and 5 c. are creating a good deal of dissatisfaction on account of the bad printing and the ugly design, and letters have appeared in the Press suggesting their withdrawal; but I do not suppose the growls of the public will have much weight with the powers that be.

The Budget for the current year includes the sum of 1,200,000 dollars for the construction of a palatial General Post Office in Buenos Aires, and I must say an improvement on the existing building is sorely needed.

Paraguay

The issue of stamps in new colours, and the surcharging of Official stamps for ordinary postal duty, still go merrily on; but I see you are kept well posted in all these changes by your Asuncion agent, so it is not necessary for me to go into details. I am surprised, however, that advantage was not taken of the recent revolution to issue a crop of revolutionary stamps; but as the whole affair lasted only a few days, there was probably not sufficient time to approve of a design and get a supply printed. I would suggest in future that the rebels go into action with an ample stock already printed.

Uruguay

Since writing you last we have had the 1 c., 10 c., and 20 c. of 1900-1 reissued for sale to the public. There is much speculation as to when the new series will appear, but I do not think an order has been placed yet. The authorities are probably undecided whether to send to England or the States, and, of course, as we are thousands of miles away, all this sort of thing takes time. Meanwhile, there is really no reason why we should not continue with the 1900 issue for some time yet.

Some letters have appeared recently in the local papers, advocating the establishment of a Philatelic Society in Montevideo,

and the project has created a certain amount of enthusiasm amongst the local philatelists. A few years ago there was a society here, but through lack of support it came to an untimely end. The number of collectors is legion, and a few have very fine collections, so now it is proposed to start with eighty members, each paying an entrance fee of one dollar and a monthly subscription of 30 cents, ladies as well as gentlemen being eligible for membership. Later on, if the Society proves a success, the promoters wish to start a Philatelic Journal. We have only one stamp paper in this Republic, and that is the *Uruguay Postal*, published at the town of Salto, many miles away from here.

A few years ago a treasurer of the Post Office helped himself to stamps to the value of \$47,152, and vanished to Buenos Aires, where he manages to raise funds by selling a few of the stamps at a time. I see by the papers that the Director-General has been authorized by the Executive to write off the above-mentioned sum. The authorities are now very strict in postal matters, and, as delinquents are liable to heavy penalties, there is little likelihood of such a thing occurring again.

A parcel-post service has been arranged with the interior of the Republic and also with the United States, so it ought to prove a great boon to those who have friends on either side. The Director-General has also sent a representative to Buenos Aires to try to arrange the issue of postal orders between this Republic and the Argentine. A good deal of business is done between the small tradesmen on either side of the river, and the only way they now have of sending small sums is either by a vexatious system of drafts or by sending paper money—a custom which offers great temptations for theft, and, moreover, it is prohibited by law. The Director-General has also applied to the Ministry of the Interior for sanction to reduce the postal charge on newspapers going abroad by one-half, as the rates on newspapers and letters are very heavy, an ordinary paper costing 2d. and a letter 5d. It is hoped by reducing these rates to obtain a large increase of correspondence, and by this means to get Uruguay better known abroad, as quite a large section of people who really ought to know better imagine that we are overrun by wild Indians, or are in a constant state of turmoil. It is also proposed to acquire several of Abel's automatic machines for the sale of postage stamps, and if they prove a success to buy a large number and place

them in the hotels, clubs, railway stations, etc. This machine has already been adopted with much success by Germany, Bavaria, Hungary, United States, Britain, France, and Brazil. The apparatus works with the precision of a good clock. It refuses to accept any false coin, and will only deliver stamps for which equivalent value has been received, and, moreover, it has the advantage of being available for public use at all hours of the day and night. In the space of one minute it can deliver twenty-five stamps, and it also has a receptacle for letters.

As advised by me a few weeks ago, the Government has decided on the issue of a commemorative set of 300,000 stamps of the 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c. values for internal postage only. The occasion is the celebration of the Declaration of Uruguayan Independence on 25 August, 1825, and also to signalize the opening of the new municipal electric light works, in the construction of which a million dollars have been spent. The original intention was to have placed the order with a Buenos Aires firm, but at the last moment the local firm of Barreiro y Ramos has been entrusted with the work. The stamps are to be of large design, and are to be printed in panes of twenty-five. The centre of the stamp is taken from a painting by Larravide of the Bay of Montevideo, in which the Uruguayan navy, consisting of the gunboats *Montevideo* and *18 de Julio* profusely beflagged, appears. These stamps will be on sale only on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th instant, and after that date they will be useless for postal services, but the Post Office will accept them in exchange for the current issue. In order to give every one a chance of acquiring a few of these stamps a supply is to be sent to all sub-offices in the Republic, and no one is to be allowed to buy more than fifty of each value at a time. As these stamps will appear before I can

dispatch this letter, I will send you a set in case you wish to illustrate them.* In addition to above the Government has ordered a commemorative post card to be printed as per illustration herewith,† in which the stamps will also appear in their several colours, and on the 23rd these cards will be presented to the members of the Government, legislators, diplomatic corps, Press, etc. So, you see, we are doing the thing in great style.

I see there is a curious error in your current Catalogue. You quote a 2 c. red of the 1906-7 issue, type 90, under number 291; but no such stamp exists, nor can I discover that there was any intention to issue this value, especially in view of the forgeries of the 5 c. values. Also under number 29 you price the 120 c. slate-blue of the 1859 issue at 6d. used. Is this price correct, or is it an error?‡ I would not mind relieving you of your entire stock, as we cannot buy this stamp here for less than 1s. 3d., and at this price it is considered cheap.

I have recently seen a sheet of the 1 c. on 10 c. Postage Due (S.G. 356) surcharged in black instead of red, but I think it must have been a trial sheet. The owner asked me \$50 for it!

In order to supplement the salaries of the postal clerks, the Director-General allows them to hold periodical sales of all the stamps which are returned by the Dead Letter Office, and amongst a lot of these stamps a friend came across a few specimens of the 20 c. of the 1904-5 issue (grey-blue) in black; but I suppose the change of colour is due either to chemical action or to exposure. I am unable to discover any more minor varieties of this issue, although I have diligently searched for them.

* See New Issue chronicle.—Ed. G.S.W.

† The illustration is too poor for reproduction.—Ed. G.S.W.

‡ The price is an error. At present our publishers have no used copies on hand.—Ed. G.S.W.

Foreign Notes

Scarcity of used 2½d. and 10d. Australian stamps

THE *Australian Philatelist* (Aug.) says: "The scarcity of Australian 2½d. and 10d. stamps, recent issues, is being noticed. We might say in explanation, that as the rate between Australia and other British colonies is only 2d. per half-ounce, there is not the same demand for the 2½d. stamp or its multiples, but they are few in comparison. The 5d. stamp is used to pay the 2d. postage fee and 3d. registration, consequently there is no material decrease

in these, but we should not be surprised to find that the Commonwealth series, when it is issued, will be without both the 2½d. and 10d. values. We might add there are no 10d. stamps in use in either Queensland or Victoria."

Our contemporary may be a true prophet as regards the 10d. value, but it seems scarcely likely the 2½d. value will be dropped. Foreign countries still do a considerable business with the Commonwealth, and we take it the postage is still 2½d. per half-ounce between Australia and such countries.

In 1906 one-quarter of the whole imports into Australia were from foreign countries, whilst the exports to such countries were one-third of the total.

Abyssinia

SEVERAL foreign contemporaries state that Abyssinia has sent to the headquarters at Berne its formal acceptance of the principles of the Postal Union, but no date has yet been fixed when the new tariff is to come into operation.

German Post Offices in the Levant

IN No. 194 of *G.S.W.*, a set of stamps for use in these offices, overprinted in *centimes* instead of *paras* and *piastres*, was chronicled, and some surprise expressed at their issue.

It appears from continental journals that for some time Austrian stamps overprinted in *centimes* have been used at Smyrna, chiefly for franking samples of dried fruit. *The Illustriertes B.J.* (12 September, 1908) thinks that the German stamps mentioned above may be for the same purpose, and suggests that they be called "raisin" stamps [Why not *current* stamps?—ED. *G.S.W.*], and quotes a precedent, viz. the 8d. St. Helena, known as the "potato" stamp. The history of the latter may not be generally known. In 1902, the tariff for 1 kilo sample packets from St. Helena to the Cape was fixed at 8d., and in 1903 an 8d. stamp was issued accordingly. As the chief export of the island was new potatoes, this stamp became known as the "potato stamp."

The same journal says that the German issue may be for post cards, whilst *Le Journal des Philatelistes* says they are for printed matter. Another journal says these stamps will not be sold over the counter, but will only be supplied on special requisition. They are possibly primarily intended for samples and printed matter, but probably the real object of issue is to meet competition of the French offices. The international rate for printed matter or samples is 5 c. for 50 grammes. A Turkish gold pound is worth on an average 22½ fr., representing 108 piastres silver, which makes the piastre work out at 21 centimes. For a 5-piastre piece the French offices give 21 stamps of 5 centimes, which are sold without surcharge in Turkish currency, whereas the German or Austrian offices for the same money supply only 20 stamps of 5 pf. or 5 heller overprinted 10 paras. Thus, the saving by dealing at the French office amounts to 5 per cent. This saving, however, seems only to apply to the dispatch of matter franked with stamps of a less facial or overprinted value than 1 piastre, and, in consequence, is of no use for letter postage. Here, as 1 piastre, or 25 centimes, is the

accepted rate for a single letter, 5 piastres would be enough to frank five letters; whereas only enough unsurcharged French stamps for four letters could be bought with the same money. This puzzling exchange accounts for the many issues in the Levant, and also explains the attempt of the Turkish Post Office to meet the competition as explained in the note after No. 186 in the Catalogue. With the new régime, perhaps in time Turkish postal methods may improve, and a clean sweep be made of all the foreign offices.

The New Congo Stamps

IT is announced in Brussels that the Belgian Government has ordered the postage stamps of the Independent Congo State to be surcharged with the words "Colonie du Congo," for the title "Etat Indépendant du Congo" has now lost its meaning.

More "Sower" Stamps for France

Le Journal des Philatelistes says: "It is proposed to discontinue the use of the 45 c. denomination, and in future to adopt the *Semeuse* type for the values from 50 c. to 5 fr. inclusive." No doubt the busy man will welcome the change; these big labels want some sticking.

Perhaps our French friends think the present representation on the high values of "the Republic as preserver of the peace" is out of date. From all accounts a Teuton neighbour has lately been posing as this benefactor for Europe, so further issues of the *Semeuse* type may be opportune "to sow other ideas from which the whole world can reap."

An "Underground" for Letters in Berlin

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-poste gives some details, gathered from the daily Press, of a project to assist postal traffic in Berlin. The authorities are considering the construction of two underground electric railways to be used solely for the transport of mail matter. The first is to be an "inner circle" linking up the chief stations of the locality, and the second a direct line from the new G.P.O. to the railway station at Potsdam.

The tunnels for these lines are to be about 6 feet wide and 2½ feet high, and will be constructed just below the surface. A hollowed passage or conduit between the "up" and "down" lines will be provided to allow of easy inspection of the permanent way at any point.

The postal trains, which will run automatically, are to proceed at a speed of twenty-five miles an hour.

New Issues and Discoveries

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, 891 Strand, London, W.G.

Afghanistan.—Mr. S. A. Rahim sends us for inspection a 1 abasi stamp of the engraved type perforated 12. According to the Indian Society's handbook on this country, recently published, "the 1 rupee, after being used for some months imperforate, appeared from June, 1908, with a fairly clean cut (nearly 12) perforation." Mr. Rahim confirms the issue of the latter, and also says that the 2 abasi has appeared similarly perforated. He dates the issue of all three values back to March of this year.

Another variety that needs mention appears to be the 2 abasi with the zigzag roulette. This is given in the handbook mentioned above, but has not yet been chronicled in this magazine.



49



50



51

1908. Types 49 to 51. Engraved.

(b) Zigzag roulette.

251 2 a., blue.

(c) Perf. 12.

252 1 a., green.

253 2 a., blue.

254 1 r., green.

Brazil.—The *Illust. Briefmarken Journal* reports the discovery of the 100 r. Postage Due stamp similarly watermarked to the 200 r. of 1905.



82

1905. Type 82. *Wmk.* CORREIO FEDERAL REPUBLICA DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DO BRAZIL in single-line capitals in the sheet. Perf. 11, 11½.

5322 100 r., brick-red.

Indo-China.—According to several French contemporaries, a set of Postage Due stamps has been issued for this colony. There are thirteen values in all, and the design, which is signed "A. Puyplat," is intended to represent the traditional dragon of China. The effect apparently is not very happy, but it is said that the production of the stamps is superior to that of the latter-day French Colonials. The stamps have not yet reached us, so the following description is copied from the above-mentioned journals.

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS.

1908. *New type. Perf. (?)*

105 2 c., black.

106 4 c., blue.

107 5 c., green.

108 10 c., carmine.

109 15 c., violet.

110 20 c., deep brown.

111 30 c., olive.

112 40 c., violet-brown.

113 50 c., blue.

114 60 c., orange.

115 1 fr., grey.

116 2 fr., yellow-brown.

117 5 fr., vermillion.

Newfoundland.—We have received a new 2 c. stamp for this colony, as illustrated below. It has probably only just been issued, the envelope covering same being dated 9 September. As will be seen by the imprint, it is the work of the American Bank Note Company, New York. What has become of the 1 c. new type reported so long ago in the American papers? It has never appeared. Is the present 2 c. the first of a new series? It seems a pity to change the handsome and patriotic set now current.



45

SEPTEMBER, 1908. Type 45. Engraved and printed by the American Bank Note Company, New York. Perf. 12.

2 c., lake.

New Zealand.—We have received a few 6d. stamps (reduced size) which have a new perforation, viz. 14 × 15. This perforation is probably done by a comb machine, but we shall have to see larger blocks before determining this point. The

Postage Stamp adds the 1s. with the same perforation.



44



44c

1908. *Wmk. Single-lined N.Z. and Star. Perf. 24x15.*
No. Type.
320|44 | 6d., pink.
321|44a | 1s., vermilion.

Rio de Oro.—In addition to the provisional listed last week, *Le Journal des Philatelistes* (July-Aug.) chronicles the 50 c. of 1907, surcharged "1908—10-cens," in three lines in red. The type is probably No. 5 of the Supplement.

No definite news is yet to hand as to the promised general issue for the Spanish possessions. It will be remembered that from 1 July, 1908, "all particular issues for the Spanish Colonies were to be abolished and a general issue provided." The above journal reports, however, that "the stocks of the old issues of Fernando Poo, Elobey and Spanish Guinea were officially destroyed 28th May last." It will be noticed Rio de Oro is not mentioned; evidently the authorities here are "making hay while the sun shines."



3

1908

2

Cens

5

1908. Type 3 surcharged as Type 5 in red. *Perf. 14.*
42|30 c., on 50 c., dull purple.

Straits Settlements.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 10 c. printed in one colour on yellow paper. Formerly the name and value were in black; these now are all in purple.



40

1908. Type 40. *Printed in one colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w. 8. Perf. 14.*
146 20 c., purple on yellow, O.

Transvaal.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (19.9.08) and the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* (Sept.) chronicle a most remarkable curiosity in the form of a 1d. Transvaal stamp—King's Head, all red on paper watermarked with a Cabled Anchor like that used for Cape of Good Hope stamps. It is said that the possessor has had the stamp for some months, and it seems genuine in all respects. The normal watermark is of course multiple Crown CA, and the supposition is that De La Rue and Co., the printers, got their Transvaal and Cape papers mixed. It seems the only possible theory, but the firm in question is generally so precise that it is surprising the error was allowed to get into circulation.



45

1908. Type 45. *Wmk. Cabled Anchor, Type 22, of Cape of Good Hope. Perf. 14.*
577|1d., carmine, O.

Uruguay.—We have received the three stamps mentioned in Mr. Davis's letter printed on another page of this number. The description he gives is so complete that little need be said here. It may be mentioned that the style of manufacture is peculiar. There is a background of fine meshwork, which together with the central picture seems to have been printed in one operation, probably from separate clichés, made by a photographic half-tone process, clamped together. The frame looks as if it had been lithographed, but it is difficult to decide from single specimens. The name of the steamer, *18 de Julio*, mentioned by Mr. Davis, recalls the date 18 July, 1830, when the Constitution of the Republic was sworn.



(Bay of Montevideo, showing the Uruguayan navy.)

91

- 23-28 AUGUST, 1908. *Issue commemorative of the Declaration of Uruguayan Independence, 25 August, 1825, and the opening of the Municipal Electric Light Works, Montevideo, 1908. Type 91. Centre and background in grey-black. Rouletted (about 13).*

1 c., carmine.
2 c., green.
5 c., orange.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 15
Whole No. 197

10 OCTOBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Germany

(Thurn and Taxis, N. German Confederation, and German Empire)—*continued*
German Empire

AFTER the creation of the German Empire on 18 January, 1871, the Imperial German Postal Administration replaced that of the North German Confederation. This necessitated a change of stamps, and by a law of 28 October, 1871, these were to be available for postage on 1 January, 1872. As a matter of fact the familiar set with the "Eagle and small shield in the centre" was ready before this date and was actually sold to the public from 15 December, 1871, though not available for postage till the authorized day. The issue, however, can only properly be described as a provisional one, since the arms in the centre had been constructed by the postal authorities instead of the Herald's Office in Berlin. The design of the latter was only approved 3 August, 1871, and had the postal authorities waited till then the stamps could not have been prepared in time. In this provisional issue

The displayed eagle was a somewhat scraggy-looking bird, and the shield upon its breast bore a rather microscopic Prussian Eagle. As finally arranged, the Imperial Eagle was rounded out into fuller proportions, and two handerles or streamers added to the Imperial crown hovering over its head. The shield borne on its breast was enlarged about four times so as to display to better advantage the Prussian Eagle, on whose breast also appears a shield bearing the arms, quartered black and white, of the Hohenzollerns, the family to which the Emperor belonged.

The values were the same, and the colours practically also, as those of the superseded Confederation series, two sets in the varying currencies being still issued, but with the design common to both except as regards the expressed values. The impression was typographed on plain wove paper, and between the stamps were solid lines of colour about 1½ mm. wide, probably made with printer's rule, so as to leave a coloured margin on the four sides. In the centre a white circular space was left, in which were embossed in colourless relief, at a second

operation, the arms referred to above. The background was filled in with a coloured network. The stamps were manufactured at the Government Printing Office at Berlin, and were perforated 13½ × 14½. The shades are numerous, due, no doubt, to various printings; but those of the ½ gr. and 2 kr. call for remark, since "it was ordered in April, 1872, to change the colour of the ½ gr. and 2 kr. from orange-vermilion to orange-yellow," probably because the vermilion injured the plates. The ½ gr. was not issued in the new shade till May, 1872, and the 2 kr. still later.

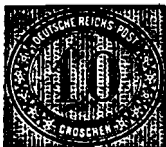


1 January, 1872. *Small shield in centre.* Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ gr., mauve	2 0	1 0
½ " green	3 6	0 2
½ " orange	4 0	0 4
1 " rose	4 6	0 1
2 " blue	10 0	0 2
5 " bistre	4 0	0 4
1 kr., green	2 6	0 3
2 " orange	0 2	1 0
3 " rose	7 6	0 1
7 " blue	15 0	0 3
18 " bistre	3 6	2 6

Two high values of 10 gr. and 30 gr. were issued in February, 1872, which were identical with the similar values of the N.G. Confederation, except that the inscription was altered to DEUTSCHE REICHSPOST. Like the former stamps, these were really only intended for internal service, and not for sale to the public. They should always have been pen-cancelled; hence the high prices for postmarked copies. The remainders of these stamps were subsequently

sold to dealers—a fact that may be gathered from catalogue quotations.



February, 1872. *Perf.* 14 × 13½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 gr., grey, P.C. 3d.	0 2	8 0
30 „ blue	0 3	12 0

Meantime orders had been given for the postal authorities to change the design of the arms on the stamps, and though, no doubt, preparations were made some time previously, the first value with the corrected arms, viz. the 1 gr., did not appear till 1 June, 1872. The value was followed in July by the ½ gr. and 2 gr., in August or September by the ¾ gr., and in May, 1873, by the 2 kr. The remaining values were issued later in 1873 as required. Little comment is required, as in all other respects save the arms the stamps were the same as in the first issue. The set included two new values—a 2½ gr. with a corresponding 9 kr. The former was issued 1 November, 1872, and the latter after May of 1873. Remainders of this issue and the next were subsequently sold at low prices.



1 June, 1872-3. *As first issue, but with large shield in centre.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ gr., mauve	0 4	0 4
¾ „ green	0 2	0 1
1 „ orange	0 2	0 1
1 „ rose	0 1	0 1
2 „ blue	0 2	0 1
2½ „ brown	20 0	0 4
5 „ bistre	0 3	0 2
1 kr., green	0 1	0 1
2 „ orange	6 0	12 0
3 „ rose	0 1	0 1
7 „ blue	0 2	0 3
9 „ brown	2 0	2 0
18 „ bistre	0 6	5 0

Many mistakes arose, especially in a bad light, from the similarity of colour between the new values mentioned above and the 5 gr. and 18 kr. To avoid these, on 1 February, 1874, the former values were issued surcharged over the shield with large numerals of value in the colour of the impression.



1 February, 1874. *Large shield with numerals of value surcharged.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2½ gr., brown	0 2	0 3
9 kr. „	0 8	1 0

The dual system of currency in the Empire naturally caused considerable bother, and in 1875 a unified system was introduced and the decimal system adopted, the unit established being 100 pfennig = 1 mark (1s. English). This necessitated a new issue of stamps, which appeared 10 December, 1874, but which was not available for postage till 1 January, 1875. It consisted of six values, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, and 50 pf., to which was added a 2 mark stamp for internal service, similarly to the high values previously in use. The 2 m. resembled the 10 sgr. of the former issue, the groundwork consisting of repetitions of the words ZWEI MARK. This stamp continued in use till 1900, and during its long life appeared in various shades of rose and lilac. It was first issued in purple, then in dull mauve, and was changed in 1882 to lilac-rose.

The designs of the 3 pf. and 5 pf. were similar, and the stamps, like the 2 mark, were produced by surface-printing. The 10, 20, 25, and 50 pf. were of a different type and were embossed in colour. In March, 1877, the 50 pf. was changed from grey to the more prominent colour bronze-green. The 5 pf. had always been in an aniline colour, and in 1879 the 10 pf. was likewise printed in a fugitive ink. It will be noticed that the word PFENNIGE has a final "E."



1 January, 1875-82. *Currency changed.* PFENNIG with final "E." Perf. $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ or $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ (2 m.).

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
3 pf., green	0 9	0 1
5 " violet	1 6	0 1
10 " rose	1 6	0 1
20 " blue	4 0	0 1
25 " chocolate	8 6	0 1
50 " grey	20 0	0 1
50 " green	20 0	0 1
2 mk., dull mauve	3 0	0 1
2 " lilac-rose	15 0	0 2

According to German grammar, the spelling of PFENNIG with a final "E" was wrong, and a great outcry was raised in the Press concerning the matter. The word as written was the plural when speaking of a number of coins, but the descriptions of currency, weight, measure, etc., have no plural in German. Bavaria and Wurtemberg, which still retained their postal autonomy, had the correct inscription on the stamps they severally issued when the currency was unified. This error in the 1875 set was the reason of the next issue, in which the spelling was put right. No other alteration was made in the stamps, the sale of which commenced in March, 1880. All the values have been printed in aniline as well as ordinary colours, and from 1883 down to 1889 they were issued on more or less coated paper to prevent the malpractice of cleaning. Collectors can readily spot such stamps, as the colours are generally brighter than the earlier ones.

March, 1880. *As 1875, but final "E."* PFENNIG *without*

3 pf., green	0 1	0 1
5 " violet	0 2	0 1
10 " rose	0 9	0 1
20 " blue	0 4	0 1
25 " chocolate	0 6	0 1
50 " green	1 6	0 2

In 1889 the designs, and in some cases the colours of the stamps were changed, and a new issue appeared 1 October of that year. The change was probably made on the score of expense, for the entire set was now surface-printed. The design of the lower values is hardly so pleasing as in the previous issue, the decoration being overcrowded, but the higher values are certainly better. It will be noticed in the latter that the shield on the Imperial Eagle is almost as small as in the first issue.

These stamps were printed up till 1892 on paper showing aniline-rose lines on the back, and after 1892 on paper showing small and large Crown, Eagles, and Post-horns on the face—if dipped in liquid ammonia. Both these secret impressions were made with phenolphthaleine, and were applied

no doubt to prevent forgery. Notwithstanding this, the 10 pf. was extensively counterfeited in Frankfurt, to defraud the Post Office, in 1890 and 1895.

It may be interesting to record the method of manufacture of these surface-printed stamps, and the following extract from Mr. Westoby's work on *The Adhesive Stamps of Europe* gives a clear account:—

From the original die, called the patrie die, fifty impressions in lead are struck. These are clamped together in five rows of 10, and are put into the electric bath until a deposit is formed $\frac{1}{16}$ in. thick. This constitutes the matrix plate, from which all the printing plates are made by the electro process. These printing plates are steeled on the face, and backed up to a proper thickness with type metal, when they are ready to be put to press. The sheets are of four hundred stamps, divided into four panes of 100, each of the latter being printed from two plates of 50, with a space of 5 mm. between each plate. . . . After the printing the sheets are perforated by comb machines, in layers of six, four machines perforating 60,000 sheets per day. The perforation starts from the side.

The values issued 1 October, 1889, consisted of six values, as in the *pfennig* series of 1880, and as the stamps were in use till 1900, it is not surprising to find numerous shades. Until 1 April, 1900, certain private postal institutions carried town letters and printed matter in some towns of Germany cheaper than the Imperial administration. At the date mentioned these institutions had to cease; but as a concession to the public the postage fee for post cards and printed matter up to 50 gr. was reduced to 2 pf. within the limits of two contiguous districts. This made the issue of a new value necessary, and it duly appeared on 1 April, 1900. The list, therefore, of the issue is as follows, the 2, 3, and 5 pf. being of the numeral type and the other values of the Arms type.



1 October, 1889-1900. *Surface-printed.* Perf. $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 pf., grey	0 1	0 1
3 " brown	0 1	0 1
5 " green	0 1	0 1
10 " rose	0 2	0 1
20 " blue	0 4	0 1
25 " orange	0 5	0 1
50 " chocolate	1 0	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

An interesting Uruguayan Sheet

A FRIEND has been good enough to send me a photograph of a full sheet of the Uruguay 1857 240 c., vermilion (Gibbons' Nos. 15-17). The sheet is made up of 197 stamps and seven blank spaces, arranged in seventeen rows of twelve stamps each. The blank spaces occur as follows:—

4th row.	Nos. 5 and 11.
9th "	" 5 " 11.
14th "	" 5 " 11.
17th "	No. 11.

The stamps are in bad alignment on the sheet, both horizontally and vertically; in some cases they nearly touch, but in most cases they are a considerable distance apart.

Blocks of these stamps exist in various collections showing one of these blank spaces, and I have often heard it stated that the "error 180 c., red," was removed from such a space; but I believe that this is not correct, and that the sheets were purposely made with these blank spaces so as to work out in a round sum of Uruguayan money.

The error 180 c., red, is exceedingly rare, but it must not be confounded with a colour trial of 180 c. in red which exists on thin, soft paper. I have seen only one genuine error—it is a poor specimen, and is used; it is on the proper paper and is of a dull vermilion colour.

Charge of Mutilating Stamps

ALFRED BRYETT, aged thirty-three, pleaded guilty, before the Recorder, to five counts on an indictment charging him with feloniously and fraudulently mutilating stamps.

Mr. Kenrick, who prosecuted for the Inland Revenue, stated that the prisoner from November, 1906, until March last was master's clerk at the Islington Workhouse, Holloway, and it was a part of his duty to make out monthly statements of the salaries due to employees, affixing penny stamps to the amounts when necessary. Stamps were supplied to him for the purpose, but out of 561 receipts in the book produced, dating from June last year, in 407 cases half-stamps only had been used. The prisoner had attempted to conceal the frauds by a system of overlapping—one-half the stamp being made to appear as though it was covered by the other stamp—but, said Mr. Kenrick, it was difficult to understand how the fraud could have gone on so long without detection.

In March last the prisoner left to take up a position as store-keeper at the Brighton

Union, and on Mr. Williams, the master of the Islington Workhouse, seeing the book, he at once saw what had been done and communicated with the Inland Revenue. The prisoner, when seen by Inspector Neil, at once admitted his guilt and expressed his regret, but he said all the officials of the workhouse were on the make, and it was the only chance he had of making a bit.

The Recorder.—Where is this workhouse?

Mr. Kenrick.—At Islington.

The Recorder.—Oh, it is not Mile End. (Laughter.)

In reply to other questions, the Recorder was informed that the prisoner lived in the house and his salary was £30 per annum.

Mr. Curtis-Bennett, for the accused, said the prisoner's conduct was inexplicable, and the only benefit he had received by the frauds was some 16s. He called a number of witnesses, who gave the prisoner an excellent character.

The Recorder sentenced the prisoner to six months' imprisonment in the second division.—*Morning Advertiser*, 10.9.08.

The Junior Philatelic Society

THE Junior Philatelic Society has taken unto itself a new meeting-place. Since Exeter Hall was closed the Society was not altogether satisfied with the new quarters selected; so a change has been made and one which should prove extremely popular with all members.

The new meeting-place is quite palatial—literally so, for it is the room believed to have been used by Henry Prince of Wales, the eldest son of King James I. The room is full of historic associations and enjoys the possession of a unique enriched Jacobean ceiling, oak panelling, antique bay windows overhanging Fleet Street, and the façade has been restored to the original condition in which it appeared to the denizens of Fleet Street in 1612.

The address of the new meeting-place is 17 Fleet Street, and its precise position may be noted by its being immediately opposite the Fleet Street end of Chancery Lane, and extending over the Inner Temple gateway. Its ancient exterior is readily noticeable to the passer-by.

Stamp Landscapes

BETWEEN nine and ten million stamps are employed in the decoration of the walls of the refectory of the Hospice of St. Jean de Dieu at Ghent.

For years the monks have utilized their leisure time in the formation of landscapes from bits of stamps, and at a distance one would never believe that only stamps have been used in their making, so rich are the colourings and so perfect the drawing.

The idea originated with one of the brothers, who made a small picture of the patron saint of the hospice on the walls of his cell.

Appreciating the beauty of his work, the prior suggested that he devote his unique talent to the decoration of the walls of the refectory, and with the assistance of others among the brotherhood the monk has devoted years to the work, which stands unique among art productions.

Seen close at hand the work resembles mosaic, but from across the room the bits blend so well together as to suggest oils. Only three sides of the room are yet completed, and contributions of stamps are constantly being received from visitors who have seen the work and have become interested.—*Tit-Bits*, 21.7.08.

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

Switzerland.

TWO really fine books, containing a valuable and interesting lot of the old Cantonal stamps, unused and used being well represented, many stamps on letters, and a number of the rarer and more interesting obliterations; there are also several reconstructed plates of ten and of forty varieties. The "silk threads" and later issues are well represented, and these books should be examined carefully by specialists as well as by general collectors who require unusually fine specimens.

British Somaliland.

A small book of this country has just been rearranged; it includes a number of full panes and half-panes of various issues, showing the errors and minor varieties, and a number of scarce things are shown in this manner.

A Post Office in the North-west of Canada

By J. LIVINGSTONE JOBSON

DURING the summer of 1903 I spent some weeks with my brother and his family on their ranche in the north-west of Canada, 300 miles beyond Winnipeg, and I think that perhaps some of your readers may be interested in the postal arrangements of so remote a spot. To begin with, we were forty-five miles from the railway, and although the letters, for a great part of the district, were fetched from the station every morning by the man who drove "the stage," and took travellers and parcels to the trains, the letters were only taken for twenty miles of the way to the nearest town, Fort Qu'Appelle, and left at the post office there. Hence if any of us chanced to go to "the Fort" during the week, we called and asked the postmaster if he would kindly give them to us, otherwise we had to wait until Friday evening for them. Our letters for post had to be written and taken to our own post office, five miles away, on Wednesdays, as our own postmaster always drove off early on Thursday morning with the mails to Fort Qu'Appelle, which was thirty miles from his house, returning on Friday afternoons with the incoming mails. For some weeks I had been anxious to go with the party, which always started on Friday evening (it was the event and excitement of the week to fetch

the letters), but I had never dared to do so as that part of the prairie between us and the post office was infested with mosquitoes, and I, being English, suffered severely from their attentions. However, after a time they were disappearing, so I went with my brother and his wife. It was a beautiful drive, part of it over higher ground than you usually find on the prairie, and there was a lovely view. At last we reached the post office: a tiny farmhouse, I think whitewashed and fenced all round with wire; it also had a maple tree near it, this being very unusual so far out west. We knocked, and were welcomed by the farmer's wife, a good, kind Scotchwoman, with whom we shook hands, and who took us into her clean little kitchen. As the farmer, our postmaster, was out, my brother said to the wife, "We have come for our letters, Mrs. Mac; and please we will take all you have for Mrs. B—, and also for the H—'s" (some of our neighbours living about three miles further away than we did). The good woman then disappeared, returning in a minute or two with several letters in her hand, which she gave to my brother. My sister then said, "And have you any newspapers or parcels for us?" At this Mrs. Mac again left the kitchen, and presently returned with a large basket (such as laundresses use to send home the wash-

ing in), and placing it upon the table, said, "Here they are; you can pick them out for yourselves!" and this we did. I then said, "As I am Mr. Jobson's sister, and have come from England, I want to see all I can. Please will you show me where you keep your letters?" "Oh, yes!" said Mrs. Mac, in a very pleased voice, and then she took me into her larder. It was funny to think of letters and parcels being kept in a larder!

When first my brother settled out in that part of the world he used to drive twenty-four miles every Friday to Fort Qu'Appelle for his mails; so for him it is much easier to have only five miles to go, and now, since my return to England, they get their letters twice every week—by fetching them, of course. These very primitive arrangements would not do for business men in England, I think.

The Postage Stamps of Afghanistan

THE stamps of Afghanistan are naturally receiving increased attention by reason of the recent publication by the Philatelic Society of India of the fine handbook on the subject written by Sir D. P. Masson and Mr. B. Gordon-Jones. The work was exhaustively reviewed by Major Evans in this magazine a fortnight since, but it contains so much interesting matter, little known to the general collector, that a few references will no doubt be welcome to readers of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, though an adequate idea of its value can only be obtained by reading the book itself.

As regards the political history of the country, little need be said except that until 1880 it appears to have been marked by a continued internal struggle, the chief feature being the deposing and reinstating of the various rulers. It is to be noticed that British relations with Afghanistan began in the reign of Shah Sujah at the commencement of the nineteenth century, and were dictated by a lively fear of the exploits of Napoleon Bonaparte and his intentions with regard to India. Since then Great Britain has maintained a sphere of influence in the region, and has always had a strong voice in the election of the ruler. The first name of importance for philatelic purposes is that of Sher Ali, in whose reign the first postage stamps made their appearance. After years of warfare Sher Ali secured the throne in 1868, and ruled till 1878. A want of unanimity as regards the nomination of his successor led to the second Afghan War of 1878-9. Early in 1879 Sher Ali fled, and died in exile soon after. The English nominee was made Amir, but after the third Afghan War of 1879-80 he abdicated, and Abdur Rahman, who had fled in 1868 to Russian Turkestan, reappeared, and in June, 1880, was elected Amir. He consolidated the country and ruled firmly till his death in 1901, being succeeded by his son Habibulla, the present Amir, born 1872.

"The first issue of postage stamps (1870-71), as already mentioned, appeared during the reign of Sher Ali, and was succeeded by

annual issues till his deposition in 1878. These are all of a circular design with the Lion (Sher) in the centre (in reference to the Amir's name)." The handbook says "lion," but to any person unacquainted with the fact it would be excusable to describe the picture as that of a "tiger." By the way, does not Kipling in his *Jungle Book* give his tiger the generic name of "Sher Ali"?

"In all the early issues the words 'Kingdom of Kabul' are employed, showing the title used by the Amirs up to that period; but in the stamps of 1309 (1892) Abdur Rahman altered this to 'Kingdom of Afghanistan,' showing the change of title from 'Amirs of Kabul' to 'Amirs of Afghanistan.'"

All the early Sher Ali stamps were lithographed, each stamp being drawn separately and each necessarily differing in detail; replacing is in consequence an easy matter. It is interesting to notice the gradual simplification of the design in these stamps, viz. from the large-sized issues of 1870-1, with elaborate floral tracery in the circular inscription, down to the small plain-looking stamps of June, 1878. A reference to the Catalogue will provide an explanation of the characters denoting the values, but without a proper fount of arabic type it is impossible to describe the circular inscriptions. These vary but little in the issues down to 1878, and are generally *Mâhsûl Châ-pâr Khând Dâr-ul-Sûltânât Kabûl*, meaning "Tax [duty] Post Office [of the] Capital [of the] Kingdom of Kabul," followed by the date with or without the word *Sennâ*, meaning "year," preceding. In the 1878 issue the words are slightly altered as follows: *Mâhsûl Châ-pâr Khând Kabûl Sennâ 95 Bâras Seedl*, meaning, "Tax [duty] Post Office [of] Kabul, year 95, Era [of the] Leopard." These inscriptions read from right to left, and as they do not always occupy the same position, without a knowledge of Arabic they must be taken on trust.

With the advent of Abdur Rahman in 1880 the stamps underwent a change. The lion was replaced by the characters denoting

the value, and in the inscription the word *Tikét* (ticket) superseded the words *Mâh-sûil Châpîr Khâna*.

All the stamps of these designs were hand-printed or stamped in water-colour from single dies engraved on metal, probably copper. Most of these stamps were cut round when used, and the impressions are also generally smudged. Square-cut, clearly printed copies are very difficult to obtain, while cut-round, smudged copies of most varieties are quite common. A satisfactory classification of these stamps is hardly possible owing to the haphazard use of many different papers.

In 1892 a complete change of shape was made, the stamps being no longer circular, but oblong, and for the first time "Afghanistan" appears, the inscription reading, *Mâh-sûil Khâgâz Dâk-Khâna, 1309 Daulât Afghânistân*, i.e. "Tax [duty] Paper [label] Post Office [of the] Kingdom [of] Afghanistan."

The stamps were lithographed and the characters of value are in the centre. These are rather elaborate, for they not only denote the value, but also tell the postal rates. The latter was on the scale of 1 abasi for each *mishqâl*, which is a weight equal to about seventy-one grains troy. It is perhaps convenient here to give the equivalents of the local currency. Nominally *shâhi* = 1 anna (1d.); *sanar* [The Catalogue has *sunar*, but will amend its ways in the next edition, we cannot promise "sooner."—ED. G. S. W.] = 2 annas (2d.); *abasi* = 4 annas (4d.); 6 *shâhi* or $\frac{1}{2}$ rupee = 6 annas (6d.); and 1 rupee = 12 annas (1s.), but the Afghanistân currency is considerably depreciated and the real value is well below the nominal one.

The Registration stamp referred to by Major Evans, for the same year, had the additional word *Registri* in the inscription, and the rate read as "for each *mishqâl* one rupee," certainly a very high charge.

In 1893 a new 1 abasi stamp appeared, though oblong, considerably larger than the previous issue. The inscription is similar to that of the 1892 stamp, but "a new device appears to which some importance must have been attached, as it has its place on the upper centre of all issues after this date; it is the representation of a mosque gate with crossed cannons in front—a very appropriate emblem for a potentate who aspired to be head of the Mahomedan religion in the East, as well as its war-lord." Although there is only one type, it was lithographed on innumerable shades of paper. A Registration stamp of similar design was issued to match, and is much rarer than the price in the Catalogue would have one believe. As a matter of fact, most stamps that pose as No. 302 are fiscals. Here again the rate was high: "1 rupee for each *mishqâl*," and the addition of the

word *Khôddâ-dad* to the inscription, making it read "God-given Kingdom," etc., is interesting.

The "skeleton" type, which appeared in 1894, had the same addition to the inscription. It is significant to note that the registration charge was reduced to 2 abasi, and "that the word *mishqâl* is absent from the Registration stamp, showing that the registration charge no longer depended on the weight of the registered article." In 1898 a new Registration stamp in the same form was issued, but printed on coloured paper.

The last stamp of the "Abdur Rahman" series was a 2 abasi in 1900 of the same type as the 1 abasi of 1893, and can be distinguished by the date. Like its forerunner, it was printed on numerous coloured papers.

The stamps of 1907-8 are of such recent issue as to call for little comment. They were engraved in *taille-douce*—probably on copper—by a Turk named Mahmud Masi, and have lately appeared perforated, a sign of progress in postal matters.

The design on the 1 abasi stamp contains a mosque with two minarets encircled by a wreath. Below this is a scroll with an inscription, and above is the Turkestan fez hat always worn by the Amirs, which is introduced probably in imitation of the crown over King Edward's head on British stamps.

The design of the 2 abasi also contains a mosque, having a central dome in addition to the two side minarets enclosed in a U-shaped frame. The scroll below is in two portions.

The design of the 1 rupee stamp also consists of a mosque with a dome and two minarets, two crossed cannons below, and a fez hat above, all within a circle. The inscription is in a tablet across the centre of the stamp.

The inscriptions are now easier to decipher. For example, that on the 1 abasi is as follows (from right to left): upper tablet, *Dak-Khâna* ("Post Office"); lower tablet, *Mishqâl, yék abasi* ("Mishqâl, one abasi"); centre scroll, *Daulât Khôddâ-dad Afghânistân* ("God-given kingdom [of] Afghanistan"); corner circles, upper left, *yék* ("one"); upper right, the same word in Pushtu characters; lower left, the Europeanized arabic figure "1"; lower right, the arabic figure "1."

In conclusion, a few words as to the postal arrangements may not be amiss.

The Kabul postal department has a postmaster at Peshawar, through whose office all correspondence to or from Afghanistan passes. Letters from Kabul are brought only as far as Peshawar, and delivered there to the senders' agents, who forward them to the addressees through the Indian Post Office. Letters to Afghanistan have also to go through the Kabul postal official, additional postage in Kabul stamps being affixed before they are forwarded.

W. P. B.

An Erudite Discourse on Ancient Posts

By C. RAYMOND MEGSON

THE average present-day philatelist is not content to concentrate the whole of his attention on stamps pure and simple, but prefers to have some bypath along which he may divert for a pleasant change. Philately has a much broader meaning than the originator of the word intended. The collecting of such things as control numbers on Railway stamps can hardly be termed stamp collecting pure and simple. I have only known one man to combine the accumulating (notice the nice distinction) of "fag" pictures with the collecting of stamps; but his name must not be written, as I do not think he would care for it to be known outside his own philatelic society.

Again, the study of methods of transmission of news and communications either in different countries or during certain epochs cannot be rightly termed Philately, though the present-day understanding of the word would admit it under this head. It must be admitted, however, that this study is one replete with interest, and is daily gaining in popularity.

How few, though, study ancient posts, their origin and means. It is strange, but I believe such could be counted on the digits, with a few to spare. It is a diversion intensely entertaining, an exhaustive subject of wonderful fascination.

From whence did posts spring? This alone feeds thought. Shall we find that the ancients possessed means of news conveyance more reliable than those of to-day? Shall we discover that the postage stamp is a reincarnation of an ancient postal label? It seems more than probable that the archæologist will one day bring to light a complete installation of telephones, telegraphs, letter and express messenger services, used by the Egyptians; or bring from the heart of ancient China or from the ruins of Pompeii evidence of former posts more perfect than our own. Are we but children dabbling in a system of inter-communication of which men in bygone days were masters? This, again, offers food for thought.

Quite a glorious vista is opened out by a retrospective peep at the vast expanse of ancient posts. It gives a joyous opportunity for peaceful meditation.

Posts might have been in vogue in Adam's time or even before; still, on the other hand, they might not. However, it might be taken as fairly conclusive that

posts did exist in the Garden of Eden, if not actually in chaos.

We learn that early in the cosmic age a beautiful garden was made in which was placed humanity. It is recorded that therein was placed a mail. Now this mail was presumably free, a sort of Parliamentary frank arrangement, for, later, a fee-mail was created. For what special facilities the fee was levied it is idle to conjecture, but it would appear as though it was not a complete success, as later two branch mails were established, which were not fee-mails. These branch mails were at first small, but they ultimately assumed the proportions of the original.

It is more than probable that some sort of seal was then used, as early teaching conveys to us the knowledge that Adam had a pair of his own stamp. All this, however, is hidden behind a gauze of doubt: but it is known that later, in Babylon, there was a regular postal system in vogue, about B.C. 3800, in the time of Sargon the First, as clay seals which took the place of stamps, and bearing the name of this monarch, can be seen to this day in the Louvre. They must not be confused, though, as having any connection with the red seals and white seals to be seen in many other public buildings.

Though attempts to discover the origin of posts abound with a thrilling interest, the study of methods employed by the ancients in the transmission of news forms perhaps a more engrossing and entertaining pursuit. They show excellent examples of the ingenuity of mankind before, so far as we know, science and learning had come to bear on the betterment of postal facilities. In the olden days the populace were just as eager to receive news as we are to-day, and so they devised many ways of making this possible.

One was by means of coloured ribbons on a cane, the combination of which enlightened the people as to whether the army had been victorious, of any approaching danger, or of the birth of a prince or princess. A runner held the cane high as he ran through the streets, and as the streaming ribbons floated in the breeze the blending of the colours published news, good or bad. This, however, is not the language of the cane as understood by schoolboys.

A further system was established whereby

men were stationed at certain intervals who shouted the news along the line; but this had to be discarded, as it was too frequently used by sellers of hair washes, face creams, and other boons to the public as a means of advertisement, which interfered greatly with the transmission of important state secrets. The shouting of advertisements was looked upon as a rightful perquisite by the men engaged, and they are said to have done quite a roaring trade.

As writing in the early ages was the accomplishment of a select few, mention of messages which were inscribed has yielded priority to a description of oral and ocular messages. It must not be accepted, however, as evidence of written communications having been the less important. This is far from having been the case. The most portentous, important, and secret news and communications were recorded by inscription.

The ancient couriers were possessed of remarkable stamina and speed, and were capable of running seventy or eighty miles in a day. Of course, at the finish their knees they would knock so, because in those days they could not purchase any patent beef extracts.

It is palpable that the strain upon their physiques was so great as to rob them of the ability to withstand the onslaught of any person or persons so maliciously inclined as to rob them of their postal charges. The people of those days recognized this, and resolved upon the ingenious method of inscribing a message on a courier's head, so as to preclude every or nearly every possibility of the message being stolen in the course of transmission.

The process was simple. A messenger's head was shaven, the news to be communicated was written on the bald pate, the hair allowed to grow, the bearer was then hastened away. Upon arrival at his destination the messenger was again bereft of his locks; the message was read and erased, and Mr. Messenger was allowed to grow hair again.

The lives of these men were constantly in danger, for it is recorded that they had many hair-breadth escapes or, in other words, many close shaves. Apparently this was the highest grade of postal service, as the men engaged were trained from boyhood and were styled Head Postmen.

Of course, in some cases the messages were so indelibly imprinted on the skull that erasure was impossible. Consequently obliteration was the only course available to render the message free from further perusal. Of course, decapitation would have answered just as well; but this was never resorted to, as it was recognized that a man engaged in important business should never lose his head.

In such an event as that above recorded the unfortunate courier had to adopt the rôle of roll messenger. This was a lower-grade office of a private character, to the holding of which (roll messenger) it was not necessary to be bred. A short explanation of this branch should be of interest.

The sender of a message had a stick, round which he rolled in spiral fashion a ribbon of paper, or papyrus, as I believe it was then called, with the edges touching. Upon this he (or she) inscribed the necessary epistle with each letter crossing the edging. Consequently when the paper was unrolled it was impossible to decipher the writing. The ribbon of paper was then dispatched to the recipient, who had a similar stick of exactly the same circumference, and by placing it through the same procedure as that of the sender he (or she) was able to read the message. As is obvious, it was necessary that the paper should be held firm on the stick, otherwise the characters forming the epistle would lose their formation. Whether the recipient revolved the stick, or he (or she) circled it while it was held firm, in order to read the message, it is impossible to say; but probably the latter was the method employed, as "peelables" had not in those days come into common use, and, as all stamp collectors know, stamp edging is partially opaque and is very tenacious.

It must not be gathered that all communications dispatched by the ancients were of a private nature. Ordinary business letters, love letters, and others of general interest were interchanged.

The favourite method of dispatching amorous messages during the Stone Age makes very interesting reading. Love existed in those days in much the same way as it does to-day. Lovers had their tiffs and blissful reconciliations. Marriage, too, was pretty much the same. Nuptial pairs had their tiffs—I mean rows—in which cases in those days, as to-day, the Brute resorted to the use of his club.

When antediluvian Romeo wished to disclose his love he inscribed on a slab or lump of rock his fervorous declaration, and shied it at his Juliet. Nowadays such a manner of proposing would be considered stony; but in those days such letters often left a lasting impression.

It is perhaps worthy of passing mention that the antediluvian maiden never had the opportunity of laying bare her feelings for any particular man, as leap years were not invented until the female population was decidedly in preponderance.

Official mandates, fiats, decrees, commands, or whatever they were called, were often promulgated in this fashion, as they were considered to be more weighty.

This is not intended to be an exhaustive treatise on ancient posts; chronology has not even been studied. It is merely a perfunctory, though scientific, account written to show that the philatelist can combine

with his hobby a kindred interest teeming with wonderful possibilities.

Possibly at some future date we will give a carefully compiled account of the origin of the British Post Office.

British Stamps used Abroad—*continued*

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP VI—*continued*

The Egyptian Campaign

IN 1875, the finances of Egypt having become much disordered owing to the extravagance of the reigning Khedive, Ismail, the British Government purchased in November the shares owned by him in the Suez Canal for £4,080,000. An inquiry was also held into the financial condition of the country on behalf of the foreign bondholders, and in 1876 it was recommended that a superior Power should intervene to restrain the prodigality and oppression of the Government, and two Englishmen and a Frenchman were appointed Ministers of Finance, Public Works, and Expenditure respectively. Their interference, however, was found irksome, and they were dismissed by the Khedive. Pressure, however, was brought to bear on the Sultan of Turkey, the Suez-rain, and Ismail himself was curtly deposed by telegram addressed to him as ex-Khedive, and informing him that his son had been appointed in his place. He, Tewfik, assumed the rulership of the country, practically as a protégé of the "Anglo-French," or "Dual Control," a commission appointed by the Powers for the liquidation of the public debt, and for the reform of the Consular and Mixed Courts and for the protection of the interests of European bondholders.

Their work necessitated an interference, however, with the power, privileges, and perquisites of a class that had so long misgoverned the country and led to the instigation of riots and mutinies in the army. On the 1st February, 1881, a serious disturbance arose at Cairo, owing to the trial of the three ringleaders of whom Arabi Pasha was the chief. They were released by force and dictated terms to the Khedive, who was compelled to form a Government in which Arabi was Minister of War. The situation became daily more serious and critical for the Europeans, Arabi having taken "Egypt for the Egyptians" as his war-cry, and professing to be desirous of ridding the country of its Turkish and European oppressors. Riots and disturbances became of daily occurrence, and in September, 1881, the army, under the leadership of Arabi Pasha, again revolted, demanding an increase in its numbers and pay. A new Ministry was installed

and tranquillity temporarily restored. In January, 1882, Arabi was appointed Minister of War, and in the same month the Assembly claimed the right to regulate the budget in spite of the protests of the "Dual Control."

On May the 10th, the Chamber, led on by Arabi Pasha, repudiated the authority of the Khedive, but on the threatened intervention of the Anglo-French squadron he was forced to resign. On the 27th, however, he was practically reinstated as Dictator and commenced to fortify Alexandria.

On the 29th of May, 1882, the British residents pointed out that they were absolutely defenceless, an assertion that was soon proved to be justified, for on the 11th of June a serious riot took place in Alexandria in which from sixty to a hundred Europeans were massacred and the town was pillaged. Panics occurred at Cairo and other places, the Government being unable to deal with the situation. On the 15th June the British Channel Fleet was ordered to Malta and thence to Alexandria. By the end of the month twenty-six warships, representing all the great Powers of Europe, the United States, and others, had assembled off the port of Alexandria. Arabi having refused to desist from fortifying Alexandria, that city was on July 11th bombarded by the British fleet and abandoned eventually by Arabi.

During the evacuation by the rebellious Egyptian army a large part of the city was destroyed by the mob. Order was restored by forces landed from the fleet, and the Khedive, availing himself of their protection, proclaimed Arabi, who was investing the town, a rebel. The French Government, although invited, refused to incur the expense of a campaign to reinstate the Khedive, and ordered their fleet to withdraw.

The British Government, on the contrary, sent out a force under the command of Sir Garnet Wolseley (now Lord Wolseley), which encountered Arabi's forces, and after a preliminary skirmish at Kassassin completely routed them at Tel-el-Kebir on the 13th September. Arabi was shortly after taken prisoner, and after trial he was condemned to death on the 3rd December, his sentence being, however, commuted, and he was sent as a State prisoner to Ceylon. The

remainder of the country being occupied without further opposition, the British troops were then withdrawn with the exception of 7000 men left as a garrison for such time as the reorganization of the Egyptian Army would require. This garrison would probably have been withdrawn in November, 1883, as contemplated, but for an insurrection in the Soudan and the annihilation of an Egyptian army under Hicks Pasha by the Mahdi in November, 1882. The continued success of the Mahdi, who posed as a prophet and led the fanatical hordes of Arabs in the Holy War he preached, again necessitated the intervention of Great Britain, and the British garrison in Egypt exists to this day. The actual date of the establishment of the Post Office can be definitely fixed as occurring in the last week of August, 1882. Five thousand troops from Malta were certainly landed on July 17th, more again on 24th and 25th of the same month, but we have official information that the Army Post Office was organized and sent with General Wolseley's expedition, which arrived on the 16th August and finished disembarking the 31,500 men by the 20th.

At the suggestion of the officer in command of the Post Office Rifle Volunteers one hundred non-commissioned officers and men were enlisted as soldiers in the regular army under certain conditions as to pay and reinstatement in their old positions at the Post Office, one half being detailed for active service and the other forming a first-class army reserve.

The active service corps embarked with the army under the command of Major Sturgeon as Army Postmaster-General, and on arriving at the front carried on the regular working of a post office, the receipt and dispatch of mails, issue and payment of money orders, etc., at the various positions occupied by the British forces. For the first week the current British 1d. stamp was used with a small "E" written in red ink across and obliterated by a penmark. Afterwards a narrow lozenge of small dots was employed,



probably a local postmark, and eventually a circular date stamp inscribed **BRITISH ARMY POST OFFICE, EGYPT**, and date.



The bulk of the British army had returned home by August, 1883, at which date only 6763 remained for garrison duty, and the operations of the Army Post Office were suspended practically as soon as the active service ceased at the end of 1882. The Postmaster-General was able to announce, on the 31st March, 1883, that no casualties had occurred, and that General Wolseley had reported that the experiment had been eminently successful, and that it should be again put into operation for any expedition on active service that might in the future be necessary.

The stamps having been in use, therefore, only about six months, are of very great rarity.

The following varieties are known:—

1d., lilac.
2½d., pl. 22, 23 blue.

When in 1884 a fresh expedition was dispatched to Suakim, an Army Post Office Corps, consisting of twenty men under the command of Major Sturgeon, embarked on the 4th of March, and established offices at Suakim, Handoub, etc. The same circular date stamp was used.

2½d. (1884), lilac.

(To be continued.)

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:—

*One Shilling 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; GF = Stamp Genuine, surcharge
Forged; R = Reprint; W = Watermark.

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

Should Stamps be Designed for the Edification of the Public?

By C. M. C. SYMES

BY taking up a catalogue of the world's postage stamps, one is struck by the many hideous designs which appear on a very large number of stamps. In the majority of cases the designs do not give us any information in any shape or form of the country of their use; they are merely portraits of emperors or kings, or an example of a so-called brilliant artist's work.

Let us look at Colombia. Who on earth could design more wretched, unrepresentative, or absolutely ridiculous stamps than some this country has? Or, again, take our own series of King's Heads; nobody can get away from the fact that the stamps are very poor, and certainly not worthy of a country so important and powerful as our own England.

It cannot be denied that the majority of designs on stamps convey no information at all, and apparently those who are responsible for the production of stamps care naught whether the stamps are instructive or otherwise, as long as they produce a label which will fulfil the purpose for which it is issued. Now what I contend is this: that it is just as easy to issue a series of stamps depicting a certain industry, some especial physical feature, or something of national interest, as it is to produce a series of stamps with designs for which the only fitting receptacle is a waste-paper basket. We have had too much of the melancholy works of art, and it is high time we woke up and exerted ourselves, and agitated for stamp designs more descriptive, more representative, and more interesting than those already in use.

It would be extremely interesting to make a collection were stamps issued in the way suggested, as each stamp-issuing country has some special thing of more importance than the other, and thus it will be seen what great interest would be vested in such a collection. To illustrate the point, I will take a few countries issuing stamps whose designs might be improved upon.

In Great Britain we have fourteen stamps of different values, each bearing the portrait of King Edward VII. I am of the opinion that it is quite unnecessary for each stamp to have our Sovereign's head, and that a better and more instructive purpose would be served if twelve of the fourteen designs were altered, and made descriptive of something which would interest the public, at the same time being of national interest or im-

portance. It is a well-known fact that the general public do not take the least interest in postage stamps at all—a large majority do not even know that every stamp bears a watermark; and knowing the fact as we do, surely it is reasonable to suggest that public interest should be aroused in stamps by some means or other, and thus I submit that it can be done by making stamps instructive. I do not suggest for one moment having pretty pictures, such as one depicting a Suffragette cake-walking on a broadened top-hat, or the like, for attracting the attention of ladies; but subjects of standing value and interest might well be portrayed. England with its multitudinous industries, its voluminous historical and geographical points of interest, surely could form a collection from which twelve suitable designs might be taken.

India, we see, has all its stamps with King Edward's portrait, and how much more interesting would its stamps be were they to depict a scene—"Gathering Rice," "Sugar Plantation," "Keir Hardie Lecturing on Opium," or on some other subject which would command interest.

Again, we see that Chilean designs consist practically of the portrait of Columbus. Certainly the designs have been altered slightly, for we see at a later date that C. C. alighted in the vicinity of a hairdresser's shop, as his portrait in 1901 shows him minus his beard, but still wearing the same ragged collar. This is not enough, for its designs could be made much more of value were they to show us a series of mountains, saltpetre mines, of something of which the country is proud.

The same may be said of many countries, such as China, Brazil, Mexico, Ceylon, St. Helena—in fact, all countries whose designs are not worth setting eyes upon. Not only would this method be of interest to the public, but also to philatelists at large; it would stimulate interest in stamp collecting, and be of valuable assistance to Philately generally. For myself, I cannot see why postage stamps should not be utilized to the best possible advantage, and I consider that in the suggested way could this end be attained. The expense would naturally be a trifle greater, but, I think, nothing abnormal; at any rate, let us hail the time when postage stamps will carry with them emblems of national and international importance.

Foreign Notes

Ecuador

THE new series of stamps lately chronicled were issued in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening of the railway from Guayaquil to Quito, and were only to be available from 25 June to 25 July. The decree authorizing the stamps is dated 11 June, 1908, and makes the set available for home and foreign postage during the time mentioned, with the stipulation also that no other postage stamps were to be sold or circulated at home during the month. Two of the principal engineers were Messrs. Harman and Sivewright, whose portraits are shown on two of the values. The following extract from the *Metropolitan Philatelist* (29 August, 1908), New York, is sufficiently interesting to be copied in full:—

The philatelic portrait gallery is constantly expanding. Kings, Queens, Presidents, and other rulers have long been familiar to collectors, and lately we have been treated to a long list of explorers, but we believe Ecuador is the first to immortalize an engineer by placing his portrait on a postage stamp. The 20c. of the new issue bears the portrait of Archer Harman, an American. The details of his life would fill a good-sized volume. The line from Quito to Duran was projected forty years ago, and many firms failed and had to give up the enterprise. It was only the nerve and undaunted perseverance of the man that finally crowned the work to a point when success was assured; unfortunately he did not live to see the completion of his life's work. He died of yellow fever about two years ago, and is buried at Huigra, on the line of the railroad at the entrance to the grand cañon, which is followed in climbing up Pistichi.

The road makes some pretty steep climbs, and gets across the flank of Chimborazo at an altitude above 12,000 feet. In the clear season, on leaving Riobamba in the morning, there is usually a fine sight of the snows of Chimborazo. Later, if Cotopaxi is in eruption, which is usually the case, there is the opportunity to witness the enormous pillar of black smoke pouring from it, and sometimes at night the live volcanoes glow like a furnace.

The Devil's Nose, or Pistichi Mountain, and the Alausi Loop are the great engineering features of the Guayaquil and Quito road. The grade on Pistichi is overcome by means of switchbacks. This "scratching the Devil's Nose" was one of the engineering feats declared by office experts to be impossible.

Major Harman climbed the steep sides with hand level and transit and ropes and brought his workers after him to show that it could be done. He was the real constructing genius of this railway, and it was his personality that held the men together through the most discouraging period, when wages were months behind and no one could tell where the next day's provisions were to come from.

The two notable engineering features are the result of the ledge-like drop of the Alausi River. The cañon formed by this river winds around the foot of the Pistichi, but does not afford a means of surmounting it. So an ascent of 110 feet was secured by a switchback. A further ascent of 290 feet was secured by the loop.

In the boldness of its curves and in the mountain panorama which it presents this loop is unsurpassed. Another engineering feature is a tunnel through 163 feet of solid rock. From the foothills of the Cordilleras at Bucay to the summit of Palmira Pass there are seventy-two bridges, in the construction of which more than 6,000,000 pounds of steel has been employed. The Alausi River is crossed twenty-six times. Some grades are 4 per cent.

Major Archer Harman's portrait will remain in the albums of future generations of stamp collectors long after the steam railroads have been superseded by newer and better modes of conveyance.

A Zeppelin Stamp

NOT perhaps since the days of Rome has any nation's sense of patriotism reached such heights of sentiment and such a degree of practicability as that of the German nation. As we all have read, the recent experiments of Count Zeppelin have been watched by every German with a personal concern, and the recent accident brought a lively personal disappointment. As an instance of what all are ready to do to try to mitigate what is looked upon as a national disaster, we give here extracts from two letters received and published by the *I. B. J.*: ". . . Now that mishap has come so heavily upon our great countryman (Count Zeppelin), this is the time for the German people to stand together united for backing up the man whose life's work is the service of the Fatherland. For this reason I would ask you, Mr. Editor, as soon as possible, to take up in your valuable paper the question of a Zeppelin tax stamp. . . . There can be no doubt that every German will consider it an honour to help on this national work according to his abilities. It would be well to issue such a stamp at once from one centre for the whole of Germany." This writer then goes on to explain his ideas of the form the label should take.

The other letter shows that further steps are being taken in the matter. "The Motor Airship Research Society in Berlin-Reinichendorf intends shortly to issue a Zeppelin stamp with portrait of Count Zeppelin. The stamp . . . will be sold for 10 pf. It should be placed on the letter next the postage stamp, or on the envelope flap, with the object of making a contribution to the Zeppelin Fund, and at the same time,

by force of good example, to encourage the recipient to do likewise."

From this we may gather that such a stamp is likely to make an actual appearance in the near future; they will not assuredly find a place in the catalogue, but, nevertheless, will be of more real interest than many of the commemorative labels which, because one or two have paid postage, have insinuated themselves into the catalogue lists.

Necessity for High Values

THE *Berliner B. Z.* gives a good instance of the occasional necessity for high-value stamps, which is sometimes called in question. That, though perhaps not in daily demand, they have practical use is shown by the dispatch of a packet from the Philippines to America weighing 104 lb., which was franked with stamps to the value of "144 mark 44 pf.," or £7 4s. 4d. This packet contained bullion, the safe delivery of which was insured merely by means of the ordinary registration fee of "20 pfg." [We quote the figures of the *B. B. Z.*]

Sale of German Colonials

THE sale of German Colonial stamps, which, says *Der Philatelist*, is conducted in Germany solely at the Post Office in Berlin, has been so great since the end of 1900, when this office was opened, that in this time stamps to the value of 1,002,764.34 mark have been disposed of. Since such stamps sold in Germany have been but little used for postage or remittance purposes, but rather for collections, the clear profit to the State through philatelists reaches an important figure.

Wholesale Agent for Dutch Indies Stamps

IT appears that the recent issues of overprinted stamps are for the purpose of ascertaining the volume of correspondence in the islands of Java and Madura with a view of reducing the postal rates, and that such overprints are merely to act as control marks on inland letters.

The "Java" overprint is for stamps sold in the two islands, whilst the BUITEN BEZIT overprint, which is short for BUITEN BEZITTINGEN, literally "external possessions," is for stamps sold at all other Dutch East Indian possessions.

These overprinted stamps are to be in use for three consecutive months, and the postal employees have strict injunctions to carefully count all letters franked with the "Java" stamps. It is recognized that letters will doubtless be posted in Java franked by stamps without overprint or even with the "Buiten Bezit" overprint, but such will be an insignificant proportion.

Here are the quantities said to be overprinted for Java and Madura:—

½ c.	4,780,000.	15 c.	306,000.
1 c.	3,600,000.	20 c.	225,000.
2 c.	1,200,000.	25 c.	375,000.
2½ c.	1,900,000.	30 c.	273,000.
3 c.	300,000.	50 c.	294,000.
5 c.	1,020,000.	1 g.	126,000.
10 c.	3,900,000.	2½ g.	24,000.
12½ c.	390,000.		

The figures for the "other possessions" are not reported; they are probably smaller, but the above are enough to go on with.

Nineteen million stamps! A rather tall order, but the authorities are equal to the occasion. This supply is far in excess of anticipated postal requirements, but it is foreseen that collectors and dealers will be anxious to secure supplies, and the excess is for them. Not only that, but a special sole agent has been appointed to attend to their orders. *Le Journal des Philatelistes* gives his name as M. van Exter of Semarang, and another journal reports the receipt of a circular from the gentleman confirming the appointment, and saying that Postage Dues and Officials are to be obtained solely from him. The Officials referred to are a projected issue of the ordinary stamps of 1892-5, 10 c. to 2 g. 50 c., overprinted "D," and the stamps of 1901-6 from ½ c. to 2 g. 50 c., overprinted DIENST. Quite unnecessary these latter sets, whatever may be said of the other overprinted series.

New Issues and Discoveries

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, 891 Strand, London, W.C.

British Solomon Islands.—Several journals report that the stamps of the new issue for this protectorate have been dispatched from London, and should be put on sale within a short time. Meantime it is said all the ½d., 1d., and 2d. of the first issue have been sold. Moreover, all remainders of the lithographed stamps are to be burnt as soon as the new stamps are issued.

Cayman Islands.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (26.9.08) gives particulars of the continuation of the scandal in postal matters in this insignificant colony. This time it is the ½d. stamp that is in question. Dealers' orders are refused on account of a notice dated 10 July, 1903, emanating from the postmistress, as follows:—

"Notice is hereby given that farthing stamps and farthing post cards, being provided solely for internal postage in the Cayman Islands Dependency, will only be sold across the counter at a Post Office in the Cayman Islands."

The Cayman islanders, however, have profited by the above-mentioned refusal, for apparently the stock has been cleared out and the speculators are busy inviting offers from dealers. When will the authorities step in and set this house in order?

Colombia.—*El Eco Postal* (15.9.08) is advised of an alteration in the current stamps of this Republic. The contract for the manufacture held by L. M. Arango, of Medellin, having run out, the Government has placed an order with the "Litografía Nacional de Bogota" for a supply of some values which are to be "an imitation of the current stamps." At present only the 2 c. has been seen, but the $\frac{1}{2}$ c., yellow, 5 c., blue ordinary, and 10 c., violet Registered are on order. The new stamps are said to be slightly larger than the old ones, $24 \times 17\frac{1}{2}$ mm. instead of 23×17 mm., and in the 2 c. the colour now is much more of a *carmine* than that of Nos. 459 and 459a, which inclines rather to *rose*. The above changes will be duly listed when more definite particulars are to hand. *Champion's Bulletin* also lists the 2 c.

Dutch Indies.—In the list of overprinted stamps given in *G.S.W.*, No. 192, no mention was made of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ gulden. We have seen the stamp with both overprints and list it formally as below.

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. suggest that the $7\frac{1}{2}$ c. is still to come to complete the set, but it is not mentioned in the list of quantities overprinted given elsewhere. Neither is the $22\frac{1}{2}$ c. reported to have been issued uncharged a little while back. Has the stamp been issued at all? We should like to see a copy; we only listed it on the report of a foreign contemporary.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News (12.9.08) reports a few minor varieties in the setting of the overprints; e.g. in the JAVA overprint, stops irregular and stops that are very faint, and in some cases entirely failed to print; in the BUITEN BEZIT overprint, broken back "B," broken foot "E," and some words that almost read RUITEN. A correspondent at Harlingen (Holland) sends us a variety in which the horizontal stroke of the last "A" of JAVA on a $12\frac{1}{2}$ c. is broken, making it appear almost an inverted "v." All these varieties, interesting perhaps to a specialist, are only accidental, due, perhaps to faulty printing, and are by no means constant. They can scarcely be worthy of catalogue rank. *Der Philatelist* reports that the 10, $12\frac{1}{2}$, and 25 c. have been seen with the JAVA overprint inverted, "but since 7 July have not been allowed to be sold over the post office counter." We should like to have better evidence of the genuine issue before listing these varieties. It should be mentioned that the 15 c. with both overprints has two horizontal bars (with a space of $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. between) ruled across the head in black. This is done, it is said, to distinguish this value from the 50 c. It seems to us that either the 30 c. or 50 c. should have been

thus disfigured, as there is more likelihood of confusing the colours of these two stamps.



13

14

BUITEN

BEZIT.

15

June, 1908. Type 13. Overprinted in black.

(i.) With Type 14 horizontally. For use in Java and Madura.

137 $\frac{1}{2}$ g., slate.

(ii.) With Type 15 vertically upwards. Space between two lines of overprint $14\frac{1}{2}$ to 15 mm. For use in the remaining islands of the Dutch Indies.

157 $\frac{1}{2}$ g., slate.

Eritrea.—*El Eco Postal* (15.9.08) learns from its Italian correspondent that "the Ministry has ordered the printing by *chromolithografia* of a new set of stamps for this Italian possession." The values are to be the same as in Italy—1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 25, 40, and 50 c., and 1 and 5 lire, and the colours are also to correspond. The stamps, we learn, are to be of large size, the first six of upright shape, and the other four horizontal. Local views and celebrities are to figure on these "fine and large" labels, and special photographs have been taken for this purpose.

Leeward Islands.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (26.9.08), reports the receipt of the following novelties.



6



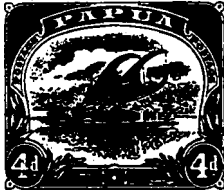
8

August, 1908. Types 6 and 8. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

36/6d., lilac and brown, C.
37/1s., green and carmine, C.

Papua.—We have received another value of the permanent set, viz. $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., black and ultramarine, in both the perforations common to these stamps, viz. 11 and $12\frac{1}{2}$. The stamps vary in shade. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (26.9.08) also says the 1d., perf. 11, comes in varying shades. The 2d., 1s., and 2s. 6d. values of the permanent set

have not yet been issued. For the benefit of specialists in this country, and for those who are following the articles of Mr. Anthrobus and Major Evans which have appeared in this magazine, it is interesting to record the receipt by Messrs. Ewen of the 1s. with small PAPA overprint on the second printing, i.e. thick paper with upright watermark. This variety apparently has not been included in the lists given. Other varieties are mentioned having PAPA vertical instead of horizontal.



6

July, 1908. Type 6. Centre in first colour. Surface-printed. Wmk. Crown and A.

(a) Perf. 11.

25½d., black and ultramarine.

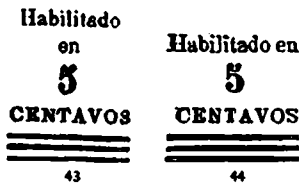
(b) Perf. 12½.

32½d., black and ultramarine.

Paraguay.—We have been shown some varieties of the recent provisionals that are new to us, viz. No. 144 with surcharge inverted, and No 150 with surcharge double.



66



1908. Type 66. Surcharged in black. With Type 43.

Variety. Surcharge inverted. 5 c. on 30 c., blue.

With Type 44.

Variety. Surcharge double. 5 c. on 10 c., reddish purple.

Spanish Post Offices in Morocco.—*L'Echo de Timbrologie* (15.9.08) states that a letter has been received from Tetuan franked by the following stamps: 2 c., brown, Spain; 10 c., red, Spain; and a 10 c., red, Spanish Morocco, all bearing a handstamped overprint of TETUAN in large capitals. We await further particulars before

listing these stamps; probably the overprint is nothing better than a cancellation mark. The journal in question looks upon them as special overprints, for a correspondent informs it that only a small number of the 2 c. have been overprinted.

South Australia.—The 10s. on Crown S A paper with thick POSTAGE has now really been issued. It will be remembered that the stamp was chronicled some time ago, but the report of its issue was afterwards contradicted. In a recent mail we received several copies; the perforation is still done by the new machine gauging 12. The *Australian Philatelist* reports the 9d. current issue in a new shade.



27

1908. Type 27. Perf. 12 (new machine). Wmk. Crown S A (close), Type 13. 322a (10s., green.

Wmk. Crown over A, Type 29. 340a (9d., deep lake.

St. Vincent.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports the issue of the 5s. on multiple paper.



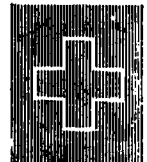
16

Aug., 1908. Type 16. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14. 92½s., green and blue, C.

Switzerland.—The new series is gradually approaching completion. We have now received the 50 c., and the following chronicle is sufficient.



16



13

1908. Type 16. Figures of value, figure of Helvetia and frame line in first colour. Granite paper. Wmk. Type 13. Perf. 11½, 12. 244½s c., yellow-green and deep green.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 16
Whole No. 193

17 OCTOBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Germany

(Thurn and Taxis, N. German Confederation, and German Empire)—*continued*

German Empire—*continued*

WHETHER the counterfeits of the last issue induced the Government to change the stamps is not certain, but anyway, in 1900 a new set appeared.

Rumour says they owe their inspiration to that versatile monarch the German Emperor, and that he even designed the centre-piece of the *pfennig* values. It is certain the stamps were issued to commemorate the twentieth century, the Emperor, in common with many other folks, having formed the mistaken notion that the twentieth century commenced 1 January, 1900—and in consequence for Germany it had to be.

The design in question consists of an allegorical bust of "Germania" in coat of mail and with Imperial crown on her head, but it did not meet with popular approval, and, indeed, is a poor example of Teutonic art. Various tales are current as to the subject of the design. It is said that when a change of stamps was decided upon, the Emperor wished to have his portrait upon the new set, but in deference to the feelings of the many German rulers, which are a bit ticklish on matters of overlords, etc., the idea was abandoned and "Germania" substituted. Some say the Empress served as a model for the nation's personification on the stamps, others that a young actress whose impersonation of the character in a spectacle so pleased the Emperor that he commanded she should serve as the model.

The *pfennig* values were surface-printed, the 2, 3, 5, 10, and 20 pf. in plain colours on white wove paper, and the values from 25 pf. to 80 pf. in two colours on coloured wove paper, with the exception of the 40 pf., which was on white. When a small quantity of these bicoloured values had been printed, the tablet containing the word "REICHSPOST" was altered and the word itself made smaller, the alteration being effected with a desire to counteract the poor effect of the

central picture. The stamps with original lettering, etc., are extremely rare, for it was only by a mistake that any sheets were allowed to get into issue.

The 30, 40, and 80 pf. were used for internal service in December, 1899 but were not sold to the public until 1 January, 1900, on which day also the 10 and 20 pf. were issued. The 3, 5, 25, and 50 pf. followed in February and March, and the 2 pf. in July, 1900.

These stamps, and also the mark values, were all treated with the secret process as before, and show aniline rose Eagles and Crown when treated with an alkali. It will be noticed there is no designation of the denomination *pfennig*. How did the Imperial Admirable Crichton overlook this? Surely not in imitation of his French neighbours?



1900. Surface-printed. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
2 (pf.) grey	0	1	0	1
3 " brown	0	1	0	1
5 " green	0	1	0	1
10 " carmine	0	2	0	1
20 " ultramarine	0	4	0	1
25 " black & orange on yellow	0	6	0	1
30 " " " on buff	0	6	0	1
40 " " " carmine on white	0	6	0	1
50 " " " lilac on buff	0	9	0	1
80 " " " carmine on rose	1	3	0	1

The mark values were much more pretentious than anything hitherto attempted by Germany, being imposing in size, elaborately designed, and printed from line-engraved copper plates. The designs were taken from

celebrated pictures, and were engraved by Professor Wilhelm Rose of the Imperial Printing Works.

The 1 mark shows a view of the new G.P.O., Berlin. The 2 mark is from an allegorical painting by Anton Von Werner typifying the union of North and South Germany. Mr. C. A. Howes (U.S.A.) gives the description of the picture and those of the 3 and the 5 mark as follows: "The two sections are represented by two warrior heroes of ancient Germany clasping hands and burying the old ill-will of the race. In the background at the left are seen the Alps, with the Rhine at their base, and likewise at the right is the Baltic Sea with the cliffs of the Island of Rügen—the limits of the United Fatherland—while above the representatives of North and South hovers the Goddess of Victory, holding aloft the Imperial Crown which sheds its lustre over all. At the bottom is the legend, SEID EINIG, EINIG, EINIG! ('Be united, united, united')."

"The 3 mark is from a painting of W. Pape, representing the unveiling of the statue of Emperor William I at Berlin. The memorial to the first Kaiser included not only the equestrian statue, but a magnificent setting in the form of a peristyle, a portion of which can be seen in the background. In the foreground plainly appears Emperor William II on his black charger, and immediately behind him the Empress. This memorial was dedicated on 3 April, 1897, in the midst of pageants and ceremonies almost unequalled for splendour and enthusiasm. The date above the picture, '22 March,' was the birthday of Emperor William I.

"The 5 mark stamp is taken from another painting of Pape's, representing Emperor William II delivering an address on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the proclamation of the Empire, 19 January, 1896. The moment is chosen when the Emperor placed his right hand upon the flag of the 1st Regiment of the Guards, and ended the discourse, which he addressed to the princes and representatives of the people by these words: 'EIN REICH, EIN VOLK, EIN GOTT' ('One Empire, one People, one God'). The engraving contains no less than fifty-one figures, the features of a large number being quite distinct."

The stamps were perforated 14, though a few sheets were perforated 11½ by a trial machine. Like the pfennig values with large REICHSPOST, these sheets only got into circulation by accident. The 5 mark was bicoloured, the picture being in *lake* and the frame in *black*; there was a redrawing of the frame, and full particulars of the two varieties can be found in the Catalogue, but general collectors need have but one.

The 1 mark appeared on 1 April, 1900, the

2 mark on 1 June, the 3 mark on 1 August, and the 5 mark on 15 December, 1900.



April-Dec., 1900. *Line-engraved. Perf.*

		Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
1	mark, carmine	. 1	9	0	1
2	" blue	. 3	0	0	3
3	" violet-black	. 5	0	2	0
5	" lake and black	. 12	0	8	6

In May, 1901, a provisional of an unusual character was made, and though only of a quasi-official standing, is accepted by German collectors as a legitimate issue, and is much sought after abroad. It is known as the *Vineta* provisional, from the fact that there was a shortage of 3 pf. stamps on H.I.M.S. *Vineta*, and to provide a supply the 5 pf. current stamps were cut in halves vertically and each half surcharged 3 PF. in *violet*.

May, 1901. *Provisional.*
3 PF. on half 5 pf., green.

In 1902 the stamps were altered to meet the requirements of the kingdom of Wurtemberg. Up till April of that year, this kingdom had enjoyed postal autonomy, but it then

agreed to relinquish its right to issue postage stamps on condition that the stamps of the German Empire should have the word REICHSPOST replaced by DEUTSCHES REICH. The latter means "German Empire", and was chosen instead of the former, which means "Imperial Post", for the reason that Wurtemberg, although relinquishing her right to use stamps, does not merge into the Imperial German Postal Administration, but retains the right of her own Postal Administration.

The alteration was made, and at the same time the whole designs were redrawn, but the differences beyond the change of inscription and a modification in the 2 mark are not noticeable, and for all practical purposes, with the exceptions mentioned, the stamps were the same as before. As soon as the stamps were issued it was discovered that an error existed on the 3 pf. stamps. On the thirty-fifth stamp of each pane (for description of manufacture see last week's number) the word DEUTSCHES read DFUTSCHES, an uncomplimentary slang word. The error created considerable notoriety, and the authorities ordered the removal of the objectionable stamp from the sheets before sale to the public until corrected plates could be put into use.

The modification of the 2 mark consisted in the alteration of the legend at foot from Roman to Gothic characters. On 18 April, 1902, a new type was issued, in which the legend was again in Roman lettering, and in which the whole design was redrawn. (An interesting reference to the differences will be found in *G.S.W.*, No 137.)



a. Gothic lettering.

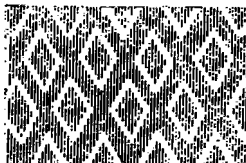


b. Roman lettering.

1 April, 1902. *Inscribed* DEUTSCHES REICH.
Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
2 (pf.), grey	0 1	0 1
3 " brown	0 1	0 1
5 " green	0 1	0 1
10 " carmine	0 2	0 1
20 " ultramarine	0 4	0 1
25 " black and orange on yellow	0 5	0 1
30 " " " on buff	0 6	0 1
40 " " " carmine on white	0 0	0 1
50 " " " lilac on buff	0 8	0 1
80 " " " carmine on rose	1 0	0 1
1 mark, carmine	1 3	0 1
2 " blue (a)	3 0	0 8
2 " " (b)	2 6	0 1
3 " violet-black	3 9	0 5
5 " lake and black	8 6	1 3

In 1905, the watermarked paper was introduced, and all the values except the 3 mark have appeared on this paper. The list following needs no comment.



1906. *As last, but wmk.* Lozenges.

	Unused.	Used.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
2 (pf.), grey	0 1	0 2
3 " brown	0 1	0 1
5 " green	0 1	0 1
10 " carmine	0 2	0 1
20 " ultramarine	0 4	0 1
25 " black & orange on yellow	0 5	0 1
30 " " " buff	0 6	0 1
40 " " " carmine	0 7	0 1
50 " " " lilac on buff	0 8	0 1
80 " " " carmine on rose	1 0	0 1
1 m., carmine	1 3	0 1
2 m., blue (b)	—	—
5 m., lake and black	6 3	—

This completes the list of stamps issued to date for ordinary purposes. Perhaps a word as to two sets of Official stamps which were issued in 1903 and 1904 may not be amiss. There are some thirty different States and Administrations which possess the privilege of having their postal correspondence franked, each paying a lump sum per year to the Imperial Post for the service. Some question having arisen about the sum in the case of Prussia and Baden, the sets mentioned were to be in use for one year to ascertain the correct sum. They were prohibited from being sold to the public, so they are unobtainable in an unused state by legitimate means, though they are common used.

(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 Purchases

DURING the past weeks we have bought several nice collections. First, special collections of Chili and Uruguay, formed in South America; and more recently we have acquired collections of Ceylon, Japan, and Canada.

The Ceylon and Japan have been amalgamated with new stock books we have just arranged; Japan is finished, Ceylon will be ready next week; and Canada will shortly be remade and the new collection included. The Canada were a fine lot, and included 6d. purple on laid, three of the 6d. on thin wove, and a 6d. dull purple on the thick paper, all unused, and many other fine things.

A fine Collection for Auction

MESSRS. GLENDINING & Co., Ltd., of 7 Argyll St., Regent St., London, W., inform us that a fine collection of British Colonial stamps has been placed in their hands for auction (entirely without reserve), and will be sold by them in December and January next. The stamps are all in superb condition, and the collection is contained in nearly twenty volumes. We have not yet been able to inspect it, but will give particulars later on.

The same firm have also just had placed in their hands for sale a nice collection of Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia, formed by a member of the Royal Philatelic Society.

Death of Mr. Rudolph Krasemann

IT is with sincere regret that I have to record the death of Mr. R. Krasemann. I am indebted to my friend Mr. Hilmer Djurling for the following particulars:—

The university bookseller, Rudolph Krasemann, of Upsala, Sweden, died, at the age of thirty-three years, on 3 September, after a short illness.

By Krasemann's death both the Swedish Philatelic Society and its organ, to which Krasemann was an enthusiastic and productive contributor, and Philately in general, have lost a powerful force. Although Krasemann made his first public appearance in Philately only four or five years ago, yet during that time he did striking work, especially in the literary field of Philately.

He edited a "Bibliography of the most important special works dealing with the postage stamps of single countries." Of

this work a special German edition is now being brought out. Just before his illness there was published, on 1 August, his German edition (in which Hilmer Djurling was his collaborator) of *The Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855 to 1905*, and at the same time there appeared the specially practical catalogue which he had made of the Library of the Swedish Philatelic Society, consisting of about 1700 volumes.



When one remembers that Krasemann, during the last three years of his life, edited the literature department of the Swedish Philatelic Society in a sound way, and that he wrote quite a number of articles for the *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift*, one must confess that he did in those four to five years a wonderful amount of productive work on an extensive scale in the service of Philately.

Krasemann was born at Mosbach, in Baden, but he had been settled in Sweden since June, 1903. In booksellers' circles he was respected and esteemed for his sound knowledge of the trade, for he had worked since 1890 in the leading lines in Germany, and also in Paris. Personally kindly and of friendly address, he won quickly the confidence and good will of everybody with whom he came into contact, and a large circle of friends will long respect his memory.

Stamps on Furniture

WHEN Robert Blanken of Philadelphia retires he goes to sleep in a bed which, outside of value of wood, is worth in the neighbour-

hood of \$2500. He keeps his collars, shirts, and other apparel in a bureau worth probably \$1000. The table by which he sits as he reads or studies in the evening he values at something like \$875.

Mr. Blanken is not an unusually wealthy man, but he has a fad. Every inch of the three pieces of furniture, including the casters of the bed and bureau, is covered with a United States postage stamp.

It has taken him eight years to complete the work of covering his furniture. During that time he has collected and used 75,500 of the little pieces of paper which carry letters through Uncle Sam's mails. They range in value from \$5 to 1 cent, and in date from 1850 to the present. They include virtually every stamp issued by the Government during the fifty-eight years. Of the number, 46,000 are pasted on the bed, 23,000 on the bureau, and 6500 on the table.

In the lot are thirty-five designs. On the footboard of the bed is a large keystone composed of 560 pieces of stamps and a diamond-shaped design containing the American and Cuban flags crossed, above which is an American eagle, and below a Liberty Bell. On either side are the dates 1776 and 1898, the years of American and Cuban independence.

Mr. Blanken probably has one of the most complete collections of Columbian stamps in existence. Three thousand of them are pasted on the three pieces of furniture. He also has 600 stamps of the Buffalo Exposition issue. On the top of the table is a circle of messenger boys cut from special delivery stamps. All of these were obtained from an Arch Street coffin firm, and originally were on letters with rush orders for coffins.

From the opposite side of the room the various designs bear the appearance of intricately coloured Dresden china or cleverly executed mosaic of pink and green. Probably the handsomest design is that on the headboard of the bed. It is an American shield only three inches in height and one and a quarter inches in width, but it contains pieces of 250 stamps.

Mr. Blanken, who is a draughtsman for the J. G. Brill Car Company, began his decorative work when he was a boy of sixteen, eight years ago. He is very much attached to the handiwork. To prevent possible harm to his treasures he makes his bed himself every morning, working with the greatest care. Except for one favoured chum, no person but himself has ever slept in the bed.

While the real value of the stamps used on the furniture was \$4375, he says several curio dealers have valued the set at \$5000.—*New York Herald*. (Reprinted from *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*.)

Amsterdam Philatelic Exhibition, 1909

I AM informed by my friend Mr. Booleman that the rules and regulations of this important Exhibition will be ready at the end of October; also that by decree of the Minister of the Treasury all exhibits will be allowed to enter and depart from Holland free of duty.

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

Japan.

TWO fine books of this interesting country have just been rearranged. The early issues are well represented, especially the plate numbers, which include many really rare varieties, both unused and used. In this book we have included a small but choice collection which we purchased a few weeks ago. There are also some rare uncut sheets, each of forty varieties. The later issues comprise many rare varieties of perforation, and Japanese stamps overprinted for use in Corea and China are also included.

Finland, Levant, and Wenden.

On rearranging this group, I was surprised to find how the stock has gone down during the past year. We had a grand lot of Finland and Levant in the "Mann" Collection, and although the balance of this has been amalgamated with our new stock book, yet the result is not near so strong as I should like to see. The stamps of Finland in particular seem to be getting really scarce in fine condition, and I feel sure that these are stamps that will considerably appreciate in value in the near future.

THE PHILATELIST'S COLLECTING BOOK

For the coat pocket. With patent fastening to flap. Size, 6½ x 4½ inches. Handsomely bound in Art Cloth. Each book contains 12 pages, having four strips of linen, ½-inch wide, arranged horizontally, glued at the bottom edge and with the upper one open, for the safe retention and preservation of recent purchases or duplicates. A large pocket is also provided at the back for envelopes or Stamps in bulk. In daily use by leading London Collectors. No. 17, post-free, 2s. 7d. No. 18—oblong, 24 pages, 6 strips on each page, interleaved with strong glazed paper to prevent rubbing—post-free, 5s. 4d.; abroad, 5s. 6d.

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.,
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Stamps of Jamaica

Notes on the Local Overprints of 1890-1 and 1895 The "Thin" Official and the 2½d. on 4d.

By R. STANLEY TAYLOR, M.D.

FOR many years this curious local attempt at surcharging a stamp has excited my curiosity, and I was exceedingly anxious to learn its history, and the method of setting up the type, but I could never come across any sheets, panes, or large blocks to work upon.

On talking over the matter with Mr. C. J. Phillips, I learned that he was engaged on an article upon these special surcharges, and that the article was to appear in the *Monthly Journal*. Time passed, and, no article appearing, I came to an agreement with Mr. Phillips, took over his whole stock, and gave a promise that I would write the article myself. I little knew then the trouble I should experience with regard to these surcharges.

In the first place, it was necessary to try to obtain some official information, the exact date of issue, the number of stamps surcharged, etc. Mr. Phillips warned me that I should learn nothing, but having friends in the island, I thought that if there was any official information to be got at, I was in a position to learn it. Mr. Phillips was right; yet the information I have been able to collect is interesting. It is as follows:—

There have been three different postmasters since 1890, the date of issue of these surcharges. The postmaster in 1890 was a Mr. Fred Sullivan, but there does not seem to have been any special feature to mark his office until the arrival of these surcharges.

A clerk in the Post Office remembers quite well being ordered to take £50 worth of the ½d., 1885, CA issue to be surcharged OFFICIAL to a local job printer named Camille Vendryes, who possessed a small hand-press. He arrived about two o'clock in the afternoon, and they were finished about twelve o'clock at night, when he took them back to the Post Office. He says that Vendryes had to divide the sheets into the four panes of sixty stamps, because the press was too small to take the lot at a time; he also says that the reason for the errors was, because the man could not get the sheets to stay straight; and to ensure the word OFFICIAL being printed on all the stamps, Vendryes often put the sheets through a second time, hence the great number of

these double surcharges. Vendryes is a white man, a printer in a very small way, and believed to be still alive. The clerk cannot remember if Vendryes printed the 2½d. on 4d.; he did not take any of them to him, so they were not done the same day, nor were they done in the same week he is almost certain, but he cannot remember when they were done.

The ½d. stamp is printed in sheets of 240, in four panes of sixty stamps, and £50 worth means 24,000 stamps, which the clerk took to Vendryes to be surcharged. As this local overprinting was only issued as a stop-gap until the overdue De La Rue lot arrived, and as Jamaica is not a very big place, I thought that 24,000 stamps would have been sufficient, and as there are different settings-up of the type, it set me wondering why Vendryes should change his method during a single afternoon; but on inquiry I am told that there is scarcely a department which does not get through a goodly proportion of that number in a year. What do they write about?

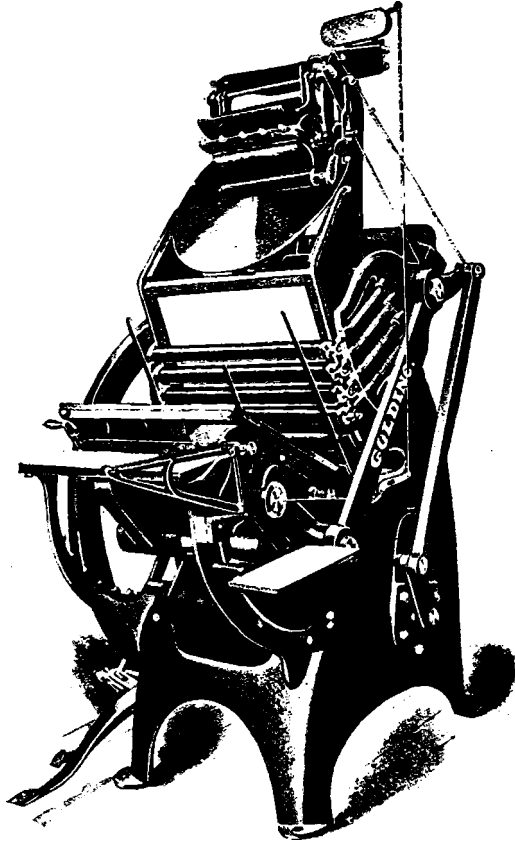
Here then is something gained; we have found a clerk in the Post Office who remembers the surcharging, and he is also able to give us the name of the printer. I must confess that my friend obtained this information in a rather surreptitious manner, and as the postal authorities are very loth to divulge any information, I am obliged to withhold the name of the clerk. However, it now remains to try to find the printer, Vendryes—not an easy matter, for he has long since left his 1890 abode, and gone no one could tell where. He had also given up his occupation as a printer, or the printing business had given him up, and he could not be found. Then came the earthquake in Kingston, which killed my friend who was making the search for me, and either killed or scattered the inhabitants of the town. I entrusted my search to another friend, but he was a busy man, living up in the hills some fifty miles away from Kingston, and could only get into town occasionally. However, he at last found Vendryes, but found him in a sorry plight—his house knocked down flat, his wife killed, all his effects and papers burnt, and he himself living in a tent,

with nerves shattered and in a pitiable condition. It is a great pity that his papers are burnt, for if they had been available he could have given me the exact dates and number of stamps surcharged each time.

In the first place, I determined to send only general questions, so as to learn what he had to say without any prompting; then, if his answers were not sufficient, to ply him with leading questions, and by this means I have gathered the following information:—

He remembers perfectly surcharging the $\frac{3}{4}$ d. stamp with the word OFFICIAL and also surcharging the 4d. stamp with $2\frac{1}{4}$ d.; the stamps were sent him in batches of £25 or £50 at a time, sometimes from the postal authorities and sometimes from the Stamp Commissioners. The printing machine was only a small hand-press, the "Golding Jobber" platen printing press, 8 in. x 12 in., made by the Golding Co., printing machine makers, Boston, U.S.A. Each job was machined from a separate setting of the same fount of type. He had only a small fount of display type that had already been much used, and in order to get the requisite number of "C's" he had to cut "G" and "O" to make them look like "C"—in fact, convert the "G" and "O" into "C." In addition he had to improvise cardboard hair-spaces to expand the letters across the stamps, and the quad space between each word OFFICIAL in the line may have been carelessly unequal. Directly the job was done the setting was broken up, and not put together again until required for the next job, so that although he used the same fount of type all the time, the spacing and setting up may have been different. The type printed only two or three rows at a time, and at each new setting he did not trouble whether he set up in vertical or horizontal rows, but just set up as the fancy took him at the time. The sheets of stamps were divided into quarter-sheets of sixty stamps, in rows of six horizontally and ten vertically—in other words, six stamps across and ten rows down. These sheets of stamps had to be set on the platen and held down by pins, and the gauge raised or lowered for each two or three rows as the surcharging proceeded. All the impressions did not register equally, for various reasons: chiefly, as it was very hot weather the stamp paper crinkled up badly, and it was almost impossible to feed by hand correctly, espe-

cially as the printing carried them well into the night; the light was bad, and the boy who fed the machine got tired and sleepy; moreover, the serrated edge not getting to the gauge equally, pins had to help the feed; also the gummed back sticking to the platen would cause a slanting curl on each sheet. This difficulty of feeding the sheets caused the errors.



GOLDING JOBBER No. 21 (15x21).
With Regular Fountain.

As to the number of times he set up the type he cannot remember, but to the best of his belief it may have been seven or eight times at the outside for the OFFICIAL and about four times for the $2\frac{1}{4}$ d. on 4d. The $2\frac{1}{4}$ d. on 4d. was printed during the same period as the OFFICIAL, but when he cannot remember, for he was printing on and off for more than a year, but not much longer. He remembers on one occasion he printed £240 worth (14,400 stamps) at one time; he used the same type, and did not bother as to whether it was put up vertically or horizontally. He is

sure he did not print in 1894, nor did any one else print any then. He was approached by people in California, Europe, and Jamaica to print some for them, but all the stamps he printed were genuine, and went back into the hands of the Government.

As for the gross errors, he is somewhat hazy; he admits the possibility of some letters falling out during the process of printing, yet he declares the "blind" OFFICIAL to be a forgery. He, however, remembers perfectly printing the word OFFICIAL down the stamp as well as across; it was owing to a misfeed, when done late at night, and more than one sheet was so surcharged. In the 2^d. on 4d. he acknowledges the double surcharges and broken letters, but declares the specimen with the letter "κ" in the word PENNY to be a forgery.

Such, then, is the pith of the answers I have received from the printer. When it is remembered, however, that these surcharges were issued in 1890 and 1891, some eighteen years ago, that Vendryes is now an

old man and broken in health, and, moreover, having no books or papers at hand with which to refresh his memory, too much stress must not be laid upon his answers. As for this information, which I have gained through great trouble, anxiety, and bother, it must also be remembered that it is not official information, and therefore is absolutely of no value philatelically; and I regret to say that my article resolves itself simply into a description of the stamps I have in my possession. This, however, is, at any rate, valuable, for it gives to the public, for the first time, the method employed in setting up the type in most, if not all, the impressions issued.

(To be continued.)

**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.

Philately in a Lighthouse

By W. WARD

FIRST, being one who has a love for wandering and seeing new sights, I often have the pleasure of enjoying things outside the beaten track of the man in the street. Secondly, being a philatelist I often have the pleasurable enjoyment of discovering others similarly inclined outside the zone of active Philately.

Once on a cattle-boat I got chatting with the second mate, who, whilst having no very great collection or fine album, was nevertheless a collector. Philately is by no means confined to the man or woman who sits within the comfortable range of a warm fire, with a catalogue at hand, and a bundle of philatelic journals on the table.

During a recent periodical stray, I got "chummy" with the three-parts owner of a nor-west coast fishing trawler and his brother-in-law, remaining-part owner. Both were National Lifeboat men, and among their other duties (weather permitting, as the steamship bills say) was a call twice a week to convey necessities of life to the keeper of a lighthouse, some couple of miles from the mainland, at the ridge of a shallow but dangerous bay in a north-west corner. Maybe the reader will conjure in his or her mind a lighthouse built as a stone tower. Most may be so, but the one of which I write is built upon some dozen steel-tube piles—a steel-plate hut on stilts.

Going out early one morning with my

fisher-friends on our way to the mackerel "parks," we called with the bi-weekly food supplies for the lonely lighthouse keeper. As I had never been to the light before, I tripped up the vertical ladder to have a look round. Other than a couple of self-tables, a couple of chairs, a pair of shelves or cupboards, and a folding bed, the entire decoration of the apartment—by the way, curtained across opposite the bed—consisted of several Christmas plates given at that season with the illustrated magazines, and a box-like cabinet covered with a design in stamps. Seeing the latter made me remark, "Suppose you don't collect stamps?" To my surprise the light keeper replied, "Well, not properly, sir, but I have a few." Of course I requested the sight of this treasure. A seedy small album, which perhaps originally cost about half a crown, was trotted out for my perusal. Whilst having no very rare gems, there were a goodly number of West Indian, Central and North American stamps in the collection.

It appears that previously to coming into the service of Trinity House, our lighthouse philatelist had been in the Navy, and was away for several years in Bermuda and the West Indies. It was during his stay in the Caribbean waters that he became a collector. Since being placed in charge of a lighthouse, in time, after professional duties of cleaning and trimming the lamp, attending to the

reflectors and oil-feeds, and after exhausting whatever old newspapers and magazines his friends on the mainland had sent him, he had carefully taken out all the stamps in his album, soaked off the paper and rearranged. To my eyes the arrangement was rather unique. The stamps were not placed in order of their issue, but of their numismatic value, as $\frac{1}{2}$ d., $\frac{3}{4}$ d., 1d., 1d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 4d., 6d., and so on. As he explained to me, he had not now many facilities for obtaining more stamps. Indeed, he seemed genuinely pleased at my promise to send him some.

Our friend lives only eight months of the year in the lighthouse, and until within a few months of my visit enjoyed the companionship of an assistant. The latter had not,

however, taken kindly to so lonely an existence, and had left, his place remaining unfilled. I may mention that the living-room has five small windows, all well-ledge, and chiefly used as library shelves. At one side is the ladder up to the lantern and reflectors—the former a half-minute revolving light. Underneath are the oil-tanks from which the lamp is fed by means of siphons.

Whilst a lighthouse would be an ideal place for, say a specialist in Austrians, New Zealanders or Nicaraguans, I should think two or three months would suffice to give the most ardent his fill. And to further vivify lighthouse Philately, this isolated collector confessed to an entire ignorance of the existence of philatelic journalism.

Architecture on Postage Stamps

By NORMAN THORNTON

A CONSIDERABLE and highly interesting collection could be made of stamps showing the styles of architecture of many ages and lands from the very earliest times. Let us start with one of the earliest known efforts of man in placing one stone upon another, and for this we take the 3d. of Tonga, 1897, which shows us a prehistoric



trilith, such as is to be found upon Salisbury Plain at Stonehenge. The setting up of these huge masses of stone, weighing hundreds of tons, is one of the most remarkable proofs of the ingenuity and, indeed, mechanical ability of primitive man, especially when we consider that they are found not in one district alone, but in many places scattered over the face of the earth, so that the same ideas must have occurred to, and similar means for carrying them out employed by, entirely independent individuals. These erections are generally held to have had connection with religious ceremonies in which human sacrifices almost certainly had some part.

The civilization of China is admittedly the oldest in the world, and the Chinese Pagoda, therefore, comes next upon our list; this, however, is only to be found on

some Chinese local stamps, the best illustration being upon those of Chungking, 1894.

The next step brings us to ancient Egypt, and, perhaps, the most interesting and wonderful of all subjects portrayed on stamps, the Pyramids and Sphinx, monuments of



years of patient toil. Many legends have been invented to account for the existence of these pyramids, one of which was that they were the store-houses which Joseph caused to be built for the storing of the grain which was to tide Egypt over the seven years of famine. We may, however, regard them, in the light of actual evidence, as the tombs of bygone Pharaohs.

The next addition to our collection shows us a bird's-eye view of the Acropolis of



Athens, crowned by the Parthenon, recalling all the beauty and hero-worship of the Greek mythology.

Recent excavations point to the fact that the temple, of which the ruins now remain standing, is the last of three successive edifices upon the same spot: first the

ancient Temple of Athenae, burnt by the Persians in 480 B.C.; secondly, the old Parthenon, or Parthenon of Cimon, begun after the departure of the Persians and never completed; and lastly, the present, or Parthenon of Pericles, built between 454 and 438 B.C., on the foundations of the preceding. In the sixth century the Parthenon was used as a Christian church, and in 1460 the Turks converted it into a mosque, and subsequently in 1687, when besieged by the Venetians, into a powder magazine, an explosion then occurring, cutting the building in two. For an example of Roman architecture, we must take one of the new stamps of Tunis, which gives an excellent illustration of the ruins of Hadrian's Aqueduct; this was



a wonderful piece of engineering work, built in the first century, and conducted water to Carthage across eighty miles of desert.

The medieval style is represented by the Castle of Wenden on the stamps of



that province, and more importantly by the view of the Kremlin on the 10 kopecks, 1905, of Russia. The Kremlin comprises a collection of buildings, palaces and churches, of which the most important are the palace Teremnoi-Dvoretz (1487), the Cathedral of the Assumption (1474), the Cathedral of the Annunciation, begun in the fourteenth century and rebuilt in 1483; the church of Saint Michael containing the remains of many of the Tsars. The Kremlin did not share the fate of the rest of Moscow, during the fire of 1812, but Napoleon was nevertheless forced to abandon it on account of the great heat caused by the burning of the city.

We may also include here the Montenegrin issue of 1896, showing the monastery near Cettinge, used as a royal mausoleum.

For the Moorish style we have on the 1 c., 1906, Tunis, the mosque of Kairouan, and



an excellent idea of Arab building is shown by the mosque of Tadjourah on the stamps of French Somali Coast. Perhaps one of the best representations of architecture on stamps is that of the Cathedral of Mexico



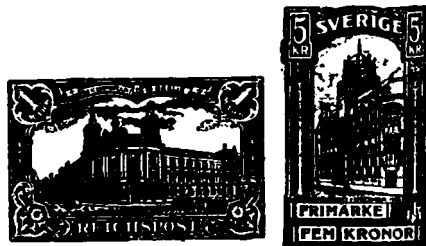
on the 5 peso of 1899; it is in the Doric style, and surmounted by two fine towers; here lie the remains of Ferdinand Cortez, the conqueror of Mexico, and other Mexican viceroys.

It is naturally impossible in a short article to deal in detail with every building shown on stamps, and this kind of device has become very popular with designers of later years, so that only a few of the most striking and important can be included. One curious example is the little view which looks like a small fort on the 1894 issue of Belgium;



it constitutes the arms of Antwerp, and is apparently meant to represent that city.

Very fine examples of modern buildings are shown on the 1900 issue of Germany



and 1903 issue of Sweden, giving the General Post Offices of Berlin and Stockholm respectively, whilst some of the stamps of Hayti give an idea of architecture adapted to the tropics.



Guatemala has several architectural stamps showing the Museum, Temple of Minerva, Cathedral, Columbus Theatre, School, and very magnificent artillery barracks, reminding one rather of Somerset House from the Embankment.

Two fine examples of modern work are to be found on the \$2 of 1898, and the 5 cents 1901 of United States, the first showing the



bridge over the Mississippi at St. Louis, and the second the bridge over Niagara Falls.

Stamps of the British Colonies do not include many pictures of buildings; but in conclusion we may make mention of two, both being somewhat out of the ordinary.

On the new stamps of Brunei is a view on Brunei River, giving an excellent idea of one of the oldest known methods of building known to man, namely, huts built on piles



driven into the bed of the river, in the same style as those found on some of the Swiss lakes.

The other is the Life Insurance Department stamps of New Zealand, and represents also a building in the midst of waters—to wit, a lighthouse.

Notes of a Provincial Junior

By YOKEL

(Continued from page 153.)

Australians

THE stamps of Australasia and New Zealand form one of the most interesting groups for the true philatelist. Unfortunately a representative lot of these stamps cannot be obtained by the collector of moderate means. Any one of the countries in this group, however, may be specialized by the average collector, if he abstains from abnormal varieties, and is not discouraged by a few blank spaces.

I will only give a few general remarks on these stamps, as I have collected them more as a generalist than as a true specialist.

Taking the early issues of this group as a whole, it will be found that they are extremely difficult to find with good margins to the imperforate stamps, or well centred in the perforated issues. This applies particularly to the stamps of South Australia, and in a slightly less degree to those of New Zealand.

New South Wales and Victoria (with the exception of Mauritius) were the two first colonies of the British Empire to issue postage stamps.

The first issues of New South Wales,

Tasmania, and Victoria were printed from plates engraved in the colony. The first issues of New Zealand, Queensland and South Australia were printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. from plates which they engraved. This firm also engraved plates for New South Wales, Tasmania, and Western Australia, and although they printed the first supplies, these and the above-mentioned plates were afterwards sent to the colony and printed from locally.

The stamps of Victoria were with the exception of the 1d., green, 1856, printed from plates engraved in Australia.

New South Wales

The stamps of New South Wales are very interesting, but it is a very difficult country indeed to collect, and cannot be specialized with any degree of success, except by the wealthy collector.

The two first issues—the famous Sydney Views, and the equally well-known "Laureated"—were printed from plates engraved by local men.

These stamps form a special study in themselves, as the plates, being engraved by hand, show as many varieties as there were

stamps on the plate. The reconstruction of these plates is very interesting, and illustrations, showing the positions of the different varieties on each plate, are found in the London Society's book on Oceania. Every collector of New South Wales should endeavour to reconstruct at least one plate as an example of the manner in which these plates were engraved. The cheapest variety, of course, answers this purpose as well as the more expensive. The reconstruction of these plates is, however, extremely interesting.

The Sydney Views were of three values, viz. 1d., 2d., and 3d., and although there are only nine main types, Stanley Gibbons Catalogue now lists sixty-two varieties. The 1d. plate was re-engraved, and the 2d. plates were either re-engraved or retouched five times, but the 3d. plate was neither re-engraved nor retouched. There were several "varieties" in the above plates, and as usual there were several shades of colour, so that a really large collection of these stamps could be formed independently of the reconstruction of plates. Laid paper was employed for printing several of the plates, and this provides further varieties. The "Laureated" stamps were of five values, 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 8d., and were printed on unwatermarked paper, although the three first values were afterwards printed on paper watermarked with a numeral of the value of the stamp.

The 1d., 2d., 3d., and 8d. were printed from plates containing fifty types, but the 6d. plates consisted of twenty-five types only.

The 1d. was printed in shades of orange-red to carmine, and a vermilion shade is sometimes found, although it is somewhat scarce. There are three prominent varieties of type on the plate: (1) is the error WALE instead of WALES, (2) has no floreate ornaments to right of SOUTH, (3) has one floreate ornament missing. These stamps are not easy to obtain now in fine condition, as they have been snapped up during the past few years for plating. This stamp was also printed on laid paper, and in this condition is hard to find.

The 2d. value was printed from a plate which was afterwards re-engraved. In the original plate there are no division lines between the stamps, and the background consists of wavy and straight vertical lines. The Catalogue lists two varieties of this stamp, (1) fine impression, (2) coarse impression. Both these varieties were printed from the same plate, but the difference is caused by want of care in cleaning the plate when printing the stamps. The fine impressions are every year getting more difficult to find, especially the ultramarine shade. The re-engraved plate has a background of crossed lines, and has horizontal and vertical compartment lines between the stamps. The

colour is more of a dull blue than in the original plate. This stamp has a variety, WALES partly covered with network. This is the plate from which the watermarked issue was printed.

Plate II was a distinct plate engraved by Jervis, and can be distinguished by the six-rayed stars in the corners. In colour it is a deep blue, quite distinct from the former plates. There is a variety WALES instead of WALES. The normal variety of this stamp is not particularly hard to find in good condition.

The 3d. value is found in a variety of shades, and is a really scarce stamp in fine condition, especially the emerald-green shade.

The 6d. and 8d. values are both difficult stamps to obtain.

In 1854 the 1d., 2d., and 3d. values were printed on watermarked paper. The 1d., orange, wmk. numeral 1, is not easy to find in good condition and colour, and copies in superb condition are cheap at catalogue rates.

The 2d. value, wmk. 2, is at the present time not hard to find in good condition. There is an ultramarine shade which will require much seeking for, although bright pale blue shades are not uncommon.

The 3d. value, wmk. 3, is difficult to find with good margins; in fact, the 3d. value in this and the unwatermarked issue is the most difficult to find with margins all round, as the stamps were printed closer together than were the other values, except, perhaps, the 6d. The 1d. value is the next most difficult to obtain with good margins.

The stamps have been steadfast in values for some time, as the following list will show:—

	1895	1902	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d., Sydney View, Plate I	40 0	40 0	60 0
1d. " " II	40 0	40 0	60 0
2d. " " I	40 0	25 0	40 0
2d. " " Ia	50 0	45 0	60 0
2d. " " II	35 0	35 0	60 0
2d. " " III	40 0	30 0	40 0
2d. " " IIIa	30 0	35 0	60 0
2d. " " IIIb	40 0	30 0	30 0
3d. " "	35 0	45 0	50 0
1d., Laureated, no wmk.	6 0	7 6	12 6
2d. " "	2 6	1 6	4 6
2d. " Stars	20 0	17 6	20 0
3d. " no wmk.	10 0	8 6	15 0
6d. " "	25 0	40 0	50 0
8d. " "	60 0	70 0	80 0
1d. " wmk.	5 0	4 0	5 0
2d. " "	1 6	1 0	1 6
3d. " "	6 6	5 0	6 0

The next stamps, known as the Diadem issue, were printed in the colony from plates supplied by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. The values were the same as in the laureated issue, with the addition of 5d. and 1s. values.

These stamps were first issued imperforate. All the values are hard to find with good margins, except the 6d. and 1s. stamps. The 6d. stamp is found in a very large range

of shades, of which a dark blue-green is the most difficult to find.

The 1d. is more difficult to find than the 6d., and the 2d. is by no means easy to find by the "condition" collector.

The 5d. and 8d. values are rare imperforate, and great care should be exercised when purchasing these stamps.

These stamps were afterwards issued perforated, but this issue needs little comment.

As these notes relate principally to line-

engraved stamps, the later issues of this colony are outside the scope of this article.

Although I am undoubtedly biased in favour of line-engraved stamps, it is surely plain to every one that in the future none but the rabid specialists will interest themselves in the minor varieties of perforation of the surface-printed stamps. There are certain perforations that should be collected, but until the collector has experience, higher prices should not be paid for the varieties than the value of the normal stamp.

(To be continued.)

Foreign Notes

More Reduction of Postage

L'Économiste de Timbres-Poste (October) says negotiations are in progress between Holland and Belgium for the reduction of the postal tariff between the two countries to 10 c., or even 5 c., for a single letter. At present the rate is 20 c. At the same time a proportionate reduction in the rate for printed matter is to be considered.

Change of Name

L'Annuaire Timbrologique learns that "when the contemplated issue of new Portuguese Colonial stamps, bearing the portrait of King Manuel, takes place, the name of 'Zambezia' will be changed to 'Quelimane.'"

Portuguese East Africa comprises territories directly administered by the State, and others under the administration of the Mozambique and Nyassa Companies, both of which have sovereign rights. The State territories are Lourenço Marques, Inhambane, Mozambique, Quelimane, and Tete. The first three are each provided with a special set of stamps, but at present stamps inscribed "Zambezia" are in use in the two latter districts. These territories, until taken over by the State, were formerly managed by the Zambezia Company, but without sovereign rights. Possibly "Tete" may also be favoured with its own stamps.

International Transshipment of Mails

IN No. 182 of *G. S. W.* some account was given under the above title of the postal arrangements on board the great English and American mail-carrying liners. *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* says much the same system is now to be established on the French liners *Touraine, Provence, Savoie, Lorraine,* and *Bretagne*. And also that in place of the single agent formerly sailing in charge of the mails, a properly equipped post office is to be installed on each boat. These offices during the voyage will attend to correspondence, sell postage stamps,

issue money orders, in short, perform the duties of a shore post office. The staff is to be divided into five shifts, each of two men, who are to receive, in addition to their ordinary pay, a bonus of 12s. for each day's voyage.

French Postage Stamps on Advertisement Labels

FOR some time the sale has been allowed in France of gummed advertisement labels having a 10 c. stamp stuck in the centre, such stamps being sold at a reduced price by the firm whose wares were so advertised. By a recent order the sale of these labels has been prohibited, and thus our French friends are coming into line with England and Germany on the question of advertisements bearing a resemblance to postage stamps.

The St. Andrew's Cross obliteration on Papal States Stamps

D. C. G., in "Some notes on the 1852 issue of the Papal States" in *G. S. W.*, 189, said "these stamps were occasionally obliterated with a large black St. Andrew's Cross. This postmark is said to have been used in Ferrara during an outbreak of the plague."

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste (Sept.), in its answers to correspondents, replies, to a question as to the signification of this obliteration, as follows:—

We were formerly under the impression that when the Papal States were incorporated into the Kingdom of Italy certain folks in Romagna, Bologna, Ancona, etc., either through ignorance, or as a protest against such incorporation, continued to use the stamps of the Papal States. The Italian Government not being willing to permit this use, obliterated the stamp with the St. Andrew's Cross, at the same time surcharging the letters as unpaid.

We have since been told that this St. Andrew's Cross was applied in pursuance of Article 11 of the Postal Convention concluded with Austria 15 November, 1852, which directed that the

home and foreign rates of postage on letters should be specified separately in Papal State currency. The article concluded thus:—

Two lines in the shape of a cross should be marked on the address of *prepaid* packets.

Dutch Indies Stamps

THE *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* (16.9.08) gives the following list of stamps overprinted BUITEN-BEZIT:—

½ c., 3,170,000	15 c., 204,000
1 c., 2,400,000	20 c., 150,000
2 c., 800,000	25 c., 250,000
2½ c., 900,000	30 c., 182,000
3 c., 200,000	50 c., 196,000
5 c., 680,000	1 g., 84,000
10 c., 2,600,000	2½ g., 16,000
12½ c., 260,000	

1908 Brazil Commemoratives

HERE, again, there is no lack of supply; the same journal says that 2,000,000 of the Exhibition stamps and 5,000,000 of the Centenary stamps were printed; a nice order for the American Bank Note Company of New York, who were responsible for the manufacture. For folks who would like an enlarged copy of the Centenary stamp, the Brazilian authorities have had it reproduced on the back of a post card with the price altered to 50r. The picture is certainly very well executed, and reflects credit on its author, Mr. H. Bernardelli.

Odd or Even

L'Echo de la Timbrologie (30.9.08) points out a curious fact with regard to the colours of the names of colonies inserted in the labels of the "tablet" type of French Colonials issued in 1892. It will be remembered that originally the set consisted of thirteen values, and of these the name is in *blue* on the "even" values (2 c., 4 c., 10 c., etc.) and in *red* on the "odd" (1 c., 5 c., 15 c., etc., and 1 fr.). It is certainly a useful aid to memory, but can scarcely have been intentional, though it is strange *blue* was not adopted for the 25 c. and 75 c. values. This colour would have shown better on the coloured paper employed for these stamps than the *red* actually used. The values that were subsequently issued do not entirely follow the rule, for the 2 fr., 5 fr., and 50 c., brown on azure, are exceptions. The 50 c., however, changed back again later, for all printings subsequent to 1904 have had the name in *blue*.

Had the stamps been those of Monaco, the inspiration for *pair* and *impair* could easily be traced, but then surely the colours would have been *rouge et noir*, and not red and blue.

Foreign Posts in China

FROM a communication received by *Le Journal des Philatelistes* from a Mr. Martin at Tientsin, it appears that the Postal Ad-

ministration of China means to make a strenuous effort to suppress the foreign post offices in the country. It is feared, however, that it will be difficult to satisfy the French authorities in the matter. The Chinese Foreign Minister, in conjunction with the Minister of Posts, has entered into negotiation with the representatives of the foreign Powers which have offices in China. The proposals include the employment of all the present foreign employés at their present rates of pay, but "without granting them rights of any sort."

The central post office at Peking is to be installed in the ministerial quarters, and the telegraph and postal services are to be combined. Later on a special school for postal officials, as well as a printing office for stamps, is to be established.

Post Card and Letter Writers

FROM recent statistics, says *Le Journal des Philatelistes*, it appears that Germany leads the way in the use of post cards. Its consumption amounted to 1394 millions in the year.

Great Britain and the United States run close for second place with 800 millions and 799 millions respectively. Japan (665 millions), Austria (326 millions), and India (310 millions) are next in order, followed by Russia and Hungary with less than 200 millions.

France evidently prefers more privacy, for it used only 39 millions.

As regards letters the United States with 5302 millions writes twice as many as England (2694 millions). Germany was responsible for 1967 millions, and France 1011 millions. Other countries dispatch less than 500 millions a year.

Sales of New Zealand Postage Stamps

THE *Australian Philatelist* says that for the year ending 31 March, 1908, the sale of New Zealand postage stamps realized £441,776.

An Armless Postal Official

THE village of Te-Uku in New Zealand possesses, according to *Das Blaue Blatt*, one of the postal wonders of the world, in the shape of a clerk who fulfils his duties with the aid of his feet, having some eleven years since had the misfortune to lose his hands. With these handy feet of his he can write, stamp letters, and distribute stamps and post cards to customers, and through long practice he can now work as quickly as any ordinary postal clerk.

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.

New Issues and Discoveries

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.O.

Abyssinia.—We have received the $\frac{1}{2}$ g., red, surcharged 1 piastre, as illustrated below. *Champion's Bulletin* says that this provisional exists with surcharge *double, inverted*, and with *figure of value omitted*. We have not heard the reason or place of issue. As readers will remember, it has been said that some of the French Levant stamps have been used in Abyssinia without the usual "piastre" overprint. It is, therefore, the more surprising to note the present provisional.



1908. Type 1 surcharged with Type 14 in blue. 114 r pi. on $\frac{1}{2}$ g., red.

British Solomon Islands Protectorate.—*L'Echo de Timbrologie* illustrates a "specimen" copy of the new $\frac{1}{4}$ d. stamp for this protectorate. It is similar in design to the present set, but is of smaller size, similar to the low values of the Federated Malay States. According to a list quoted in the same journal, the stamps are water-marked multiple Crown CA and perf. 14.

The values and colours are stated to be as follows:—

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| jd., yellow-green. | 5d., olive. |
| 1d., carmine. | 6d., red-lilac. |
| 2d., grey. | 1s., black on green. |
| 24d., ultramarine. | |

We shall wait till we have seen the stamps before listing them here.

Holland.—Mr. W. Ward kindly sends us a new stamp issued on 1 October, viz. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., blue. Mr. J. B. Robert, of The Hague, has also favoured us with a specimen, and says the stamp is for a new rate on post cards circulating within a single town or city. A new rate of 3 c. has also been created for letters under the same conditions.



1 Oct., 1908. Type 11. Perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$. 181a | $\frac{1}{2}$ c., blue.

Hyderabad.—*Champion's Bulletin* lists the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. and $\frac{1}{4}$ a. of the POSTAGE type in different colours, and also adds two new values. No particulars of watermark or perforation are given; presumably these are as before.



1908. Type 6. Wmk. of Arabic characters. Perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.

- | |
|----------------------------------|
| 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., pale grey. |
| 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., pale green. |
| 36 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., carmine. |
| 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., lilac. |

Iceland.—Mr. W. T. Wilson kindly sends us copies of a new value for the ordinary and Official series. The reason of the issue is the reduction of the postage between Iceland and Denmark from 16 aur to 15 aur.



1908. Type 12. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Crown, Type 2. Perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, 13. 149a | 15 aur, green and orange.

OFFICIAL STAMP.

1908. Type 54. Centre in first colour. Wmk. and perf. as above. 267a | 15 aur, sepia and blue.

New Hebrides.—According to *Le Journal des Philatelistes*, a set of stamps has been issued by the French authorities here. We referred at some length in *G.S.W.*, 137, to this territory and its joint administration by France and England. The latest statistics specify 240 as the number of French colonists. For these fortunate folk five denominations of postage stamps are provided, viz. 5 c., 10 c., 25 c., 50 c., and 1 fr. They are made by overprinting the current stamps of New Caledonia, NOUVELLES-HEBRIDES in one line on the 1 fr. and in two lines on the other values.

We should like to know more about the authorization of this issue before formally listing it.

New Zealand.—We have received the 3d. with the new perforation 14 × 15. This perforation is effected by a comb machine. Apparently the new comb-machine gauging 14 × 13, 13½ is to have a short life. Stamps with this perforation should be worth keeping.



33

Type 23. *Wmk. single-lined N Z and Star.*
Perf. 14 × 15.
3d., green.

Queensland.—*Champion's Bulletin* lists and prices the 2s. with Crown and A watermark.



21



29

1908. Type 21. *Wmk. Crown and A, Type 29. Perf. 13*
(comb machine).
24½2s., greenish blue.

St. Pierre and Miquelon.—The 5 c. has just been put on sale in the *bright yellow-green* shade, to which this value was changed from 1900 onwards, for several colonies using the tablet type. *Le Journal des Philatelistes* announces that the engraver who was preparing new sets for this colony and Martinique has just died, occasioning still further delay in the issue of the new pictorial labels. At one time it was expected that St. Pierre and Miquelon might be transferred to Part I of the Catalogue, but nothing has been heard lately of the negotiations concerning the exchange of these islands for an English West African colony.



16

1908. Type 16. *Colour changed. Perf. 14 × 13½.*
10½5 c., bright yellow-green.

Salvador.—Our New York house has sent us the 6 c. surcharged as issue of Sept., 1907, in a new shade. Originally this value was *orange-red*, the new shade is a distinct *rose*, and will become No. 582a in the Catalogue.

At the same time we have received the 2 c. surcharged UN CENTAVO as No. 603 in a similar shade, viz. *rose* instead of *red* as formerly. This stamp will become No. 603a.

There are also some fresh varieties to chronicle for this provisional issue, viz. both the above-mentioned shades with *surcharge inverted* and also with *surcharge double, one inverted*. In the red shade we have a block of eight, in which four stamps have the *inverted* surcharge only, and the other four have the double surcharge, one of which is inverted.



102

UN
CENTAVO

103

Sept., 1907. Type 102. *View of Palace and label containing value in black. Overprinted with Shield in black. Perf. 11½.*

- 582a|6 c., rose.
1908. Type 102 surcharged with Type 103 in black.
603a|1 c. on 2 c., black and rose.
Varieties. (iv.) Surcharge inverted.
607|1 c. on 2 c., black and r. d.
608|1 c. on 2 c. " rose.
(v.) Surcharge double, one inverted.
609|1 c. on 2 c., black and red.
610|1 c. on 2 c. " rose.

Southern Nigeria.—Mr. Dietrich, Liverpool, says he has the 10s. on the multiple chalky paper, and that he received his copies about six weeks ago. This is the first we have heard of the issue of this value on multiple paper.



2

August, 1908. Type 2. *Wmk. Multiple Crown CA.*
Type w.8. *Perf. 14.*
29|10s., purple on yellow, C.

Tunis.—It appears that a small stock of 15 c., 1 fr., 2 fr., and 5 fr. stamps of the obsolete type remained on hand here. The authorities have surcharged these with new values, and Mr. Francis H. D. Fisher has kindly sent us a set.

10
835
9

Sept., 1908. Type 2 surcharged as Types 8 (10 c. and 40 c.) or 9 (35 c. and 75 c.) in red (R) or blue (B).
10 on 15 c., grey (R).
35 on 1 fr., pale green (B).
40 on 2 fr., violet (B).
75 on 5 fr., lilac on lilac (B).

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 17
Whole No. 199

24 OCTOBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Germany—continued

German Post Offices Abroad

SIMILARLY to other European Powers, Germany has established post offices in foreign countries which had no postal institutions of their own, or of which the postal service was unreliable, or which did not belong to the Postal Union.

The history of such offices overlaps that of the French Consular Offices, freely described in *G.S.W.*, 7 March, 1908, and subsequent numbers, but since Germany's commercial development is of comparatively recent date the record of its offices covers a much shorter period.

The countries in which German offices have been established are China, Morocco, and Turkey, and it may be remarked that as a rule these offices are the most up-to-date and business-like of all "foreign post offices." Unlike many of the offices of other Powers, which are the outcome of casual diplomatic postal services or the survival of branch post offices run on commission lines and are generally in out-of-the-way spots, the German offices have all been equipped and maintained under the direct control of the home authorities. The buildings are handsome, usually the property of the Government, are in a prominent position, with a staff well paid and efficient. Doubtless many are run at a loss, but the impression created on the native mind must certainly be advantageous to the development of German trade.

The postage fee between all German post offices in foreign countries and Germany is based on the Postal Union system.

Turkish Empire

The first country in which these offices were established was the Turkish Empire, and the philatelic history reflects the continual fluctuation of exchange of local currency and the strenuous competition of the various Powers to capture the postal traffic.

The first office was that of Constantinople, opened 1 March, 1870; then followed the post office at Jaffa, opened in autumn, 1898, on the occasion of the visit of the German Emperor; and on 1 March, 1900, the offices at Smyrna, Beirut, Jerusalem, and Pera were established. No topographical details are needed here, since these places have been referred to many times in recent articles in this magazine.

The first overprinted set of stamps was not issued till 25 January, 1884. From 1870 till this date the stamps of the mother country (the issues of the North German Confederation of 1869, and of the German Empire from 1872 to 1880) were used in Constantinople without any distinguishing mark. In time it was discovered that a large number of these stamps were not bought for postal purposes, but were used for making remittances to Germany, the difference of exchange enabling the remitters to buy the stamps under face value, whilst at the same time this mode of remittance avoided the fee for money orders. To counteract this the stamps supplied to the office were overprinted with the approximate value in Turkish currency. This had the double effect of stopping the practice referred to above, and for some time of attracting additional local custom. The latter, as mentioned in the article on "French Levant," was by reason of the fact that these overprinted German stamps were sold at the facial Turkish currency without regard to fluctuation of exchange, whilst the uncharged stamps of the French offices were sold at the full equivalent of exchange. In August, 1885, the French stamps were similarly overprinted, and the German advantage was nullified.

The stamps overprinted were the current stamps of November, 1880, except the 3 pf., not needed for Postal Union rates, and the 2 mk., which was not sold to the public, and

therefore could not be used for remittances. The overprint consisted of the word "para" or "piaster," with numeral before and after it, and was applied in *black*. On the 50 pf. this black overprint is to be found either with a "dead" or a "shiny" appearance, according to the shade of green employed for the stamp. A rarity in the set is the 1 *pias.* on 20 pf. blue, with *indigo-blue* overprint. There are two types of overprint of the 1½ p. and 2½ p., viz. one with the numerals overprinted exactly over the inscribed numerals, and the other with the overprinted numerals further to the left and right, thus making the whole overprint about 2 mm. wider.



25 Jan., 1884. *Stamps of the German Empire, "pfennig" issue, overprinted.*

(a) *In black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 para on 5 pf., violet . . .	8 0	—
20 " " 10 " rose . . .	5 0	—
1½ " " 20 " chocolate . . .	—	—
1 <i>pias.</i> " 20 " blue . . .	—	0 6
2½ " " 50 " green . . .	—	—

(b) *In blue.*

1 <i>pias.</i> on 20 pf., blue . . .	30 0	12 6
--------------------------------------	------	------

When the surface-printed German stamps of October, 1889, were issued, the above set was replaced with overprinted stamps of the new type. The overprints are somewhat similar, but there was only one type for the 1½ and 2½ piastres respectively, in which the numerals are placed a little above the word "piaster" on each side. GRAUBE 50m. 50m. 20m.



1½ PIASTER 1½
PIASTER

Oct., 1889. *German stamps overprinted in black.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 para on 5 pf., green . . .	0 3	0 6
20 " " 10 " rose . . .	0 4	0 4
1 <i>pias.</i> " 20 " blue . . .	0 6	0 2
1½ " " 25 " orange . . .	1 6	2 0
2½ " " 50 " chocolate . . .	1 3	1 6

With each change of stamps for the "Fatherland" it naturally follows that those in use in foreign post offices should be altered, hence when the "Germania" and pictorial set appeared it was overprinted for use in the Turkish Empire. The 2 pf. and 3 pf. were not required, but the 80 pf. and *mark* values with corresponding overprints were added to the values in use before. The overprints, with the exception of the 15 *pias.*, were applied horizontally in *black*, and this time the word "para" or "piaster" is above the numerals. The word on the 1½, 1½, and 2½ piastres was printed "Piaster," but for the other values it was in capitals. Some of the latter in 1903 were set up from a different fount of type, the chief distinction being in the letters "A," which in the new printings had a horizontal serif at top.

General collectors need take but one type, and the price quoted in the following list is for the cheaper variety.

The overprint on the 3 mark was in *red*, and was applied vertically on both sides of the stamp, reading up on the left and down on the right respectively. The 25 *pias.* exists on both types of the 5 mark.



1900. *German stamps inscribed REICHSPOST overprinted in black or red.*

2½ PIASTER 2½ 5 PIASTER 5

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 para on 5 (pf.), green . . .	0 2	0 1
20 " " 10 " carmine . . .	0 3	0 2
1 <i>pias.</i> " 20 " ultramarine . . .	0 5	0 2
1½ " " 25 " black & orange on yellow . . .	1 0	—
1½ " " 30 " black & orange on buff . . .	0 6	0 0
2 " " 40 " black & carmine . . .	0 10	0 9
2½ " " 50 " lilac on buff . . .	1 6	2 0
4 " " 80 " black & carmine on rose . . .	1 6	1 6
5 " " 1 m., carmine . . .	2 0	3 0
10 " " 2 m., blue . . .	4 0	3 6
15 " " 3 m., violet-black . . .	6 0	6 0
25 " " 5 m., lake and black . . .	15 0	15 0

When the inscription on the German stamps was altered to DEUTSCHES REICH in 1905, the words on the set for use in the Levant were overprinted in Gothic or German type instead of the more ordinary Latin letters. The 3 mark still had the

overprint in red, and the 2 mark was the one with Roman lettering.

10 10 1 1
Para Piaster

5 Piaster 5

15 Piaster 15

1905. German stamps inscribed DEUTSCHES REICH overprinted in black or red.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 para on 5 (pf.), green	0 2	0 1
20 " " 10 " carmine	0 3	0 2
1 piast. " 20 " ultramarine	0 5	0 3
1½ " " 25 " black & orange on yellow	0 9	1 3
1½ " " 30 " black & orange on buff	0 10	1 0
2 " " 40 " black & carmine	1 3	1 3
2½ " " 50 " black and lilac on buff	1 0	1 3
4 " " 80 " black & carmine on rose	1 6	1 0
5 " " 1 m., carmine	1 9	2 6
10 " " 2 m., blue	3 0	5 0
15 " " 3 m., violet	4 0	6 0
25 " " 5 m., lake & black	20 0	20 0

In 1906 the stamps of the above set commenced to appear on the watermarked paper, and since then all values except the 3 mark have been issued in this condition.

(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 List of Packets and Sets

THIS list for the season 1908-9 is now ready, and will be sent to any collector on receipt of a card. This list includes fifty packets and about 1300 sets of postage stamps, which are offered at greatly reduced prices, and many real bargains will be found amongst them.

The Postage Stamps, etc., of the Fiji Islands

THIS work, by Charles J. Phillips, is now ready. It is No. 9 of *The Stanley Gibbons Philatelic Handbooks* series, but owing to the size and importance of the plates it has been printed in the same size and form as the publications of the Royal Philatelic

1906-7. As last, but wmk. Losenges.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 para on 5 (pf.), green	0 1	0 2
20 " " 10 " carmine	0 2	—
1 piast. " 20 " ultramarine	0 4	—
1½ " " 25 " black & orange on yellow	0 4	—
1½ " " 30 " black & orange on buff	0 5	—
2 " " 40 " black & carmine	0 6	—
2½ " " 50 " black and lilac on buff	0 8	—
4 " " 80 " black & carmine on rose	1 0	—
5 " " 1 m., carmine	1 3	—
10 " " 2 m., blue	2 6	2 6
25 " " 5 m., lake and black	6 6	8 6

In August of this year somewhat of a sensation was caused by the appearance of some values overprinted in "centimes." Reference to these in this magazine has been so recent that it is sufficient simply to list as follows:—

10 Centimes

Aug., 1908. Contemporary stamps of the German Empire surcharged in black.

5 c. on 5 (pf.), green.
10 c. " 10 " carmine.
25 c. " 20 " ultramarine.
50 c. " 40 " black and carmine.
100 c. " 80 " " " on rose.

Society, and of the Indian Society, which my firm has issued.

The contents are as follows:—

- Introduction.
- Geography and History.
- The *Fiji Times* Express Stamps.
- The "C.R." Stamps.
- The "Cents" issue on "C.R." Stamps.
- The "V.R." Gothic and Roman Overprint.
- The "2d." Provisional on the "V.R." Gothic and Roman.
- The "V.R." Monogram Issue.
- The "V.R." Engraved.
- The Queen's Heads 1s. and 5s.
- The Provisionals, 1890-2.
- The New Types, 1891-1902.
- The King's Head Stamps.
- Post Cards and Letter Cards.
- Duty, Frank, and "Cake Fair" Stamps.

The photogravure plates are fifteen in number; they are of the full size of the book, and are as follows:—

- PLATE.
- I. *Fiji Times* Express, first printing on quadrillé paper.
 - II. *Fiji Times* Express, second printing on laid bâtonné paper.
 - III. *Fiji Times* Express, first imitation.
 - IV. " " " " second imitation.
 - V. 1872. "Two Cents" on id., blue.
 - VI. 1872. 3d., green; composite plate made up of three issues.
 - VII. 1877. 6d., rose, on laid paper.
 - VIII. "V.R." in Gothic and Roman type on id., blue.
 - IX. "V.R." in Gothic and Roman type on 6d., rose.
 - X. "V.R." in Gothic and Roman type on 2d. on 3d., green.
 - XI. "V.R." in Gothic and Roman type on 2d. on 6d., rose.
 - XII. Enlargements of the central design of the id., 3d., and 6d. values of the "C.R." and "V.R." stamps.
 - XIII. Enlargements showing alterations in lower portions of several values.
 - XIV. Proofs and sundries.
 - XV. Forgeries and sundries.

There is a mass of new information in this handbook that has never before been published, and I hope that some of our advanced collectors may be induced to *seriously* collect the stamps of this country, which has been the most neglected of the Australasian group, probably because collectors have not hitherto appreciated the many points of interest to be found in these stamps.

Only 400 copies of the work have been printed, and owing to the cost and slow production of the plates the book will not be reprinted, and an early application is desirable.

Full particulars in our advertising pages.

The I.P.U. Smoking Concert

ON Monday, 5 October, the International Philatelic Union held their fourth annual smoking concert at the Villa Villa Restaurant, Gerrard Street, London, W. The concert was voted a great success, and a large number of members and their friends were present.

I annex copy of the programme, which was humorously published by the Committee as a "Catalogue of the I.P.U. rare specimens, on view at the Villa Villa Restaurant."

The catalogue contains the following well-known varieties in superb condition:—

PIANO	Mr. THOS. F. NOAKES.
COMEDY AT THE PIANO	"The Grumbles" Miss AMY BROOK.
SONGS	{ "The Trumpeter" . . . <i>Airlie Dix.</i> "A Fishy Fish Story" . . . Mr. CHARLES CHESHIR.
SONGS	{ "The Common Little Girl" <i>Monckton.</i> "Pussie had another Sardine" <i>Monckton.</i> Miss HAIDEE HAMILTON.
RECITALS	Mr. WILLIAM E. LINCOLN.
HUMORIST	Mr. W. MYLES.
HUMORIST	{ "London" . . . <i>Rome.</i> "Jones" . . . <i>Rome.</i> Mr. FRED ROME.
SONGS	{ "Zuyder Zee" . . . <i>Rockel.</i> "Nini Ninette Nino" <i>Monckton.</i> Miss ADA WHEELER.
A PAIR	"Thusly" . . . <i>Rome.</i> Miss ADA WHEELER and Mr. FRED ROME.
A BLOCK OF FOUR	Quartette from the "CHIRPERS' MUSICAL SOCIETY." <i>Cataloguer</i> —William E. Lincoln, Esq. <i>Committee</i> — Messrs. F. F. Lamb, William E. Lincoln, P. L. Pemberton, and E. W. Wetherell.

From the North

ENGLISH Collector (in Glesga'): "I suppose the shipping houses here don't get many decent stamps on their correspondence?"

Scotch Collector: "I hae kenned some, an' I hae kenned none."

E.C.: "But two of your Glasgow dealers told me that none of any value were to be got here, and that they had to import all their stock."

S.C.: "Ay, but the dealers are awful leears i' these pairs."

And another

ENGLISH Collector (sarcastically): "Hoots, ye ken, mon, yer stamps was nae muckle in preece."

Scotch Dealer: "An' ah'm thinken yer Skootch is a wee bit moor stickier."

Postal Revenues

THE United States Postal Department is run at a loss to the State of £2,120,000. So says a Paris contemporary, which gives some interesting details of the gains made by other countries, beginning with Great Britain's profit of £5,120,000. Russia follows with £4,640,000; then comes Germany with £3,760,000. France clears £1,920,000, Japan £760,000, Spain £720,000, Belgium a little over £640,000. Austria-Hungary with £600,000, and Italy with £400,000, bring up the rear.

A Cool Request

A WEST INDIAN collector has a number of stamps for disposal, and writes us as follows:—

I desire to dispose of them to collectors at a discount off cat., and my object in writing is to know whether you would be inclined to sell me, and at what price, 100 addresses of collectors of medium W.I., and B.G. known to you as reliable and safe, with whom I could communicate.

Needless to say that we are not in the habit either of giving or selling names and addresses of our clients.

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

Ceylon.

THIS is a really good book of a very popular lot of stamps. We have amalgamated with this stock book a rather important collection of the older Ceylon stamps that we purchased recently.

In this collection, which is a very old one, we found two of the 1s. 9d., green, with a rough perforation and genuinely used with an old cancellation. I do not think that any of the perforated 1s. 9d. were ever sent to

Ceylon—those on the market eighteen to twenty years ago came from trial sheets of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.—and I am inclined to think that possibly some of the imperf. 1s. 9d. were privately perforated in Ceylon by certain firms for their own use. Mr. Stanley Gibbons and Mr. D. Brosnan many years ago told me they had seen used 1s. 9d. perforated.

This stock book is fairly strong in the imperf. and perf. "pence" issue, including some choice shades and many rarities, and the provisionals and later issues are all strongly represented.

Peru.

Two fine books; the early issues, especially in unused, are weak, but everywhere else the books are very fine and contain a mass of interesting matter, such as whole sheets, especially in the stamps issued during the war, stamps on letters, many bisected stamps used for half their value, and a fine lot of provisionals and local issues. Altogether a lot worth studying, and now that the reprints and forgeries are weeded out of this country, it is one in which the earnest philatelist will find much to interest him.

Great Britain

By PLAIN ANCHOR

(REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED.)

IN this article I propose to deal with the history of the obliterations of the line-engraved series, and with abnormal varieties of stamps.

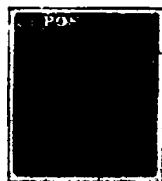
In February, 1907, of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* will be found reference to and illustrations of earlier and subsequent obliterations. The original official instructions are quoted in Wright and Creeke, page 21, so there is no need to repeat them here.

In 1840 Professor R. Phillips, F.R.S., and Dr. Clark, Professor of Chemistry, were employed by Rowland Hill to experiment with the cleaning of used stamps, and as we know, were so successful with the red obliteration that black ink was adopted. Later Mr. Donovan, a chemist in Dublin, succeeded in removing the black obliterations. A new ink was invented by a Mr. Parsons, but this was successfully removed by Messrs. Perkins & Co., who made another ink, which was submitted to Faraday, but did not prove satisfactory.

Further experiments were made, and the 1d. was printed in various shades with fugitive colours, and after experiments with chemical obliterations, an oleaginous printer's ink was adopted, and the colour of the 1d., black, changed to red-brown; but within three days a chemist named Watson, and Rowland Hill's clerk, Mr. Ledingham, succeeded in removing the obliterations.

Eventually Rowland Hill baffled further attempts by mixing Perkins & Co.'s with the ordinary printer's ink.

I illustrate the 1d. as printed for these experiments, and the same cancelled with a chemical obliterating ink, which, as will be seen, was far too effective.



For these trials it will be noticed that the top right corner of the stamps and the letter blocks were left void.

It may not be generally known that it was stated that imitations of the 1d. and 2d. stamps were made by a Mr. Palmer, of Newgate Street, in 1840-1, and also by the Professor of the Polytechnic Institution.

The 1d., black, was forged by a school-master in Ireland; it may also exist with no watermark, as there was a suspicion that the workmen had smuggled in some plain paper. These varieties are worth looking out for.

Of the 1d., red, with wavy roulette, I have seen two specimens, both on letters from Mr. Gladstone; it would be interesting to ascertain if he was the author of it. Can any reader throw light on the matter?

In the 2d., blue, no lines, I know of no varieties, excepting worn plates and the stamp "P 1" showing slip of the engraver's tool in left letter block.

As an historical item, the following, which I have just acquired, is interesting:—

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE,
REGENT STREET,
April 21st, 1841.

MY LORD,

I have the honour of sending a new Postage Stamp, with its cost, for your Lordship's inspection. It was promised some time since to your Lordship, but so many delays have taken place to prevent its completion.

I have the honour to be your Lordship's most obedient and humble servant,

R. W. SIEVIER.

To the RIGHT HON. EARL LITCHFIELD, etc. etc.

P.S.—Mr. Rowland Hill has also some before him.

The three stamps enclosed are mounted on a printed form (see opposite).

Of the 1d., intense black, I have a mint, and also a used copy on paper of a strong brown colour. There is also a cream paper used.

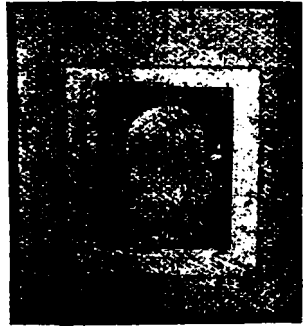
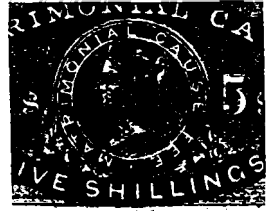
In my article on Thread Paper, in *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, February, 1907, I showed from original letters that of the 2d., blue, on thread paper, there were only two sheets of six stamps printed; one sheet is carefully guarded by the firm of Messrs. Dickinson, so that there are only six others available, and I am indebted to the publishers for the acquisition of a copy. From the exceedingly small number produced, I should say this is rarest of all English stamps.

The 1d., 14, L.C., rose-red on white paper, and also on blue paper, shows some very interesting varieties of lettering, one of the most distinctive being a tall, narrow "K" which I have termed Gothic "K," a variety well worth looking for, as is also the small old type of "G," and the stamp "A D" showing a "x" under the "D," caused by the roller being applied, in the first instance of application to the plate, too high up.

The 1s. embossed octagonal may be found with the impression of another stamp in light green printed over it.

A great amount of interest attaches to the methods by which stamps were designed: for instance, for the 3d., rose, a Matrimonial Cause Fee 5s. stamp was taken, paper vignettes were cut to show only the head, and on the vignetting paper a frame for the head was designed, and so an entire stamp produced (see illustration); afterwards it

was thought better to reverse the frame, and so the well-known design of the 3d., rose, was created.



I wonder how my readers would have liked Messrs. Bradbury Wilkinson's design for the 3d.



Of the 4d., L.C., there was in the Breitfuss Collection a pair on blue paper.

7
Postage
Sheet
12



NEW POSTAGE STAMP

*Proposed by Mr. R. W. SIEVIER, F.R.S. & Mr. E. SCRIVEN,
Historical Engraver to His late Majesty George the
Fourth.*

The principle of this Plan embraces two material objects:—First, the prevention of fraud on the Revenue; and, secondly, the production, at very small cost, and, with extreme rapidity, of any quantity of Stamps that can possibly be required.

With reference to the first object, the Engraved Stamp which has been in use, is found inefficient. There is a liability to fraud by imitation of the Stamp; and fraud has been effected by removing, by well known chemical means, the evidence of its having been already used, the *same Stamp* passing through the Post Office *several times*.

The last species of fraud may be rendered almost impossible by the new principle, while the combination of efforts it requires in the Die sinker, the Engine-turner, and the Mechanic, must evidently present the greatest obstacles possible to fraudulent imitation.

The second object is not less effectually accomplished by the new principle; for such are the powers of the machine which Mr. SIEVIER *has invented*, such the certainty and extraordinary rapidity with which the impressions may be thrown off, that Mr. SIEVIER and Mr. SCRIVEN will undertake to deliver *a Million* of these Stamps daily, at an expence of only $1\frac{1}{2}$ per thousand *the printing in one colour*; if, in *two colours*, at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per thousand; and, if *including the paper*, at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per thousand—thus fixing at once the extent of the cost to Government.

The Plan being entertained, it can be also carried out for the *present envelope* or any other such stamp.

Lastly—The entire expence of erecting all the machinery, for working out this proposition, to be at the risk of the proposers, the working of it being granted to them for a given period on its adoption by Government.

The proper machinery not being erected, the above impressions are taken off by inadequate means, and are consequently imperfect.

An examination of the 6d., plate 5, and plate 6 Emblems will reveal a thick and thin type of lettering, and of the Stars, which exists in a less marked degree on plate 6, Spray.

I wonder if any of my readers know why the 1s., plate 3, hair-lines (incorrectly numbered on stamp 2), was not issued for use? From the illustration of my pair, there appears to be no difference in the design, and the 4d. and 6d. had already been issued.



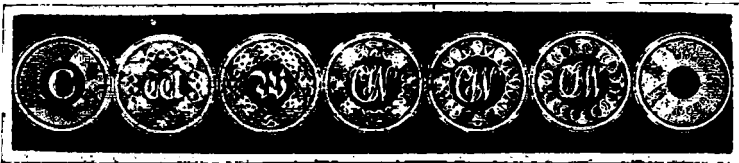
Only six sheets were printed.

The same question also applies to the 9d. If I may say so, I believe the best interests of Philately would be served if readers would kindly express their views on these and many other questions of interest.

Plate 5 of the 1s., green, exists with the point of the bust extending a considerable distance into the frame. I find it difficult to suggest an explanation. Perhaps some of my readers will make a suggestion.

In the Admiralty Official there are a wide and a narrow spacing, so there must have been two sets of electros. for the overprint.

I would remind the reader that the 2s., brown, has been forged, as also the 10s. and 20s., by discharging the print of fiscal stamps of the same watermark and using the paper for printing the more valuable stamp on.



Of the 1d., Venetian red, I quote the following from *Punch*, 3 January, 1880:—

We are promised a new postage stamp, of a paler red, which looks as if Ministers wished to disclaim a warlike policy, and with better gum—a symbol, it may be said, of their adhesiveness or determination to stick to their places. The Queen's Head, we are glad to hear, will remain intact. In these days of Nihilist and Socialist attempts on Royal lives, this may be meant to reassure timid people. It is true that in England the danger to the Queen's Head is Nihilist in

another than the Russian sense, in that it amounts to nothing and arises from nobody.

But, after all we have heard of Lord Beaconsfield's views, it is a comfort to know that the Queen's Head remains where it was—at least on her subjects' letters. In the impression on her subjects' hearts there never was any question of change.

Those collectors who wish to keep up to date should note that there has recently been issued the third variety of books of stamps.

I fear we little appreciate the wonderful work done for us by the T.P.O. staffs. Rowland Hill first suggested the sorting of letters in the horse mail coaches, and submitted a plan to the Government, January, 1837.

The first sorting office was established in a mail train in 1854.

Charles Dickens has written two very interesting articles on the Post Office in *Household Words*, Vols. I and XVI.

Evolution. What an interesting word when one thinks what it may convey! Think of the travelling in 1377-1608 (see *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, Vol. V, p. 68), and at the present day, and of postal rates even as late as 1827, when it cost 6d. to send a letter thirty miles, and 1s. three hundred miles.

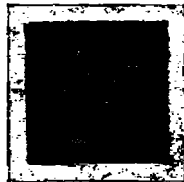
Let us apply the word (which, literally translated, is the act of unfolding) to the first adhesive postage stamp of the world, the English 1d., black.

When the Penny Postage Act was passed, the Treasury asked for proposals for means of prepaying postage.

Chas. Whiting sent in the greatest number, but I think the three which I recently purchased from the Breitfuss Collection are some of the most interesting. I attach illustration of one of these.

Eventually the well-known design of the 1d. was engraved by William Heath, and

the illustration shows his groundwork before the head was engraved.



When completed, a very few proofs were struck from the matrix, and show the letter corners void. I have one of these marked "1 old original" which is Die I, and another from the matrix of Die II. These are items which I believe every collector of English should endeavour to possess. As the *Metropolitan Philatelist* says, "Proofs may be roughly estimated as one to a million of the regularly issued stamps." I wonder what then is the comparative rarity of a proof

from the matrix? "Independent of the fact of their enormous rarity, they show the ability of the engraver, unspoilt by rapid or careless printing."

This must not be considered as anything like a complete list of the essays I know of, and have, but it will perhaps serve to illustrate "unfolding"—evolution, to which I hope more attention will be paid by collectors who wish their collections to approach anything like historical completeness.

Notes of a Provincial Junior—*continued*

By YOKEL

New Zealand

THE early stamps of New Zealand are very handsome in appearance, but are extremely hard to find in superb condition with margins all round or well centred.

The plates of all the first type were engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co.

The first stamps were issued in 1855, and were of three values—1d., 2d., and 1s. They were printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. on paper watermarked Large Star.

The 1d. value is a dull carmine shade, and can readily be distinguished from the 1862 issue, which ranges from orange to vermilion.

The 2d. value was printed in deep blue. It resembles the 6d., deep blue, imperf., of South Australia, issued about the same time, and should not easily be mistaken for the 1862 2d., dark blue, which is a stamp of a much brighter shade. These two stamps are very hard to find.

The 2d. value was printed on paper more or less blued. The colour is of a duller shade than the preceding stamp. It is not a difficult stamp to find. A 1s. value was also printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon; it is only found on blued paper, and is a rare stamp to obtain.

These were the only stamps printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. The plates of these stamps, and afterwards the plates of all the other values of the first type, were sent to the colony by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. as they were engraved.

The next issue was printed in the colony on blue paper.

The 1d. value is not particularly hard to find, and the 2d. value is common, but the 1s. value is a very scarce stamp.

In 1856 the stamps were printed on unwatermarked white paper, and in addition to the three values of preceding issues a 6d. value is now found.

The 1d. was printed in orange, and is not readily met with; the 2d., although common in a pale blue shade, is not easily found of a dark blue colour. The 6d. value is found in shades of brown, of which a chestnut shade

is the best. The 1s. value in shades of green is not readily found.

These stamps are printed on a soft paper, and care should be taken when removing surplus paper or old mounts from their backs that the stamps are not thinned.

They are also found pin-perf., serrated perf., and rouletted, but as so, being unofficial, these stamps should be left to the specialist.

These stamps are also found on pelure paper.

In 1862 the stamps were printed on paper wmk. Star, and include five values, 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1s., to which was added a 4d. value when the stamps were perforated a year or so later.

The 1d., imperf., is found in several shades, but is not often met with in good condition. The 2d. value is common in pale blue, but the deep blue shade is not easily found, and never in a shade approaching the London print. There is a shade in slate-blue which is rare.

The 3d. value is found in three shades, of which a brown-lilac stamp is the only one usually met with; a lilac shade is scarce, and a mauve shade very rarely seen. The 6d. is readily met with in many shades of dark brown, but the 1s. value, which is now printed in shades of yellow-green, is not by any means easy to find in good condition.

In the perforated issue, wmk. Star, the 1d. value, although common, is not easily found well centred; but the 2d., blue, which can be found in many shades, can be readily met with, either in pale or deep blue.

The 3d. is found in similar shades to the imperf. issue, but the relative values are not the same. The brown-lilac is not at all easy to find, the lilac is common, and the mauve is not particularly hard to obtain.

The 4d. value, first printed in rose-carmine, is not easy to find, but the yellow shade is more often met with. There is an orange shade, but it is rare.

The 6d. was printed in shades of dark brown, and although a black-brown is diffi-

cult to find, the other shades are common ; while, as in the imperforate issue, the 1s. is a stamp hard to find in good condition.

In 1864 the 1d., 2d., 6d., and 1s. values were printed on paper wmk. N Z. They are found imperf., perf. 12½, and also rouletted.

The 1d. value, printed in orange-red, is comparatively common imperforate, but is difficult to find perforated, whereas the relative rarity of the 2d. is reversed, being more easily found perforated. The 6d., imperf., is rather hard to find, but the 6d., perf., is not uncommon. The 1s. value is not difficult to obtain imperforate, but perforated it is a scarce stamp.

In 1871 the colours of the 1d., 2d., 6d. were changed.

The 1d. was printed in brown, and is found on paper wmk. Star, and perf. 10, 10 × 12½, and 12½, the first-named being scarce. This is a peculiar-looking stamp, as the colour is so weak, and all varieties of it are extremely hard to find in good condition. It is also found with no wmk., perf. 12½, which is scarce thus, and wmk. N Z, in which state it is very rare.

The 2d. was printed in vermilion, and is found perf. 10 × 12½ and 12½, watermarked Star ; the former is hard to find. It is also found with no wmk., but is not scarce ; but the variety with wmk. N Z is not easy to obtain. There is a rare variety with wmk. lozenges.

An orange shade is found of this value, wmk. Star, and perf. 12½, and is common.

The 6d. value was printed in blue, and is found on paper wmk. Star, perf. 10 × 12½ and 12½. The former is a scarce stamp, and the latter is by no means easy to obtain in fine condition.

The early stamps of New Zealand form a very interesting study, and although many of the stamps will require great patience to find in good condition, the collector will be well repaid for his trouble by the handsome show they will make.

The following list shows the advances in prices during the past twenty years or so of the line-engraved stamps :—

	1885	1896	1897	1902	1905	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1855. 1d., London	—	—	60 0	97 0	150 0	150 0
2d.	—	—	75 0	50 0	60 0	60 0
2d., on blued	—	—	20 0	20 0	30 0	30 0
1s.	—	—	25 0	25 0	40 0	40 0
1856. 1d., blue	—	—	50 0	50 0	60 0	60 0
2d. paper	—	—	6 15	0 15	12 0	14 0
1s.	—	—	0 60	0 60	0 65	0 80
1856. No wmk. 1d.	—	—	15 0	15 0	12 0	12 6
2d.	—	—	4 0	4 0	5 0	5 0
6d.	—	—	1 6	5 0	4 6	8 0
1s.	—	—	3 6	12 6	30 0	45 0
1862. Imperf. Star.	—	—	6 5	0 4	0 7	6 10
1d.	—	—	3 1	6 1	4 0	3 4
2d.	—	—	0 9	5 0	10 0	12 6
6d.	—	—	0 9	2 0	4 0	4 6
1s.	—	—	1 6	10 8	15 0	15 0
1864. Wmk. N Z.	—	—	8 6	8 6	6 6	15 6
imperf. 1d.	—	—	15 0	15 0	20 0	25 0
6d.	—	—	10 0	30 0	35 0	50 0
1s.	—	—	8 6	8 6	10 0	12 6
Wmk. N Z.	—	—	—	—	—	—
perf. 12½.	—	—	—	—	—	—
1d.	—	—	6 6	6 6	6 6	6 6
2d.	—	—	6 0	6 0	8 0	12 0
6d.	—	—	0 6	0 6	0 8	0 12
1s.	—	—	25 0	25 0	40 0	50 0
1863-66. Star	—	—	0 9	0 9	1 6	2 0
perf. 12½.	—	—	0 2	0 4	1 0	1 6
1d.	—	—	0 6	1 1	1 3	1 6
2d.	—	—	0 6	1 1	1 3	1 6
3d.	—	—	0 6	1 1	1 3	1 6
rose-carmine, 4d.	—	—	7 6	7 6	7 6	10 10
yellow, 4d.	—	—	1 0	1 2	2 0	5 0
6d.	—	—	0 3	0 4	0 8	1 0
1s.	—	—	4 1	0 1	4 0	4 0
1d., brown, perf. 10	—	—	10 0	10 0	8 0	15 0
perf. 10 × 12½	—	—	4 0	2 6	2 6	3 0
perf. 12½	—	—	0 6	0 6	2 0	2 0
no wmk.	—	—	20 0	20 0	30 0	30 0
wmk. N Z	—	—	—	—	—	—
ad., vermilion,	—	—	—	—	—	—
perf. 10 × 12½	—	—	3 0	3 0	5 0	4 0
perf. 12½	—	—	0 4	0 4	2 6	3 0
no wmk.	—	—	2 0	2 0	3 0	5 0
wmk., N Z	—	—	10 0	10 0	7 6	7 6
lozenges	—	—	80 0	80 0	100 0	100 0
ad., orange,	—	—	—	—	—	—
perf. 12½	—	—	0 4	0 4	2 6	2 6
6d., blue,	—	—	—	—	—	—
perf. 10 × 12½	—	—	35 0	35 0	45 0	45 0
perf. 12½	—	—	0 6	0 6	1 6	2 0

(To be continued.)

In a Nest of Anarchists

By J. W. H. HESLOP

A PARTY of philatelists were travelling to a Stamp Congress at Denver, when the train halted at a wayside station to pick up, among others, a south-country farmer. He entered a compartment where two innocent-looking young men were talking vivaciously, and as he pitched his bundle into the baggage-net above him he caught the following remark :

"Congo tigers ; yes. I've got 'em all !"

He sat down, and his mind slowly took in the wide comprehensiveness of this mighty utterance. Big-game hunters, these fellows

were, evidently. He wouldn't have thought it to look at them, but such was presumably their occupation. But why shoot all the tigers—why not leave one? If deforestation were penal, why not detigerization?

"Yes," the speaker went on, "and all the Sudan camels, Nyassa giraffes, Borneo monkeys, Malay tigers, Labuan crocodiles, Guatemala cockatoos, Paraguay lions, and the sacred cows of Madagascar—I've got the whole show. A perfect menagerie I have at home !"

The farmer listened with rising reverence

for the personality of the hunter on the opposite seat. The man had cleared whole continents of their mammalia!

"And," the speaker continued, "I've got a lot of 'em in sheets and panes, with a control number at the top. . . ."

The farmer gasped audibly. He closed his ears and stifled his indignation till the train slowed up for a stoppage. Then he rose from his seat. "No," he said in righteous anger, "I do not travel in the company of vivisectionists. Cockatoos and lions in sheets and pains! Poor things! And a control number at the top! Gentlemen, I leave the compartment in disgust at such inhumanity."

He sprang out and ran down the platform, searching frantically for an empty carriage this time, but an official eventually thrust him into one that already held three or four young men, and they, too, were talking vivaciously. No sooner was the new arrival seated than he overheard a startling remark:

"I've got a couple of rare King's Heads in this bag which I intend to show to the Society. . . ."

Mercy! The farmer's eye shot down to the bulky bag on the floor. Inside it there were the heads of two kings! These fellows, then, were regicides!

The roar of the train drowned much of the comment that ensued on the young man's announcement, but presently the same voice was audible again: "As usual, it is perforated fourteen."

Perforated! That was the northern slang for the use of bullets. And perforated fourteen! They had fired fourteen shots!

"The watermark, of course, is plainly discernible. . . ."

Gracious! These fiends had also drowned their victim—the watermark was "plainly discernible!"

"Now, here's a list of kings I haven't got. Cayman Islands. . . ."

Amid the rattle of roaring wheels the farmer nursed the project of sending a wire to the Cayman king to warn him of his danger. Why should his head be "got" by these rascals if he didn't want it to?

"British Officials!" some one was shouting now. "They're slippery dogs, but I've got some. . . ."

British officials! Now, ought not some one to send a warning word over to Great Britain, by wireless, to let 'em know of the existence of this gang who were "getting" their officials as they came over? "Hard to get," one of the wretches was saying, and when they arrived they were all perforated fourteen! Good lack-a-day!

"Wonderful perforating machine they've got in. . . . Perforates three ways at once, an' mixes 'em all up. . . ."

A machine gun, no doubt. A new kind of machine gun, capable of shooting three ways at once!

". . . Makes no end of varieties. . . ."

The farmer thought it likely. Poor things!

". . . Trinidad Unpaid. . . ."

Doubtless some members of the gang in Trinidad who gave their services without payment.

". . . Servia death-masks. . . ."

It was horrible! The listener was now shaking with fright.

"Yes, I've done Spain thoroughly. Worked it dry. I'm going to exploit German Colonies next."

"Ah, German ships are not easy to get."

"Perhaps not, but I'm going to tackle them next."

Grind, grind, jerk—the train was stopping. The farmer rose and clutched the door-handle nervously. The moment he alighted he rushed for an official.

"Say, boss, you've got a gang of anarchists on board this train. A chap in there has got two kings' heads in a bag!"

The official paused a moment, then he answered blandly: "Oh, yes, I understand. I've got one or two myself—in a box way back of the station-house."

The farmer stared hard after the retreating figure, and as he dived into another compartment, he was heard to exclaim that "something had gone wrong with creation," and "the Germans had better look out about their ships."

Foreign Notes

Turkish Commemoratives

IT will soon become a recognized philatelic fact that no revolution, peaceful or warlike, will be allowed to take place without being followed by either a commemorative issue of stamps or some special overprint on the current series.

It was the intention of the Turkish Government, says the *Illustriertes Briefmarken*

Journal, to issue a special set of postage stamps bearing the memorable date 24 July, 1908. This issue has, however, been postponed, whether because Young Turkey feels its position somewhat insecure we know not, but an alternative project was the overprinting of the current stamps with the above-mentioned date. This likewise has not yet materialized, and now that the au-

thorities are confronted with the defiance of Bulgaria, we may be spared even this infliction.

Nothing more has transpired lately of the intention of the Young Turks to suppress the "foreign offices." Doubtless the Turkish Government will have too much to do for some time in setting its own house in order to trouble about this clearance, and, in any case, the Powers concerned will not take the initiative.

Neglected Postal Facilities

L'Annonce Timbrologique, which, by the way, has many interesting paragraphs in its latest number, gives some account of an interview granted by M. Simyan, Under Secretary of State for the French Postal Department, to an enterprising Parisian journalist.

This highly placed official declares that the public is very loth to avail itself of benefits created specially for its advantage, and cites several examples.

First, as regards the despatch and receipt of money orders. Special *mandat cartes* are provided, which the sender can procure from a post office in any quantity. These can be filled in at leisure at home, instead of the sender having to be cross-examined as to his name, address, occupation, etc., by the counter clerk when sending a *mandat ordinaire*. A very rapid examination of a card generally suffices, and the sender is saved time and temper. But it is the recipient who derives most benefit from the employment of these cards, for in such cases the postman actually brings the money to the house; there is no necessity to go to the post office and produce the counterpart, as in the case of the ordinary orders. It would seem that such facilities would be generally employed, but statistics show how indifferently the public recognize them. Speaking in round figures—in 1905, 47 million ordinary orders were used and 3 million cards; in 1906, 50 millions and 3½ millions; and in 1907, 55 millions and 3½ millions respectively. Roughly, only six per cent of the orders were of the less troublesome type.

Again, telegrams properly franked by postage stamps can be thrown into a box, even when the office is closed—there is no necessity at any time to wait for the clerk to examine them; yet only six out of every thousand persons sending telegrams availed themselves of the custom.

The express-letter system likewise has not caught on in France. Whilst the United States last year sent 11 millions, Germany 4 millions, and Belgium 2½ millions of such letters, France only utilized the express service for 109,312 packets.

The postal methods of England and France are not easy to compare, but there are many postal facilities in this country

which the public fail to make use of. In a great many cases ignorance, no doubt, is the chief cause, but custom dies hard, and in as many cases love of old-fashioned ways has as much to answer for.

A Good Story from Roumania

L'Annonce Timbrologique tells a story that is almost too good to be true. In the little town of Mihai-Bravu, Roumania, Captain Eshanu, an army officer, had posted a registered letter. A few minutes after he wished to have it back, but the postal clerks, acting on regulations, refused to give it up. The captain, furious at being refused, went to the barracks and returned at the head of his company to seize the post office. The two postal employés having been captured and bound, the captain cut the telegraph wire and hunted for his letter.

The soldiers, for their part, opened the safe and divided its contents, some £20, which they regarded as lawful "loot." The captain then declared the town in a state of siege, so that no communication should be established with neighbouring places. The mayor, however, with the aid of another postal official, established telegraphic communication with Bucharest and asked for help. The Minister of War promptly despatched a superior officer, who had the gallant captain arrested by his own soldiers and escorted to the capital, where he now waits his trial by court-martial.

The above wants more than the proverbial grain to aid digestion, but still at present the Roumanian officer bulks largely in the public eye, and perhaps still more largely in his own.

Leaving Cards by Wire

FOR many years it has been the custom on the Continent and amongst Latin races in South and Central America to interchange visiting cards by way of greeting on festival occasions, notably on New Year's Day. The postal authorities in most of the countries affected have recognized this by allowing cheap rates of postage for envelopes conveying such cards.

The latest recruit to the ranks of independent Powers, Roumania, has gone "one better." According to *L'Annonce Timbrologique*, some while since, the Roumanian authorities created a special form of telegram to take the place of these greetings by cards. The wire was limited to the address and three additional words, the price being fixed at 23 c. (a fraction over 2d.). At first these telegrams were only permitted for New Year greetings; later the privilege was granted for other special occasions; and now, finding the practice a paying one, the authorities have removed all restrictions,

and the cheap telegram can be sent at any time.

It is to be hoped the addresses are not too long in Roumania. The cheap telegram might prove a boon here; think of the saving it would mean to the gentleman who so often has to wire "Detained late at the office."

Commemorative Issue for Argentine

MR. R. A. SHIELDS, of Buenos Aires, writes under date 19.9.08 that there is to be an issue of postage stamps in connection with the commemoration of the centenary of May, 1910, and quotes from an official notice as follows: "The American Bank Note Company have been entrusted with the printing

of a new issue of postage stamp and wrappers, which will be put in circulation to commemorate the centenary of May, 1910."

For the designs of these stamps and wrappers copies of engravings of historical events and photographs of the great leaders who figured in the days of Independence, 1810, have been chosen. There will also be some reproductions of sections of the National Historical Museum.

The issue will include all values at present in circulation, with exception of the stamps of 10 and 20 dollars.

Mr. Shields adds that "up to the present he has not seen any other values of the 1908 set beyond the 2, 5, and 15 c."

New Issues and Discoveries

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. H. Dingwall sends us four used stamps of the complicated issues of 1890-1, which he has found in sorting through a very large parcel, and which have compound perforations not yet catalogued.



11



12

1890-91. Types 11 and 12.

Perf. compound of 10, 10½, and 11, 12.

225a | 1 kr., slate.

231a | 20 kr., olive.

274a | 1 g., lilac.

The 24 kr. chronicled in No. 159 becomes 231b.

Perf. compound of 11, 12 and 12½, 13.

243a | 3 kr., green.

Canada.—Mr. E. Dale Harris, of Ottawa, sends us three blocks of the ½ c. Tercentenary stamps, which he thinks are in three different shades. Certainly these blocks vary slightly, but hardly enough to make catalogue distinction. One of the shades, which he says was that of the stamp when first issued, has possibly more brown in it than the other. An interesting fact he tells us, however, is that the G. P. O. at Ottawa was quite sold out of the ½ c. on 8 September, notwithstanding the fact that no person was supplied with more than ten stamps at a time.

Colombia.—We referred in No. 197 to some new stamps for this republic, and we have since

received more information concerning the change from Mr. Augusto Duffo, of Bogota. The particulars already given are in the main correct, though the values to be printed by the Government Works are more than those mentioned, being as follows: ½ c., 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 1 peso. The new stamps will be put on sale as soon as the stocks of the old make are exhausted. No mention is made of a 50 c. ordinary or a 10 c. registered, but the suppression of the 5 and 10 pesos has been decided upon.

Mr. Duffo also sent some of the only values on sale at the time of writing, viz. the 2 c. and 5 c. As will be seen by the annexed illustration, the new stamps are easily distinguishable from those of Type 96, being larger in size and with a different imprint at foot. The new stamps are printed on thicker paper than that of the old series. The 2 c. exists with two gauges of perforations.

We are pleased to hear from our correspondent that Colombia has entered upon an era of great prosperity, but more pleased from an editorial point of view to hear also that no more departmental stamps are to be issued.

Collectors may congratulate themselves also, for by a law dated 5 August, 1908, a territorial redistribution has been effected in the republic, and it is now divided into *thirty-four* departments. Think of thirty-four departments, each



102

issuing sets of provisionals similar to the Cucuta and Santander rubbish of 1906 !!

1908. Type 10. (a) *Perf.* 10.
2 c., carmine.
(b) *Perf.* 13.
2 c., carmine
5 c., blue.

Federated Malay States.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (3.10.08) says that the 1 c. is coming over in a much darker shade than formerly. Apparently the Catalogue ought to have the two listed. No. 38 should be listed as *pale gr. en.*

A correspondent of the same paper says, under date 26.8.08, that "the 3 c., *rose*, and 8 c., *ultra-marine*, stamps have arrived at Kuala Lumpur, but that the 3 c. will not be issued till next year, and possibly not till still later, as there are still a million stamps of the 3 c., *brown*, on hand, and these will be issued first. The stock of the 8 c., blue and black, is not likely to be exhausted for another eighteen months."



3

1908. Type 3. *Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf.* 14.
38a/1 c., deep green.

New Caledonia.—Mr. Dietrich, Liverpool, has shown us a variety of the Jubilee issue of this French colony. It is the 10 c., black on lilac, overprinted with the "Gallic Cock" monstrosity, both in black and in gold. The double impression is quite distinct. It will come before No. 123a in the Catalogue.



10



14

1908. Type 10 overprinted with Type 14.
Variety. Overprint double.
10 c., in black and in gold.

Paraguay.—Still another provisional to add to the list of the long-suffering collector, but luckily one that can perhaps be omitted from the Catalogue. Our correspondent in Villa Rica says that speculators in Buenos Aires some time ago bought up the whole lot of the 1 c. and 2 c. offered for sale. The stock of the 1 c. has been exhausted, but the Post Office have still (6.9.08) a small quantity of the 2 c., *vermilion*, and these have been halved to do duty as 1 c. In order to prevent the whole lot being bought up, the Post Office will not sell these stamps to the public but only to the newspapers, and even these must give a guarantee that they are not for sale to dealers or speculators.

Our correspondent sends three used copies of these provisionals, the stamps being the 2 c., *vermilion*, of Type 39, perforated vertically through the centre, apparently by the same machine that is used for perforating the entire stamp.

The custom has been to omit "splits" from the Catalogue, the Jamaica split being of course a notable exception, and no great harm will be done if the same course is adopted in the present case.

Persia.—Messrs. B. J. H. Somaki and Co., of Karachi, have shown us a used copy of No. 398 with a pronounced *double surcharge*, the two surcharges overlapping, with the numerals about 4 mm. apart.

We have received the 3 c. and 6 c. of the 1907 issue overprinted COLIS POSTAUX diagonally in violet. It will be noticed that the overprint is quite different from that on the 26 ch. already chronicled.



37



44

COLIS POSTAUX

8a

1904. Type 37 surcharged with Type 44 in black.
Variety. Surcharge double.
398a/6 ch. on 10 ch., pale brown.

PARCEL POST STAMP.

1908. Type 37 on blue paper overprinted with Type 8a in violet.
3 ch., deep green.
6 " crimson.

Russia.—*The Philatelic Adviser* (25.9.08) has seen the current 7 kopeck with background omitted. This would follow No. 115 in the Catalogue.



7

- Type 7. *With thunderbolts. Vertically laid paper.*
Perf. 14b.
Variety. Back ground omitted.
115a/7 k., blue.

Victoria.—The Supplement to the Catalogue lists a 2½d. on Crown and A paper under No. 294a. This stamp should be deleted, as will be apparent from the following extract from *The Australian Philatelist* (Aug.):—

“The announcement by our London contemporaries that the 2½d. stamp had been issued on Cr. and A paper, was premature. Mr. Donne has inquired into the matter carefully, and the Government Printer states that this stamp has not been issued on Cr. and A paper.”

In reply to a letter from us, the Deputy P. M. G. writing on 6 July, 1908, said, “The 2½d. stamps have not yet been printed on the new stamp paper. The present stock on paper watermarked V and Cr. is estimated to last for about three or

four months, and fresh stamps will not be printed until this stock is exhausted.”



(View of Port.)

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Zanzibar.—Above is type of the high values, 10 rupees and upwards, of the issue of May, 1908, listed in *G. S. W.*, No. 185.

Correspondence

Morocco Agencies

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

SIR,—The Postal Agent in Mazagan must be wrong in his statement *re* 6 p. on 5s. Morocco Agencies, as I have one dated "11 Nov. 07, Registered British Post Office, Tangier."

As "the British Post Office do not lend themselves to speculation," I conclude my stamp was used in the usual manner, namely, posting a consignment to a dealer and registered.

Yours truly,
COLLECTOR.

SOUTHAMPTON.

Twentieth Century Colonials

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—I am in receipt of a communication from Mr. B. Gordon-Jones, late editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, in which he is good enough to furnish explanations of certain points arising out of my article on Gwalior which appeared recently in your pages. As many of these points are of considerable interest and much importance, I consider it desirable that they should be placed on record for the benefit of the readers of your paper, in order that they may dispel any misapprehensions that may have arisen out of certain remarks of mine contained in the article referred to.

In the first place, Mr. Gordon-Jones informs me that the 2½ annas King's Head *has* actually been issued, and that it was supplied to the State during 1905-6, and that copies were actually purchased in the State during 1905. The date given in my article should therefore be altered to 1905.

The stamp was overprinted by mistake, as it had been decided not to issue stamps of this value to the Convention States, as they were totally unnecessary for postal purposes. A request for twenty sheets was, however, included by an oversight in one indent, and 4800 overprinted stamps of this value were despatched to the State. This, however, composed the total issue of this stamp, and it is likely, therefore, to be good property.

With regard to the 3 pies, carmine, overprinted "Service," it would appear that I was wrong in my supposition that this stamp was issued as far back as 1900. Gwalior was apparently the last of the Convention States to be supplied with a

Service stamp of this denomination, and a small supply of this value in the carmine shade was overprinted and issued to the State in October, 1902, the total number overprinted being 48,240.

Of the 1 anna Official King's Head stamp with the inverted surcharge, I am informed that an entire sheet existed with this error.

I desire to take this opportunity of thanking both Mr. Gordon-Jones and Major Evans for so kindly pointing out the various inaccuracies contained in my articles on the Indian Native States; and especially the latter gentleman for having so kindly undertaken the revision of those dealing with the stamps of the Native Feudatory States, which, with his vast specialist knowledge of these issues, he is in a position to render of far greater value to the readers of my articles than they would have otherwise been.

Yours faithfully,
D. B. ARMSTRONG.

Import Duty in South Africa

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

SIR,—With reference to the paragraph headed "Import Duty in South Africa," which appears on page 94 of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* of the 8th instant, I beg to inform you that the duty on catalogues imported by post into South Africa may be prepaid in postage stamps, obtainable from the Agents-General in London of the Cape Colony, Natal, Orange River Colony, and the Transvaal. The stamps in question are affixed to the covers by the senders.

Catalogues under 8 oz. in weight posted by oversea firms who have no branches in South Africa are admitted duty free; but similar catalogues printed abroad to advertise South African firms, or Home firms having branches in South Africa, are charged with a duty of 1d. Catalogues over 8 oz. in weight are uniformly dutiable at the rate of 1d. for each 8 oz. or fraction thereof.

I would add that if the amount of duty is not prepaid in stamps by the senders, it is collected in cash from the addressees.

I am, sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. WILSON,
Secretary.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, CAPE TOWN,
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, 28 August, 1908.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 18
Whole No. 200

31 OCTOBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

The Postal Issues of Denmark and the Danish Colonies

By L. HANCIAU

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(Continued from page 133.)

Wrappers

CIRCULAR from the Director-General of Posts to the Inspectors of Posts and to the Post and Despatching Offices.

"No. 9. Copenhagen, May 1st, 1872.

"1. From the first of next month there will be introduced, for the convenience of the public, wrappers of paper with a 2 skilling stamp impressed upon them, which will be employed especially for enclosing packets sent in wrappers single or crossed. These wrappers will be supplied in sheets, and each sheet will contain six wrappers. The Post Office is not obliged to sell less than six wrappers at a time.

"The amount to be charged will be 13 skilling per sheet, of which 12 sk. will be entered as receipts for stamps, in the copy of accounts, under headings 1 to 3, while the 1 skilling remaining will be reckoned as cost of manufacture and entered in the receipts under heading 10.

"If a number less than a sheet is sold, the price to be charged will be 2½ sk. per wrapper; but in the copy of accounts nothing less than an entire sheet may be shown.

"In the course of the present month, there will be despatched to the Post Offices, without previous requisition, a sufficient supply of the said wrappers, and the latter should afterwards be requisitioned for in proper time from the Director General of Accounts, in the manner prescribed for stamps and stamped envelopes. The same will be the case, in a general way, in regard to the other instructions relating, for instance, to the preservation, obliteration, etc., which apply to the stamps.

"It is expressly added that the impressed stamp is what is plainly to be taken into consideration, even when, from the nature of the packet sent, it is insufficient to cover the postage, and that it is not forbidden to make use of stamps cut from the wrappers, for paying postage on other packets.

(Signed) "J. DANNESKIOLD SAMSOE."

Issue of June 1st, 1872.

Stamp of the type of the adhesives of 1870, without any alteration whatever, impressed at the right-hand side of wrappers of yellowish white, wove paper, 90 × 375 mm. There is a border at each side, separating the six wrappers of which the sheet is composed, formed of two lines, the inner one wavy. The end of the wrapper above the stamp is gummed with *brown* gum.



2 sk., blue.

Essays. Various designs were submitted for the border, with the stamp of the adopted type, and on bands of white wove, surfaced paper, 85 × 360 mm.

(a) Thick lines, one 5 mm. wide and one 3 mm. wide, below it.

(b) Two lines 3 mm. wide.

(c) One line 2 mm. wide and a second thin line.

(d) Similar, but the thicker line only 1 mm. wide.

(e) A straight line of medium thickness and a wavy line, making a border 2 mm. wide in all.

(f) A thick line, 2½ mm. wide, between two thin ones.

(g) Small, wide Greek pattern, 1½ mm. high.

(h) Tall Greek pattern, 3 mm. high.

(i) Border of rings, 2 mm. high.

These borders were all printed in *blue*, as was also the stamp.

2 sk., blue.

* * *

The Circular of the 19th December, 1874 (see under the adhesives of 1875, page 108, vol. xviii of *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*), announced the issue of a 4 öre wrapper, in consequence of the change of currency.

Issue of January 1st, 1875.

The die of the 4 öre stamp not being ready, that of the stamps of 1870 was made use of, with the following modifications:—

■ A. The whole of the oval band, or at least the whole of its inscriptions, having been removed for some unknown reason, the inscriptions were replaced by others, showing "DANMARK—POSTFRIM. 4 ÖRE" in larger



type than before. The crown has not the *three six-pointed stars* of the "öre" type of the stamps of 1875; the central figure is wider than that of the 4 sk. of 1870 and the 4 öre of 1875, and its slanting stroke diminishes in thickness towards the base; the figure is 3 mm. wide and $4\frac{1}{4}$ mm. high.

White wove paper, sometimes *yellowish*, unsurfaced or surfaced, with a border of the same pattern as that of the previous wrappers; the end of the wrapper above the stamp is gummed with *brownish* gum.

Size, 90 to 92 × 375 mm.

4 öre, dull blue, pale blue, bright blue, deep blue, greenish blue.

B. It was probably through some misapprehension that the oval with its inscription was removed and re-engraved in Type A. The type of 1870 was again employed for Type B, but the only change now made was the insertion of a different figure in the centre and "4 ÖRE" in the oval band, with a little retouching of the letters of the inscription.

■ Size, paper, etc., of the preceding wrappers with Type A.

The central figure is 3 × 4 mm., and the slanting stroke is of the same thickness throughout; the horizontal stroke is less turned up at the end than in A, and the turned-up end is further from the vertical stroke.

4 öre, dull blue, pale blue, bright blue, deep blue, greenish blue.

Variety. With no dot after "POSTFRIM."
4 öre, dull blue.

NOTE. The two types, A and B, may be distinguished at a glance, as follows:—

1. The letters "M" of "DANMARK" and "POSTFRIM." have the coloured ground between the limbs less high up on the right than on the left in Type A.

2. The "s" of "POST" is almost closed at top in Type A.

3. The ends of the branches are opposite to the letters "ST" of "POST" in Type A, and are opposite "OS" in Type B.

* * *

The issue of a 5 öre wrapper is announced as follows:—

Official Communication.

"No. 17. June 20th, 1882.

"III. From the 1st July of this year there will be introduced, for use also on packets addressed to foreign countries, new stamped wrappers, with a 5 öre stamp impressed upon them, colour green.

"The price, which is fixed at 32 öre per sheet (containing six wrappers), should be entered in the accounts as 30 öre received for stamps under headings 1 to 3, and the remaining 2 öre under heading 10.

"If a smaller number is sold than that contained in a sheet, the price will be fixed at 6 öre per wrapper, but in the accounts nothing less than an entire sheet may be entered.

"In the course of the present month there will be sent to the Post Offices, without any previous requisition, a sufficient number of these wrappers."

Issue of July 1st, 1882.

Type of the adhesives of 1882, with small figures in the corners. The stamp is printed at the right-hand side of each wrapper, in sheets of six, with border lines, as before.

White wove paper, surfaced or unsurfaced, 95 × 380 mm. Gum *white* or *brown*.

5 öre, dark green, pale green.

* * *

Issue of the end of 1882, or January, 1883.

The provisional types (A and B) of the wrappers of 1875 are given up, and replaced by the type of the 4 öre adhesive of 1875, without any modification. The crown therefore appears with *three six-pointed stars*. The central figure is $3\frac{1}{4}$ mm. wide.

The paper is *yellowish* white wove, surfaced; size, border lines, and gum as before.

4 öre, pale blue, dull blue.

This was chronicled in *Le Timbre-Poste* of June, 1883.

* * *

From the 1st October, 1888, the wrappers were no longer issued in sheets, but separate, in packets of twenty-five, as announced in *Communication* No. 28 of September 15, 1888 (see page 161, vol. xviii, *Monthly Journal*).

Issue of October 1st, 1888.

Reissue of Type A of the wrappers of January, 1875, for the 4 öre, and type of the adhesives with large figures in the corners for the 5 öre.



The paper is yellowish white wove, surfaced, and the wrappers vary somewhat in length, 95 x 385 to 390 mm. Gum, as last, white and brown.

4 öre, blue (Type A of 1875).
5 ,, pale green (Type of 1885).

* * *

Issue of, 1902.

Similar to the last, but the paper is a dead white.

5 öre, yellow-green (Type of 1885).

* * *

Issues of December 1st, 1905, and 1906.

In accordance with the *Circular* of November 25th, 1905 (see page 204, vol. xviii, *Monthly Journal*), new wrappers were issued as shown below, printed like the preceding; white wove, surfaced paper, the same size as the last.

1. Type of the adhesives of July, 1905.

Dec. 1, 1905. 2 öre, carmine.
April, 1906. 4 ,, blue.



2. Type with portrait of King Christian IX, re-engraved at Berlin, and surface-printed. The horizontal lines of the background are more spaced than in the type of 1904, and are crossed in the lower part of the circle by oblique lines. The epaulet at left is more complete than in the type of 1905; the "C" below the portrait is open, as in 1904, and the tail of the figure "9" is lengthened.

May, 1906. 5 öre, green.

* * *

In accordance with the *Official Communication* of the 28th January, 1907 (see page 205, vol. xviii, *Monthly Journal*), there appeared :—

Issue of the end of 1907.

Type with portrait of King Frederick VIII, but redrawn to some extent at Berlin and surface-printed.



The principal differences between this and the adhesive stamp of the same design are :—

1. The shading of the face is formed of lines instead of dots.
2. The ground of the circle consists of horizontal lines, spaced, crossed by oblique lines in the lower part, instead of having close horizontal and oblique lines all over. The "O" of "ÖRE" is more open in the middle.

There are also other points of difference which it is unnecessary to mention; I have only noted the principal ones, to prove that the type is quite distinct from that of the adhesives.

White wove paper.

5 öre, green.

* * *

Post Cards

The introduction of Post Cards, on April 1st, 1871, was announced by the following :—

"Circular from the Director-General of Posts, to all Post and Despatching Offices.

"No. 7. Copenhagen, March 29th, 1871.

"K. Stamps and Post Cards.

"There are issued for public use two kinds of post cards, with impressed stamps, viz :—
With impression in blue, and stamp 2 skilling.

"When a hundred of them are purchased at a time, the charges are 2 and 4 R-d. In smaller quantities and singly these cards are charged at 2 and 4 skilling each. They are despatched from here to the Post Offices, and are to be put on sale from the commencement of the month of April.

"In regard to requisition, preservation, etc., the rules laid down for the stamps in general are applicable.

"The Post Cards should be postmarked like the ordinary letters, except that the stamp of the office of destination is to be struck upon the address side. The stamps should be obliterated like those of the envelopes.

"There will, within the next few days, be issued and put in circulation new postage stamps at 8 skilling, colour brown, and at 16 skilling, colour green, both values with frame in grey, and of the same type as the recently issued 2 and 3 skilling stamps. The new stamps are intended gradually to replace the old stamps of the same values, which will, however, remain available for use so long as there may be any stocks of them.

"In future the affixing of the stamp upon the

address side will make no difference in respect to the franking of the letter. If the stamp was placed on the reverse side and was thus not noticed by the despatching office, the receiving office should nevertheless make no difference on this account in the amount to be charged, nor should any notice of the matter be sent back to the former office. In such a case the stamp should evidently not be obliterated before the delivery of the letter.

"If upon the letter (or on the address label of a packet) there is no room to place the stamps, the latter should be affixed to a sheet of paper to be tied or gummed to the packet (or address label) upon the address side, on which there should be indicated the value and number of stamps which accompany it.

"The prohibition of the employment of the stamps cut from envelopes is withdrawn."

I. SINGLE CARDS.

Issue of April 1st, 1871.

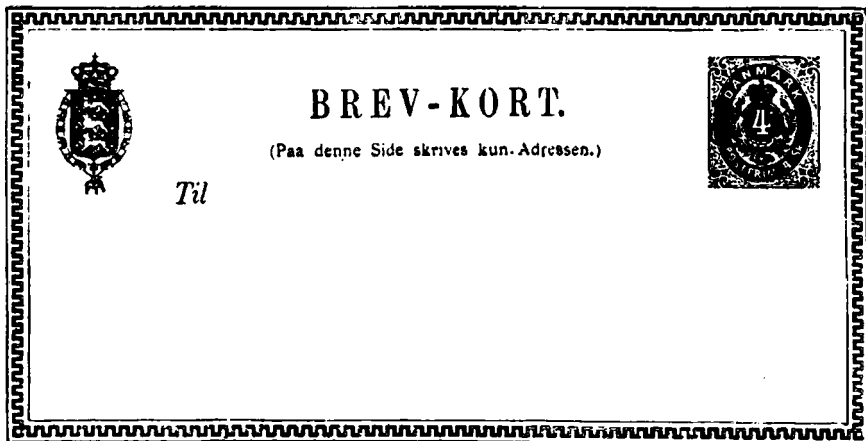
Formula with a Greek pattern frame, 135 x 69 mm., with stamp of the type of the adhesives of 1870 in the right upper corner;

Without dot after "POSTFRIM."

4 sk., carmine.

Description of the Arms. The Order of the Elephant (emblem of Strength and Courage) is an order of knighthood which goes back to Christian I, in 1458 or 1478, and which was duly constituted with statutes by King Christian V, December 1st, 1693. The collar is composed of alternate Elephants and Castles, in gold.

The Cross, which should be *white*, and not coloured as shown upon the card, belongs to the Order of the Danebrog, instituted in 1219 by King Waldemar II, in memory of a White Cross on a *red* ground, which, according to Danish traditions, fell from heaven during a battle with the Livonians, at the very time when the Danish troops were giving way; the sight of this miraculous Cross so encouraged them that they gained the victory. The Order died out about the year 1500, and was re-established in 1671 by Christian V; it lasted down to 1808, when it was completely reconstituted by Frederick VI.



and in the left the Arms of Denmark, in a shield surmounted by a Royal Crown, and surrounded by the collar of the Order of the Elephant and the Danebrog. Inscription in upper centre, "BREV-KORT," in large capitals, "(Paa denne Side skrives kun Adressen.," in ordinary type, and "Til," in italics.

Surface-printed in colour on white card, more or less surfaced.

2 sk., ultramarine, blue.

4 ,, carmine, bright carmine.

Varieties. With the third turn of the Greek pattern at upper right replaced by one of the square corner ornaments.

2 sk., ultramarine.

4 ,, carmine.

Essays. There are various types which were not adopted:—

1. Frame 111 x 79 mm., formed of little quatrefoils, set obliquely, between two lines 2½ mm. apart. Stamp of 1870 at right and Arms at left, as upon the issued cards.

"BREVKORT" in letters 6½ mm. high, the word measuring 32½ mm.; same instruction, but 64 mm. long and without brackets; "Til" as in the adopted type.

2 sk., blue on *white, buff, deep straw.*

2 ,, mauve ,, ,, "

2 ,, lilac ,, ,, "

Similar to the preceding, but with "BREV-KORT" 6 mm. high and 35½ mm. long; instruction 46½ mm. long, without brackets.

- 2 sk., blue on *white*.
- 2 ,, brown on *white, buff*.
- 2 ,, blue-green on *white, buff*.
- 2 ,, carmine
- 2 ,, lilac on *white* " "
- 2 ,, mauve on *buff*.

Similar to the above, but with "BREV-KORT" $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm. high and $38\frac{1}{2}$ mm. long; instruction 47 mm. long, without brackets.

- 2 sk., lilac on *white*.
- 2 ,, brown "
- 2 ,, blue-green on *white*.
- 2 ,, carmine
- 2 ,, mauve on *buff*.
- 2 ,, carmine "

2. Frame 110×79 mm., formed of a wide Greek pattern, between two lines $3\frac{3}{4}$ mm. apart. Stamp and Arms as upon the issued

cards. "BREV-KORT" 7 mm. high and 52 mm. long; instruction 57 mm. long. "Til" as before.

- 2 sk., brown on *white, buff, deep straw*.
- 2 ,, blue "
- 2 ,, blue-green on *white*.

Double impression.

2 sk., ultramarine and black-green on *thick white card*.

Similar type; frame 134×68 mm.; "BREVKORT" 37 mm. long; instruction in brackets 49 mm. long.

- 2 sk., blue on *white*.
- 2 ,, black "
- 2 ,, carmine "

* * *

(To be continued.)

Old v. New

By E. B. EVANS

THIS venerable question has entered upon a more or less new phase within the last few months, the point raised being whether there is or is not any actual enmity between those who are always seeking for some new thing and those who say that the old is better. The Editor of *The London Philatelist* says: "There are no two 'camps,' nor is there any hostility between those who collect old and new issues." Mr. Cornelius Wrinkle, in *The Postage Stamp*, expresses the contrary opinion: "I cannot have been deceived," he says, "by the yards and yards of sneers that each camp has flung at the other in realizing the hostility that has long prevailed, and I am of opinion that it is six to one and half-a-dozen to the other in the most unseemly wrangle that has been filling the pages of certain journals." The text is a little obscure, and not quite equal to Mr. Wrinkle's usual form. Those sneers of abnormal length so recklessly flung about must have rendered the atmosphere exceptionally oppressive, even for the early part of August, when those words were printed. Still, his meaning is obvious.

For my own part, I am anxious to believe, and as a matter of fact I do believe, that there is no real hostility at all on the part of the two classes of *collectors*—if indeed there are really two classes. Differences of opinion there must be, argument there will be, heated argument even; but to speak of actual hostility and of rival "camps" seems to me to be taking the thing too seriously. Even Mr. Wrinkle acknowledges that it amounts to no more than this: "Some collectors have taken sides, forgetting that there has been nothing more in it all the time than

one dealer crying down the other's wares"—thus admitting that Mr. Castle's statement is practically correct.

The fact is that stamp collectors are the most peaceable and friendly people on the face of the earth; the League of Universal Brotherhood realized the fact that cheap postage would do a great deal towards the millennium which its members were anxious to bring about; if they had but added to their programme the Propagation of Stamp Collecting, it is possible that Universal Brotherhood might by this time be an accomplished fact. How seldom do we hear of two genuine philatelists really quarrelling; they will argue, of course, and each may denounce the opinions of the other as entirely mistaken and misguided; but bring them together, and they will find that they have so much in common that their differences are not worth mentioning.

At the present day stamp collecting has become so wide a subject, and stamp dealing has similarly become so big a business, that specialism appears to be almost a necessity for the collector, and many of the dealers have their own special lines also. The specialism of the collector has developed in various directions, but principally, I believe, even yet consists in the collecting of the stamps of single countries or groups of countries. Since the commencement of the twentieth century many have, no doubt, decided upon confining their attention to stamps issued before the end of the nineteenth, whilst others, possibly equally numerous, have taken up the modern issues, exclusively, and especially the "King's Heads," as being more easily obtainable; but I do not for one

moment believe that there is any feeling of animosity between collector-specialists, and I fail to see why there should be. Why on earth should the specialist in the issues of Lilliput hate his neighbour who devotes all his spare cash and attention to those of Blefuscu? or why should Mr. Oldham, whose collection ends with the year 1890, and Mr. Newman, who collects nothing issued earlier than 1901, wish to blow out one another's brains (if any)? They need not interfere with one another at all; they are not even likely to bid against one another at auctions. Their mutual feelings should be purely charitable, mingled with a comfortable sensation of superiority.

Dealers of course will cry up their own wares; human nature is human nature even in the stamp business, and in crying up their own may be led to cry down the wares of others, but most of them do business both in old stamps and new, and therefore are not likely to cry down either. The noise (such as it is) seems to have been made, in this as in so many other affairs, by a comparatively small section who enjoy a noise and delight in the idea of rival camps, with the usual trumpeting and drumming.

In regard to the relative interest of old stamps and new, I confess that I am in favour of the old, but that may be because I am getting that way myself. At the same time I have, I hope, always, both by example and precept, endeavoured to inculcate the principle that *all* stamps should be studied, as there may be much that is interesting to be learned about any of them; and acting upon this principle a collector may fairly say: I study my stamps, I find that certain varieties exist; it does not matter to me what was the origin of those varieties or the reason for their existence; my only object is to ascertain how many of these varieties there are, in what way they differ from one another, and in what order they occur or what positions they occupy on the sheets. On the other hand, I think that the general student of Philately should take into consideration the circumstances attending the issue of the stamps and the production of the varieties in question; and that where it is evident that the stamps were issued mainly for sale to collectors, and not to meet any real postal requirements, or that the variations were made on purpose to increase the sales, or are due to such carelessness as to indicate that no attempt at uniformity was made (such uniformity being easily attainable), the stamps themselves and their varieties are not of the same interest as stamps issued purely for postal use, or varieties necessitated by the method employed or intentionally produced as a check upon forgery or fraud.

To take extreme cases; probably all col-

lectors will admit that the regular issues of Great Britain, France, and Germany, for example, possess greater inherent philatelic interest than the recent provisionals of the Cayman Islands, and that the varieties of type of the "Sydney Views" afford a more interesting subject for study than the variations in the surcharges of Guadeloupe. Between these extremes there will of course be numerous issues, upon the relative interest of which it is very difficult to give an opinion. For instance, it is doubtful whether we should be right in saying that the minor varieties of type of the lithographed issues of British Guiana, 1852, 1853, 1860, and 1863 (none of which, by the way, have yet been fully described), due to irregularities and defects in the transfers, have a greater inherent interest than the similar varieties of the stamps of Sirmoor or of the Solomon Islands, produced in the same manner; although the majority of collectors, perhaps, would consider the British Guiana stamps the most worthy of attention.

The question of *interest* in pounds, shillings, and pence is quite a different one. I am afraid that this is the kind of interest which has aroused the more or less heated discussion that has sometimes taken place. But it is quite as impossible to draw a hard-and-fast line in this case as in the other, and to say either that old issues are a good investment and new issues a bad one, or that the contrary is the case. There are old issues that have gone up steadily in value, year after year, for many years past, almost without any set-back, and there are others that have not increased in value at all. Perhaps most of us are too fond of thinking over the bargains that we missed in days gone by, or that we should have picked up if we had but been there. No doubt we might have made some very fortunate purchases, but, on the other hand, we might not. It was as difficult to prophesy then as it is now, and those who really knew most were the least likely to say much about it. One thing can be said, which is of practically universal application, to past, present, and future: No stamp that has ever been *really* common can ever become really rare, or even of minor rarity, and if we think of it we shall see that this must be so. *Used* stamps that were plentiful thirty or forty years ago are even more plentiful now; this is not always the case with *unused*. The supply of the latter has, in a great number of instances, remained stationary, while the former have been turned up in thousands. Consequently we find instances where the catalogue price of unused copies has increased out of all proportion to that of the same stamps used.

The rarities, great and small, have as a rule gone up greatly in price, not, of course,

because they have become any rarer, but because the supply has always been very limited, and collectors give very much larger prices for stamps than they used to do. This rule is not without exceptions; the most striking instance that occurs to me is the "medio peso" of Peru, 1858, one of the earliest of an extremely interesting series of stamps. Thirty years ago or a little less the normal yellow stamp used to be priced at £5 or more, and the error in *rose-red* was quoted at from £20 to £25. Have these really become much commoner since, or is the fact that their prices have fallen some fifty per cent due solely to the fact that Peru and some other South American republics have unduly tried the patience of collectors? In any case, their fate seems to furnish some sort of warning to investors.

If old issues are not invariably gilt-edged investments, what are we to say about new ones? The argument in their favour seems to be that if one buys new issues at ten per cent over face value, one cannot lose much, and there will be certain cases in which a considerable appreciation of value will take place. This is true enough, and I believe that the collector was never more favourably placed for making a collection of current stamps, at a comparatively small expense. But collecting and speculating are two very different things. The sales of New Issues have attained enormous dimensions in the last few years, and it is fair to assume that the stocks have not all been absorbed by collectors. There is, it is true, a prevailing fancy (which may be lasting or may not) for pairs and blocks, and even for entire panes and sheets, all of which things have their interest, and will do no harm, so long as

their owners are content to keep them; but there is, I believe, also a fancy for stowing away little lots of stamps which their owners have no intention of keeping, and this is a more dangerous propensity. If this kind of investment prevails to any considerable extent, it is evident that what I have said about the impossibility of common stamps becoming rare must apply more fully to the stocks that have thus been "laid down"; the immediate wants of collectors have been amply accommodated, and future wants are more than fully provided for.

I have always believed, and I still believe, that the judicious collector, whether he devotes his attention to old issues or new, will find his collection a source not only of certain pleasure, but also of probable profit. I feel inclined to add that if he is *judicious* he will not speculate, but he may even be able to do that with success. The inexperienced amateur who speculates in stamps will find it as unprofitable as speculating on the Stock Exchange, or as speculating in any other commodity which he knows equally little about. The bargain hunter picks up bargains (sometimes) if he sticks to his own speciality; we all of us know what very poor bargains we are apt to get when we stray beyond our own limited range.

Some wise person has made a remark somewhat to the following effect: Experienced persons don't require advice, inexperienced don't accept it, but all classes enjoy giving it. If, therefore, the fervent admirers, either of the Old or of the New, really feel inclined to quarrel about the respective merits of their branches of Philately, I will give them one little piece of advice—"Don't."

Indian Convention States

Shades of the Queen's Head Stamps

By B. GORDON JONES

THERE are marked variations in the shades of some of the Queen's Head stamps overprinted for use in the Indian Convention States. In the Indian Society's handbook on these issues a few shades are mentioned which do not exist, and there are one or two omissions of shades which do exist. The pricing of several of these in the catalogues is guess-work, and the "valuations" are often absurd. The figures in Gibbons' Catalogue are the most reliable, but the rarer shades are more often than not "out of stock." The minor catalogues merely echo Gibbons (errors and omissions included), but with prices put down all round, and with "stocks," which

are a negligible quantity, behind these valuations.

The following notes are an attempt to draw attention to the rarity of many of these shades. By the location of various errors known only to exist in certain printings, and by other extraneous evidence, it has been possible to more or less correctly determine the exact shades in some values used in most printings. The figures may not be absolutely accurate, but they may be reasonably accepted as correct. The undernoted list comprises all the values of the Queen's Head stamps which were at one time or another surcharged for the different States, and their main shades:—

- * 3 pies, carmine.
- * " grey.
- ½ anna, deep green.
- " pea-green.
- 9 pies, carmine and aniline rose.
- 1 anna, purple-brown and aniline plum.
- * " carmine (slight shades).
- * 1 anna 6 pies, sepia, light and deep.
- 2 as., blue and ultramarine.
- * " violet (slight shades).
- * 2 as. 6 pies, green.
- * " blue.
- 3 as., orange and brown-orange.
- 4 as., olive-green and slate-green.
- 6 as., olive-bistre and brown-bistre.
- 8 as., dull mauve and aniline mauve.
- * 12 as., purple on red.
- * 1 rupee, slate, light and deep.
- " green and carmine.
- * 2, 3, and 5 rupees, bicoloured.

The stamps in the above list marked * show very small variations in shade; all the others show marked differences, and the main colours may be thus divided into shades:—

½ anna, deep green.

The earlier shades are yellowish green, green, and deep green, 1884-95, the older sheets being with brownish gum. The later shades are light green and bluish green, used from 1895 onward.

(The exact totals overprinted in each of these shades of the ½ anna cannot be determined with any accuracy.)

½ anna, pea-green.

The pale pea-green shade was in use till the early part of 1902; the deep pea-green shade succeeded it.

9 pies, carmine.

Earlier shade, deep carmine (brownish gum); later shade, aniline rose.

1 anna, purple-brown.

Deep purple-brown and pale purple-brown (the earlier printings being with brownish gum), 1884-95.

(This value is known in *pale brown* with some of these surcharges, but it is impossible with any certainty to assign them to any particular printing; apparently this shade was used towards the end of the purple-brown period, and before the aniline shades were introduced.)

1 anna, aniline plum.

These aniline shades are in pale and in deep plum; the colour in the deeper shades quite permeates the paper; in use about 1895-1900.

2 annas, blue and ultramarine.

The earlier printings of these have brownish gum. First shades, blue, pale blue, and dull blue, 1885-95; later

shades, pale and deep ultramarine, 1895-1900.

(The exact totals overprinted in each of these shades of the 2 annas cannot be determined with any accuracy.)

3 annas, orange and brown-orange.

The first shades of this stamp were in deep orange, the earlier sheets being with brownish gum. About the middle of 1889 a pale yellow-orange shade was in use for a few months, but this was again superseded by the older orange colour for a time. The brownish-orange to deep brown-orange shades came into use after 1890.

4 annas, olive-green and slate-green.

The earlier shades of this stamp were in a rich, deep olive-green, changing later to pale olive-green, the earlier sheets being with brownish gum, 1885-95. The slate-green shades, pale and deep, were in use about 1895-1902.

(The exact totals overprinted in each of these shades of the 4 annas cannot be determined with any accuracy.)

6 annas, olive-bistre and brown-bistre.

The correct order of the use of these shades is difficult to determine. Apparently the olive shades (pale and bright) were in use up to about 1890, being succeeded by the brown shades (dull and bright); but this order was at times not adhered to, both shades being known in the same printing (proving that called-in mixed stocks were being supplied to the printing office). This 6 annas stamp was in use in British India from 1876 to long after 1900, the brown shades being in use up to about 1880, these being succeeded by the olive shades till about 1890, the browns being then again reverted to after that period.

8 annas, dull mauve and aniline mauve.

The early shades, dull mauve and pale bright mauve, were in use up to about the end of 1893, the earlier sheets having brownish gum. The aniline colours, mauve and magenta, from 1894 onwards.

1 rupee, green and carmine.

The later printings are in aniline colours, and are known in some of these issues, but it is impossible to determine totals.

From the above details it will be seen that the totals cannot be ascertained in some of these stamps, i.e. ½ anna, deep green; 2 annas, blue; and 4 annas, olive- and slate-green. In the other values totals have been more or less definitely obtained, and these are mentioned in detail in the following table (the figures in brackets after the colours refer to

the numbers of the various printings, which are mentioned in the Indian Society's handbook):—

CHAMBA**Ordinary**

½ anna, pale pea-green (9)	12,240
„ deep pea-green (10)	48,240
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (1, 2, 3, 4)	31,799
1 anna, aniline plum (5, 7)	7,440
3 as., orange (2, 3)	4,346
„ brown-orange (4, 5, 7, 8, 10)	8,879
6 as., olive-bistre (3, 4)	2,685
„ brown-bistre (5, 7, 8, 9, 10)	7,894
8 as., dull mauve (2, 3, 4)	4,181
„ aniline mauve (5, 7, 8, 10)	4,620

Service

½ anna, pale pea-green (9)	9,840
„ deep pea-green (10)	19,440
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (1, 2, 3, 4)	51,399
1 anna, aniline plum (5, 7, 8)	48,480
3 as., orange (3)	1,566
„ brown-orange (4, 7)	3,919
6 as., olive-bistre (3, 4)	2,955
„ brown-bistre (7)	1,440
8 as., dull mauve (2, 3, 4)	3,702
„ aniline mauve (5, 7, 10)	7,920

FARIDKOT**Ordinary**

1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8)	67,700
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(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*, and is rare in that shade.)

1 anna, aniline plum (10, 11, 12, 13)	35,520
3 as., orange (1, 2, 3)	6,800
„ brown-orange (7, 8, 10, 13)	56,880
6 as., olive-bistre (1, 8)	64,600
„ brown-bistre (2, 3, 7, 10)	6,180

(The *olive* shade of this stamp was apparently used for the July, 1886, printing (600), and the *brown* shade for the printings of February, 1887 (500), February, 1889 (1920), and August, 1893 (600). The large number overprinted in February, 1894 (64,000), however, consisted of the *olive* shade. The November, 1895, printing (2160), was again in the *brown* shade.)

8 as., dull mauve (1, 2, 3, 7)	3,060
„ aniline mauve (8, 10)	49,200

Service

1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8)	66,140
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(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*, and is rare in that shade.)

1 anna, aniline plum (10, 12, 13)	22,080
3 as., orange (1, 2, 3)	3,440
„ brown-orange (11, 12)	5,280
6 as., olive-bistre (1)	600
„ brown-bistre (2, 3)	1,780
8 as., dull mauve (1, 2, 3, 7)	2,340
„ aniline mauve (8, 10)	48,000

GWALIOR

(The 1 anna, 6 as., and 8 as. values of the first issue exist only as catalogued in the earlier shades.)

Ordinary (Short black Hindi)

9 pies, deep carmine (13)	1,200
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13)	102,000
3 as., orange (3, 7, 9)	10,850
„ pale yellow-orange (8)	500
„ brown-orange (11)	4,150
6 as., olive-bistre (3)	1,500
„ brown-bistre (3)	1,500

(The 6 as. value of this printing, September, 1885, is known in both shades, so it is assumed that the total overprinted roughly consisted of about half of each. The *olive* shade is, however, the rarer.)

8 as., dull mauve (3)	2,750
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Ordinary (Long black Hindi)

½ anna, pale pea-green (35)	192,240
„ deep pea-green (37)	48,240
9 pies, deep carmine (13)	500
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 18)	117,660
1 anna, aniline plum (24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31)	240,480
3 as., orange (3, 7, 9)	4,750
„ pale yellow-orange (8)	220
„ brown-orange (11, 14, 17, 18, 26, 27, 28, 31, 35, 37)	158,570
6 as., olive-bistre (3, 15)	8,920
„ bistre-brown (3, 26)	6,180
8 as., dull mauve (3, 16)	25,090
„ aniline mauve (26)	6,000

Service

½ anna, pale pea-green (35)	576,240
„ deep pea-green (37)	624,240
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (19, 20)	144,000

(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*; it is fairly common used.)

1 anna, aniline plum (22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 33)	960,960
8 as., dull mauve (19)	6,000
„ aniline mauve (23, 25)	12,480

JHIND

(The 1 anna and 8 as. values of the first issue, and with the "Jeend" overprints, exist only as catalogued in the earlier shades.)

Ordinary (Straight black surcharge)

½ anna, pale pea-green (15)	6,240
„ deep pea-green (16)	5,040
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (3, 6)	48,240

(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*, and is rare in that shade.)

1 anna, aniline plum (12)	5,040
3 as., brown-orange (6, 8, 9, 11, 15)	15,620

(This stamp does not exist in the true *orange* shade.)

- 3 pies, carmine.
- „ grey.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, deep green.
- „ pea-green.
- 9 pies, carmine and aniline rose.
- 1 anna, purple-brown and aniline plum.
- „ carmine (slight shades).
- 1 anna 6 pies, sepia, light and deep.
- 2 as., blue and ultramarine.
- „ violet (slight shades).
- 2 as. 6 pies, green.
- „ blue.
- 3 as., orange and brown-orange.
- 4 as., olive-green and slate-green.
- 6 as., olive-bistre and brown-bistre.
- 8 as., dull mauve and aniline mauve.
- 12 as., purple on red.
- 1 rupee, slate, light and deep.
- „ green and carmine.
- 2, 3, and 5 rupees, bicoloured.

The stamps in the above list marked * show very small variations in shade; all the others show marked differences, and the main colours may be thus divided into shades:—

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, deep green.

The earlier shades are yellowish green, green, and deep green, 1884-95, the older sheets being with brownish gum. The later shades are light green and bluish green, used from 1895 onward.

(The exact totals overprinted in each of these shades of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna cannot be determined with any accuracy.)

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, pea-green.

The pale pea-green shade was in use till the early part of 1902; the deep pea-green shade succeeded it.

9 pies, carmine.

Earlier shade, deep carmine (brownish gum); later shade, aniline rose.

1 anna, purple-brown.

Deep purple-brown and pale purple-brown (the earlier printings being with brownish gum), 1884-95.

(This value is known in *pale brown* with some of these surcharges, but it is impossible with any certainty to assign them to any particular printing; apparently this shade was used towards the end of the purple-brown period, and before the aniline shades were introduced.)

1 anna, aniline plum.

These aniline shades are in pale and in deep plum; the colour in the deeper shades quite permeates the paper; in use about 1895-1900.

2 annas, blue and ultramarine.

The earlier printings of these have brownish gum. First shades, blue, pale blue, and dull blue, 1885-95; later

shades, pale and deep ultramarine, 1895-1900.

(The exact totals overprinted in each of these shades of the 2 annas cannot be determined with any accuracy.)

3 annas, orange and brown-orange.

The first shades of this stamp were in deep orange, the earlier sheets being with brownish gum. About the middle of 1889 a pale yellow-orange shade was in use for a few months, but this was again superseded by the older orange colour for a time. The brownish-orange to deep brown-orange shades came into use after 1890.

4 annas, olive-green and slate-green.

The earlier shades of this stamp were in a rich, deep olive-green, changing later to pale olive-green, the earlier sheets being with brownish gum, 1885-95. The slate-green shades, pale and deep, were in use about 1895-1902.

(The exact totals overprinted in each of these shades of the 4 annas cannot be determined with any accuracy.)

6 annas, olive-bistre and brown-bistre.

The correct order of the use of these shades is difficult to determine. Apparently the olive shades (pale and bright) were in use up to about 1890, being succeeded by the brown shades (dull and bright); but this order was at times not adhered to, both shades being known in the same printing (proving that called-in mixed stocks were being supplied to the printing office). This 6 annas stamp was in use in British India from 1876 to long after 1900, the brown shades being in use up to about 1880, these being succeeded by the olive shades till about 1890, the browns being then again reverted to after that period.

8 annas, dull mauve and aniline mauve.

The early shades, dull mauve and pale bright mauve, were in use up to about the end of 1893, the earlier sheets having brownish gum. The aniline colours, mauve and magenta, from 1894 onwards.

1 rupee, green and carmine.

The later printings are in aniline colours, and are known in some of these issues, but it is impossible to determine totals.

From the above details it will be seen that the totals cannot be ascertained in some of these stamps, i.e. $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, deep green; 2 annas, blue; and 4 annas, olive- and slate-green. In the other values totals have been more or less definitely obtained, and these are mentioned in detail in the following table (the figures in brackets after the colours refer to

the numbers of the various printings, which are mentioned in the Indian Society's handbook):—

CHAMBA**Ordinary**

½ anna, pale pea-green (9)	12,240
„ deep pea-green (10)	48,240
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (1, 2, 3, 4)	31,799
1 anna, aniline plum (5, 7)	7,440
3 as., orange (2, 3)	4,346
„ brown-orange (4, 5, 7, 8, 10)	8,879
6 as., olive-bistre (3, 4)	2,685
„ brown-bistre (5, 7, 8, 9, 10)	7,894
8 as., dull mauve (2, 3, 4)	4,181
„ aniline mauve (5, 7, 8, 10)	4,620

Service

½ anna, pale pea-green (9)	9,840
„ deep pea-green (10)	19,440
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (1, 2, 3, 4)	51,399
1 anna, aniline plum (5, 7, 8)	48,480
3 as., orange (3)	1,566
„ brown-orange (4, 7)	3,919
6 as., olive-bistre (3, 4)	2,955
„ brown-bistre (7)	1,440
8 as., dull mauve (2, 3, 4)	3,702
„ aniline mauve (5, 7, 10)	7,920

FARIDKOT**Ordinary**

1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8)	67,700
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(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*, and is rare in that shade.)

1 anna, aniline plum (10, 11, 12, 13)	35,520
3 as., orange (1, 2, 3)	6,800
„ brown-orange (7, 8, 10, 13)	56,880
6 as., olive-bistre (1, 8)	64,600
„ brown-bistre (2, 3, 7, 10)	6,180

(The *olive* shade of this stamp was apparently used for the July, 1886, printing (600), and the *brown* shade for the printings of February, 1887 (500), February, 1889 (1920), and August, 1893 (600). The large number overprinted in February, 1894 (64,000), however, consisted of the *olive* shade. The November, 1895, printing (2160), was again in the *brown* shade.)

8 as., dull mauve (1, 2, 3, 7)	3,060
„ aniline mauve (8, 10)	49,200

Service

1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8)	66,140
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(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*, and is rare in that shade.)

1 anna, aniline plum (10, 12, 13)	22,080
3 as., orange (1, 2, 3)	3,440
„ brown-orange (11, 12)	5,280
6 as., olive-bistre (1)	600
„ brown-bistre (2, 3)	1,780
8 as., dull mauve (1, 2, 3, 7)	2,340
„ aniline mauve (8, 10)	48,000

GWALIOR

(The 1 anna, 6 as., and 8 as. values of the first issue exist only as catalogued in the earlier shades.)

Ordinary (Short black Hindi)

9 pies, deep carmine (13)	1,200
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13)	102,000
3 as., orange (3, 7, 9)	10,850
„ pale yellow-orange (8)	500
„ brown-orange (11)	4,150
6 as., olive-bistre (3)	1,500
„ brown-bistre (3)	1,500

(The 6 as. value of this printing, September, 1885, is known in both shades, so it is assumed that the total overprinted roughly consisted of about half of each. The *olive* shade is, however, the rarer.)

8 as., dull mauve (3)	2,750
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Ordinary (Long black Hindi)

½ anna, pale pea-green (35)	192,240
„ deep pea-green (37)	48,240
9 pies, deep carmine (13)	500
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 18)	117,660
1 anna, aniline plum (24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31)	240,480
3 as., orange (3, 7, 9)	4,750
„ pale yellow-orange (8)	220
„ brown-orange (11, 14, 17, 18, 26, 27, 28, 31, 35, 37)	158,570
6 as., olive-bistre (3, 15)	8,920
„ bistre-brown (3, 26)	6,180
8 as., dull mauve (3, 16)	25,090
„ aniline mauve (26)	6,000

Service

½ anna, pale pea-green (35)	576,240
„ deep pea-green (37)	624,240
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (19, 20)	144,000

(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*; it is fairly common used.)

1 anna, aniline plum (22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 33)	960,960
8 as., dull mauve (19)	6,000
„ aniline mauve (23, 25)	12,480

JHIND

(The 1 anna and 8 as. values of the first issue, and with the "Jeend" overprints, exist only as catalogued in the earlier shades.)

Ordinary (Straight black surcharge)

½ anna, pale pea-green (15)	6,240
„ deep pea-green (16)	5,040
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (3, 6)	48,240

(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*, and is rare in that shade.)

1 anna, aniline plum (12)	5,040
3 as., brown-orange (6, 8, 9, 11, 15)	15,620

(This stamp does not exist in the true *orange* shade.)

6 as., olive-bistre (6)	2,100
„ brown-bistre (9, 11)	7,040
(The Indian Society's handbook states that 1920 6 as. stamps were overprinted in May, 1903. This is a mistake; the 1920 stamps surcharged were the 8 as., aniline mauve.)	

8 as., dull mauve (3, 6)	5,360
„ aniline mauve (11, 12, 17)	4,320

Service (Straight black surcharge)

½ anna, pale pea-green (15)	30,240
1 anna, deep purple-brown (3)	total unknown
„ aniline plum (14)	24,240
8 as., dull mauve (7)	4,100
„ aniline mauve (11)	4,800

NABHA

(The 1 anna and 8 as. values of the first issue exist only as catalogued in the earlier shades.)

Ordinary

9 pies, deep carmine (11)	1,460
„ aniline rose (12)	12,000
1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 13)	167,500
1 anna, aniline plum (14)	24,000
3 as., pale yellow-orange (5)	1,567
„ orange (6)	2,133
„ brown-orange (10, 12)	14,400
6 as., olive-bistre (5)	1,033
„ brown-bistre (7, 12)	17,920
8 as., dull mauve (2, 3, 6, 7, 12)	15,770

Service

1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (2, 10, 13)	64,500
1 anna, aniline plum (14, 17, 18)	72,480
(This stamp is also known in <i>pale brown</i> , and is rare in that shade.)	

3 as., pale yellow-orange (5)	1,567
„ brown-orange (7)	1,920
6 as., olive-bistre (5)	1,033
„ brown-bistre (7)	1,920
8 as., dull mauve (5, 12)	10,900

PUTTIALLA

(The 1 anna and 8 as. values of the first and second issues exist only as catalogued in the earlier shades.)

Ordinary ("Patiala")

½ anna, pale pea-green (23)	120,240
9 pies, carmine (10)	24,000

„ aniline rose (10), number included above
(This stamp in the *aniline* shade is rare. Apparently one or more sheets were included in the tenth printing.)

1 anna, purple-brown, deep and pale (9, 12)	120,960
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(This stamp is also known in *pale brown*, and is rare in that shade.)

1 anna, aniline plum (18, 20)	96,480
3 as., brown-orange (10)	24,000

(This stamp does not exist in the true *orange* shade.)

6 as., olive-bistre (20), number included below.	
„ brown-bistre (10, 20)	40,320

(This stamp in the *olive* shade is of great rarity. Apparently one or more sheets were included in the twentieth printing.)

8 as., aniline mauve (16, 20)	24,480
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Service ("Patiala")

1 anna, aniline plum (22)	240,240
3 as., brown-orange (10)	24,000

(This stamp does not exist in the true *orange* shade.)

6 as., brown-bistre (10)	32,000
8 as., dull mauve (10)	24,000
„ aniline mauve (18, 20, 25)	24,480

"The Science of Philately."

Considered by E. B. EVANS

I HAVE copied the above title from *The Philatelic Journal of India* for August last, and in thus copying it I do not wish to assert that there is a Science of Philately, far less that Philately itself has a claim to be termed a Science, but rather to consider the question in the light of the article to which that title is prefixed in the journal referred to.

First of all, Philately must be acknowledged to mean the Collection and Study of Stamps. We all know that stamps can be collected and even studied in what most people would term a thoroughly unscientific manner; I think we must also recognize that there are collections which have a claim to be said to be scientifically arranged; that is to say, if such a term can properly speaking be applied to a collection of any sort. And here we seem to be met by a difficulty

at the very outset; is there any Science, properly so-called, in the arrangement of a collection—no matter what that collection may consist of? "Science" is simply another word for "Knowledge," but it is not every kind of Knowledge that is regarded as Science. "A Science" seems to mean something more; it would imply that the subject possesses some merit which entitles it to such an appellation. Thus we have, first of all, the question whether Philately is a subject, or pursuit, or study, which can be termed a Science; and, secondly, what amount or nature of study of the subject will entitle a person to be called a *Philatelist* (if Philately is a Science).

For instance, Entomology, according to the dictionaries, is a Science; but a person who merely catches butterflies and sticks

pins through them, even though he may arrange the results in a box lined with cork, does not thereby become an Entomologist or even a student of the Science of Entomology; neither does a person who merely collects stamps and sticks them in a book, even though he arranges them in the order of the latest catalogue or handbook, necessarily become a philatelist. But I am inclined to think that any careful study of insects, their species and varieties, their anatomy, or their habits, may be termed Entomology; and that, in the same way, any careful study of stamps, their varieties, their mode of manufacture, their history, or what not, may be termed Philately, and thus Science, if Philately is a Science.

The writer of the article in *The Philatelic Journal of India* is inclined to limit the Science of Philately more rigidly. Taking it for granted apparently that there is such a thing, he commences, very rightly, by endeavouring to define the term "Science." Considering Herbert Spencer's definition of Science as "organized knowledge" to be insufficiently definite, especially for those whose idea of the meaning of the word "organized" is not very clear, he goes on to suggest "that a study becomes a science when it includes the knowledge of a lot of facts which are related to each other and occupy definite positions as regards the whole," in which, so far as I am able to understand his meaning, I am inclined to agree with him. But when he adds, "Philately can thus only be scientific where stamps admit of comparison," I am unable either to follow his argument or to concur in its results, because I fail to see how "comparison" is necessarily involved in the definition just given. We can all agree with the statement which immediately follows this, namely, that "there is no science or organization possible between such things as a Sydney View and a Triangular Cape," which seems to be a self-evident fact, but surely "comparison" between these things is possible, if only to show what very different results can be produced by the same method of engraving.

I have nothing whatever to say against "the comparative method of investigation," as advocated by the writer of the article in question and by other authorities, but it may be extended a good deal further than the article appears to contemplate, and even then will not cover the whole range of philatelic study. And in quoting authorities it is well to see the connection in which their remarks have been made. The writer says:—

"Among the older school of distinguished philatelists there is only one who has ventured to tackle any of the wider sciences which Philately fortunately embraces. We refer of course to Mr. E. D. Bacon and we take the liberty of quoting

from his introduction to the science in question. "The more experience we gain in the classification of stamps, the more do we become convinced of the superiority of what has been called the comparative method of investigation over any other that confines research to any particular country."

Now in the first place (though this is quite a minor point) these words are not those of Mr. Bacon alone, who would be the first to disclaim sole credit for them; they occur in an article "By F. H. Napier and E. D. Bacon," two of our older philatelists, who have ventured to tackle with some measure of success a few of the most difficult problems of Philately; and in the second place, the words occur in the introduction to their "Papers on Perforations," in *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, a branch of philatelic study which can hardly be termed one "of the wider sciences," but to which the comparative method is eminently applicable.

It is pretty generally acknowledged that the study of perforations, and the listing of minor varieties of them, have been indulged in to an extent that is by no means justified by their real philatelic interest and importance; and no one has done more than Messrs. Napier and Bacon in the direction of simplifying the study and reducing the lists to their proper proportions. The comparative method has produced such results as this: Certain stamps of a certain country or colony may have been closely studied, years ago, by a careful philatelist, who measured their perforations and recorded them as gauging $11\frac{1}{2}$; certain stamps of another country or colony may have been similarly studied by another careful philatelist, and were described as perf. 12. The stamps were accordingly catalogued for many years, on very good authority in each case, as perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ and perf. 12 respectively; but "comparison" eventually showed that the perforations were identically the same, and investigation proved perhaps that they were produced by the same firm and perforated by the very same machine, or that the machines used were made by the same manufacturers and had the same gauge. The perforation was not quite regular; it was not exactly either $11\frac{1}{2}$ or 12; it was equally correct to call it either the one or the other, but it was not correct to call it $11\frac{1}{2}$ in one place and 12 in another, and thus to suggest that the two perforations were different.

Such errors as this have been corrected by the application of the comparative method to the study of perforations, as advocated by Messrs. Napier and Bacon in their papers on that subject, and this would seem to suggest the arrangement of a collection of stamps by their perforations. But the article I am considering appears to maintain that

the only scientific arrangement is under the different methods of engraving. It says:—

“Many years ago a very small step in a scientific direction was made by keeping the British line-engraved stamps separate from the surface-printed. We have not heard of any harm coming from this appalling novelty, and are astounded that it has gone no further. Look at Bahamas with the shilling green first of all scattered among the line-engraved, and then plumped in the middle of the unappropriated plate series! Could anything be more hopeless?”

But what is the matter with this arrangement? This shilling stamp appears first among the other stamps printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. on paper watermarked Crown and C C, perf. 12½, then among the same stamps perf. 14, and finally among the stamps (all of them surface-printed this time) on paper watermarked Crown and CA. It seems fairly logical.

The fact is that Philately is not the study of methods of engraving and printing, or of papers and watermarks, or of perforations, but of *Stamps*; and the philatelist studies these matters in connection with and as applied to Stamps. He may, of course, if he chooses, confine his attention to line-engraved stamps, or to surface-printed stamps, or to lithographed stamps, or to embossed stamps, and no doubt a very interesting collection or exhibition might be arranged upon any one of these lines; but I do not know that it would necessarily be more interesting or more scientific than one of the more usual nature.

After all there is still something to be said for the good old plan, by which stamps are classified first under the country in which they were issued, and then under the date of their issue, which at least gives some scope for the historical method, which is believed to have some merits. It should be sufficiently scientific to treat these little pieces of paper, not as specimens of engraving and printing, which they were never intended to be, but as Government Labels, produced for certain uses, with designs that were considered to be more or less appropriate to such uses, with such safeguards as were considered necessary, and means of separation that were found convenient.

Different designs have been adopted, and different methods have been employed for producing the desired results, but in no case for the mere purpose of illustrating those methods. The object has always been the production of the label best suited for the purpose for which it was intended, even though that object may have been no more worthy a one than the extraction of cash from the pockets of collectors.

The collector who confines his attention to the stamps of a single country may surely, to use the words of the definition that I have previously quoted, gain “the knowledge of a lot of facts which are related to each other and occupy definite positions as regards the whole.” He may compare the stamps of one issue with those of another; he may study the various methods of production that have been employed, and, which in the case of stamps is I think more important still, the reasons which have led to the various issues or to the changes that have been made. And in so studying his stamps he will gradually make good his claim to be called a Philatelist, a follower of “The Science of Philately.” It is true that he will do better if he extends his studies so as to include the stamps of more than one country, and regards his collection as a whole and not as separate collections of the stamps of different countries. It is in this respect that collectors of the older school, who commenced in the days when general collecting was the rule and not the exception, have so great an advantage over their younger brethren, who had to limit their collections in one way or another almost from the beginning. Specialism has, unfortunately, become a painful necessity for the philatelist of the present day, and each of us is bound to believe that the particular speciality, to which he is for the time devoted, is the best and most interesting of all; but it is wiser not to assert that no other speciality is worthy of attention, or that no method of study other than our own is scientific, because, while it is quite impossible that we can all of us be right in making this claim, it is more than probable that we may all be wrong.

Reviews

By E. B. EVANS

“*Histoire des Timbres-Poste Français*”

I HAVE received from the firm of Maury, Paris, the second part of the great work upon the Postage Stamps of France, upon which the late Monsieur Arthur Maury was engaged down to the time of his death at the end of last year. I had the pleasure

of reviewing the first part of this book three-quarters of a year ago, and of pointing out what an invaluable work it was, both for the student of French stamps and for philatelists generally; the publication of Part II has, no doubt, been delayed to some extent by the untimely death of

its principal author, but it has suffered no diminution either of the thoroughness with which the work has been carried out, or in lavishness of illustration and excellence of production.

Chronological order is adhered to for the most part. Thus Part I having completed the history of the adhesives of the 1876 type, Part II commences with the Pneumatic Post of Paris, 1879, etc., with its various reductions of tariffs and extensions of limits, the latter indicated by maps upon the cards and letter cards. These articles of stationery are among the most curious and interesting of their kind, and although they bear the word "Telegramme," which perhaps accounts for their being so much neglected by collectors, they are practically postal, being delivered to the addressees like ordinary post and letter cards.

After these, for some reason which is not quite apparent, come the post and letter cards of 1878, followed by the envelopes and wrappers with the 1876 type of stamp, which did not appear until 1882.

After chapters dealing with the Postage Due stamps of 1881, etc., telephone tickets, forgeries, reprints, and curiosities of various kinds, a fully illustrated account is given of the abortive competition of 1892-94, which produced nothing that was found suitable, though some handsome as well as many curious designs were submitted. Then we have the issue of 1900, in designs which have already been condemned, and not unjustly so; and the history is brought fully up to date by a detailed account of the Sower type, with all the varied tinkering at it, which is probably not yet completed.

Upon whom the mantle of the late M. Maury has fallen I know not, and so long as he desires to preserve his anonymity it is not for any one to inquire, but both this book and the current volume of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* show that the work of the old philatelist, whose loss we all deplored, is being worthily carried on. His successor has also inherited the wonderful capacity for producing beautiful books at a marvellously cheap price. How the firm can manage to sell a fine philatelic work, of nearly 650 pages, printed on sufficiently good paper, and adorned with fourteen full-page plates and over 800 other illustrations, for the small sum of *four shillings*, is a question which I do not pretend to be able to answer. I can only recommend my readers to buy copies before the publishers find out their mistake, and raise the price from five francs to fifty.

* * *

Hinton's "Hints on Stamp-Collecting"

I AM indebted to Mr. Hinton for a copy of the third edition of this little book, which

has evidently been of much service to young collectors. It has grown a good deal, in length, breadth, and thickness, since the first edition was published (how long ago I cannot say, for there was no date on the title page), but it is still a handy little volume, containing a large amount of useful information in a concentrated form—not perhaps the entire Ox in a Teacup, but as much as the budding philatelist can be expected to digest.

From a terribly long list of Commemorative Issues, occupying nearly four pages, it is quite a shock to learn that, with the exception of the United States Centennial envelopes of 1876, the first of these pernicious productions were the Guildhall Card and the Rowland Hill Envelope issued in this country in 1890. I still think that the Jubilee of Penny Postage gave a fair excuse for an issue of this nature, but if philatelists of that date had known to what an extent the bad example was to be followed, those two little articles of stationery would have been rigidly boycotted—even as it is some of us regret our investments in those envelopes!

A third edition naturally affords but little opening for criticism, but I have spotted one or two little defects, which will doubtless not be found in the next issue. Under *Reprints* I notice that only the $\frac{1}{2}$ a., $\frac{3}{4}$ a., and 1 a. of Bamra, 1880, are listed; the higher values unfortunately also exist in that form. Under the same heading, it would be well to state more clearly that the sheets of "New South Wales, 1851" (this should be "1853"), which came on the market some years ago, are undoubtedly reprints, made privately; from the description given it would seem to be still possible that they were "genuine remainders." Their origin has been fully established, though perhaps we have not got all the details of their history. A more serious mistake is the repetition of the extraordinary fable about the "Post Office" Mauritius, to the effect that "very few were used, when the error 'Post Office' instead of 'Post Paid' was discovered and corrected and the remainder were destroyed." There is no foundation whatever for this tale; there is no record of any objection being made to the inscription "Post Office," and it was distinctly stated in an official letter, which has been published more than once, that "so desirous were the public of availing of them, particularly for town letters, that in a few days they were all disposed of." A misprint on the same page gives 2d. (instead of 4d.) as the higher value of the Cape of Good Hope provisionals of "1862"; this date should be "1861," and the plates should be described as "stereotyped," instead of "electrotyped" (the latter error occurs also in another work, where I hope to see it corrected).

Exhibition of 1909

By E. B. EVANS

IT is unlikely that any of the readers of this magazine will overlook the fact that an Exhibition of Stamps is to be held at Manchester in February next, still, lest they should forget to send in their applications for space or their contributions towards the expenses, it may be well to give them a reminder.

Under the management of the Manchester branch of the Junior Philatelic Society the Exhibition is sure to be a success; those of us who began collecting so long ago as 1899, know what Manchester Philatelists can do in the Exhibition way, while collectors of even more recent date may have witnessed the triumphs of the Junior Philatelic Society in the same direction. The results of a combination of Manchester and Junior should be even better worth seeing.

The Exhibition is to be worked on the same lines as that arranged by the Junior Society in London this year; that is to say, it is to be non-competitive and there is to be no charge for admission. The non-competitive principle should result in the bringing together of a very complete collection of the stamps of all nations, without too many duplicate exhibits; while the absence of any charge for admission should ensure a good attendance of visitors, though philatelists require no such inducement.

One result, however, of free admission is that the necessary expenses of the Exhibition have to be met from other sources, and those who are of opinion that a good show is worth paying for may be safely recommended to send their contributions to the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Committee, Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht, Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester. The smallest contributions will be thankfully received, and the largest will not be refused. A curious rumour reached the press some time back, to the effect that the Committee had already obtained all the funds they required. It did not sound very likely; who ever heard of an Exhibition Committee that had got all the money it could do with? As a matter of fact, the Committee had not then, apparently, commenced sending round the hat, and that was perhaps the cause of the rumour referred to. The only list of subscriptions that has yet been published is a very short one, but now that the Philatelic Season has well begun, and collectors begin to realize that the date of the Exhibition is drawing near, no doubt the list will lengthen rapidly.

It is also proposed to take advantage of the collection of Collectors as well as of Stamps that will be gathered together, by

holding a Philatelic Congress at Manchester during the days that the Exhibition is open (February 18th, 19th, and 20th, 1909), and thus to kill two birds with one stone, and prevent the assembled Philatelists from being idle and getting into mischief. Considering the great number of enthusiastic Stamp Collectors that are to be found in these islands, it is curious that no such Congress should have taken place here before, but it seems that such is the case. Manchester has quite recently been blessed or otherwise with or by a Congress of a somewhat different nature, so should know how to deal with such things, but a Philatelic Congress is a novelty that will require special treatment. It will be interesting to learn what the Programme is to be, and what special matters are to be laid before it for discussion. The difficult problems of the Near East will probably have been settled by that time, one way or the other, possibly with some philatelic results. "Liberty" to collect whatever the collector pleases will of course be fully recognized, and there will be no necessity for "Licensing" Bills. Women will no doubt be allowed votes, on the same condition as men, namely, that they are Stamp Collectors; while the question of unemployment cannot possibly arise (Satan has no chance of finding mischief for the Philatelist, whose hands are never idle). In fact a Philatelic Congress is sure to be a model in every respect of what a Congress should be; whatever questions may be raised, they will be discussed in the friendliest manner possible, without interruption from either Suffragette or Socialist; labour will not be entirely unaccompanied by refreshment, and pleasure and profit will be the result.

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 x 9½; available for mounting stamps, 6½ x 8½. The title-page is printed in the Royal Colours, with the King's Cypher Monogram and Crown. Strongly bound in cloth, bevelled boards, with the Official Cypher Monogram and Crown in gold on cover.

Post-free, 8s.; abroad, 8s. 9d.

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

New Issues and Discoveries

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, 361 Strand, London, W.C.

Brazil.—Mr. C. C. Tait has shown us a variety, the 200 reis, Die II, of the 1900-4 issue, perforated exactly 12½. This perforation has not been known up to the present in the re-engraved set, although a 100 r. compound perforation is listed as No. 322a in the Catalogue.

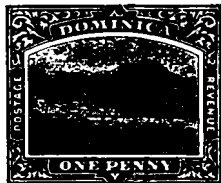
For illustration and description of Die II, see Catalogue (illustration C).



42

1900-4. Type 4a, re-engraved. Perf. 12½ to 14.
31&1200 r., blue (II).

Dominica.—Several journals chronicle the issue of the 1d. and 2½d. in Postal Union colours.



9

1908. Type 9. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.
44|1d., carmine.
43|2½d., blue.

German P.O.'s in the Levant.—The set overprinted in *centimes* is evidently for general use in the Levant offices. Mr. H. M. Spiers sends us a copy of the 5 c. with Jerusalem postmark, and says that he also has the 25 c. on 20 pf. bearing a similar postmark. If the latter were used on a letter, it does not, according to Foreign Notes (*G.S.W.*, No. 196), seem to be the cheapest method of franking.

Italy.—Several of our continental contemporaries mention the issue of a "foreign express delivery" stamp, but none seem quite clear as to its use. It may be akin to the 18 c. Mauritius, which, we believe, ensures the delivery a little earlier, in the country of destination, of a letter bearing such a stamp.

Our own Post Office undertakes the same service both at home and abroad, but ordinary postage stamps are found quite sufficient for this service, and we cannot believe that special stamps are absolutely necessary, at least from a strictly utilitarian point of view.

Reference to the arrangements of the British Post Office for this service will be found on pages 34 and 71 of the *Post Office Guide*, where it is explained that letters and parcels sent by "Express Delivery," and on which a special fee of 3d. has been prepaid, such fee being represented by postage stamps, will be delivered by special messenger as soon as received at the distributing office of destination.

We have now received a copy of the Express label which we illustrate and chronicle below.



52

FOREIGN EXPRESS LETTER STAMP. Type 5a. Head, "Union Postale Universale," and "Expres," in second colour. Wmk. Crown, Type 7, twice sideways. Perf. 14.

202|30 c., blue and rose.

Italian Somaliland.—A correspondent kindly points out an error in our Catalogue. Nos. 13, 14, and 15 are not overprinted with Type 5 as stated, but with Type 4. Collectors will do well to note this, otherwise they may think stamps bearing such overprints are new varieties.

Jaipur.—With reference to the ½ a., perf. 12½ (not 12), to which we alluded in our number for 22 August, Major Evans writes further, as follows: "Since my return home I have examined my Jaipur stamps, which I had not got with me when you showed me the ½ a., perf. 12½, and I find that two single-line machines must have been used for the stamps of 1904, ½ a., 1 a. (and probably the 2 a. also). In two long lines of holes, on a vertical strip of eight stamps, I find that the gauge varies no more than from 11½ to 12, never exceeding 12 and more often slightly under that gauge; this strip is also perf. 12 horizontally, except between the seventh and eighth stamps in the strip, where the perforation is clearly 12½. The same thing occurs in two blocks of four of the 1 a., from the right and left lower corners of sheets (not, I think, the same sheet), the last horizontal row but one of the perforations gauging 12½, while all the others, vertical and horizontal, gauge 12.

"The copies you showed me were perf. 12½ all round, and I have a similar specimen on an entire envelope, used in December, 1904; therefore it is evident the 12 and 12½ should go together, not the 12½ and 13½, as I thought at first."

Maldive Islands.—According to the Indian and Cingalese newspapers, negotiations are complete for an issue of new stamps for this dependency of Ceylon. Some time, however, must elapse before they can be issued, as the order for the stamps has only just been sent to England. The values are to be 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., and 10 c., and the design is to show "a view of the minaret standing opposite the Mahomedan mosque at Male, the capital of the Maldives. The original is 50 feet in height, and is said to be 800 years old. The letterpress on the stamps will be in English and Arabic."

Paraguay.—Three new varieties have reached us, two of them being uncharged postage stamps of the current type, and one a provisional formed by overprinting an Official stamp.



39

1908. Type 39. Colours changed. Perf. 11½, 12.

121a/60 c., orange-brown.
121b/60 c., pink.



66

1908. Type 66 surcharged as Type 44, in black.
5 c. on 60 c., pink.

Habilitado en
5
CENTAVOS

44

Persia.—We are indebted to Mr. E. W. Arnold for the sight of three varieties of this country which are not included in our Catalogue. The last two do not call for comment, but the first is rather interesting. Apparently the sheet of paper is printed in two operations; first with a ground colour of blue, a white space of just the right size and shape being left to receive the black medallion, and at the same time as the blue ground is printed, a blue network is impressed in such a position that the black lion and figure of value will fall upon it. In the variety we have before us the second printing was evidently done with the prepared sheet *inverted*, as the medallion does not correspond to the space left for its reception in the centre of the blue network.



4

1879-80. Type 4. Design in black. (d) Imperf.
Variety. Design inverted.
87a½ kr., blue.



34

Type 34 overprinted with Arms as Type 29b, in rose.
Imperf.
Variety. Double impression of stamp.
338a/12 ch., blue.

Type 34 overprinted with Arms as Type 29b, in purple.
Imperf.
338b½ ch., red.

Roumania.—We have received three more values of the 1908 set.



37

1908. Type 37. Perf. 11½, or 12½, or compound.
490/40 b., green.
402 1 l., brown.
493 2 l., red.

St. Kitts-Nevis.—The ½d. printed all in one colour has been announced several times lately in the continental journals, but we had reason to believe that such announcements were made on the strength of specimen copies only. *Le Timbre-Poste* (10.08) now states that this stamp has actually been issued.



1

1908. Type 1. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.
19½ ½d., green, O.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 19
Whole No. 201

7 NOVEMBER, 1908

Vol. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Germany—continued

German Post Offices Abroad

China,

ACCORDING to a list lately given in the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung*, Germany has offices opened at the following treaty ports or towns in China: Amoy, Canton, Chifu, Ching-kiang, Chin-ngau-fu, Foochow, Hankow, Itschang, Nanking, Peking, Shanghai, Swatau, Tientsin, and Weihsien. Topographical details are scarcely needed, for particulars of most of these places were given in the article on "French Offices in China" of this series.

The earliest offices were those of Shanghai, opened 16 August, 1886; Tientsin, opened 1 April, 1893; and Chifu, opened in 1895. The office at Hankow was opened 1 April, 1900, and that at Foochow a little later.

At Shanghai the German stamps of 1880 and 1889, and at Tientsin and Chifu those of 1889, were used without overprint till about the end of 1897, when overprinted stamps were introduced.

The German post offices in China are under the control of the "Ober Postdirection" (Chief Postal Administration) at Bremen. Their history is somewhat bound up with that of the German colony of Kiautschou.

The first issue was at the end of 1897 or beginning of 1898, when German stamps of the numeral and Eagle types of 1889 were overprinted "China" in black. German collectors divide these stamps according to the slope of the overprint, and make two chief sets, one with "China" sloping at an angle of 45°, and the other at an angle of 56°, the former being much the scarcer. The Catalogue follows this arrangement also, but for general collectors one set is sufficient.



1897. German stamps of 1889 overprinted in black.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3 pf., brown	0	3	0	4
5 ,, green	0	4	0	5
10 ,, carmine	0	5	0	6
20 ,, ultramarine	0	9	0	8
25 ,, orange	1	6	2	6
50 ,, chocolate	1	6	1	3

About this time Kiautschou became a German colony and the above stamps were used there until a special issue was provided. Such use can be determined by the postmarks "Tsingtau," "Tsintau," or "Tsintau-fort."

At the end of June, 1900, the post office at Foochow ran short of 5 pf. stamps, and the postmaster surcharged some of the above-mentioned 10 pf. stamps. There were really two issues—one made between 5th and 10th July, 1900, and a second one during a few days in the middle of November of the same year. Both issues were produced by the same single handstamp, cut in wood, and made locally for the purpose, and the surcharge was affixed to each single stamp by the Post Office officials themselves when stamps of 5 pf. were required by the public during those two periods. Altogether between forty and fifty sheets of one hundred stamps each were surcharged.

5 pf

July-November, 1900. *Foochow Provisional Stamp of last issue surcharged in black.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
5 pf. on 10 pf., carmine	40	0	20	0

The next stamps are quite the scarcest of any German colonial or foreign office issue, and for some time some discredit was thrown upon their *bona-fides*, but they are undoubtedly all right. It appears that the field post offices of the German forces at the time of the Boxer troubles had a supply of the "Germania" stamps. When the forces were withdrawn the remainder of this supply was distributed amongst the North China offices. The postmaster at Tientsin felt it his duty to overprint these with the word "China," for much the same reason as that given for the issue of the first overprinted issue of German Levant, viz. to prevent speculation. The nominal value of the Chinese dollar as regards the sale of German stamps was M.2.50, but as the actual value was only about M.2 a considerable saving could be effected by buying the said stamps without overprint and using them for remittances to Germany.

Anyway, the quantities in brackets were overprinted singly by means of a handstamp cut in wood. The overprint resembles the 56° "China" of the first issue, and can, of course, be distinguished by being on a different type of stamp. Care should be taken to buy these stamps from a reliable source, as good forgeries are about. The Catalogue lists a 40 pf. as well, but it is not known what number of these was overprinted; indeed, it is said that such stamps were not issued under proper authority.

1900. *Tientsin Provisionals. "Germania" type of German stamps handstamped "China," in black.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3 (pf.), brown (1000)	30	0	25	0
5 " green (2000)	25	0	20	0
10 " carmine (4000)	50	0	30	0
20 " blue (2000)	60	0	40	0
30 " blk. and orange on buff (300)	£10		£8	
40 " " carmine (300)				
50 " " lilac on buff (300)				
80 " " carmine on rose (300)			150	0

During the same year a proper supply of the new stamps was sent to the German offices, the overprint being horizontal. The

following list of the issue calls for no comment:—

China

1900. *German stamps, inscribed REICHSPOST, overprinted horizontally in black.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3 (pf.), brown	0	2	0	2
5 " green	0	3	0	2
10 " carmine	0	3	0	3
20 " ultramarine	0	6	0	4
25 " black and orange on yellow	1	0	1	0
30 " " " buff	0	10	1	0
40 " " carmine	0	10	1	0
50 " " lilac on buff	1	0	1	3
80 " " carmine on rose	1	6	2	0
1 m., carmine	2	6	3	0
2 m., blue	4	0	4	0
3 m., violet-black	6	0	10	0
5 m., lake and black	18	0	20	0

Similarly to the Levant issue when the DEUTSCHES REICH stamps were put into use, the overprinting was of a different character, being in fancy type.

* ½ Dollar * * *

China

1 Cent 1 China

1905. *German stamps, inscribed DEUTSCHES REICH, overprinted in black; the 3 m. in red.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c. on 3 (pf.), brown	0	1	0	1
2 c. on 5 " green	0	1	0	1
4 c. on 10 " carmine	0	2	0	3
10 c. on 20 " ultramarine	0	4	0	4
20 c. on 40 " black and carmine	0	8	0	8
40 c. on 80 " black and carmine on rose			1	3
½ dol. on 1 m., carmine	2	6	2	6
1 " on 2 m., blue	3	6	3	6
1½ " on 3 m., violet-black	4	0	—	—
2½ " on 5 m., lake and black	20	0	—	—

So far only a few values, as follows, have been seen with the "Lozenge" watermark. Evidently German stamps are not used so quickly in China as nearer home.

1906-7. *As last, but wmk. Lozenges.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c. on 3 (pf.), brown	0	1	0	1
½ dol. on 1 m., carmine	1	6	1	6
1 " on 2 m., blue	2	9	—	—
2½ " on 5 m., lake and black	6	6	—	—

(To be continued.)

PLBASB 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

Bargains

WHO amongst us, be he dealer or collector, does not feel a thrill of pleasure when, by means of his superior knowledge, he has picked up a real bargain?

Collectors sometimes say to me, "Oh, bargains! No chance now. The good old days are dead!" Well, perhaps so, and a good job too; but I can safely avow that those who study their stamps and read up all they can on their pet countries will be constantly finding bargains.

I believe that I am supposed to know something about the value of stamps, but owing to the great field of knowledge that is open to the specialist, and to the rush of business which leaves little time to the dealer for study, I am constantly making serious errors by pricing stamps under their true value, and only quite lately I have had two examples brought home to me.

The other day, in picking over a big collection, I bought a specially fine copy of a circular British Guiana of 1850. I passed this on to a client as a fine shade at, I think, a price of £35. Next day he brought it in to me and asked me to look at it again. I did so, and found it to be a *very rare* type, a variety well known, and which I had looked for for years and never found; and alas! at last, when I had bought one, I had passed it on at the normal price. I asked my friend if he would take £50 profit, but it was no go; he thought the variety was worth £200, and from its rarity I dare say it is.

Another case occurs to me that happened last year. In the Mann Collection of Austrian stamps I priced a certain variety at £20, and it was purchased by a well-known Parisian collector. Some months later I learnt how exceedingly rare this variety was, and I asked my client if he cared to let me have it back at £100—five times what it cost!—but he would not part; he had collected and specialized in Austrian stamps for over thirty years and had never before met with that particular variety, and having obtained it, he meant to stick to it.

Another bargain we sold some time ago. The tale is rather against me, but it is too good to keep.

A well-known authority on Greek stamps called at our shop and wanted to see me. I was engaged for the moment, and he asked if he might look over our stock of Greece.

Shortly afterwards he was shown up to my room, and after some chat, produced a fine and rare variety of a Greek stamp, and

said, "Here, Phillips, I think you have been looking for a mint copy of this stamp [the 20 lepta, blue, void corners]. Do you care to take this for £3?"

I agreed to do so, and said, "It is a beauty. Where did you pick it up?"

"Oh," said my friend, "while I was waiting I went over your Greek stock book, and picked this out of the ordinary ones at 5s.!"

The subject of bargains is always an interesting one, and I feel sure that many of my readers might send in examples of luck that they have had in forming their collections. I should be very glad to receive any details, and if of interest to publish same in due course.

Death of Mr. J. W. Paul

It is with the most sincere regret that I have to report the death of Mr. J. W. Paul, one of the oldest collectors, and probably the second largest, in America.

At the end of September Mr. Paul, who had been in bad health for over a year, went to Hot Springs, Va., and a few days later, when in the dining-room at the Homestead Hotel, was stricken with apoplexy and died three hours later.

For more than twenty years Mr. Paul had been an enthusiastic stamp collector, and for over fifteen years I had known him personally and had had many important deals with him, and I am indebted to his kind introduction for some of the most valued clients I have in the United States.

Mr. Paul collected stamps of all the world, and most countries were pretty well specialized; for instance, he had completed his plates of Sydneys, 1d. and 4d. Tasmania, most of the Mauritius, Nevis, etc. etc. In rarities he was practically complete in all the standard things, with the exception, I think, of the 1d. and 2d. Mauritius "Post Office" and the 2 c., rose, British Guiana. Some fifteen years ago he secured most of the gems from the large general collection of Mr. C. Howard Colket, of Philadelphia: from this source he obtained the set of four Hawaii Missionary stamps for less than £200 the set, and many of his rarities were bought at similarly low prices.

I had the pleasure of spending several very enjoyable evenings with Mr. Paul in Philadelphia in 1895 and 1900; and a more charming and lovable man I never met.

Some ten or twelve years ago Mr. Paul informed me that he had left his collection

of stamps to the Drexel Institute of Philadelphia, and now the United States will possess for ever a really fine collection of the world's postage stamps from 1840 to 1900.

In United States Mr. Paul's collection was almost complete, and in the Confederate States war issues he possessed a superb lot, most of them coming from famous old collections.

Mr. Paul was brother-in-law to Mr. William Waldorf Astor, who married his sister.

Born fifty-eight years ago, Mr. Paul was a member of one of Philadelphia's most prominent families. He was a son-in-law of the late Anthony J. Drexel. Besides being interested in various banking enterprises, he was deeply interested in many Philadelphia organizations and societies. He was president of the Drexel Institute and of the Horticultural Society of Philadelphia. He was a member of Drexel and Co., of Philadelphia, of J. P. Morgan and Co., of New York, and of Morgan, Harjes, and Co., of Paris.

Anonymous or Pseudonymous Articles

OFTEN appear in the philatelic as well as in the general press, and I think that all such articles should be read more carefully than any others by the editors of journals.

The writer who boldly signs his correct name to his writings is the person that the editor of a paper prefers to deal with. His readers will look at the name of the author, and the arguments and remarks in his articles will be considered according to the standing of the writer; but where a pseudonym has been adopted, collectors, the younger especially, may and I think often do, accept such article as containing the views and opinions of the publishers.

In the case of anonymous articles I think that they are usually looked upon as being the work of the editorial staff.

In some cases pseudonyms are very useful to the editor. I know of more than one paper in which a prolific writer uses at least six different pseudonyms!!! But I am sure such articles do not carry as much weight as if the writer signed his own well-known patronymic to each.

In future I shall esteem it a favour if all writers of articles in this paper will be good enough to allow their names to be attached to their articles.

Bulgaria Rarities

In the *Postage Stamp* for 17 October Mr. Nankivell has a short article on Bulgaria, a country which is much in the public eye at the present moment.

In referring to the 1882 issue he instances the 5 stotinki, rose (in colour of the 10 st.)

as the *one* rarity of the county [*sic*], but he is probably not aware that Bulgaria possesses in its stamps two other rarities infinitely more rare than the one he mentions.

The first of these is one that recently passed through our hands, although not yet in our Catalogue, but it is in the new Köhl. I refer to the 1879 issue, 5 c., black and orange, with the *background inverted*. On the correct stamps a white space is left vacant in which the lion is printed in at the second printing. In at least one sheet the paper was turned round, and the lion does not fit in correctly and the space left for his head appears between the hind claws. This error ranks with the first rarities of Europe. I think that only three copies have, at present, been found.

Another great rarity in Bulgaria is the 1884 provisional "5" in black on 30 st. There are many forgeries of this rare stamp, but I doubt if more than six or seven genuine specimens of this stamp are known.

Of the stamp mentioned by Mr. Nankivell as *the* rarity of the country certainly one hundred and probably two hundred are known. I know one dealer who has had thirty in his possession at one time.

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

Natal.

A FAIRLY good book of this interesting country. Among the embossed stamps of 1857 there are a number of nice 1d.'s, amongst them being an envelope franked by four of the 1d., buff, and three 3d., rose. There is also a 9d., blue, on letter with postmark "Cape Packet—Devonport. Au. 31. 1860."

The stamps of 1862-67 are especially strong, owing to a recent purchase of a fine lot of stamps of that period.

The provisionals of 1869 are getting low, and we should like to see selections of fine copies on approval.

The later issues are all well represented.

St. Helena and Heligoland.

A fairly good book of two average selling countries. In St. Helena there are some nice blocks of the early issues, and all the later issues are fairly represented. The Heligoland include some nice full sheets, a number of rare postmarks from the Breitfuss Collection, and a good general selection of all issues.

Gibraltar, Morocco Agencies, and Malta.

On making up this new book I am surprised to find how well the stamps of Gibraltar have sold during the past year; in many varieties we are almost sold out, and want to purchase most of the early issues, both used

and unused. The Malta are a good lot, and include a number of fine copies and some rare blocks.

Fiji and Cook Islands.

The Fiji book has been arranged and numbered by a new list which will appear in the 1909 Catalogue, and which is based on the new Fiji handbook.

The stamps of the *Times Express*, and those with the overprint "V.R." in Gothic or Roman type, have been numbered with their respective positions on the plates.

This book contains a lot of fine stamps and many rare shades and some good blocks of four.

Trinidad.

A fairly good lot; the 1851 are strong, and include many good shades and extra fine specimens; in the 1852 issue there are fourteen of the *blue* lithographed stamps, including some of the very first printings. The no wmk. stamps are well represented by fine copies, and include some rarities. The later issues are fairly complete.

Western Australia.

Not at all a strong lot in the early issues. I am surprised to see how the rarer stamps have sold out, and expect some difficulty in filling up with fine copies at fair prices. The later issues are very complete, only a few things missing in the minor varieties of perforations.

Speculation in the Levant

By FRANK PHILLIPS

SIGNOR GLAVANY has again written giving detailed information touching this scandalous piece of work.

First of all, in our issue of 5 September, in the "New Issues" columns, a note was published to the effect that a third issue of surcharged stamps (10 and 20 paras, 1 and 2 piastres) was to be made, the 30 paras having already appeared at that time. It would now seem that the values mentioned have *not* been issued, probably owing to pressure brought to bear on the authorities by speculators, who doubtlessly thought it too difficult to corner the projected quantities of low values.

Referring to an article facing page 224 of our issue of 3 October, and again adopting the continental nomenclature, not only have there been *fourth* and *fifth* printings of the 4 and 20 piastres, but also a *sixth* printing, dated 21 September!

It appears to me that, with the exception of the *nine* stamps listed in our issues of 11 July and 5 September, and possibly also four others referred to below, the whole lot are merely the result of frenzied speculation; they do not appear to have been properly authorized, nor issued freely to the general public, notwithstanding an official communication, emanating from the Italian Postal Administration, to the contrary.

As the various issues have become somewhat involved, I have prepared a list showing (as far as I know) all the surcharges that have appeared up to the present.

In this list I have prefixed an asterisk (*) to those stamps my publishers intend to include in the next edition of their Catalogue. Four more have been marked †, and it is about these that I wish to say a few words.

In the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung* (15. 8. 08)—to which journal, by the way, I am indebted for most of the information contained in my reference list—I note that the 4 piastres of the first issue was actually sold to the public *by mistake* at the Pera and Galata offices, between 6 and 12 June. Likewise our contemporary assures us that the 2, 4, and 20 piastres of the second issue were bought by many private persons at the post offices.

In the face of this information it would appear that these *four* varieties will also have to be awarded catalogue rank, making thirteen in all.

The numbers given in brackets indicate the number printed, as given by our contemporary.

All the other stamps on this list, with the exception of the above-mentioned *thirteen* (and of course their minor varieties) may be considered as unauthorized and unissued.



37



38



36



39



In the list below the following stamps are surcharged thus all the way through:—

10 paras on	5 c.,	Type 37.
20 "	" "	10 c. " 38.
30 "	" "	15 c. " 36.
40 "	" "	25 c. " 39.
1 pias.	" "	25 c. " 39.
80 paras	" "	50 c. " 40.
2 "	" "	50 c. " 40.
4 "	" "	1 lira " 34.
20 "	" "	5 lire " 34.

20 PARA

A

I. 1 June, 1908 (?). Local print. Surcharged in black as Type A (10 to 30 para), and somewhat as Type C for *piastre* values, except that figures of value are much larger.

10 para on	5 c.,	green (1000).
20 "	" "	10 c., rose (1000).
30 "	" "	15 c., slate (500).
1 pias.	" "	25 c., blue (500).
2 "	" "	50 c., mauve (500).
† 4 "	" "	1 li., brown and green (100).
20 "	" "	5 li., rose and blue (50).

Variety—

1 PIASTRE (instead of PIASTRA).

Forgeries known of—

10, 20, and 30 paras and 1 piastra.

10 PARA

B

1 PIASTRA

C

II. 1 June, 1908. Local print. Surcharged in black as Types B (10 to 30 para) and C.

* 10 para on	5 c.,	green (19,800).
* 20 "	" "	10 c., rose (16,000).
* 30 "	" "	15 c., slate (20,000).
* 1 pias.	" "	25 c., blue (16,000).
† 2 "	" "	50 c., mauve (3000).
† 4 "	" "	1 li., brown and green (400).
† 20 "	" "	5 li., rose and blue (200).

Varieties—

1 PIPSTRA (instead of PIASTRA).

PIASTRA (1 missing).

20 PIASTRE on 50 c. (with "o" scratched out).

Forgeries known of—

30 para with double surcharge.

1 PIPSTRA.

PIASTRA.

20 PIASTRE on 50 c.

4 PIASTRE on 1 li.

20 " " " 5 li.

20 Para 20

D

III. 1 June, 1908. Turin print. Surcharged in black as Type D.

* 10 para on	5 c.,	green (100,000).
* 20 "	" "	10 c., rose (100,000).
* 40 "	" "	25 c., blue (100,000).
* 80 "	" "	50 c., mauve (25,000).

30 PARA

E

IV. 7 August, 1908. Local print. Surcharged in orange-red as Type E.

* 30 para on 15 c., slate.

4 4 20 20
PIASTRE PIASTRE
F G

V. 12 August, 1908. Local print. Surcharged in black as Types F and G.

4 pias. on 1 li., brown and green.
20 " " 5 li., rose and blue.

4 4 20 20
PIASTRE PIASTRE
H I

VI. 1 September, 1908. Local print. Surcharged in black as Types H and I.

4 pias. on 1 li., brown and green.
20 " " 5 li., rose and blue.

4 4 20 20
PIASTRE PIASTRE
J K

VII. 21 September, 1908. Local print. Surcharged in black as Types J and K.

4 pias. on 1 li., brown and green.
20 " " 5 li., rose and blue.



LEVANTE

1 PIASTRA 1

L

EXPRESS DELIVERY STAMP. Date? Print? Surcharged in black as Type L.

1 pias. on 25 c., rose.

N.B.—Information has just been received of the issue of this Express stamp. I believe it is in order, but have received no very definite information on the subject as yet.

Stamps of Jamaica

Notes on the Local Overprints of 1890-1 and 1895 The "Thin" Official and the 2½d. on 4d.

By R. STANLEY TAYLOR, M.D.

(Continued from page 248.)

Official Stamps

THE reason for the issue of some distinctive label with which to frank the letters of the various postal departments is familiar reading. In former times the heads of all the departments were accustomed to sign the envelopes, or had an india-rubber stamp with their name on, which could be used by the clerks in the office. "O.H.M.S." was on the top of all official envelopes. Then came complaints that this signature of the heads of departments was used for private correspondence, and the Government introduced these stamps surcharged OFFICIAL. This method was equally unsatisfactory, and the OFFICIAL postage stamp was withdrawn from use owing to a supposed series of defalcations going on in one of the departments; and Vendryes was ordered to engrave an oval plate on copper, which is now used for franking all official letters. The name of the department is printed in the outer border, the word "Free" in the centre of the oval, and this is initialled by the head of the department.

The date of issue of this surcharge is determined by reference to the local journals of the period.

The *Handbook of Jamaica* for 1892 (published by authority) gives the following:—

On April 1st, 1890, the prepayment of official postages was authorised, and the franking privilege discontinued.

In the *Jamaica Gazette* of 3 April, 1890, was found the following order:—

Government Notice.

No. 144.

2nd April, 1890.

The Governor directs it to be notified for general information, that from and after the 1st instant, the privilege of sending or receiving official correspondence free of postage in this island is withdrawn.

2. The following are the rules which have been approved by His Excellency with respect to the payment of Official Postages.

By command,

NEALE PORTER,
Colonial Secretary.

Rules with respect to the payment of Official Postages.

From and after Tuesday, the 1st day of April, 1890, the permission either to send or receive

official correspondence free of postage will be cancelled, with the following exceptions:—

His Excellency the Governor, his private secretary, and his A.D.C.; and also (for the convenience of the general community and the general management of the Postal Department) the Postmaster of Jamaica.

2. The Hon. the Colonial Secretary will also retain the right to frank, by his own signature, correspondence posted by himself in his official capacity.

3. Correspondence to or from heads of departments or other public functionaries who have not been specially exempted will be liable to the following rates of postage:—

Letters, 1d. per half ounce.

Book packets not exceeding 5 lbs., ¾d. per 4 ounces.

Parcels not exceeding 8 ounces, 1d. per 2 ounces.

4. Prepayment of postage on correspondence to or from a head of department or other public functionary is optional, except in the case of registration; but when prepayment is effected it must be by means of "official postage stamps," which can be purchased from any post office. If the ordinary postage stamp be made use of, the article so prepaid will not be recognised as official, but will be surcharged as an ordinary letter.

5. Official postage stamps are only available for the prepayment of postage by heads of departments or other public functionaries. Prepayment of correspondence from the public to such officials must be effected by means of the ordinary postage stamp.

6. Correspondence, which may be wholly unpaid or partially prepaid, will be surcharged at the above stated rates of postage. The postage on such unpaid correspondence must be paid for, in cash, before delivery.

FRED SULLIVAN,

Postmaster for Jamaica.

General Post Office,
11th March, 1890.

It seems tolerably certain, I am bound to confess, that the exact number of times the type was set up for this word OFFICIAL, and the method employed, will never be known. Vendryes gives it at seven or eight times at the outside, but this is only through an effort of memory of work done eighteen years ago, and with no books or papers to refresh his memory; moreover, if he did set up the type seven or eight times, there is no reason to believe that there were different methods

for each occasion. I must repeat, therefore, the following remarks are based simply on the stamps in my possession. Fortunately, my stock is a somewhat large one, consisting of seven panes, together with a number of large and small blocks, and pairs, and from a careful examination of these I have come to the conclusion that there were four settings of this surcharge.

Setting I. Plate A.

It is utterly impossible to say which is the first setting, so I have placed the following first simply because my earliest obliterated specimen is dated 22 April, 1890, and also because it contains the most errors.

The word OFFICIAL is 17 to 17½ mm. in length, and the height of the letters is 2½ mm. It is printed in three horizontal rows of six, giving a block of eighteen overprints, and this was repeated three times down the pane, the last or tenth row being surcharged by the first row of six types. The first row, therefore, appears four times in each pane, the second and third rows only three times each.

This can be better understood by the following diagram:—

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
1	2	3	4	5	6

This arrangement can easily be determined by the various little flaws or breaks in the letters, and also by use of a broken "E" in the place of the letter "F." The requirement of thirty-six "F's" would certainly be a great tax on the resources of a printer in such a small way of business as Vendryes, and it is certain that the "E's" were cut and made to do duty for "F"—in fact, several of the stamps show where the knife was used to sever the part not wanted.

This setting is easily recognized by the following irregularities:—

No. 4. A broken "E" is used for the first "F."

No. 5. A blot appears in the upper part of the letter "A."

No. 7. A broken "E" is used for the second "F."

No. 8. A broken "E" is used for the second "F."

No. 10. The top bar of the first "F" is short.

No. 12. The top curve of the "O" is thinned, and the top bar of the first "F" does not touch the down stroke. (This is not constant.)

No. 13. A broken "E" is used for the second "F."

No. 15. The top part of the letter "C" is broken.

No. 16. The first down stroke of the letter "A" ends in a blot.

No. 17. The top part of the letter "A" is blunted.

No. 18. The top parts of the first "I" and the letter "C" are thinned or cut off, thereby giving an appearance of being lower than the rest of the surcharge.

In the early printings of this first setting we find many errors and varieties, such as the following:—

I. Errors.

(a) The surcharge reading OFFICIAL, commonly termed the "blind" surcharge, as both the "I's" are omitted. First mentioned, 20 October, 1890. Plate E, No. 1.

(b) Double blind surcharge. Plate E, No. 3.

(c) FFICIAL } First mentioned in the
(d) OFFICIAL } *Philatelic Record*, Sep-
tember, 1890. Plate E, Nos. 9 and 5.

II. Inverted surcharges.

(a) Ordinary. Plate E, No. 2.

III. Double surcharges.

(a) Ordinary. Plate E, Nos. 6 and 7.

(b) One inverted. Plate E, No. 8.

(c) One vertical, one horizontal. Plate E, No. 4.

(d) One straight, one slanting. Plate D, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6.

Mr. C. J. Phillips chronicles a surcharge printed on the back of the stamp. I have not seen this.

Although Vendryes is of opinion that the "blind" Official is a forgery, I cannot agree with him, because he acknowledges to the fact that letters may have fallen out during the process of printing, the type is the same as that of the other surcharges, and also because it was chronicled in the English philatelic journals as early as 20 October, 1890. I possess an obliterated specimen, but, of course, that is no proof of its genuineness.

Setting II. Plate B.

This setting, according to Vendryes, was printed about the same time as Setting I. I call it Setting II, because it has always been considered the second setting, and also because I have not been able to discover any errors in it.

The word OFFICIAL is now set up in

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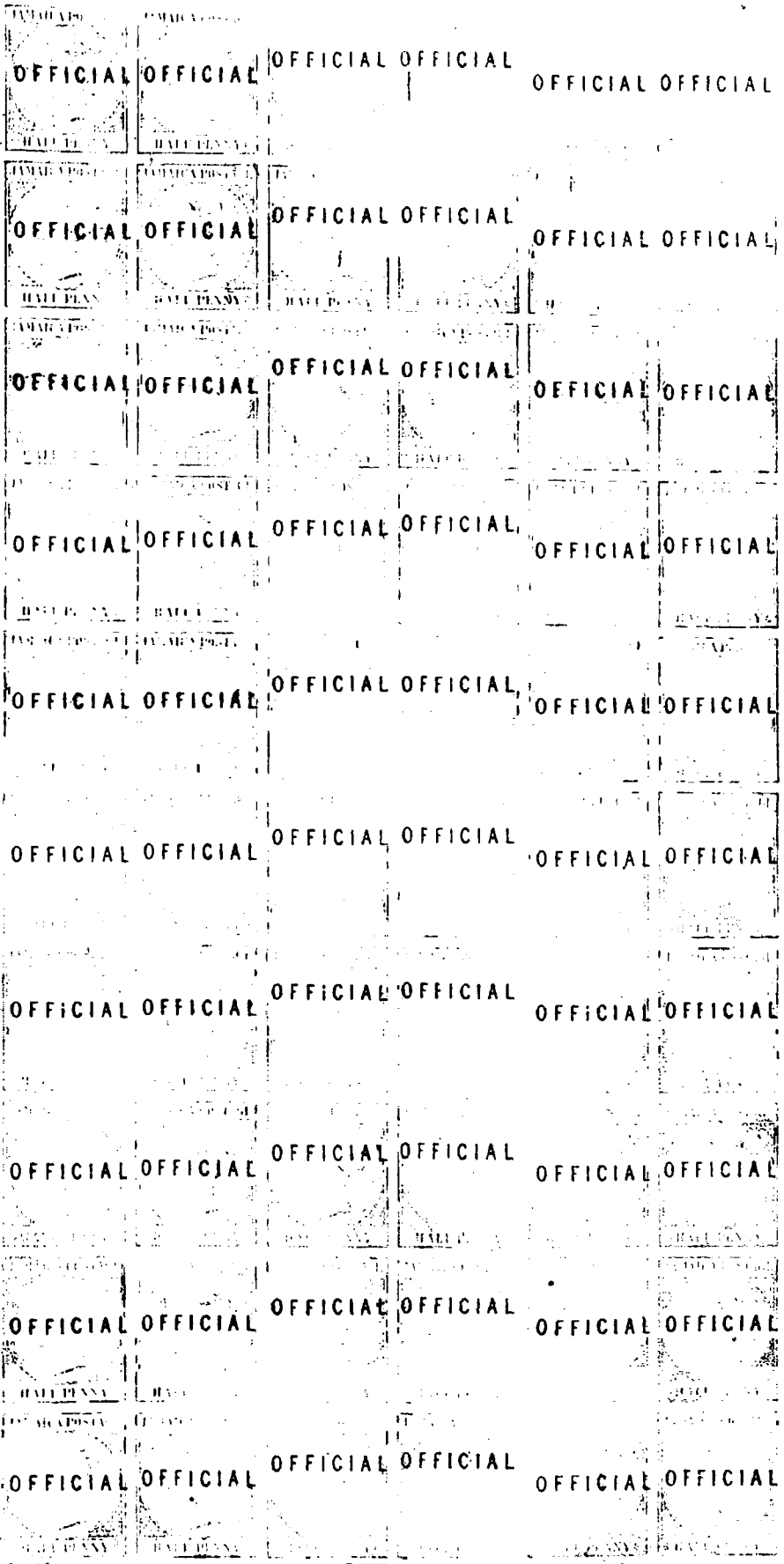
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BRITISH
12 APR 1913
MUSEUM

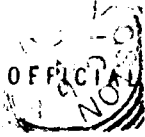


BRITISH
12. APR 1913
MUSEUM

OFFICIAL
OFFICIAL

1

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OFFICIAL OFFICIAL



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OFFICIAL
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6

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OFFICIAL OFFICIAL

8

BRITISH
12 AP 1913
MUSEUM

OFFICIAL OFFICIAL OFFICIAL

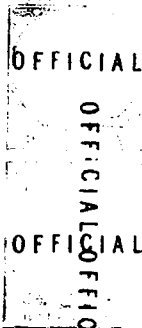
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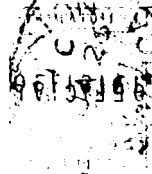
5



6



7



8



9

BRITISH
12 APR 1913
MUSEUM

only two rows of six stamps, which are repeated five times down the pane as follows:—

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12

In this setting the hair spaces between the letters are not so wide as in Setting I, and therefore the whole word is shorter.

The length of the surcharge varies from 15 to 16 mm., and on the examination of a number of stamps, including two panes, I find that—

No. 5 is 15 mm. long.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, and 12 are 15½ mm. long.

Nos. 6, 7, 8, 10, and 11 are 16 mm. long.

This method of setting is easily shown by the following varieties:—

No. 1. A broken "E" is used for the first "F."

No. 2. There is a blot in the letter "O."

No. 3. The top bar of the second "F" is short.

No. 4. A broken "E" is used for the second "F."

No. 5. The top bar of the first "F" is short.

No. 6. The first "F" is blurred.

No. 7. The second "F" is blurred.

No. 8. A broken "E" is used for the second "F."

No. 10. A broken "E" is used for the second "F."

No. 11. The letter "A" is short.

I have not found any errors in this setting, which, however, is much rarer than settings I and III, for, according to Mr. Phillips, out of a hundred used specimens he found only four copies.

Setting III. Plate C.

This setting has always been considered to be the one which was used in 1894-5, and therefore supposed to be either printed at that date, or to be remainders of the stock printed in 1890-1. Now it will be remembered that, according to Vendryes, he did all his printing in 1890-1, and did not print at all in 1894-5. That this setting was printed in 1890 I am able to verify, for I have a specimen postmarked Oct. 2nd, 90. This specimen is the only stamp (No. 13) which can be distinguished as belonging to

this setting when it exists as a single specimen. Whether any of these were used in 1894-5 is still an open question.

In this setting the word OFFICIAL is again 17-17½ mm. long, as in Setting I, but it is differently printed, as the words are set up in two vertical rows of ten stamps, making twenty types in the block, and repeated three times across a pane of sixty stamps, as follows:—

1	2	1	2	1	2
3	4	3	4	3	4
5	6	5	6	5	6
7	8	7	8	7	8
9	10	9	10	9	10
11	12	11	12	11	12
13	14	13	14	13	14
15	16	15	16	15	16
17	18	17	18	17	18
19	20	19	20	19	20

This method of printing generally causes the alignment of the overprint to be irregular, as in the illustration, where the middle printing is seen to be higher than that on either side; also this setting is proved by broken letters and irregularities, which recur in their proper positions, viz.—

No. 2. The top bar of the first "F" is short.

No. 4. The "C" is thicker than the other letters.

No. 5. A broken "E" is used for the first "F."

No. 9. A broken "E" is used for the second "F."

No. 11. Both the "F's," especially the second, appear to be replaced by broken "E's."

13. The first letter "I" is broken.

14. The top bar of the second "F" is short.

17. The "O" is of a different fount.

Judging from my collection, I should say that this setting in blocks is rare, as I have only one pane, a block of nine, and a block of three, and these are all the blocks I have been able to find.

Setting IV. Plate D, Nos. 5, 7, 8.

These three blocks of four stamps appear to be parts of another setting, but the blocks are not large enough to show how the type was set up. The fount is the same, the length of the surcharge is 17-17½ mm., and the height of the letters is 2½ mm. On examining the blocks it will be seen that the whole surcharge on each stamp looks irregular, and from the general appearance the type seems to have been put up in single rows of six, repeated ten times down the pane. Two of the blocks are postmarked 1894-5, and the few single specimens I possess are postmarked 1894-5. I cannot place

these anywhere in the three settings just described. There is no doubt that owing to an exhaustion of the De La Rue issue the "thin" OFFICIAL was again brought into circulation in 1894-5, and the probability is that these were the remainders of those stamps sur-

charged by Vendryes in 1890-1, and perhaps these blocks represent the manner in which the type was set up, but until larger blocks appear nothing can be said with any certainty respecting this setting.

(To be continued.)

British Stamps used Abroad—continued

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

GROUP VI—continued

The South African War

IS of such recent date as to need no special introduction as to its origin or its duration.

The Boer ultimatum demanding the withdrawal of the British troops from the frontiers within forty-eight hours from the 9th October, 1899, was rejected by Great Britain, and on the 11th October a general advance was made, the Boers invading British territory, and fighting took place immediately.

In accordance with precedent an Army Post Office was established for the convenience of the troops; the date, however, of its dispatch is only given by the Postmaster-General as at the outset of the war.

The staff in 1900 consisted of ten officers and 392 men, under Major Treble, all drawn from the P.O. Volunteers, and considering that their duties included not only the distribution of the whole of the correspondence sent to the troops, but the dispatch of the mails from them, the sale of stamps, and the sale and payment of British postal orders over the whole of the tremendous area covered by the troops, their task was not a light one. It is estimated that they dealt with close on 6,000,000 letters to the troops, and about half that number from the front during the first eight months of the war. In addition to this there were something like 20,000 parcels to handle.

The Army Post Office was assisted in its labours by a postal contingent furnished by the Canadian Government, and the Indian Government established an Army Post Office of its own for the Indian troops serving in Natal. In 1901 the staff consisted of seven officers and 540 men. The statistics for year ending 31 March, 1901, are: Letters sent to the troops, 11,551,300; dispatched from, 9,250,000; parcels sent, 534,245.

Lord Roberts, in a dispatch dated 16 April, 1901, says: "The magnitude of the task set the Military Postal Service may be appreciated when it is realized that the Army mails from England have exceeded in bulk the whole of the mails arriving for the inhabitants of Cape Colony and Natal and have contained each week little short of 750,000 letters, newspapers and parcels for

the troops. In view of the incessant manner in which the troops were moved about country and the transport difficulties the service was admirably carried out." Lieut. Colonel J. Green assumed command as Director of the Military Postal Service after the first few months. Both he and Major Treble were mentioned in dispatches and were decorated.

For 1902 the statistics are: 10,774,000 outward letters, 8,372,000 inward, and about 528,000 parcels. The decrease is probably due to the fact that the mails for the troops in Natal were dealt with by the civil Post Office.

Special facilities in the matter of postage were arranged in concert with the War Office. Letters sent by troops where stamps were unobtainable were delivered free of charge, the amount due for postage being made good from Army funds.

As there were no Army post offices, barring the base office at Capetown, in the Cape Colony, arrangements were made that British postal and money orders should be honoured by the Colonial post offices.

The system on which the military post is worked is as follows: The base office is usually established at a place well out of reach of the enemy. In this war it was situated first at Capetown, later on others were opened at Pietermaritzburg and other places, and of a necessity a large staff varying from forty to sixty men was there employed. The head office, in charge of the director of the military post, is always at the camp of the general of communications, so that he may be in touch with all new lines thrown out. He establishes a sub-post office on each line and for each brigade, hence the offices were spread in this war over a large area all along the front of our Army lines. As the Army advances the post office moves with it, and the officer in command makes arrangements for the transport of the mails to the base. Hence one can readily conceive that the work of the Army Post Office Corps is as arduous as that of any other corps on active service.

Owing to the length of the war and the enormous area covered, and the mass of correspondence, a large number and varieties of postmarks were used.

There are five main types, but a number of others were, as time went on, impressed into the service—in fact, after a while, Transvaal, Orange Free State, Cape, and Natal obliterations were used, and the same remark applies to the stamps used.

The principal type in use consisted of two concentric circles, with the inscription "Field Post Office, British Army, S. Africa" between them; the inner space contained the date and a number denoting the office. At the base this number was replaced by an asterisk and the letters "B.O." (Base Office) added after the words "Field Post Office." When afterwards more base offices were established, this asterisk was replaced by a large numeral, which is quite different from that employed by the ordinary offices. These base offices do not, we think, exceed three, but the sub-office marks run from 1 to 40.



Type I.

The second type consists of a single-lined circle, with the inscription "Field P.O., British Army, S. Africa" surround-

(To be continued.)

ing the date. No office number is given. It is sometimes found without any year, and this leads us to believe that it was used at Ladysmith—where, owing to the siege, they were not able to alter the date after 1899, owing to the fact that they had no "oo" in stock, and it has been the custom of the British P.O. for years now to have the year marks always in one piece.



Type II.

Type III is also a single-line circular mark but much thicker than the preceding, and the inscription, which is larger, reads "Army P.O., [number], S. Africa," surrounding the date. The numbers run from 41 to 60, and probably are a continuation of the numbers of Type I.



Type III.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Argentine Official Stamps

A NOTE after the last (1901) issue of Official stamps, on page 19 of our publishers' Catalogue, reads: "The use of Official stamps was discontinued 1 January, 1906." However, a correspondent resident in Buenos Ayres has sent a letter stating that these Official stamps are still used on the Government weather reports sent to subscribers every morning. He enclosed the following specimens clearly obliterated with the dates given:—

- 2 c. (No. 342), 14 April, 1908.
- 5 c. (No. 343), 4 March, 1908.
- 10 c. (No. 344), 2 August, 1908.
- 50 c. (No. 346), 31 May, 1908.

It seems that any value is used to frank the report, so perhaps the old stamps are being used up simply as labels to signify that the matter in question is "On Government Service." Probably there was a big

remainder, and they will continue to be used, more or less irregularly, in this way until the stock is exhausted.

New Stamps for Eritrea

IT appears that the overprinted Italian stamps are no longer considered suitable for the colony of Eritrea. According to *La Revue Postale* (10.08), orders have been received in Turin, by *L'Officina Carte-Valori*, to print ten thousand stamps to form a completely new set. There are to be ten values in all, so that the printing is quite a small one, if our contemporary's figures are correct.

Below is a list of the values, showing what is to be the principal feature in the design of each—

- 1 c. and 2 c., Head Post Office.
- 5 c. ,, 10 c., The Plough at Senafé.
- 15 c. ,, 25 c., Government Buildings.
- 40 c. ,, 50 c., Camel and Palm Trees.
- 1 and 2 lire, A Soldier with Shield.

"Head Post Office" does not seem a very good translation of the Italian "Scambio della posta," nor does "The Plough at Senafé" convey much to me, although "Aratro a Senafé" may to the Italian. Perhaps they have only one plough at Senafé, wherever that may be, and are rather proud of it; possibly some kind reader will throw light on the point.

The designs are based on photographs taken by M. Lo Giudive, first lieutenant in the Artillery (there, that proves that there *is* a plough, or it couldn't have been photographed). As each design is intended to serve for two values (I suppose the rest of the plates got spoiled), the latter will only be distinguishable by colour, and the colour scheme will be similar to that of the Italian stamps. The six lower values are oblong in shape, and the four higher values rectangular.

In the upper corners the crown of Savoy will appear on the right, and the words "Poste italiane" on the left, together with figures of value similar to the current 15 c. of Italy. The words "Colonia Eritrea" will be shown at the base of the stamp, below the central design.

Philatelic Badges

SOME of our readers may possibly remember that two or more years ago my publishers dealt with the subject of badges for collectors in the columns of *G.S.W.* I find that the old idea has been cropping up again, but if ridicule can kill, I certainly think that the barbed shafts of Monsieur Alfred Montader, editor of *Le Postillon (et bon camarade qu'il est celui-là)* should prove mortal. But a free translation of his remarks seems worth giving:—

L'Echo de la Timbrologie reverts with great pertinacity to the old theme of a philatelic badge. This idea saw the light in England, but all the pros and cons having been discussed, at length it was abandoned. Our contemporary has resuscitated it. Well, the Frenchman seems to have a perfect mania for decking himself with all sorts of badges. Why, I know people who would never dream of making an ascent of a hill 1800 feet high, without carrying the badge of Alpine Club; others seem to think it necessary to wear the Touring Club badge each time they bestraddle their bicycles. Are we to see some of the collectors we know carrying some trinket or other (probably in execrable taste) to draw public attention upon themselves? and are there to be different designs for different kinds of collectors? One of the obvious disadvantages is that they will be the continual prey of low-class stamp dealers, fakers, and general vendors of rubbish. Very probably the kind friends and relations of the unhappy victim will in their leisure indulge in such mockery that he will soon get absolutely sick of his badge, and perhaps of his collection too!

The Logic of the Backwoods

THE Canadian Post Office people are absolutely convinced that the world is peopled by fools. They base their opinion on the fact that the public actually have the impudence to cut the beautiful new 1 and 2 cent stamps in half, and make use of *each* half to frank a 1 or 2 cent card or letter. They apparently consider these stamps to be double stamps, especially as they each show *two* portraits and *two* figures [1 or 2. Well, according to Adam Riese [who was he?], twice 1 is 2, and 2 divided into half is equal to 1. Therefore *each* half of a 1 cent stamp must be valid as a whole 1 cent stamp! What can the authorities do with people so unreasonable?

We could have understood the why and wherefore if the 7 cent stamp had suffered mutilation, as the two Generals Montcalm and Wolfe are shown side by side, even though years ago they both battled valiantly for the city of Quebec. Some mean-spirited Franco or Anglo Canadian might possibly have shown his entire disapproval of the *Entente Cordiale* by tearing the stamp in half!—*Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung.*

First Issue of the Dominican Republic

WE are informed that a firm in San Domingo has obtained possession of one of the original clichés used for printing the 1 real of the 1865 (first issue). It is also reported that attempts are being made to take impressions from it on green paper somewhat similar to that used for the original stamp (valued at about £10). We would warn our readers to be on their guard should one of these stamps be offered cheap, as the paper is not so easy to distinguish unless one happens to be well acquainted with the real thing.

Will Sweden adopt the Franc?

ACCORDING to *La Revue de la Fédération Philatélique de France*, there is a fair possibility of the monetary unit of Sweden being changed from one kronor to one franc. M. John Hammar, the director of the Swedish Exporting Co., an enormous national trading company, has been requested to take immediate steps to lay the matter before the Swedish Government, and it is said that the movement is exceedingly well supported, a large majority of the people being in favour of the change.

As far as philatelists are concerned, a change would mean entirely new sets of postage stamps, unpaid letter stamps, envelopes, and post cards, all with the values expressed in the new currency; but I think we can safely assume that the change will not take place immediately, if at all, as Governments move slowly.

New Issues and Discoveries

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, 891 Strand, London, W.C.

Australian Commonwealth.—From the *Australian Philatelist* (10.9.08) we learn that the 5s. Postage Due has been issued with a bar and dash (thus "5/-"), instead of the figure "5" only, as has been the case up to the present.



3

SEPTEMBER, 1908. Type 3, figure of value thus: "5/-," instead of "5." Wmk. Crown and Δ, Type 4. Perf. 11½, 12, compound with 11.

167½/-, emerald-green.

Bermuda.—Our contemporary *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (17.10.08) states that it is officially informed that the 1d. has been issued all in one colour, and also that the stock of the bicoloured 1d. is exhausted. The earliest postmark known is dated 16 Sept. 1908.

The same journal (24.10.08.) chronicles a ½d. stamp, said to have been issued on 25 Sept. 1908, or earlier.



13

SEPTEMBER, 1908. Type 13. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

40½d, brown and lilac, O.
42½d, carmine, O.

Cochin.—In our issue of 1 August, under No. 22, we chronicled a new 1 anna stamp of this state. From the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* (17.10.08) we learn that official information has been received from the Postmaster that no new postage stamp has been issued, and that the stamp referred to is only a revenue stamp not on sale at post offices.

In view of this information, our readers are requested to delete the chronicle of this stamp, as it will not be included in our Catalogue.

German East Africa.—We learn from *Der Deutsche Philatelist* (20.10.08) that the 3 rupee stamp has made its appearance on the usual watermarked paper.



E 4

1908. Type E 4. Wmk. Lozenges, Type c 4.
44½ rupien, red and blue-black.

Gwalior.—Mr. A. W. Tyrrell draws our attention to some differences on the Gwalior King Service issue. In the later printings, the two lines of characters are much closer together. He says, roughly speaking, the earlier printings are a clear 10 mm. apart, whilst the later ones are about 8½.

At present he has only noticed this difference on the 3 p., ½, and 1 anna values.

Hungary.—We gather from the *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal* (17.10.08) that the watermark on the stamps of Hungary has again been changed; why, we do not know. We illustrate below both the old and the new watermark, and it will be seen that in the latter the orb and cross at the top lean to the left instead of to the right; again, the three "legs" are shaped like buckles, instead of being straight.

Our contemporary states the printing was arranged as follows:—

July, 1908.	5 and 10 fi.; 2 fi., Newspaper stamp.
Aug. "	3, 5, 6 fi.
Sept. "	1, 2, 20, 30, 35, 60 fi., 1 and 2 Kor.
Oct. "	25 and 50 fi.
Jan., 1909.	5 Kor.

It has not been decided when to print the 12 fi. on the new watermarked paper, as there are large stocks of the last printing on hand.



7

9
(Old.)OCTOBER (?), 1908. Type 7. *New work.*, Type 10.
Perf. 15.

160½ fr., emerald.

10
(New.)

Indo-China.—We have received the new set of Postage Due stamps mentioned in *G.S.W.*, No. 196, and the type is illustrated herewith.



52

The chronicle already given is generally accurate, but we should describe the 40 c. as *purple-brown* rather than *violet-brown*, and the 50 c. as *greenish blue*, whilst the 60 c. is *y. low*, not *orange*. The perf. is the usual one for French Colonial stamps, viz. 14 x 13½.

Italian P.O.'s in the Levant.—We have to list five more varieties of the stamps surcharged for use in these offices. The first four are listed in accordance with information as to their legitimacy just received, although they were known so long ago as June last.

The Express Delivery stamp is chronicled on the authority of a copy we have had sent to us. For further information readers are referred to an article on "Speculation in the Levant," which will be found elsewhere in this number.

20 PARA

82a

1 PIASTRA

82b

6 JUNE, 1908. Local print. Type 34 of Italy surcharged in black as Type 82a, but with larger figures of value.

829a½ pias. on 1 li., brown and green.

JUNE, 1908. Local print. Contemporary stamps of Italy surcharged as Type 82a, in black.

834½ pias. on 50 c., marve.

835¾ pias. on 1 li., brown and green.

836¾ pias. on 5 li., rose and blue.

LEVANTE

1 PIASTRA 1

82m

EXPRESS DELIVERY STAMP. SEPTEMBER, 1908. Type 51 of Italy surcharged as Type 82m, in black.

850a½ pias. on 25 c., rose.

New Hebrides.—We have received a set of the overprinted stamps issued by the French authorities for use in this Anglo-Franco-governed territory. The chronicle in *G.S.W.*, No. 198, is correct, and we now formally list as follows:—



15



16



17

NOUVELLES

HEBRIDES

NOUVELLES-HEBRIDES

1

2

1908. Types 15, 16, and 17 of New Caledonia overprinted with Type 1 or 2 (1 fr.), in black (Bk.), or in red (R).

5 c., green (Bk.).

10 c., rose-red (Bk.).

25 c., blue on greenish (R).

50 c., red on orange (Bk.).

1 fr., blue on green (R).

Nicaragua.—We have received another provisional to add to the already long list. It is No. 307 surcharged with a type quite new to us. The following description is sufficient explanation.



37

Value 35 cts

Type 37 surcharged with Type 48 vertically upwards, in red.

35 c. on 6 c., slate.

Our New York house sends us another provisional for official use, which made its appearance lately, viz. a "35 c. on 2 c., orange, fiscal stamp." The stamp is Type 116 and the surcharge is similar to Type 117 of the Supplement, varying only as regards the date. The latter is now "1908" instead of "1907." Is this the forerunner of a series similar to Nos. 1050, etc.?



116

10 cts.
CORREOS
1907
OFICIAL
10 CTS

1908. Fiscal stamp, Type 116, surcharged as Type 117 (but with date "1908" instead of "1907"), in red. 35 c. on 2 c., orange.

Paraguay.—Our agent in Asuncion sends us yet another provisional; this time it is a 30 c. postage stamp, surcharged like the last "Habilitado" 5 c., but the value is 20 c.

Correction.—In last week's issue we described a 5 c. on 60 c., pink, as being Type 66: it should have been Type 39.



39

1908. Type 39 surcharged in black as Type 44. 20 c. on 30 c., purple.

Habilitado en
5
CENTAVOS

Portugal.—We have received the 1908 edition of the private stamp for the Civilian Rifle Clubs.



Pa

1908. Type Pa. No value indicated. Perf. 11½ x 12. 670 Blue and carmine.

Switzerland.—In view of the manifold changes that have taken place in the stamps of this country during the last few months, we are not surprised to learn from the *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal* (17.10.08) that three of the Postage Dues are appearing with the new watermark, the single cross, instead of the old impressed cross surrounded by a double oval. At the same time the colours have changed slightly.



52



13

POSTAGE DUES. 1908. Type 52. Granite paper. Figures in pale vermillion. Wmk. Cross, Type 13. Perf. 11½.

338	5 (c.),	pale olive-green.
339	1 (c.),	" "
341	50 (c.),	" "

Answers to Correspondents

C. B. (Gt. Baddow).—Glad to hear that you like the Sectional Imperial Album; it is certainly curious that you had the same idea some years ago. We regret that at present we cannot accept any advertisements.

A CANADIAN READER (Montreal).—Replying to your letter in reference to our competition, we see that your complaints are very just, and it will be almost impossible for readers outside Great Britain to understand some of the "local" colour used by the "Office Boy." However, we really cannot see our way to assist you by publishing the portraits you ask for and giving the extra explanations. Very few answers have come in so far, and we are afraid the nut is too hard for many of our readers to crack.

PARTICK HILL (Glasgow).—We do not undertake to value stamps. For prices, see our publishers' Catalogues.

Mexican stamps have never been issued with overprint of the words COSTA RICA.

K. D. (Cotton).—There are many reprints of the Heligoland stamps to which you refer. For

very full details, see *Handbook on Reprints* by Mr. E. D. Bacon, one of the most useful books published. You can get it at 391 Strand, London.

"SLAT" (Southsea).—The postal mail-van you sometimes see at midnight is probably one of many used by the G.P.O. to convey parcels to districts within fifty or sixty miles of London. We believe that at least one of these vans goes every night to Brighton, and we think that the cost has been found to be less than if the parcels were sent by passenger trains.

C. W. (Stafford).—Stamps with inverted watermark are collected by some specialists, but in our opinion they are of but little interest, and we only value them at a few pence more than the normal varieties.

Many thanks for kind remarks about our little paper and for recommending it so well to your friends; that is just the sort of thing that helps us; the larger our circulation gets the better and more useful we can make this paper.

Philatelic Societies

Bath Philatelic Society

President: B. D. Pope.

Hon. Secretary: C. J. Preater.

The opening of the session of the Bath Philatelic Society took place on 7 October at the Society's head-quarters for meetings, etc., the Bath Church Institute. The President, Mr. B. D. Pope, occupied the chair, and among those present were Messrs. F. G. Warwick, Olds, Haigh, Goodman, Noke, and C. J. Preater (Hon. Secretary). The President, in his opening address, trusted that the Bath Society would have a successful time during the coming season, and that it would prosper and become one of Bath's recognized societies. Previous to the lecture of the evening, a little business was transacted. It was agreed that the annual subscription should be 2s. 6d., with an entrance fee of 2s. 6d. for those over twenty-one years of age; no entrance fee for those under that age. A syllabus for lectures, debates, displays, etc., has been drawn up. They will be held at the Church Institute on the second and fourth Wednesdays in each month till May. The Vice-Presidents are his Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C., and Mr. J. E. Heginbottom. After the business of the evening was over, a display (with notes) was given by Mr. Heginbottom of the "Stamps of Antigua, Bahamas, Bermuda, Cayman, and Dominica." The fine stamps of these countries, with their notes, were shown in minute detail from the first issues down to the King's, including the provisionals, etc. Great care and time must have been spent in the mounting and writing up the notes of the stamps, and great credit is due to Mr. Heginbottom for this most beautiful display, which was a very valuable lot, the stamps of the West Indies being an excellent study, as well as a good investment; in fact, a collection of these stamps made twenty-eight years ago at the cost of £100 would to-day be valued at about £10,000. A vote of thanks to the lecturer, proposed by the President and seconded by Mr. Warwick, was unanimously passed, as was also one to the President for presiding over the meeting.—*Bath Herald*, 8.10.08.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Philatelic Society

Hon. President: Edwin Temple, B.A., Cam.

President: W. A. R. Jex Long, F.R.P.S.L., 58 Renfield Street.

Hon. Secretary: Thomas N. Wallace, 27 Oswald Street.

Meetings: Religious Institution Rooms, 200 Buchanan Street, at 7.45 p.m.

The first meeting of the session was held in the Religious Institution Rooms, 200 Buchanan Street, on Tuesday, 13 October, at 7.45 p.m.

The President, W. A. R. Jex Long, Esq., F.R.P.S.L., occupied the chair, and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and adopted, the President addressed a few words of welcome to the members and guests, in the course of which he drew special attention to one of the main objects of the Society, viz. assistance to collectors and promoting of social intercourse between philatelists, adding that special attention and encouragement would be given to young collectors, and that at all times the Committee would be pleased to see present at the meetings any one interested in Philately. Three new members were enrolled.

Thereafter, the exchanging of duplicates, to which the evening was to be devoted, was entered upon, and numerous transfers effected.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman brought an enjoyable evening to a close.

1908. SYLLABUS FOR 1908-9.

- Oct. 27. Debate: "New Issues"—For and Against.
For: PHILIPPE DURAND.
Against: JAS. K. RIDDOCH.
- Nov. 10. Display: Australia. MEMBERS.
- Dec. 8. Auction Night. MEMBERS.

1909.

- Jan. 12. "The Popularizing of our Hobby."
THOS. N. WALLACE.
- Feb. 9. Display: Continental Europe. MEMBERS.
- March 9. Paper: W. A. R. JEX LONG.
- April 6. Annual Business Meeting—Exchange.

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, 3 October, the above Society held its first meeting of the new season at Prince Henry's Room, 17 Fleet Street, E.C. After a successful auction, the President gave his tenth annual presidential address, in which he briefly reviewed the work of the Society during the past season, and spoke of the things it intended doing in the future. The envelope recently published by the Society in commemoration of the inauguration of Penny Postage with America had been a great success, and a number of congratulatory letters had been received. The thanks of the Society are due to Mr. S. R. Turner for the design.

Mr. W. E. Lincoln followed with what he described as an illustrated paper on the subject of "History as Taught by Stamps." The history of the world was traced from 600 B.C. down to the present time, and a number of stamps illustrating the various points described were shown—the Pyramids on the stamps of Egypt, Olympic Games on the stamps of Greece, Carthaginian Galleys on recent issue of Tunis, St. Paul's shipwreck on the 10s. Malta. As a person of importance in the history of the world, Christopher Columbus received a good deal of attention; his various voyages and discoveries, which are so fully portrayed by a large number of the stamps of North and South America, were described and the stamps shown. The paper was most interesting and instructive, and Mr. Lincoln pointed out in closing that, in studying history as taught by postage stamps, we have a novel way of increasing our store of knowledge of this fascinating subject. A very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Lincoln was proposed by Mr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Darkin, and carried unanimously.

Forgery Collection

Donations to the above collection were acknowledged from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. (between three and four hundred, containing several large blocks and other useful items), Mr. W. H. Peckitt (three hundred and fifty specimens in two books), and also from Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co., W. Morley, and the following members of the Society: Mrs. Davies, Miss Andrews, Messrs. Campbell, Hill (U.S.A.), A. E. Heaber, C. L. Harte Lovelace, E. M. Gilbert-Lodge, Hebblethwaite, Hughes, Willgoos, H. F. Johnson, W. Maggs, M. J. Mitchell, and Cadet P. Rogers, K.N.

Further donations to the collection are asked for to make it as complete as possible, and therefore of the greatest use to members. Members of the Society who are unable to attend the meetings can have the forgeries of any country they are interested in forwarded for inspection and comparison on receipt of postage.

Junior Philatelic Society Brighton Branch

Hon. Sec.: J. Ireland, 103 Western Road, Hove.

Meeting-place: Royal Hotel, Queen's Road.

Meetings: Second and fourth Thursdays, 7 till 10 p.m.

The first meeting of the new session was held on 8 October at the Royal Hotel. There was a very satisfactory attendance, and the following new members were elected: G. W. Smith, J. C. Dallimore, A. E. Anthony.

Mr. Fred J. Melville, who was to have given an illustrated paper on the "Stamps of San Marino," was unavoidably detained in London, but had sent on the paper, which was read by the Chairman. Being a country which was new to the majority of the members, the paper and the stamps aroused much interest, and at the conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Herbert Clark and seconded by Mr. W. Cyril Owen and carried.

The second part of the programme was a paper on "Philatelic Values" by the Chairman, Mr. W. Mead. The relative bearing of condition on catalogue quotations was very carefully gone into, and disapproval expressed at the policy adopted by certain countries of selling remainders under face value.

On the motion of Mr. J. Corner-Spokes, seconded by the Secretary, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Mead, and carried with acclamation.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 20
Whole No. 202

14 NOVEMBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Germany—continued

German Post Offices Abroad—contd. Morocco

THE article by Dr. Otto Rommel on the "Postal System and Stamps of Morocco," recently published in this magazine, dealt pretty fully with the above section, but for the sake of continuity of "Countries of the World" a further reference is needed, even at the risk of repetition.

Until 1890 German postal business was conducted through the French offices, but in that year the shipping agents of two direct German-Morocco steamship lines were commissioned to sell current German stamps. Until the regular offices were opened letters to Germany were franked with such stamps, which can only be distinguished by the obliteration. Readers are advised to turn to Dr. Rommel's article for fuller particulars as well as for details of the establishment of the several offices.

The latter at present in existence are at Tangier, Casablanca, Larache, Mazagan, Mogador, Rabat, and Saffi—all opened 20 December, 1899; Marakesh, opened 11 July, 1900; Alcazar (Ksar-el-Kebir), Fez, and Meknes (Mequinez), opened 27 May, 1901; and Tetuan, opened 19 December, 1906.

Particulars of most of these places were given in the French section of this series, so it is needless to particularize further. In the same portion attention was called to the "up-to-date" methods of the German offices.

Notwithstanding the longer-created "sphere of influence" of France and Spain, Germany's prestige in Morocco now ranks as high, if not higher. Not the least important factor of the result is the postal equipment; "trade follows the flag," it is said, but it is equally true that "trade follows the post," and in Morocco the latter is peculiarly applicable. Germany has spared no expense in this matter, and its imposing postal establish-

ments, when contrasted with the insignificant offices considered sufficient by other Powers, have suggested to the native mind—the local population mainly seeing European nations through the post-office windows—the idea that Germany must naturally be the most powerful and enlightened nation.

There is no question that within a comparatively short time the problem of Morocco will have to be settled; at present it is only shelved, and it behoves collectors to keep abreast of the times. Perhaps the philatelic interest of "stamps overprinted for use abroad" is not very great, but the political interest is undoubted, and it would be well for collectors to fill up blanks while the stamps are cheap. Signs of the times suggest that before long "foreign offices" will be abolished, and a rise in value is then sure to ensue. Even now an interesting collection can be made by obtaining copies showing the postmarks of the various offices. Generally speaking, in this and kindred groups used stamps are the more interesting.

The German offices in Morocco are under the direction of the Chief Postal Administration (Ober Postdirection) of Hamburg, and they are served by a generously subsidized mail service; the latter consisting of two sailings per month, between Bremen and Hamburg, Casablanca and Tangier, and, by arrangement with Austria, of a monthly service between Trieste and Moroccan ports.

The first issue was made at the time the chief office at Tangier and its first six subsidiary offices were opened, viz. 20 December, 1899. Stamps of the numeral and Eagle types of 1899 were overprinted "Marocco" and value in Spanish currency. The latter was necessary because the Spanish currency was so very much below the German value. German specialists find two slopes and two thicknesses of the overprint, but the differences are not very pronounced. It will be

noticed that as the offices adopted the inland tariff between themselves, the 3 pf. value was included in the set.



German stamps of 1899 surcharged in black.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3 c. on 3 (pf.) brown	0	2	0	4
5 c. " 5 " green	0	8	0	5
10 c. " 10 " carmine	0	4	0	6
25 c. " 20 " ultramarine	0	8	0	8
30 c. " 25 " orange	1	3	2	0
60 c. " 50 " red-brown	1	6	2	0

A supply of the "Germania" and pictorial stamps was put on sale on 20 October, 1900. The illustrations following show the manner of the overprint, which was in *black* on all values except the 3 mk., on which it was in *red*. Both types of the 5 mk. were overprinted.



German stamps inscribed REICHSPOST surcharged in black or red.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3 c. on 3 (pf.), brown	0	1	0	3
5 c. " 5 " green	0	2	0	2
10 c. " 10 " carmine	0	3	0	1
25 c. " 20 " ultramarine	0	5	0	5
30 c. " 25 " black and orange on yellow	1	0	1	3
35 c. " 30 " black and orange on buff	0	8	1	0

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
50 c. on 40 (pf.), black and carmine	1	0	0	9
60 c. " 50 " " purple	1	3	2	0
1 pes. on 80 " " on buff black and carmine	1	6	2	6
1 p. 25 c. on 1 mk., carmine	2	0	3	0
2 p. 50 c. " 2 " blue	3	6	4	6
3 p. 75 c. " 3 " violet-black	5	0	8	0
6 p. 25 c. " 5 " lake and black	12	6	—	—

The fancy type of overprint was, as for other foreign offices, used for the supply of DEUTSCHES REICH stamps in September, 1905, and the list following is sufficient description, the 3 mk., as in previous issue, being surcharged in *red*. Before this set was supplied a new printing of the 5 c. value was required, about June, 1905, and 220 sheets (22,000 stamps) of the REICHSPOST type were surcharged with this fancy or gothic type in error. This error is cheap, and certainly should be taken by general collectors.

Marocco
5 Centimos

Marocco
1 Peseta

Marocco

1 Pes. 25 Cts.

Marocco

Marocco

3 Pes. 75 Cts.

30 September, 1905. German stamps inscribed DEUTSCHES REICH surcharged in black or red.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3 c. on 3 (pf.), brown	0	1	0	1
5 c. " 5 " green	0	3	0	2
10 c. " 10 " red	0	2	0	1
25 c. " 20 " ultramarine	0	4	0	2
30 c. " 25 " black and orange on yellow	0	5	0	5
35 c. " 30 " black and orange on buff	0	9	0	7
50 c. " 40 " black and carmine	1	0	0	7
60 c. " 50 " black and purple on buff	0	9	0	8
1 pes. on 80 " black and carmine on rose	1	3	1	0
1 p. 25 c. on 1 mk., carmine	2	6	2	6
2 p. 50 c. " 2 " blue	3	6	—	—
3 p. 75 c. " 3 " violet and black	4	6	—	—
6 p. 25 c. " 5 " lake and black	10	0	—	—

Error. Stamps inscribed REICHSPOST similarly surcharged.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
5c. on 5 (pf.), green	7	6	7	6

From 1906 these stamps commenced to appear on paper showing the well-known multiple Lozenge watermark, but up to the present time the 30 c., 60 c., 1 pes., and 3 p. 75 c. have not made their appearance, as stamps are only issued on watermarked paper as the old stock on unwatermarked paper is used up.

1906-7. *As last, wmk. Lozenges.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3 c. on 3 (pf.), brown	0	1	0	1
5 c. ,, 5 ,, green	0	1	0	1
10 c. ,, 10 ,, carmine	0	2	0	2
25 c. ,, 20 ,, ultramarine	0	4	0	2
35 c. ,, 30 ,, black and orange on yellow	0	6	—	—
50 c. ,, 40 ,, black and carmine	1	3	—	—
1 p. 25 c. on 1 m., carmine	1	3	—	—
2 p. 50 c. ,, 2 m., blue	2	3	—	—
6 p. 25 c. ,, 5 m., lake and black	5	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

Death of Sir William Avery

IT is with the most sincere regret that I have to record the somewhat sudden death of one of my oldest stamp friends, Sir W. B. Avery, which took place in Portland Place, London, W., on 28 October last.

For nearly a year Sir William had been suffering from heart and kidney troubles, and only up to the Sunday before his death was supposed to be improving, but complications set in and he passed away in the fifty-fifth year of his age.

Sir W. B. Avery was chairman and chief proprietor of the well-known Birmingham firm of W. and T. Avery, the great makers of scales and weighing machines; this firm was established nearly 150 years ago. He retired from active management of the business some fifteen years ago, and then purchased Oakley Court, near Windsor, which he enlarged and greatly beautified. No doubt many of my readers will have enjoyed his hospitality on various occasions when he threw open his beautiful home to brother philatelists.

Sir William Avery did not care to be entirely disassociated with business, and on settling near London he became a director of the United Rhodesian Goldfields, Ltd., and of A. Darracq and Co., the well-known motor-car manufacturers, being himself an ardent motorist. He was also a life governor of the University of Birmingham. He received his baronetcy in 1905.

His first wife was a daughter of Mr. Francis Bell, of London, and by her he leaves a son, now in his eighteenth year, who succeeds to the title. He married secondly a daughter of the late M. Pierre Crets, of Paris.

My first acquaintance with Sir William as a stamp collector arose in a peculiar manner.

About the year 1884 I was secretary of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, which then met at the rooms of my father, in Colmore Row. At one of our meetings Mr. James Bottley, our chairman, produced one of the old penny embossed envelopes with an inscription around it lettered, "W. & T. Avery." I was requested to write to the firm and ask for a few of these envelopes for the members of the B. P. Society. Mr. Avery (as he was then) replied and asked me to call upon him, and on my doing so he showed me a fine general collection, and expressed surprise that there were any other collectors in Birmingham.

He joined our Society and became one of my best clients. About 1886 he was so much occupied in business that he placed his collection in my hands for sale on commission, and I sold the greater part of it. Some two years later he had more time at his disposal, and he restarted his collection on much bolder lines, and purchased some very large blocks of stamps. Amongst others he bought the celebrated "Bullock" Collection of Australians, which I sold him about 1891-2. He also purchased a general collection formed by Mr. W. W. Blest, and a very large portion of a West Indian collection, which I had formed between 1893 and 1897. Sir W. B. Avery also bought largely in Paris, and to a smaller extent from American dealers.

The last ten years he added but little to his collection, but on the contrary sold out a somewhat large lot of his gems privately, and later on a further lot by auction.

The bulk of this great collection has never been properly arranged, and last time I was at Oakley Court Sir William showed me scores of books with various countries partly arranged, and a great mass of loose stamps.

The collection as it is now is undoubtedly a great one, and I think it ranks third or fourth in order of importance amongst the great English collections.

North Borneo

IN *G.S.W.*, 22 August and 19 September, Mr. D. B. Armstrong published some notes on twentieth-century varieties of the stamps of British North Borneo.

A gentleman who is intimately connected with the postal affairs of the B.N.B. Company has been good enough to point out some inaccuracies in Mr. Armstrong's remarks, which I now correct, and which I regret were made in these articles.

LABUAN.

No. 190. 22 August, 1908.

Page 115.—It states that "Early in the eighties the control of the island," etc.

This took place on 1 January, 1890.

Page 116, 2nd col. Issue 1901.—It states that "Under no circumstances did you pay full face value for your purchases."

I am told that this is not correct, and that the Company only sold the unused stamps at the full face value.

Page 117, 1st col. 1902-3.—"Few, if any, ever saw North Borneo or Labuan, and they were mostly disposed of to dealers in complete sets . . . without ever going outside of the Company's offices."

I am informed this is wrong, that no overprinting was done in London, but that all surcharges were made in Borneo. Further, that only when the ordinary stock was replenished or a new issue made was the balance of the provisionals on hand sent to London, and then sold unused (none were cancelled to order) to a contractor who afterwards supplied the trade. The stamps of 5 c. to 24 c. were printed by Waterlow, the other values by Blades, East, and Blades.

Page 117, 2nd col. February and November, 1905.—The \$2, \$5, \$10, and \$25 are given as being engraved and printed by Waterlow and Sons, and surcharged locally with the word LABUAN.

I am informed that this local issue consists only of the 25 cents and \$5, that they are lithographed not engraved, and that they are produced by Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades.

[A well-known French catalogue prices the \$2, \$5, and \$10, and does not mention the 25 c. How does the latter differ from No. 80 of S.G. Catalogue?—ED. *G.S.W.*]

NORTH BORNEO.

No. 194. 19 September, 1908.

Page 184, 1st col. 1901-4.—The set from 1 c. to \$1 is given as engraved and printed by Waterlow and Sons.

I am told that this is correct for the 1 c. to 24 c., but that the 25 c., 50 c., and \$1 are lithographed and printed by Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades. See note above re same values in Labuan.

Page 184, 2nd col.—It is stated that the stamps were overprinted "4 cents" by Waterlow, were mostly sold to dealers from the Company's office in London, and it is doubtful if any of the surcharged stamps ever saw Sandakan at all.

I am informed that all this is incorrect. Waterlow did not surcharge any of these stamps; they were all overprinted in Sandakan at the Government Printing Office, and none of them were sold at the Company's office in London, except any which were sent over similarly to the Labuan mentioned above.

Page 185, 1st col. August, 1905.—To this set should be added a 4 c. on \$10.

The three stamps are lithographed and printed by Blades, East, and Blades, not engraved and printed by Waterlow.

Page 185, 2nd col. 1904 issue.

The 1 c. was only overprinted in Borneo; the 2, 4, 5, and 8 c. were first overprinted in Borneo, and later on a second lot was overprinted in London, probably with other values in addition.

The late Mr. J. G. Hendy

MR. HENDY'S name will be well known to many of my readers as that of the author of *The History of the Early Postmarks of the British Isles, from their introduction down to 1840*. This interesting work was published by Mr. L. Upcott Gill in 1905, and had a rather large sale.

Mr. John George Hendy was born in Co. Kildare, Ireland, on 24 June, 1857. About the age of eighteen he entered the postal service, and for a long time travelled as a sorter on the T.P.O. of the mail trains, and was in the great accident to the Scotch express.

Mr. Hendy eventually joined the staff at the G.P.O., London, and was for many years in the Secretary's Department.

Some years ago he was appointed Curator of the Record Room, General Post Office, and he there organized a very perfect system of indexing the papers and records, and incidentally arranged and classified a fine series



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[of Geo. Newnes, Ltd.]

THE LATE MR. J. G. HENDY

of British stamps, essays, trials, etc., which are now well arranged in a series of cases in the Record Room of the new building facing the main entrance to St. Martin's-le-Grand.

During the last few years Mr. Hendy prepared the manuscript of a second book on British postmarks, which will be of much more interest to stamp collectors than the first book, as this posthumous work is upon the postmarks from 1840 to those of the present day.

We have acquired the publication rights, and hope to issue this work in a cheap form early in 1909.

Mr. Hendy had for some years been engaged upon another work dealing with the history of the Post Office in Canada. The MS. of this work has been acquired by the Canadian postal authorities, and I trust that they may publish it in due course.

Early this year Mr. Hendy developed cancer in the throat, and an operation had to take place from which he never rallied, and he passed away in April last in the fifty-first year of his life.

Recent Important Purchase

I HAVE pleasure in announcing the purchase of an important collection of the postage stamps of *Mauritius*, which is exceptionally strong in the locally printed stamps.

Among others worthy of note in this collection there are as follows:—

2d., DARK BLUE, POST OFFICE,

on the greater part of the original letter. This great rarity is lightly cancelled, and altogether a superb specimen of one of the most famous stamps in the world.

In the POST PAID stamps there are several of the earliest 1d.'s, both on yellowish and on bluish papers.

In the second state of the plate of the 1d.'s there are two superb strips of three, a pair and a number of singles, and an interesting lot of stamps from the more worn plate. In the 2d.'s there is one *première gravure* unused, and in dark indigo-blue, also two unused 2d.'s in very early condition. The

used 2d. stamps include a number of quite early impressions.

The "large filets," October, 1859, are very fine, there being no less than *seventeen* of these rare stamps in the collection, including one on the original envelope.

The "small filets," March, 1859, are divided into early, intermediate, and worn condition, and are a fine lot.

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

St. Vincent.

A GOOD and fairly strong book of the stamps of this always popular country. Most of the rarer varieties are well represented both used and unused, and some specially fine and well-centred specimens will be found here by those who have an early choice.

Grenada and St. Christopher.

An interesting lot, especially in the Grenada, which includes many *rare* varieties in pairs and strips; there are also a number of uncatalogued minor varieties and some pages of colour trials, unused fiscals, etc.

St. Lucia and Tobago.

A fairly good lot, but the first type St. Lucia seem to have sold well and stock is considerably reduced. A noticeable feature in all the books we have rearranged lately is that the common stamps (priced 1d. to 2s. each) have been sold almost right out in hundreds of cases; this seems to point to the fact that a great number of new collectors are about and buying, and this is further proved by the very large mail we receive each day.

Hong Kong.

A good book with all issues well represented. As showing how little collectors examine stamps in our books for rare varieties, I may mention that in making up this book we found a fine *unused* 4 c., grey, perf. 12½, priced at 2s. 6d.! By some error it had been mixed with the common perf. 14, and had probably been seen by many scores of collectors.

Philatelic Peculiarities

By W. WARD

THE discovery of the head of Alexander, the murdered Servian King, hidden between those of his predecessor and successor, Milan and Peter Karageorgovic respectively, set Madame Gossip's tongue wagging.

Many causes, for the most part wild and improbable, were hinted at. To my mind this "puzzle-picture" is nothing more nor less than a strange coincidence. The face

is not clearly enough designed to be taken for the work of even an indifferent engraver, though it may have been the work of the artist. However, one may safely say that it will never be known whether coincidence or intent.

There are also little puzzles and peculiarities to be found upon other stamps besides Servian Coronation labels, even in our own current British stamps.

I dare venture that none of my readers, not even the keenest, have ever, in their collection of the Sandwich Islands, noticed a British Union Jack (ensign) on the 25 cents, blue, 1894-9 issue of these islands (Gibbons' No. 113).

The flag—for after all there is only one "Jack"—is used as a "finish" to President Dole's portrait, together with an ornamental anchor. The Sandwich Islands, discovered by Captain Cook, were annexed by the United States Government in 1898—as most of us know. The stamp in question was printed by the American Bank Note Company (of New York), and why the "Jack" should have such an honour I cannot explain. It also appears, but minutely, on the Officials of Hawaii.

[The flag was really intended by the artist, Mr. E. W. Holdsworth, to represent the Hawaiian flag, which was somewhat similar to the English, the stripes being of a different width. In the engraving this point was not well brought out, and the likeness to the British flag was a matter of comment in Hawaii at the time of issue.—*Ed. G.S.W.*]

Of course, the English flag (not the Union Jack) is seen being borne ashore at the founding of Jamestown by the pioneers under Captain John Smith in 1607 on the 2 cents stamp of the United States of last year (1907).

The American Bank Note Company have produced many strange things in the execution of their postal commissions. The 2 cents and 5 cents of Newfoundland, 1866 (perforated), 1876 (rouletted), and the 5 cents of 1868 show the codfish and seal as they have *never* yet been known to zoologists. The seal (5 c.) is seen—perhaps "sunning" itself on an ice-floe—with *clawed fore-paws*, whilst the former (2 c., Codfish) is shown with a *single-paddle*, or rudder tail.

When these stamps were redrawn by the British-American Bank Note Company (of Montreal) these amusing errors were remedied. The codfish was given its "double-paddled" tail and the seal a fin respectively, as ordained by Mother Nature.

For fear of causing trouble *mit meinen deutschen freunden*, I will pass over the current 5 mark stamp of Germany to that of the present issue of the islands of St. Christopher and Nevis. Probably most collectors are aware of the "slip" where Columbus is shown looking for India *through a telescope*—an instrument invented nigh a century after Christopher's famous voyage.

The 1894 and 1857 issues of North Borneo and Labuan of the 18 cents value exhibit a most amusing instance of an engraver's lack of common knowledge. The natives in the dhow, or canoe, are *rowing in the opposite direction to that which their vessel is going!*

I wonder how many people are aware that the sun appears on a Canadian stamp. Some may think I mean the current set with Queen Victoria's son! Just above the paddle-like tail of the beaver on the 3d. and 5 c. stamps of 1851 and 1859 respectively appears the smiling face of King Sol clearly defined.

The stamps of Obock and Djibouti, with their printed representations of perforations, notwithstanding that they are imperforate, have for long been standing features of philatelic humour.

The earlier stamps of Finland, with their grotesque roulettes, which seem to parody the more orthodox perforations, appear among other philatelic peculiarities.

The "Dr. Thebussem" stamps of Spain are not generally known, and if they are their purpose and origin are shrouded in mystery. The Castell and Duro stamps are known as being made for the purpose of franking the two postal works of Señors Castell and Duro respectively. As any reader can fully ascertain their purpose from the Spanish portion of Gibbons, Part II, it is not necessary to describe them. However, the "Thebussem" stamps are of an entirely different character. The aforementioned stamps could only frank the publications of the two authors, whilst the latter (of which there are three varieties) were used by Don Mariano Cardo de Figueroa for franking all his correspondence, both in Spain and to the Spanish possessions over the sea. During scientific researches Don Figueroa used the pseudonym of "Thebussem"; hence the name he is better known by. The right to free postage was granted by the Spanish Government for his distinguished services to science and also for several postal reforms, for which last he was afterwards given the title of "Honorary Postman of Spain and Her Possessions." Whether Don Figueroa still lives and continues to enjoy his unique privileges I know not.

Referring back to the designs of stamps, I wonder how many readers have noticed a peculiarity on the 2 cents Canada Map stamp. If they will look carefully they will see that the whole of Southern Africa is coloured red, to signify that it is a British possession. Yet at the time, December, 1898 (and the stamp was printed some months previously), the Transvaal and Orange Colonies were independent republics—even war had not been declared. This is really a wonderful coincidence.

It may be news to many, more so as the Cayman Islands have been so notoriously to the front lately, that when the Queen's Head stamps first came out packets of them unused were mailed from Georgetown with a 3d. Jamaica to defray postage and registration. It was evidently thought that

it would be a pity to spoil the new stamps of the islands by obliteration.

I doubt whether there has ever been anything that, after having done service, has been used for decorative purpose as postage and other stamps. Plaques, "snakes," screens, book-covers, and what not have been made; but probably the most peculiar of all

is the use made of them by certain uncivilized West African tribes of negroes as charms or mascots, which they call "gree-grees." But they are not the only people who find a charm about stamps; most of us consider our collections mascots we would not part with.

Stamps of Jamaica

Notes on the Local Overprints of 1890-1 and 1895 The "Thin" Official and the 2½d. on 4d.

By R. STANLEY TAYLOR, M.D.

2½d. on 4d.

IT was while endeavouring to determine the actual date of issue of this overprint that my troubles reached their climax. On searching through that valuable paper the *Jamaica Gazette*, the following was discovered in its issue of 1 January, 1891:—

Post Office Notice.

Reduction in the rate of Postage on letters addressed to places over the sea.

On and after 1st January, 1891, the letter rate of postage on correspondence addressed to the United Kingdom, as well as to all other places in the Universal Postal Union, will be two pence half-penny per half ounce.

On all other mail matter the rates of postage are unaltered.

By order,

FRED SULIVAN,

Postmaster for Jamaica.

General Post Office,
29th December, 1890.

Then in the supplement of the *Jamaica Gazette*, dated 26 January, 1891, we find the following:—

No. 103. 25th February, 1891.

The Governor directs it to be notified, for general information, that the issue of the following unified Postage and Revenue Stamp has been authorized, viz.—

Twopence Half-Penny.

Colour, light purple. Queen's head within a circle containing the words "Jamaica Postage and Revenue," with the denomination "2½d." at the base.

By command,

J. ALLWOOD,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

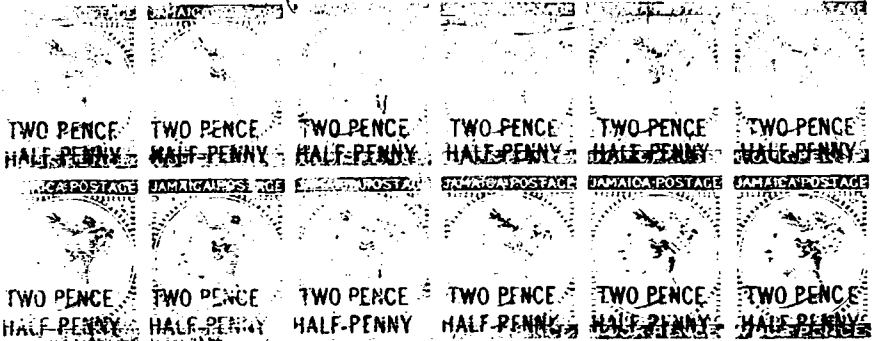
From these two notices it appears that the reduction in the rate of postage in the Postal Union to 2½d. was settled for 1 January, 1891, and that the De La Rue issue did not reach the island till 25 February, 1891, therefore a provisional label was necessary

to supply a want during January, 1891, and February, until the 25th, that is during fifty-six days, a likely period for an emergency issue. Now, on an examination of my own specimens I find the earliest obliterated stamp is dated 20 September, 1890, and on looking up the English philatelic papers I discovered that this provisional issue was reported in the *Philatelic Record* of 20 August, 1890! Therefore this provisional issue must have been in circulation some six months before the reduction in the rate of postage in the Postal Union was ordered. What was the reason for this? There is nothing in the *Jamaica Gazette* (which, I am given to understand, is published with official authority) to account for this provisional issue. The only thing to be done was to search through the island newspapers of the period to see if information of any kind could be discovered, and it is due to Mr. Astley Clerk, of Kingston, Jamaica, a true lover of Philately, that the following facts were elicited:—

As early as January 18th, 1890, the daily newspapers were urging on the Government the necessity of reducing the postage between the United States of America and Jamaica from 4d. to 2½d. Letters from Jamaica to U.S.A. then cost 4d., while from U.S.A. to Jamaica it was only 5 cents (2½d.). The matter was questioned in the Jamaican Legislative Council on the 19th of March. On the 29th of May the official Post Office notice appeared in the *Colonial Standard* and other newspapers intimating that under certain conditions letters would be posted to America for 2½d. each.

Although the official authority for this provisional surcharge cannot as yet be traced, I think the above facts are sufficient to fix the date of issue to be 29 May, 1890.

My stock of these stamps is not nearly so plentiful as that of the "thin" Official, consisting only of one pane and a large number of blocks, but on an examination of them, I have come to the conclusion that there are



BRITISH
12 AP 1913
MUSEUM

TWO PENCE
HALF-PENNY

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BRITISH
12 AP 1913
MUSEUM



two different and quite distinct settings up of the type used in surcharging this stamp.

Setting I. Plate F, No. 2.

The words TWO PENCE HALF-PENNY were printed in two lines across the lower part of the 4d. stamp of 1883, viz.—

TWO PENCE
HALF-PENNY

The length of the TWO PENCE is 14-14½ mm. The length of the HALF-PENNY is 15-15½ mm. The height of the letters is 2½ mm.

I have placed this setting first on account of the errors it contains; my earliest dated specimen is unimportant—20 September, 1890.

The words TWO PENCE HALF-PENNY were set up in type twelve times in two horizontal rows of six, and printed five times down each pane of the 4d. stamp, and I am happy to say that the whole of the twelve types can be plated. The arrangement is as follows:—

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12

The first important fact to be noticed is that the spacing between TWO PENCE AND HALF-PENNY in the first row of six stamps is 1 mm. In the second row it is 1½ mm.

The difference in the various types is as follows:—

- Type 1. The letter "H" in HALF-PENNY has dropped.
- " 2. The letter "T" of TWO is placed centrally between the down strokes of the letter "H" in HALF.
- " 3. The letter "E" in PENNY is replaced by an "F," and there is a dot in the upper part of the "H" in HALF.
- " 4. The letter "T" of TWO is placed over the last down stroke of "H" in HALF; and the curve of the letter "P" in PENCE is thinned or broken.
- " 5. The letter "T" of TWO is placed a little to the right of the last down stroke of "H" in HALF, and the second foot of the "w" is short and bent.
- " 6. The letter "E" in PENNY is broken, and there is a dot between the down stroke and the last up stroke of the first "N" in PENNY.

Type 7. The letter "T" of TWO is placed slightly to the left of the last down stroke of the letter "H" in HALF, and the spacing between the two lines of surcharge is 1½ mm.

- " 8. The letter "T" of TWO is centrally placed between the down strokes of the letter "H" in HALF, and the top of the letter "C" in PENCE is broken.

NOTE.—It is difficult to determine whether the "C" in PENCE is really broken, or whether the defect is only due to being badly inked. The impression on the back of the stamp does not help much. However, the defect is very constant.

Type 9. The letter "T" of TWO is placed between the letters "H" and "A" of HALF.

- " 10. The upper half of the first down stroke of the letter "H" in HALF is broken off.

In the word PENNY the letter "E" is replaced by an "F," and the "y" is represented by a "k" with the lower limb broken.

NOTE.—In very early printings the "k" is complete.

This variety is very rare.

Type 11. The letter "E" in PENNY is broken.

- " 12. The letter "E" in PENNY is so broken as to almost resemble an "L."

NOTE.—In the very early printings the letters "C" and "E" in PENCE are in their normal position, but very soon in the process of printing the letter "E" seems to fall away and becomes detached or spaced.

Plate F, No. 1.

As the printing went on, owing to the coagulation of the ink and letters breaking, numerous other peculiarities appeared, the most important of these being:—

Type 2. The letter "H" in HALF becomes more blurred, as if the ink had begun to clog.

- " 3. The down stroke of the letter "T" of TWO is broken.

" 4. The last up stroke of the letter "w" in TWO is thinned and jagged. The top bar of the last "E" in PENCE becomes detached from the down stroke, and the up line in the first "N" in PENNY is broken.

- " 5. The first down stroke of the letter "w" in TWO is broken.

" 6. The vertical bar of the letter "T" in TWO and the horizontal bar of the letter "H" in HALF are broken.

- Type 7. The letter "T" in TWO and the letter "A" in HALF are broken.
- " 8. Both the "N's" in PENNY are damaged.
- " 9. The letter "N" in PENCE is broken, also the first down stroke of the letter "A" in HALF, and the lower bar of the letter "E" in PENNY is short.
- " 10. The lower bar of the first "E" in PENCE is short.
- " 11. The top bar of the letter "F" in HALF and the first "N" in PENNY are broken.
- " 12. The letter "w" in TWO becomes more blurred.

In these later printings I have said that many of the letters are broken, but it is extremely difficult to decide whether this is really the case, or if the defect is due to bad ink.

It will be seen, therefore, that the only difficulty which arises is to recognize the difference between Nos. 4, 5, and 7, and the difference between Nos. 6 and 11. In Nos. 4 and 5, the position of the letter "T" in TWO to the letter "H" in HALF is very marked, and in No. 5 the short, curved second foot of the letter "w" in TWO is very constant; there is, however, greater difficulty in distinguishing No. 7 from No. 4, and this can only be done by noting the difference of the spacing between the two lines of the surcharge. In the later printings No. 7 can easily be recognized by the broken letters "A" and "O."

The difference between Nos. 6 and 11 can likewise be told by the spacing between the two lines of the surcharge, and also in No. 6 the lower bar of the letter "E" in PENNY can be traced out, whereas in No. 11 it is cut off short; in other words, in No. 6 the irregularity is probably due to bad ink; in No. 11 a broken "E" has been used.

Before leaving this setting a few remarks concerning No. 10, which contains the letter "K" for "Y" in the word PENNY, are necessary. It will be remembered that Vendryes declares the "K" to be a forgery. This I cannot accept, for on examining the block of four, Plate H, No. 8, it will be found that the fount is the same, that the four stamps occupy their proper positions in the setting and can be typed, and that the block must have formed part of a pane, as Nos. 9 and 10 are above Nos. 3 and 4. Although this stamp is very rare, I have had the opportunity of examining four or five specimens. Baron A. de Reuterskiöld has a specimen postmarked. It is a very curious stamp, for on examination the lower slanting stroke of the letter "K" is broken from the back of

the letter, and its lower end slightly raised above the bottom of the other letters. It is of a later printing, for the ink has commenced to clog, and the first stroke of the letter "H" in HALF is broken. I have had another specimen sent me for an opinion, in which the lower slanting stroke of the letter "K" is clearly broken off, and has slipped up so as to project from the upper slanting bar instead of from its normal position. This loose piece of metal naturally must have fallen out very soon, thus leaving the broken "K" instead of "Y," and I have seen another very similar to this last specimen; therefore I have come to the conclusion that in the first printings the letter was a "K," and that during the process of printing the lower slanting stroke broke away, forming in still later printings the broken "K" for the letter "Y" in PENNY. I am further assisted in this conviction by the specimens I possess of Type 12. Plate H, No. 9, shows the "C" and "E" in the word PENCE in their normal positions (which I consider to be the early printing), and I have other specimens showing the letter "E" dropping farther and farther away from the other letters, which I think must have occurred as the printing went on. If the spacing between the "C" and "E" had been the same in all my specimens, I should have been inclined to believe that there were two settings up of these twelve types: the first to include the specimens having the "C" and "E" in the word PENCE in their normal position, and the letter "K" for "Y" in the word PENNY; the second setting to contain the letter "E" spaced in the word PENCE, and the broken "K" for "Y" in PENNY; as it is, I adhere to my opinion that there was only one setting, and that the differences are due to the method of printing.

The errors of this setting are the double surcharges. It is probable that in the process of printing it was found that the surcharge became misplaced, falling too low or too much to the right of the centre of the stamp, therefore a second or central overprint was added to ensure the stamp being properly surcharged.

Specimens showing half a surcharge to the right of the stamp but without the central overprint, and other specimens with the surcharge too low or too much to the right, each with a central surcharge added, are shown on Plate H, Nos. 1, 4, 5, and 6.

Others again are met with in which one of the surcharges falls diagonally across the stamp. As I have never met with one of these obliterated, I am rather inclined to regard them as having been put aside by the postal authorities as unfit for issue. See Plate H, No. 2.

Plate H, No. 10, a block of six stamps, shows a form of printer's waste.

Setting II. Plate G.

In this setting the type was put up in a single vertical line of ten types repeated six times across the pane, thus—

1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9
10	10	10	10	10	10

The length of the two lines of the surcharge and the height of the letters are the same as in the first setting; but the spacing between the two lines of the surcharge is always 1 mm., and the distance from the surcharge on one stamp to that on the stamp above or below it is 18 mm., except between Nos. 5 and 6 of the vertical strip, when the distance is only 17½ mm.

I have come to the conclusion that this setting was printed in a vertical row of ten types for the following reasons:—

1. The alignment of the surcharge across the pane is very irregular, and as this irregularity differs in different panes, it shows that the printing could not have been done in horizontal lines. This can be noticed in the pane illustrated, in which it will be seen that the surcharges on the second and fifth vertical strips are higher than the others.
2. The "P's" on the fifth stamp in each row present a blocked appearance all the way down the pane, showing that the whole vertical line was printed at one operation with too much ink.
3. In the fifth row the letter "L" of HALF is thicker than the other letters, showing that all the stamps on this horizontal line are of the same type.
4. In the sixth row the letter "O" of TWO is thicker than the other letters, also proving that the stamps on this horizontal line are of the same type.
5. The relative position of the downstroke of the letter "T" in TWO is well to the right of the second down stroke of the letter "H" in HALF on all the stamps in the seventh row; therefore these stamps are of the same type.
6. The down stroke of the letter "T" in TWO is thicker than the other letters on the stamps in the eighth row.

Even this setting is not free from errors. Plate H, No. 3, shows a double surcharge.

Plate H, No. 7, shows a curious specimen; on account of the thick "O" in the word TWO I am of opinion that it belongs to No. 6 row of this setting. On first sight it appears

as if the "C" in the word PENCE is a "G," but I think it is only a blot of ink changing the "C" into a "G."

As a final expression of opinion, I should like to point out the relative rarity of the various misprints which occur in these stamps.

2½d. on 4d.

The rarest stamp is undoubtedly the one containing the genuine "K," and its rarity is enhanced if it appear in a block of stamps.

The various double surcharges are all equal, though, judging from my own stock of stamps, I am inclined to put specimens of Setting II first. If those containing the diagonal surcharge are really printer's waste, they are not of much importance.

As the first setting can be typed, all the stamps are equal in rarity, and they appear five times in each pane.

The broken "E" occurs ten times in each pane.

Of the two settings the earlier printings of the first setting I consider the rarest.

"Official" Stamps.

Of these stamps I consider the following is the order in point of rarity:—

- Double surcharge, one vertical } equal.
- Double "blind" } equal.
- Single "blind."
- Double surcharges, one inverted.
- Double surcharges, ordinary.
- Inverted surcharges.

Of the three settings, No. II is the rarest, especially used, then setting No. III in blocks to show irregularity of alignment, and finally setting No. I. Setting IV must remain doubtful until larger blocks appear.

I should like to gratefully acknowledge the immense help I have received from Baron A. de Reuterskiöld in the examination of these overprints.

**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 x 11½ inches.

Post-free in Great Britain, 10s. 7d.

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

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Luxemburg "Precancelled"

SOME of my readers may wonder what the overprint illustrated below means on certain issues of Luxemburg. A note in the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung*

LUXEMBURG
08

makes the matter clear, and I give it for what it is worth, although the information is by no means new.

It appears that it is the practice of the Luxemburg Postal Administration to provide publishers of newspapers, prospectuses, circulars, and printed matter in general with quantities of not less than two hundred stamps of a sort of the 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., and 10 c. in complete sheets, *already cancelled*. Printed matter franked with these stamps must be posted in quantities of not less than a hundred in the town of Luxemburg or fifty in any other post office. Anything found in pillar-boxes franked with precancelled stamps is treated as unpaid, but the tax payable by the consignee is the usual rate, *not* double.

The precancellation is naturally done in type in a printing press, and it sometimes happens that sheets of stamps get put into the machine the wrong way round, and so the cancellation is found inverted.

I want to make it quite clear that the above lettering is not a surcharge in the generally accepted sense of the term; I believe that a good many readers have thought that they had made a wonderful discovery at one time or another.

The precancellation used to have a framework round it, but lately it has appeared as illustrated above.

New Stamps for the U.S.A.

THE daily papers of Monday, 12 October, treated the philatelic world to a genuine sensation, when they announced in the Washington despatches that the Bureau of Engraving and Printing had completed designs suggested by Postmaster-General Meyer for a new issue of United States postage stamps. The new stamps will be of the following denominations: 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., 10 c., 15 c., 50 c., and \$1. The 2 c. stamp will be the first distributed, and it is expected that shipments to postmasters will commence some time in November.

The new issue has been designed with the object of obtaining the greatest simplicity commensurate with artistic results.

The profile has been taken in each instance, giving a bas-relief effect. In the present 2 c. stamp the face of Washington is shown "full face." In the new-style 2 c. stamp Washington's face is in profile. The same change has been made in the face of Franklin on the 1 c. stamp. All but the 1 c. bear the Houdon portrait of Washington. The scrollwork and border designs of laurel leaves are more artistic in the new than in the old stamps. The lettering is very simple.

Director Ralph, of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, regards the new stamps as the most artistic ever issued by the Government.

When Mr. Meyer decided to have plates for an entire new series of stamps made, he called in Edward Ralph, director of the Bureau, and Mr. Hill, chief of the engraving department, and outlined to them the designs he favoured. He submitted several rough sketches, and the artists in the Bureau, acting on these and the suggestions, prepared a complete set. These were submitted to the Postmaster-General, who ordered several changes to be made, and now the designs have been completed and the plates finished. To-day facsimiles of the new twos and ones were shown to Mr. Meyer by Director Ralph, and were approved.

"Mr. Meyer has splendid artistic ideas," said Mr. Ralph, "and the new stamps show the ideas he obtained in the art centres of Europe, while ambassador to Rome and St. Petersburg."

There were some obvious errors in the press despatches, and further information will be awaited with intense interest. The statement that all denominations except the 1 c. are to have a portrait of Washington indicates a radical departure on the part of the Postal authorities, and may well be doubted, and the same would apply to the statement regarding the new colours, which for certain denominations must comply with Postal Union requirements.

Mekel's Weekly.

Farthest North Post Office

ACCORDING to the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung*, the Norwegian Postal Administration has established a second-class post office at Green Harbour, in Spitzbergen. I should think that it would constitute the most northerly office in Europe, or in the world, for that matter.

Spitzbergen is situate partially on the

seventieth parallel, and is only about 700 miles from the North Pole and 500 miles from North Cape, the nearest spot on the mainland. My information states that this is the second post office in Spitzbergen, the other being at Advent Bay. Naturally enough, the new office is open only during the summer months, and I don't think I should hesitate to send a pound of butter to my next-door neighbour by post, even in summer!

Reissue of French Zanzibar

FROM information contained in *Le Postillon*, it would appear that the French Government are really making some sort of an attempt to suppress speculation in the stamps of the French Colonies. Not only are the recent issues of Indo-China to be put on sale again, but the same thing is to happen to the 1904 issue of Zanzibar, Nos. 265 to 274 in my publishers' Catalogue. Our contemporary rightly states that the French Agency in Zanzibar is closed, and so the stamps cannot be sold on the spot; nevertheless they will be sold at face value to all comers in Paris by the Colonial authorities.

It is quite true that this issue was the result of local speculation among the officials of the Post Office and the Administration; and although the Government is endeavouring to spoil the market for these gentlemen, I think that it would be advantageous to all concerned if they turned their attention to the somewhat hypothetical honesty(?) of purpose exhibited by some of the present postal officials in charge of the French Offices in various countries and colonies. However, the authorities seem to be moving in the matter, and I can only hope that something will come of it.

It must not be imagined that all French Colonial stamps are speculative, and that the prices of all will go down. This is very far from the truth. Take these French offices in Zanzibar as an example; the first portion of them, Nos. 21 to 252, is beyond reproach. All these stamps are worth quite what they are catalogued, and in some cases rather more. Whatever happens *they* can never be reissued.

New Issues and Discoveries

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.

Abyssinia.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. write us as follows:—

"In the last issue of your *Weekly* (17.10.08) you refer to the Abyssinian $\frac{1}{2}$ guerche stamp surcharged '1 piastre,' concerning which we are able to give you the information you desire. A piastre is the same as a guerche, and the overprint was necessary because the 1 guerche stamps were entirely exhausted, and there were not sufficient of the $\frac{1}{2}$ guerche stamps to use in place of them. This is the only value of the surcharged issue, the number overprinted being 7000, which were distributed amongst all the Ethiopian post offices in Abyssinia. Even these were not sufficient, as our correspondent, in his letter dated September 17th, stated that the few specimens he sent us were all he could get, and that there were no stamps of $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, 1, or 2 guerches obtainable of any issue, surcharged or unsurcharged, and that in consequence of this shortage the Postage Due stamps overprinted 'Taxe à Percevoir' were being used instead of ordinary postage stamps, being accepted for prepayment of postage; our consignment was franked with some of these stamps.

"There will be a complete new issue on November 1st, on which date Abyssinia enters the Postal Union, and we understand that the values of the new stamps will be expressed in piastres. On the same date all the stock in hand of the old stamps will be burnt.

"On examining the 1 piastre stamps sent us, we find there are two distinct types, evidently

done in two separate printings, as the whole of one block is in one type and another block in the second type."

We therefore chronicle as follows:—



1



15

1908. Type 1 surcharged with Type 15, in dull blue. 1½ pi. on $\frac{1}{2}$ g., red.

Afghanistan.—We have seen a used copy of the 1 abasi of the current type in *emerald-green*, instead of *blue-green*.



49

1908. Type 49. Engraved. Imperf. 2½ pi. abasi, emerald-green.

China.—A correspondent writes us that he has a 2 c., crimson, of the current issue (No. 137 of the Catalogue) with the perforation gauging $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$.

At first sight it would appear that this stamp is a variety worth including in our Catalogue, but it must be remembered that the issue is printed and perforated by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, who generally use a curious perforating machine, in which the gauge varies from 12 up to 15, or even possibly 16. In fact, in a single line of perforation all perforations from 12 up to 15 can sometimes be found. It is therefore possible, according to the manner in which the machine is used, to obtain a great variety of compound perforations, and as long as there is no information that these stamps were *not* perforated, occasionally, if not always, with this machine, we cannot list the compound varieties in our Catalogue. Usually a compound perforation indicates the work of two distinct machines, and not the work of one irregular machine.

Danish West Indies.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (24.10.08) states, on the authority of a continental contemporary, that two more values have been added to the new set.



13

1908. Type 13. Centres in first colour. Wmk. Crown, Type 4. Perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, 13.

74/40 bit, grey and vermillion.
75/50 " " " yellow.

Grenada.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (24.10.08) states that the new stamps, to which we referred in our issue of 27 June last, were issued on 1 October. Our contemporary states that all values show the plate number "1" in the margins.



25

1 OCTOBER, 1908. Type 25. Centres in first colour. Perf. 14. (i.) Wmk. Crown CA, Type w 6.

92/1s., black on green, C.
93/10s., green and red on green, C.

(ii.) Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w 8.

95/6d., lilac and mauve, C.
96/2s., blue and lilac on blue, C.
97/5s., green and red on yellow, C.

Nyasaland Protectorate.—We have now received the three high values of this colony, which up to the present we have not listed, as we were not sure that they were actually issued.



14

SEPTEMBER (?), 1908. Centre in first colour. Type 14. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

86/10s., green and red on green, C.
87/£1, lilac and black on red, C.
88/£10, lilac and ultramarine, C.

Peru.—In our issue of 12 October, 1907, we chronicled a 2 sol. stamp on the authority of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, and inserted the stamp in our Catalogue as No. 190.

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(Columbus Monument.)

53

1908. Type 53. Centre in first colour. Perf. 12.
1902/ sol., black and deep blue.

St. Kitts-Nevis.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (24.10.08), the 3d. was issued on chalk-surfaced paper on 11 August, 1908, or earlier.



2

AUGUST, 1908. Type 2. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.

15/3d., deep green and orange, C.

United States.—A correspondent has shown us a curious minor variety of the 2 c. of the Trans-Mississippi issue of 1898. In each of the

circular bulls in the lower corners, at left and right of the words TWO, there should apparently be a semicircular line of shading. In a horizontal pair sent to us, this semicircle exists only in the bulb at the left of the left-hand stamp and in that at the right of the right-hand stamp. The other two are entirely unshaded. It is merely a defect of reproduction on the plate, no doubt, but occurs in a curiously symmetrical fashion in this pair.

Venezuela.—Amongst some stamps our publishers have bought lately were some uncatalogued



31

varieties of the 1893 issue overprinted with Arms. The following list is sufficient description:—

1893. Stamps of 1'82 overprinted with Type 31.

(a) In red.

Varieties. (i.) Overprint inverted.

1914/10 c., deep brown.

Present Catalogue No. 191c is a misprint for 191a.

(ii.) Overprint double.

197a | 3 b., violet-blue.

197b | 5 c., blue.

197c | 25 c., brown.

197d | 50 c., green.

(b) In black.

Varieties. (ii.) Overprint double.

204a/20 b., purple.

204b/20 c., red-brown.

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The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

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I think that the author has fallen into an error which should be corrected before it has time to be adopted by students of our early philatelic history.

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First, the size of the sheet. In support of the statement the author refers the reader to a former paper of his printed in the *Monthly Journal* of February, 1907, page 168, where we find a letter dated 9.3.41 from Joshua B. Bacon to Rowland Hill saying that he has received "5 small pieces of [Dickinson] paper which we have printed, 3 of them in pink, and 2 in blue, and have gummed the backs of the whole of them. . . ." He goes on to say that in order to test the paper and the gum properly he would like to have 6 or 8 sheets more.

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one sheet is carefully guarded by the firm of Messrs. Dickinson" as being evidence to the fact.

I contend that these Dickinson trials were printed from an experimental plate of twelve impressions of the 2d. value, Type 2, without corner letters, and with the upper right corner of each stamp erased.

To prove my statement, I wish to show that this was not a new procedure, but I must go back in history to at least June of the year 1840.

Within a month of the issue of the 1d., black, Rowland Hill found it necessary to change the colour and the ink, to guard against fraudulent cleaning of the obliteration marks.

For the experimental work, Perkins Bacon constructed at least 2 plates, one of 3 stamps in one row, and one of 12 stamps (3 rows of 4 stamps), with letter blocks blank. The upper right corners were erased (not waxed, as is generally said). Of these trial impressions of the 1d. value, I have 10 pulls of the first and 84 of the second plate. All sorts of colours and varieties of ink and obliterations were tried, and these trials gave rise to what is known as "the Rainbow series."

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China.—A correspondent writes us that he has a 2 c., crimson, of the current issue (No. 137 of the Catalogue) with the perforation gauging $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$.

At first sight it would appear that this stamp is a variety worth including in our Catalogue, but it must be remembered that the issue is printed and perforated by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, who generally use a curious perforating machine, in which the gauge varies from 12 up to 15, or even possibly 16. In fact, in a single line of perforation all perforations from 12 up to 15 can sometimes be found. It is therefore possible, according to the manner in which the machine is used, to obtain a great variety of compound perforations, and as long as there is no information that these stamps were *not* perforated, occasionally, if not always, with this machine, we cannot list the compound varieties in our Catalogue. Usually a compound perforation indicates the work of two distinct machines, and not the work of one irregular machine.

Danish West Indies.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (24.10.08) states, on the authority of a continental contemporary, that two more values have been added to the new set.



13

1908. Type 13. Centres in first colour. Wmk. Crown, Type 4. Perf. 12½, 13.
74/40 bit, grey and vermillion.
75/50 " " " yellow.

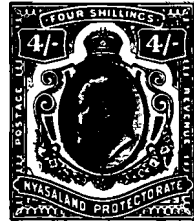
Grenada.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (24.10.08) states that the new stamps, to which we referred in our issue of 27 June last, were issued on 1 October. Our contemporary states that all values show the plate number "1" in the margins.



25

1 OCTOBER, 1908. Type 25. Centres in first colour. Perf. 14. (i.) Wmk. Crown CA, Type w6.
92/15., black on green, C.
93/105., green and red on green, C.
(ii.) Wmk. Multiple Crown CA, Type w8.
95/6d., lilac and mauve, C.
96/2s., blue and lilac on blue, C.
97/5s., green and red on yellow, C.

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(Columbus Monument.)

53

1908. Type 53. Centre in first colour. Perf. 12.
190/2 sol., black and deep blue.

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2

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15/3d., deep green and orange, C.

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varieties of the 1893 issue overprinted with Arms. The following list is sufficient description:—

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(a) *In red.*

Varieties. (i.) Overprint inverted.

1916/10 c., deep brown.

Present Catalogue No. 1916 is a misprint for 1912.

(ii.) *Overprint double.*

197a 3 b., violet-blue.

197b 5 c., blue.

197c 25 c., brown.

197d 50 c., green.

(b) *In black.*

Varieties. (ii.) Overprint double.

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Meanwhile the experimental plate without corner letters was used for printing the sample 2d. labels which were attached to the Post Office circular announcing the changes made—the 1d., red, the new 2d., and the two sizes of the 1d. envelope, embossed heads.

In this state of the plate I have a sheet and an upper left corner block of 6. On it may be found many small flaws, hair lines, etc., by which it is quite easy to plate the several stamps.

The Dickinson trials were printed from it, and the sheet was 12 stamps, but to avoid illegality, the upper right corner was erased (as in the 1d. plate), because the paper to be experimented on was not the authorized Small Crown watermark.

And now I have to prove this statement. I have in my collection four copies of this stamp, a pair and a single in blue, and a single in red.

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
	x		
9	10	11	12
x		x	x

My copies are Nos. 6 red, 9 blue, and the pair 11 and 12. It will be found impossible to cut from the sheet a block of 6 stamps of the size quoted which shall contain each and all of my copies. Moreover, a corner block of 6 measures exactly $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2$, as mentioned by "Plain Anchor."

Therefore the sheets must have been of 12 stamps, of which we know of 10 copies in blue: Dickinson, block of 6; "Plain Anchor," one single; my own, one single, and a pair, leaving for the rest of the collectors 14 specimens.

Now, sir, with your permission, I wish to revert to the earlier letters which have been quoted from. On 9 March Bacon asked for 6 or 8 sheets more to try upon. Rowland Hill sent the letter on to Dickinson asking, on 17 March, if he could supply these 6 or 8 sheets asked for.

Wright and Creeke quote a letter (on page 30) to the effect that on 10 April Dickinson sent 15 sheets of "tub-sized paper to Perkins Bacon through Rowland Hill. . . ."

The same authorities tell us that 8 of these sheets were used and printed from Plate 2 of the Penny Value. (Of this there is no doubt possible, for I have a right top corner block of 4 with the plate number "2" thereon.)

But the following words of their paragraph, "they were not gummed, as were the impressions of the *Twopence*, taken from Plate 2," are vague,

only implying that the remaining 7 sheets were thus used, and without truth as regards Plate 2 (no lines), which had been taken from press on 30 August, 1840, and sent to Somerset House nearly seven months before: these paper sheets were sent in for trial. It is difficult to conceive how these gentlemen could have stated this. They could never have seen a copy.

Curiously enough, this error is repeated in the current number of the *Stamp Lover*, page 116. There is still the uncertainty of the use of the remaining 7 sheets.

It is within the bounds of possibility that they were printed from Plate 3 of the 2d. value, but I think it most improbable; no one has, to my knowledge, reported a 2d. stamp, Type 2, with corner letters, and printed on Dickinson paper.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
CRAWFORD.

2 CAVENDISH SQ.
(30.10.08.)

1862 Hair-line Issue

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

SIR,—In your issue of 24.10.08 (p. 265), "Plain Anchor" writes (in the course of a very original and interesting article on British stamps): "I wonder if any of my readers know why the 1s., Plate 3, hair-lines (incorrectly numbered on stamp '2'), was not issued for use? From the illustration of my pair, there appears to be no difference in the design, and the 4d. and 6d. had already been issued. The same question also applies to the 9d."

"Plain Anchor" evidently knows so much about British stamps that I hardly suppose he is asking for information, but as he goes on to say, "I believe the best interests of Philately would be served if readers would kindly express their views on these and many other questions of interest," I venture to send you my own opinion.

During 1864 the authorities decided that the corner lettering was too small, and new plates of the 3d., 4d., 6d., 9d., and 1s. were prepared. These new plates were approved on the following dates:—

3d.	. 28.11.64	9d.	. 27.2.65
1s.	. " "	4d.	. 3.6.65
6d.	. 30.12.64		

At that time there were in reserve two small-letter plates, 9d. hair-lines and 1s. hair-line, whilst a third, 4d., Plate 5, was being made. It is clear, I think, that the reason the latter was never completed and the two former never brought into use was because the new plates with larger lettering were then ready.

Although the authorities generally delayed the issue of a new stamp till the stock of the old already printed had been used up, they never showed any hesitation in throwing on the scrap-heap new plates. One wonders whether the loss in the latter case did not fall on the printers!

There was a much larger demand for 4d. and 6d. stamps than for 3d., 9d., and 1s., and the first small-letter plates of these values were worn out and superseded by the hair-line plate; before the large-letter plates were ready, the 4d. being put to press 7.9.63 and the 6d. 11.4.64.

H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 21
Whole No. 203

21 NOVEMBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Gold Coast

GOLD COAST is a British Crown Colony on the West Coast of Africa, stretching for 334 miles along the Gulf of Guinea, bounded on the west and north by French territory (Ivory Coast) and on the east by German Togoland. It includes the kingdom of Ashanti, annexed 1901, and the Northern Territories, which were placed under British protection in the same year. The total area is about 82,000 square miles, and the population about one and half millions, of which perhaps less than 1000 are European.

The earliest efforts at colonization were made by the French in 1365, but the first real settlements were those of the Portuguese in the fifteenth century. French, Dutch, English, Danish, and Prussian (Brandenburgers) settlements have all been established in turn, but the Portuguese, Dutch, and English have been the most flourishing. Portugal founded Cape Coast Castle, the chief place of the district, in 1471. The Dutch, under De Ruyter, took possession in 1641, but ceded their rights to England in 1665. In 1850 England acquired Kitta and Accra from Denmark, and in 1872 the balance of the Dutch establishments.

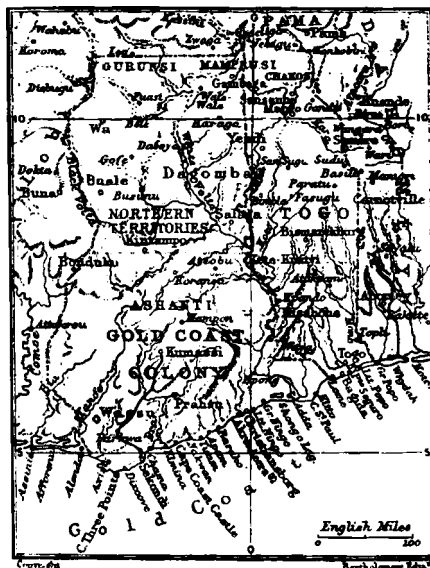
Differences arising out of the transfer of the Dutch factories led to the Ashanti War of 1873-4, which eventually resulted in the acquisition of the whole of the Ashanti kingdom.

The Gold Coast Colony is the best governed and most prosperous of British West African possessions, and though it is disastrous in the loss of life it entails to Europeans, it is of great importance to British commerce.

In common, however, with the rest of these possessions, Imperial authority has not done its best for the districts, and even Gold Coast, which has been acquired at the cost of so much British blood and treasure, is prevented by the humiliating Anglo-French treaty of August, 1887, from spreading further inland than 9° N.

It retains the original name assigned by early traders to designate the particular product which the district provided, and the

whole region is more or less auriferous. In past times large quantities of gold were exported, but the abolition of slavery caused the decline of the gold industry amongst the natives, and the great obstacles to European enterprise are the unhealthiness of the climate and difficulties of transport. The latter difficulties are being overcome,



good permanent roads being made, the river traffic exploited, and railway lines built. There is no doubt gold mining will be carried on very profitably in the future.

There are almost no manufactures, nor is agriculture much developed; nevertheless, trade in the natural products of the country is considerable. The chief articles of export, in addition to gold, are india-rubber, palm-oil, kola nuts, and cocoa. In the eastern parts poultry of all kinds thrive remarkably, and a good trade is done in provisioning ships. Telegraph and telephone

facilities are abundant, and the postal service efficient. In 1906 the number of letters, packets, etc., handled in the postal service was 2,970,000.

The chief towns are Accra, the present seat of government (transferred from Cape Coast Castle in 1876 on account of unhealthiness), with 15,000 inhabitants; Cape Coast Castle, 30,000, the chief port and business centre; Elmina, 4,000, the old head-quarters of the Dutch; Sekondi, the terminus of the railway from Kumasi; Akim, Kitta, and Kumasi itself. The head-quarters of the northern territories are at Gambaga.

The currency is British sterling, the old cowrie currency being gradually superseded.

Philatelic History

Though hardly so attractive in appearance as the stamps of Gambia, the stamps of Gold Coast share with them a pleasing stability of value. There has been comparatively little fluctuation, and what alteration has taken place has mostly had an upward tendency. Like Gambia also, the country is suitable for the general collector, as a fairly complete collection does not depend upon a well-filled purse. There is one unattainable and one stamp priced at £12, but beyond these there are no stamps that cannot be procured for 30s. or less. True, it is not a *very* cheap country, but the list is short, and there is satisfaction in filling up blanks, as the stamps are always in request and change hands readily with but little alteration in market price.

The stamps have all been designed and manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and in consequence are utilitarian rather than artistic. Till 1889 they had a distinctive design, but at this date the well-known tablet type was introduced.

The first issue was in July, 1875, and consisted of three values—1d., 4d., and 6d. At the end of 1879 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 2d. values were added to the set. The stamps were of uniform design and printed upon paper watermarked Crown CC. In these stamps, as well as in those of the same design on CA paper, the words on the lower tablet denoting the value are printed separately. Differences may thus be found in the shade of colour between the value and the rest of the design, and the inscription also varies in position.

The stamps of the 1875 issue were perforated $1\frac{1}{2}$, but in 1876 they appeared with perforation 14, the 6d. probably about June, the 1d. in September, and the 4d. in October or November. When the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 2d. values appeared they were also perf. 14. The stamps with the earlier perforation are much the scarcer, though the 4d. perf. 14 is a rare stamp, particularly unused. The prices in the following list are for the cheaper varieties.



1875-9. *Wmk. Crown CC. Perf.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ d., olive-yellow	4	6	3	6
1d., blue	3	6	2	6
2d., green	12	0	3	6
4d., magenta	35	0	3	0
6d., orange	18	0	3	0

In May, 1883, the unattainable referred to above was issued, viz. a provisional 1d. on 4d., perf. 14. For some time considerable doubt was thrown upon the status of the stamp, but the London Philatelic Society, in its handbook on Africa (Part II), recognizes the *bona fides* of the provisional. The handbook also states that only two specimens are known, one in the Tapling Collection and one in a famous Parisian collection.

In August, 1883, the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. appeared on paper watermarked Crown CA. They were not in use for long, as the colours were changed in the following year, hence the prices are somewhat high.

August, 1883. *Design, etc., as before. Wmk. Crown CA.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ d., olive-yellow	30	0	17	6
1d., blue	120	0	30	0

The 4d. did not appear on CA paper till March, 1885, and the 6d. not till January, 1889, whilst the 2d. in its original colour was never printed on this paper. This value was changed in colour to *grey*, and along with the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. in new colours appeared in August, 1884. Three new values were also added to the set, viz. 1s. and 2s. in 1888, and a 3d. in 1889. There are many shades of most of the values, and as there are several plate numbers it is evident many printings were made.

1884-9. *Same design. Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ d., green	0	2	0	2
1d., carmine	0	4	0	1
2d., grey	0	6	0	4
3d., olive	1	0	1	6
4d., magenta	1	6	1	0
6d., orange	3	0	0	6
1s., mauve	1	9	0	6
2s., brown	6	0	2	0

There was a dearth of 1d. stamps during 1889, and provisional stamps were created by surcharging the 6d. orange of the above issue. At first these were only on sale at Accra, and according to earliest information

were supposed to be affixed by the postal authorities themselves. However, unused specimens are not rare. In July of the same year these provisionals were supplied to a few of the outlying districts of the colony.



March, 1889. *Surcharged in black.*
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.

1d. on 6d., orange . . . 30 0 10 0

Before leaving the stamps of this design, it would be well to list the 2½d. which was issued 13 March, 1891. In the Catalogue it is out of chronological order, as the high values mentioned as appearing in 1891 were really issued in 1889. The 2½d. was introduced to provide for the new Postal Union rate, and was printed in two colours, the value, which is expressed partly in numerals, being in orange, and the rest of the stamp in blue.

13 March, 1891. *Same design, wmk., and perf.*
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.

2½d., blue and orange . . . 0 5 0 2

As noted above, three high values, 5s., 10s., and 20s., were introduced in 1889, and were of the familiar Queen's Head tablet type. They were on CA paper and perf. 14, and appeared in September, 1889, and not in 1891, as the Catalogue has it. The Postmaster, in his report for 1890, says that the stamps in question came into use in the previous year. The name and tablet of value are in the second colour.

In April, 1894, the 20s. was changed in colour owing to a theft of 1440 stamps, which took place in April, 1893. The sale of this value was thereupon stopped until stamps of a new colour could be obtained from England. The first 20s. is extremely scarce.



1889-94. *Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.*
 Unused. Used.
 s. d. s. d.

5s., lilac and blue 10 0 7 6
 10s. ,, red 35 0 6 0
 20s., green and red 240 0 —
 20s., lilac and black on red 30 0 4 0

In May, 1898 (the 1s. a bit later), the other values were issued in a similar type, and in 1902 a 2d. was added to the set. At the same time the colours of the 5s. and 10s. were altered. The 2d., 3d., and 6d. have the value in coloured figures and letters on a white ground.

The 2d. was much in request, for not a great many were printed, and they were only issued in 1902, just previous to the appearance of the King's Head set. This value was practically the last Queen's Head stamp to be issued, if variation of watermark, etc., be ignored.



1898-1902. *Name and value or tablet of value in second colour. Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d., lilac and green	0	3	0	1
1d. ,, red	0	4	0	1
2d. ,, orange (1902)	3	6	4	0
2½d. ,, ultramarine	0	9	1	0
3d. ,, orange	0	8	0	6
6d. ,, mauve	1	0	0	6
1s., green and black	2	6	1	6
2s. ,, carmine	4	0	3	0
5s. ,, lilac (1900)	15	0	10	0
10s. ,, brown (1900)	25	0	6	0

Towards the end of 1901 the stock of 1d. stamps ran low, and a good quantity (60,000) of 2½d. and 6d. stamps of the last issue were surcharged.



6 October, 1901. *Surcharged in black.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d. on 2½d., lilac and ultramarine	1	6	1	6
1d. on 6d. ,, mauve	1	6	1	6

About April, 1902, the King's Head stamps were put on sale. They differ little from the general design of the Queen's Head type. They appeared first on the single CA paper, and the ½d. to 6d. have since been issued on the multiple paper. A new value, 2s. 6d., was issued in 1905, and this was on the multiple paper. The 2d., 3d., 6d., and 2s. 6d. have the tablet of value in *white*.



Name and value or tablet of value in second colour.

1902-7. Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.
	s.	d.	s. d.
½d., lilac and green	0	2	0 2
1d. " " carmine	0	3	0 1
2d. " " orange-red	0	3	0 3
2½d. " " ultramarine	0	6	0 6
3d. " " orange	0	5	0 4
6d. " " mauve	0	8	0 5
1s., green and black	—	—	—
2s. " " carmine	2	8	—
2s. 6d. " " yellow	3	3	—
5s. " " mauve	6	6	—
10s. " " brown	12	6	—
20s., purple and black on red. 25	0	—	—

(To be continued.)

PLBASB 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 Stamp Papers

A SURE sign of brisk business in stamps for the coming season is the publication of several new stamp papers. The first of these (to which I have previously referred) was *The Stamp Lover*, and I have just received another, entitled *Griebert's Philatelic Notes and Offers*.

This is noteworthy for two things. First of all, it is published in English, German, and French, the three languages being arranged in parallel columns. Secondly, this paper is not a daily, weekly, fortnightly, or monthly; it is one that will be published "from time to time," and will be used by Messrs. H. Griebert and Co. chiefly as an advertisement circular, but one got up and issued on novel and attractive lines.

From "Facts worth Noting" I quote as follows:—

That certain South American stamps, especially those of the Argentine Republic, Uruguay, Chili, and Brazil, are much in demand, and that a great advance in prices is not only probable, but certain.

That Paraguay is not satisfied with the twenty different surcharges recently issued, and that before long at least another dozen new varieties will make their appearance.

In 1907, to conform to Postal Union requirements, the ½d., 1d., and 2½d. appeared in single colours.

1907. As last, printed in one colour.

	Unused.		Used.
	s.	d.	s. d.
½d., green	0	1	0 1
1d., carmine	0	2	0 1
2½d., ultramarine	0	4	—

A specimen copy of a new 1d. has been seen, but the stamps have not yet been issued. 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.

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.

Dealers need not apply for these, as certain postal employés are buying them up themselves, and, we sincerely hope, will keep them for ever.

That the boom for King's Head stamps is over. That a great number of collectors have started specializing in countries which have hitherto been much neglected.

That early issues of Japan, Shanghai, Siamese surcharges, and nearly all the old issues of South America, are in a great many instances under-priced, and well worth going in for.

Another and important stamp paper is to be issued this month, under the editorship of Mr. Sefi, of the Junior Philatelic Society. I hope to review this shortly.

The Lithographed High Values of Queensland (1881 series)

UNDER this heading Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg commences an important article in the October number of *The Philatelic Record*.

Mr. Hausburg states:—

The stamps are lithographed, and the stones contained one hundred and twenty impressions in twelve rows of ten. Transfers were taken from portions of the 1s. Perkins Bacon plate, and the whole or part of the value, and portions of the scrollwork at the sides, were

erased, after which the new values were inserted. It is usual in such cases to take a small number of transfers and form a small intermediate stone, from which transfers are again taken and laid on a larger stone. These Queensland stamps were produced in this way. Mr. J. Bornefeld had given some attention to these stamps, but had not completed the plating. He found five types in the case of the 2s. and 20s., and from this he inferred that there were also five types in the case of each of the other values. This, however, is incorrect, and every one of the three—the 2s 6d., 5s., and 10s.—has ten types, arranged in two rows of five. This number was no doubt chosen to suit the arrangement of the watermarks on the paper which was used for this series; there were a hundred and twenty watermarks (arranged in twelve rows of ten each), so that the sheets of the 2s. and 20s. were each made up of twenty-four strips of five types, while the other values were made up of twelve blocks of ten types. The watermark is the second type of the Crown and Q.

Mr. Hausburg then gives a full description of the 2s. and 2s. 6d., and the types of the other values will be described in the next number of the *Record*. The article is illustrated with a fine plate of the 2s., 2s. 6d., and 5s. types.

Latest Purchases

We have just purchased a fine specialized collection of *Gibraltar, Malta, and Morocco Agencies*.

In the *Gibraltar* the following are noteworthy:—

1889, carmine, value omitted.

1889, panes of various values showing arrangement of the minor types.

A very fine lot of essays and colour trials.

In *Morocco Agencies*:—

Singles and pairs of nearly all values having the variety "Λ" for "A," also a pane of sixty of the 10 c., carmine, showing the error (this is the rare "Λ" error) on stamp No. 36, and probably unique in a pane.

Singles and pairs of nearly all values with

broad top to "M" and with hyphen between "n" and "c" ("n-c"), also a number of full panes in various values.

In *Malta*:—

A really superb lot of the ½d. stamps, 1861 to 1881, including blocks of four, and a superb lot of shades.

In the used stamps of ½d., yellow, there are two of the 1861 on blue paper, a variety that is very hard to find in perfect condition.

In the 1885 issue there is a pair of the 4d., brown, imperf. and used; this is from the corner of the sheet, and has extra large margins.

There is here also a grand lot of die proofs, essays, and colour trials, which will be found priced very moderately.

Another rather important purchase that we made lately was of a collection in an old Lallier album of 1864, containing quite a lot of nice old Europeans, West Indies, and Australians; but the gem of this book was a Mauritius 2d., blue, *Post Paid*, but absolutely the *première gravure, unused*, and in deep blue, in the same state of engraving as the "Post Office."

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

Chili.

WITH this very fine stock book we have amalgamated the balance of the fine collection of these stamps which we recently purchased from Chili, and the result gives us the finest and most complete lot of Chili stamps that we have been able to offer to our clients for many years.

The early local and London printed stamps are well represented, there are a superb lot of the errors of 1900-4, including a number of uncatalogued varieties, a grand lot of Postage Due stamps, and many rarities in the Officials. Altogether this is a book that I recommend to the early attention of those interested in this fine and philatelic group of stamps.

The Cancellations on the 1851-56 United States Issue

By CARROLL CHASE, M.D.

THIS issue is the second put forth by the United States Government. The 1847 issue which preceded it consisted of but two values, and though in use for four years was used to a decidedly limited extent. Roughly speaking but four and a half million of these stamps were distributed to postmasters. In 1851 the rates of postage were decidedly reduced, particularly when the postage was prepaid, and three values,

1 c., 3 c., and 12 c., replaced the '47 issue. In 1855 the 10 c. value was added, and in 1856 the 5 c. value appeared. The 24 c., 30 c., and 90 c. values undoubtedly exist imperforate, but are considered by the best authorities to be from sheets of the 1857-60 issue that escaped perforation.

Let us first consider the cancellations on the 1851 3 c. value (the first stamp that was widely used in the U.S.), later taking

up such obliterations as are distinctive to the other values. Naturally many of the smaller post offices throughout the country were entirely without cancellation stamps of any kind. In these offices, before postage stamps were in use, the habit had been to mark upon the letter the amount of postage paid or due. When the use of stamps began the pen or pencil continued in use. Thus we find many stamps of this issue cancelled by penmarks, or more rarely, pencilmarks. The stamps of this issue were never used for fiscal purposes, so pen cancellation never indicates that the stamp did revenue duty. Many other post offices had had a postmark showing the name of the town and date, which had been used before stamps were issued. Many covers bearing this issue show this postmark not touching the stamp, while with a very large number this postmark was placed so that it cancelled the stamp. The writer, as a matter of curiosity, has a page of these stamps off the cover with postmarks showing distinctly the abbreviation of each state in the Union.

With one exception, until the year 1855 these postmarks never showed anything but month and day. At this time a few cities, notably Washington, D.C., and New Haven, Conn., inserted the year in the postmark. Its value became apparent and other cities slowly followed. In 1853 the New York post office inserted the year in the postmark, evidently only as an experiment. It was dropped after a very short trial, why, I don't know. The only stamp I have found, out of thousands postmarked New York, showing this cancellation is dated "New York, Jul 15, 1853." The next earliest cancellation showing the year, that I have is "Washington, D.C., Sep. 7, 1855."

Black ink was naturally most used for these postmarks, whether showing the year or not. Blue is the next commonest colour. Red was much more rarely used, Boston, Mass., being the largest user, while brown is next in rarity. Those in green are very seldom found, being eagerly sought after by specialists. The only towns that I have been able to identify as using green postmarks are Lancaster, Pa., Taunton, Mass., Northfield, Mass., Cleves, Ohio, Saltsburgh (state not shown), and probably York, Pa. Of these Lancaster, Pa., is the showiest, being a brilliant yellow-green. Two towns, at least, used postmarks that were brilliant ultramarine, unlike any other of the blue postmarks. I have never seen but the two copies I have. I also have one copy in which the postmark is brilliant wine colour, almost magenta. The shape of these postmarks was almost always round. Utica, N.Y., and at least one other town, used an oval postmark. One town, "West —," used a shield-shaped postmark. The size

of these postmarks also varied from very large to very small.

In considering cancellation stamps as differentiated from postmarks, let me apply this name to the handstamps other than those showing the name of the town, used exclusively for cancelling the stamp. The commonest form was one showing parallel bars in a circle. These exist in many minor varieties as regards size, number of bars, etc. The colours are found in about the same relative rarity as the postmarks—black the commonest; then blue, red, brown, and very rarely ultramarine. A single copy in my possession is the only one I have seen of the last. Fancy cancellation stamps in many designs were more infrequently used. Their detailed description would be uninteresting to the average reader. Various designs of the star are very showy, as are those rare examples in violet ink.

Numerals alone, or as part of a design, were occasionally used as cancellation stamps. I have copies showing the numerals "3," "5," and "10." While speaking of numerals, it may be stated that "3," "3 cts.," and "5" were sometimes put in as part of the postmark. The postmark showing "5" had probably been used for the 1847 issue.

The word "PAID," used long before stamps were, still survived, and is found as a rather common cancellation. It was sometimes written in ink on the stamp, and the word alone is also found as a cancellation stamp in various styles of type, both in blue and black. The city of Boston, Mass., made extensive use of two cancellation stamps, one large and one small, in which the word "paid" appeared with three horizontal lines above and below it, all in a circle. With the exception of one specimen of the smaller, in red, this is always black. "Paid 3" was also used for a cancellation stamp in black, blue, and red. "Paid" and "3 Paid" were also included in some postmarks. One handsome handstamp consists of circle containing "Paid," "c," and the Roman numeral "III" in blue.

One or two other interesting facts regarding the ordinary postmarks and handstamps may be noted. Some towns used a postmark of one colour and a cancellation stamp of another. Boston, Mass., is the best example, it invariably using a red postmark and a black cancellation stamp. I have other stamps showing a blue postmark and a black cancellation stamp, a red postmark and blue cancellation stamp, and a red postmark and green cancellation stamp. Other postmarks, both in black and blue, are found in which both month and day were written in in ink, and still others in which the day of the month alone was put in in this way. Whether these examples were due or not to loss of the proper type is a

question. From the rather large number found, I think the cancellation stamp was sometimes made for use without the printed date.

The most interesting cancellations of all are the railroad, ship, express, and similar cancellations found on these stamps. My best example of a railway cancellation is on a copy of the 3 c. value, and reads "Morris & Essex R.R." in a circle dated "May 15." Another reads "New York & Erie R.R." in a similar style, and a third, what I judge to be "Michigan Central R.R." There are other most interesting cancellations which I feel certain were applied on the mail trains between New York and Boston. One reads "U.S. Express Mail" in a circle, with "N.Y." at the bottom and "N. York" in smaller type under "Express." The month and day, but not the year, were also stated. The other reads the same way, except that "Mass." takes the place of "N.Y.," and "Boston" takes the place of "N. York." These were certainly used on letters mailed from New York and Boston respectively. But what makes me certain that this cancellation was applied on the train is the fact that I have several entire letter sheets sent from Providence, R.I. (which is on the railroad from New York to Boston), to New York and bearing this cancellation. They were in use to my knowledge, from entire covers in my possession, at least from 18 March, 1852, to 2 June, 1854. Another variety of cancellation which was probably used on railroads is that showing merely the word "WAY." I have copies showing different styles of type, but have never seen a copy on a cover. I also have one "WAY 5" in brown. Possibly this had been used on the preceding issue.

I have stamps showing the following cancellations, which I judge to have been used on shipboard. "Steam Ship" in two lines, "Steam Boat" in two lines, and "Steamboat" in one line, in both black and blue. There is a most interesting cancellation of "New York" in a circle with the date (month and day) at the bottom—and with the word "Ship" under "New York." One more example showing "Troy—New York" on one line and "Steam Boat" below it in blue, probably in an oblong frame. This must have been used on the Hudson River boats.

For some reasons the cancellations of the express companies are the most interesting of all. The thrilling history of the Wells Fargo Express Company and their Pony Post is too well known to need comment. The stamps of this issue were used to quite an extent on correspondence carried by them. Mr. H. B. Phillips says: "The Government required the private expresses to see to it that full letter postage was paid on letters carried by them, and when this

was done the companies were permitted to carry letters and charge any amount they chose for the service." The description of three covers owned by John N. Luff will serve to give an excellent idea of the cancellations used. All three covers have precancelled stamps—I believe the first known. The first envelope was sent from Sacramento, Cal., to San Francisco, Cal. At the left of the envelope is an oval postmark in red showing "Wells Fargo & Co." above, and "Sacramento" below, with "Express" in fancy type between. The stamp itself, a 3 c. of this issue, is surcharged, or rather precancelled, "W. F. & Co." in block type in dark greyish blue, reading from the bottom of the stamp toward the top. Mr. C. W. Phillips, of California, who discovered these envelopes, is authority for the statement that these stamps were surcharged in sheet form before use, and that they were used before stamped envelopes were issued. The second cover, sent from Marysville to San Francisco, bears a similar oval postmark, excepting that "Marysville" takes the place of "Sacramento." It is also stamped "Paid" in a double-lined oval. The 3 c. stamp on this cover is precancelled by a single line of black ink running from top to bottom. The third cover was also sent from Sacramento to San Francisco, but by Adams' Express. The postmark is round, in greyish blue, with "Adams Ex." above and "Sacramento" below, with the date, "Apr. 15," between. The cover is also stamped "Paid" in a single-lined oval. The 3 cent stamp is precancelled in black ink by two straight lines crossing at right angles. I have a single copy of the 3 c. off cover, showing part of the oval postmark used by the Wells Fargo Company in the customary greyish blue.

Foreign cancellations, or rather re-cancellations, exist on these stamps, but my knowledge of them is limited. I have a pair of the 3 c. that has "Canada 10" stamped on it five or six times.

The cancellations on the 1 c. stamp of this issue do not vary much from those found on the 3 c. value, except in a few instances. The various coloured cancellations are about as relatively rare as on the 3 c. stamps. I have never seen any ultramarine or magenta cancellations. The green ones are very rarely found.

I have a vertical strip of three of the 1 c. showing the "U.S. Express Mail" cancellation.

There are found a few of the 1 c. value, used on letters for delivery in the same city in which they were mailed, with a cancellation indicating that the delivery has been made by carriers. I am familiar with but one type. It was used in New York City. The only dated copy I have is April

17, 1857. The postmark consists of a double circle. Between the two at the top, "U.S. Mail"; at the bottom, "City Delivery." Above and outside of the outer circle is the word "Paid." Within the inner circle is the figure "1" (signifying 1 c.), with a dash beneath it. Below this is the date—month and day. Cancellation is found in both red and black, the latter being decidedly scarcer.

The cancellations on the 10 c. and 12 c. values vary little from those used on the 3 c. stamps. As red cancellations showed more distinctly, they were used in greater proportion.

The cancellation on the bisected 3 c. stamps, used as 1 c. on circulars, consisted of "San Francisco, Cal., May 30, 1853," and "May 31, 1853." The bisected 12 c. stamps

nearly always came from California. Many of the covers are handstamped "via Nicaragua. Ahead of the mails." There were rival steamship companies at this time operating via Isthmus of Panama and by the Nicaraguan route. This handstamp was used by the Nicaragua Company, which claimed quicker service. Mr. Luff, in his history of United States postage stamps, is authority for the statements in this paragraph, and also for the statement that the bisected 10 c. stamps of this issue are probably all fraudulent.

The author will appreciate any further information in regard to the cancellations on this issue, and can be addressed, Care of Stanley Gibbons, Inc., 198 Broadway, New York.

Notes of a Provincial Junior—*continued*

By YOKEL

(Continued from page 267.)

Queensland

THE early issues of Queensland are not so largely sought after as the stamps of the two countries previously described, but they form a nice compact country and are not difficult to understand.

Queensland, in 1859, bought some 1d., 2d., and 6d. stamps from the New South Wales Government, and issued them for postage purposes. The stamps can only be distinguished by the postmark from ordinary New South Wales, and in consequence are not listed by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons. The stamps were the "diadem" issue, and were imperforate. The postmark consisted of "QL" in three concentric ovals.

The 6d. value is also found perf. 12, and is of a grey-brown colour. These stamps are seldom met with.

The first Queensland stamps were printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. from plates which they engraved, and were issued in November, 1860, more than ten years after the first stamps appeared in New South Wales. These stamps, of the value of 1d., 2d., and 6d., were at first imperforate, but were later issued perforate with clean-cut perforations, gauging 14 to 16. The paper was watermarked with a Large Star, similar to the first paper used by New Zealand and South Australia.

The 2d. imperforate is a difficult stamp to obtain, but the 6d. perforate is fairly common. The other stamps will require seeking for.

These same stamps, together with two new values of 3d. and 1s. and a Registered stamp, were printed on paper watermarked with a Small Star, similar to 1863 issue of Grenada, by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co.

The perforation is similar to that of the 1861 issue of Ceylon, being clean-cut and rough. The 1d. and 2d. values are also found with the perforation clean-cut and gauging a regular 14.

These stamps are not common, and their values are correctly stated in the Catalogue. Care must be taken not to confuse the 2d., No. 7, with No. 13.

In 1862 the plates were received from Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., and printed from in the colony, the paper used not having a watermark, and being of a stout, soft, yellowish texture. The perforation was carried out by the printers; the holes were square and gauged $12\frac{1}{2}$ to 13. The 1d. is found in a more or less lake-red shade and is not common, and the 3d. value is not readily met with.

In 1867 the stamps of 1d., 2d., and 6d. values were perforated by the Government with round-hole perforations gauging 13.

Paper with a Small Star wmk., similar to that on which the last Perkins Bacon stamps were printed, was used for an issue of 1d., 2d., and 6d. stamps, and also a Registered stamp, in 1864. The perforation was $12\frac{1}{2}$ to 13 with square holes. The 1d. value is not easy to find with good colour.

In 1866 the 1d. and 2d. values were printed on paper having a watermark of script capitals; each stamp shows a portion of one or two letters. The 2d. value is found in good condition, but the 1d., orange-vermilion, will require some hunting after.

Two new values of 4d. and 5s. were required in 1866, and to avoid the trouble of making new engraved plates, lithography was resorted to. The stamps were printed on thick yellowish paper, and were perforated 13

with round holes. The 4d. is found on this paper in two colours, of which a slate is the better, the lilac shade being easier to obtain in good condition. This 4d. plate was again printed from in 1868, and the paper then used was watermarked Crown and Q; the colour was yellow to buff, and the perforation was both 13 and 12, the former being scarce.

We now come to an issue having a small truncated Star as a watermark. These stamps, except the 1s. value, are not hard to find with a perforation gauging 13, but the 1d., 2d., 3d., and 6d. values will require a deal of patience to find with a perforation 12. The 1d. and 2d. values are found with compound perf. 13 and 12, but are rare.

Many shades are found in this issue, especially in the 3d. value, which is found ranging from dark brown to greenish brown; the pure dark brown is the best. The stamps are also found on paper watermarked Crown and Q, and perforated 13 and 12.

There are several shades of the 1d. value which are not easy to find, especially a rose shade, perf. 13. The 3d. value is not so easily found as in the preceding issue, and the 1s. value is not easy to find with genuine postmark.

The 1d., 2d., 4d., and 6d. values are found with compound perforation 13 and 12, but are rare (the 4d. value is lithographed).

This is not exactly a difficult country, but it is not so attractive as several of the other countries in the group; the stamps are very attractive in appearance, and are generally

well printed in good colours, and these stamps would perhaps appreciate in value if this country became really fashionable, although large numbers would not be required by the specialist for plating.

The following list shows the comparative values during the past twenty years or so.

ISSUE	1885	1895	1897	1902	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d., imperf.	5 0	55 0	50 0	40 0	55 0
2d. "	—	180 0	140 0	140 0	160 0
6d. "	2 6	70 0	70 0	80 0	80 0
1d., Large Star, perf.	—	—	40 0	30 0	60 0
2d. "	—	—	7 6	10 0	20 0
6d. "	—	—	5 0	5 0	6 0
1d., Small Star	1 0	7 6	10 0	10 0	12 0
2d. "	1 0	7 6	7 6	10 6	7 6
3d. "	2 0	15 0	15 0	10 0	10 0
6d. "	0 9	4 0	5 0	5 0	12 6
1s. "	—	20 0	25 0	20 0	17 6
1d., no wmk.	0 3	2 6	2 6	3 6	6 0
2d. "	0 2	1 0	2 0	4 0	4 0
3d. "	0 6	7 6	10 0	12 6	12 6
6d. "	0 4	2 0	2 6	4 0	4 0
1s. "	0 9	3 6	3 6	3 6	5 0
4d., litho	—	5 0	5 0	2 6	3 6
5s. "	2 6	—	25 0	20 0	20 0
1d., Star, perf. 13	—	18 0	18 0	10 0	10 0
2d. "	—	6 0	6 6	6 0	7 6
6d. "	—	7 6	8 6	6 0	10 0
1d., Script.	—	15 0	15 0	15 0	10 0
2d. "	—	4 0	3 6	1 9	2 6
1d., Trun. Star	0 9	1 6	1 6	1 6	2 0
2d. "	0 3	1 6	1 6	0 9	0 9
3d. "	0 6	3 6	3 6	3 0	5 0
6d. "	0 4	4 0	4 0	2 6	4 0
1s. "	0 9	10 0	12 6	10 6	17 6
1d., Crown and Q	0 1	1 0	1 6	1 3	1 0
2d. "	0 1	0 6	0 9	0 6	0 6
3d. "	0 6	4 0	4 0	6 6	6 0
4d. "	1 0	7 6	8 6	8 6	6 6
6d. "	0 2	2 6	3 6	3 0	3 0
1s. "	0 3	3 0	3 0	4 0	5 0

A Deal in Denmarks

By AN AMATEUR DEALER

THE other day I bought five hundred stamps of Denmark and destroyed two hundred copies at sight. They were the 1, 2, 3, 4, and 15 öre of the 1904 issue (Type 15). The 15 öre is plentiful everywhere, but the other four values may perhaps be classed among the "uncommon commons"; they rarely turn up



in any quantity, and are seldom to be met with perfectly clean. The few I have managed to get sold readily, since the stamps, when clean, are really things of beauty, and naturally I wanted some more—a lot, in fact.

In the course of correspondence I came across a man in Norway who offered to sell me a hundred copies of each denomination at a moderate price. I closed with his offer, and in due time the parcel arrived. At first sight it was evident that the stamps had been collected exactly as they came to hand, taking bad and good copies just as they turned up, and without discarding any. I suppose it doesn't pay a dealer to throw out many bad copies; my purchase, I conclude, was fairly representative of every "hundred-lot" that is sold, and bad copies have to be paid for at the same rate as the good. But I only wanted good copies, and the following is an account of how the parcel turned out—it shows that stamp selling is not all beer and skittles to the dealer.

The 1 öre, orange-yellow

Yellow is a colour that usually fares badly beneath a postmark. When lightly cancelled this 1 öre, Denmark, is a thing of

beauty, but the least overdose of post office ink robs it of its glory. I emptied out my hundred copies and glanced through them casually; at first sight not a single good copy appeared. Presently, however, I found one—and rejoiced. After ten minutes' rigorous search I found others, together with a score or two which I classed as "seconds"; the remainder of the lot were practically useless for my purpose.

Turning up the Catalogue I saw the stamp was priced 1d., and my first reflection was that it was well worth it. Reviewing my hundred-lot coolly I calculated that I should never "get my money back"—not if I had to sell the stamps at a penny apiece! (I have since had a similar experience with the 1 öre, yellow, of 1902; of this stamp I possess copies that would tax the ingenuity of an expert to name at sight.)

The 2 öre, carmine

This stamp seems to be on harder paper, less absorbent than the 1 öre, and not contracting so heavy a postmark. Here I found a slightly more encouraging percentage of perfect copies. A clean copy of this stamp has an enticing appearance; I spread out such clean specimens as I found and adored them for a while—each an artistic gem, compact in design, the lettering dignified and majestic, and the gay carmine of the stamp intensely attractive. (Some collectors, I know, are like bulls: they go for a red stamp at sight.)

The 3 öre, grey

This is a disappointing stamp. Grey is a shade that seems to attract all the ink on the cancelling instrument. Thirty per cent of the lot I got seemed to have been treated to an ink bath, and looked as if they had revelled in it. The least superabundance of ink seems to associate with the grey hue of the stamp in producing a ghastly effect, and where a heavy dose had been besprinkled upon it it was a horrible sight—to a lover of clean copies. Mind you, when it is really clean it is not so bad; it has all the dignity of the 2 öre, save for its colour. Out of my hundred copies I got about a score that were really nice; but this was really due, I fancy, to an accident, which I will explain.

Danish Postmarks

Denmark possesses various kinds of postmarks. Some are as heavy as any British obliteration—I am thinking at the moment of a Glasgow postmark I once saw on a British Official stamp, a cancellation that had dyed the whole stamp black in a twinkling. (My sister remarked at the time that Scotland was the place where she sent most of her things to be dyed.) When such a stroke descends on a 3 öre, Denmark, it simply shrivels it up. But there is a town

somewhere in Denmark which has adopted the thin-line cancellation such as some London letters bear, or such as they have over in Chicago or Toronto—three or four parallel bars as thin as a light penmark. Almost the whole of my clean copies I found all in a heap; evidently they had all emanated from the same Danish town, and they all bore the thin-line mark. (May heaven prosper that town, and may its example in postmarkmanship be universally followed!) This thin-bar cancellation is merciful to the stamp, and kind to a man who has to buy a hundred copies of it. Yet this stamp is only catalogued 1d., and again the reflection strikes one that it is really cheap.

The 4 öre, pale blue

Here occurred a more gratifying percentage of clean copies, thanks again to the thin-line postmark, and to the fact that the blue of the stamp seems to possess ink-resisting powers. The stamp is a pretty blue: one almost wishes it had been catalogued as royal blue; it certainly has a royal appearance. It is common, no doubt, yet it is more glorious in appearance than some stamps that cost £1. Wherever it turns up it should give pleasure.

The 15 öre, lilac

The dainty lilac of this stamp seems scarcely strong enough to resist even an ordinary postmark. The blue of the 4 öre seems to defy cancellation, and to shine through in spite of it, but the 15 öre quickly succumbs. The same postmark that would pass muster on a 4 öre would cripple the 15 öre permanently. It was a heart-rending business to sort out the "fine" from the "fair," and to relegate the discarded copies to the waste-paper basket.

Just now I feel I should like to peep into the albums of a hundred collectors, and see what sort of copies they possess of the five stamps above mentioned.

Denmark and the Danes

By the way, I have a great admiration for the DAN in DENMARK on these stamps. It is said that the Danes gave their name to the *Danube* and the *Dardanelles*, the *Dniester* and the *Dniéper*, as they came across Europe. Some of the historians hold that the "Danai," mentioned one hundred and forty-seven times in Homer, were the Danes; they were the sea rovers of their time, the explorers of Northern Europe and the invaders of England, a very old and very hardy race. It is good to see the contraction "DAN" still figuring on the stamps of Denmark; "MARK" probably signifies the territory marked out by the Danes for their settlement.

British Stamps used Abroad—continued

By I. J. BERNSTEIN AND CHAS. NISSEN

(Continued from page 299.)

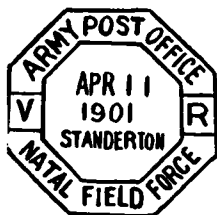
GROUP VI—continued

The South African War—continued

TYPE IV is a rubber stamp at least twice the size of an ordinary date stamp and probably made locally; there are several varieties of this, and it is found impressed in violet and in blue. The inscription is "Army Post Office" round the upper curve and "South Africa" round the base; the date is in one line across the centre; occasionally a number and initial are found over it. The word "Barberton" is known, and a further variety has the word "Volksrust" instead of "South Africa" at the base. Again, one may find the words "South Africa" at top and "Field Force" at the bottom.



Type V is a double-framed octagon with the inscription "Army Post Office" at top and "Natal Field Force" at bottom between the lines. In the side labels the letters "V.R." appear, and in the centre the date with an office number or name of town below.



Type VI is a thick and nearly always blotchy obliterator similar to that used here by our newspaper branch, and consists of the initials "F.P.O." (Field Post Office) and a number in a circle. It is seldom met with and most likely was used on newspapers.

Type VII is of a similar nature but has the letters "N.F.F." (Natal Field Force); this time, however, the letters appear in white and background in black, and it is probably the newspaper branch cancellation used in Natal.

Type VIII. This type is similar to Type II but slightly smaller and thinner in lettering, and emanates from the Military Post Office of Natal. The inscription reads "Natal" at top and "Field Force" at bottom, sometimes with a number and sometimes without. It is met with in black and in violet.

In addition to these one may find local obliterations of all kinds and descriptions used on British stamps, notably Ladysmith, Pretoria, Cape Colony, etc.

In July, 1903, the Postmaster-General in his report says: "The Army Post Office has been completely withdrawn from South Africa, and all postal communication with the troops still on service there is carried on through the Colonial Post Offices under ordinary regulations."

The stamps used were those current between 1899 and 1903 in Great Britain and also Natal, Cape, British Bechuanaland, Orange Free State, the same overprinted "V.R.I." Transvaal also, with or without "V.R.I.," etc. In addition to the ordinary the Army Official stamps were used, but are undoubtedly scarce.

Reference List:—

Queen's Head.	½d., vermilion.
	1d., lilac.
	1½d., lilac and green.
	2d., green and carmine.
	2½d., lilac on blue.
	3d., lilac on yellow.
	4d., green and brown.
	5d., lilac and blue.
	6d., lilac on red.
	9d., lilac and blue.
	10d., lilac and carmine.
	1s., green.
	1900, ½d., green.
	1s., carmine and green.
King's Head.	1901, ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 9d., 10d., 1s.; also ½d., pale green (1904).

Army Official.

Queen's Head.	½d., vermilion.
	½d., green.
	1d., lilac.
	6d., lilac on red.

In the course of time the number of Boer prisoners became so large that special camps were established for their reception and also for the concentration of those non-combatants whose presence in the war area was objectionable. Their correspondence was always carefully censored before despatch and special marks were employed to denote that it had been permitted to pass. They are of very great interest, but as they were used in addition and not as postmarks they hardly come within the scope of this article.

(To be continued.)

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Collectors pay Voluntary Taxes.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie has been dilating on the enormous sum contributed every year by stamp collectors to the postal departments of the countries of the world. I wonder if my readers have ever thought about it when they were intent on the purchase of new issues. It is evident that when one buys a 1d. stamp, one does not pay the penny as the cost of the stamp, but for the right of requiring the Post Office to carry a letter somewhere or other. The cost of carrying letters is by no means small, and the profits of the British Post Office are only gained by much thought as to ways and means. What a saving accrues to the Post Office when we pay our penny merely for the paper label, and do not require the performance of any service in exchange!

Our contemporary places the nett profit accruing to the Governments of the world from stamp collectors at nearly £4,000,000; it is an immense sum certainly, and perhaps the figure is a bit high, but wait until we examine some of the known statistics of the sale to collectors of unused stamps.

In 1900 the German Government started selling German Colonial stamps in Berlin, and we may be sure that only a very small proportion of those stamps are ever used for postal purposes. In seven years stamps to the value of £50,000 have been sold; that is to say, the average yearly sales exceed £7000. Now Germany has but few colonies, and no stamp exceeding 5s. in face value; I wonder what is the annual value of British Colonial stamps sold to collectors, and what of the many French Colonials? The figures must be enormous in comparison with the small number of and relatively unpopular Germans!

We stamp collectors are often told by Government officials and others that postage stamps are not issued for our benefit, but solely for the convenience of themselves and of the public; true enough, but have these same gentlemen ever given a thought to the profits thus made by the majority of the postal departments? If they had, perhaps they would consider the poor collector sometimes, and even deign to take a little advice from him.

New Issue for Holland

A CORRESPONDENT in Harlingen writes me that the colours of two values of the current set are to be changed, and that the new bicoloured stamps will be issued early next month (i.e. December). The two values concerned are the 15 and 20 cents, formerly

brown and *green* respectively. In the new issue the Head of Queen Wilhelmina and the background of the centre frame will be



in one colour, and the rest of the design in another. My correspondent states that the colours will be as follows:—

- 15 c., red centre, blue-violet frame, etc.
- 20 c., blue-grey centre, light green frame, etc.

Crete and the Balkan Crisis

ONE of the less important results of the trouble in the Balkans has been the action of Crete, which, as is well known, is an autonomous State under a High Commissioner of the four Powers, Great Britain, Russia, France, and Italy. The island is nominally subject to the suzerainty of Turkey, but pays no tribute. Since 14 August, 1906, the right of the King of the Hellenes to propose the High Commissioner has been recognized, and the present holder of that office is Alex. Thr. A. Záimis, formerly Prime Minister of Greece.

Shortly after Austria had declared her annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the people of the island of Crete declared their independence, and also their voluntary annexation to Greece. They immediately proceeded to overprint their postage stamps ΕΛΛΑΣ (Greece), but I am not at all sure that stamps overprinted thus will be recognized as legitimately issued, as apparently Crete only maintained its autonomy by the will of the Powers, and therefore has not the faintest right to declare its annexation to Greece.

Sergeant F. Ashby sends me a 1 lepton stamp overprinted as above, and also a note of other values overprinted up to the present, and I give below a reference list; but it must not be gathered that my publishers accept the stamps as authentic. They are said to have been issued on 21 or 22 September, and were overprinted in *black* with the characters illustrated below.

The types refer to illustrations in my publishers' current Catalogue, and the Catalogue numbers of the stamps overprinted are given in brackets.

EAAAÆ

- Type.
- 7 1 l., red-brown (No. 71).
 - 16 2 l., violet (No. 101).
 - 17 5 l., green (No. 102).
 - 9 10 l., scarlet (No. 73).
 - 19 20 l., blue-green (No. 104).
 - 31 25 l., black and blue (No. 124).
 - 21 50 l., brown (No. 106).
 - 22 1 dr., sepia and carmine (No. 107).
 - 11 2 dr., brown (No. 90).
 - 23 3 dr., black and orange (No. 108).
 - 24 5 dr., ,, olive-green (No. 109).

The above stamps *were* to have been used until the proper stamps of Greece could be issued in Crete, but recently the people of Crete have repented of their sudden action, and have left their future position entirely in the hands of the Powers. I do not think it very probable that the adhesion to Greece will be confirmed, so I shall be very surprised if these stamps are ever recognized as a duly authorized issue.

Belgian Poste Restante Regulations

I READ in *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* that more stringent regulations have lately been adopted in Belgium touching the use of the Poste Restante; letters may no longer be addressed *c/o* a post office, addressed under initials, numbers, or any other unrecognizable formula.

The recipients of letters addressed "Poste Restante" will have to prove their identity unless they be known to the officials.

These new regulations have been decided upon in the interests of the public, but protests against them are pouring in from commercial travellers, advertisers, and business people generally. It is said that the result of the regulations will be the creation of a number of secret agencies, where letters may be addressed for a small fee.

Speculators in Indo-China checkmated

A REFERENCE to the contemplated reissue of certain Indo-China stamps was made in last week's Foreign Notes, and the following is significant.

Amongst the many speculative issues of the last few years, perhaps the 1904-6 issue of Indo-China ("Grasset" type), overprinted for use in various French offices in China, was the object of greater speculation than ever. The issue abounded in minor varieties which fetched extraordinary prices; even the regular stamps of the issue, or, at any rate, the higher values, were sold on the Continent at rates far above their value.

It is generally believed that certain speculators, either local officials or their friends in Paris, hold large stocks of these stamps, and should such be the case, their hopes will be rather dashed to the ground by the latest information on the subject contained in *Lu*

Revue de la Fédération Philatélique de France. Our contemporary states positively that these stamps have been reissued, and are now on sale at the offices in China.

We anticipate a rapid drop in prices should this news be accurate.

More about Turkey

RECENTLY we referred to the declaration of a constitution in Turkey, and I have now heard that the following notice has been published broadcast:—

With the consent of the Governments concerned, the exceptional privileges allowed to the subjects of certain Governments, which privileges are quite contrary to the ordinary rules of international law, and which are only extended in accordance either with treaties, or simply because of their existence during many years, will be withdrawn.

If the proposed reform be carried through, one of the results will be the abolition of post offices of various foreign Powers now established in Turkey, and which are usually known as Foreign Post Offices in the Levant. Such offices are kept up by Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia, Italy, and Austria, and, as we said previously, we may be sure that they will *not* be abolished unless the Turkish Post Office Department is put into thorough working order and the various officials paid their salaries regularly.

The 6 Rappen Zurich

IN No. 8/9 of the *Schweizer Briefmarken-Zeitung* I find a plate illustrating a complete reconstructed sheet of the well-known rarity the 6 rappen Zurich, the work being that of the late Paul Mirabaud. Five varieties of this stamp have been known to specialists for the last few years; they can be distinguished by differences in the lines of the network, particularly as to the way the former end off in the corners. Besides these differences, there are others far more minute, such as tiny spots and blemishes, broken lines, and lines running together, most of which are due to lack of care in making the transfers to the lithographic stone.

The reconstructed sheet is shown complete in every detail, with the exception of the margin at the top of sheet, which would have settled the question as to whether the Zurich stamp was akin to the Geneva, in that the upper margin contained directions as to the use or value of the stamps.

The third stamp on the sheet is that extreme rarity the one with the retouched background; in some way the network in the upper left-hand corner was damaged, and was drawn in again by hand on the stone; it was well done, but hand work cannot beat machine work for mathematical accuracy, and so the lines are too thick in some places and too thin in others.

Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung.

Abyssinia Joins the I.P.U.!

IN our issue of 3 October it was stated in these columns that Abyssinia had signified its desire to be admitted a member of the International Postal Union. (No, sir! NOT the PHILATELIC Union!!)

I learn from *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* that the adherence of Abyssinia will date officially from 1 November, 1908.

A little while ago the Negus inaugurated a new post office at Harrar, and installed a Frenchman as postmaster. The sign of the door is worded in Amharic characters, and also in the French, i.e. "Postes, Télégraphes et Téléphones Ethiopiens."

A new set of stamps is to be expected, but they will probably be preceded by a flood of provisionals.

French Tax Stamps (so-called "Postage Dues")

MANY of my readers have probably seen the new French stamp, or rather stamps, for there are two values, 1 c. and 10 c., illustrated here, and have perhaps wondered why they have not been mentioned in *G.S.W.* before.



As a matter of fact, they are tax stamps used for a very special purpose. In France, and most other countries, there is a "Cash on Delivery" system run by the Post Office; it is not only applied to parcels and letters containing valuables,

but also to simple post cards, which are much used by treasurers of clubs as an easy

way of collecting subscriptions due from members. Should any "C.O.D." packet be refused, it is sent back to the sender, and one of these special stamps, value 10 centimes, is affixed to it, the sender having to pay that amount to the Post Office, instead of a commission that *would* have been payable if the amount in question had been duly paid by the addressee. The 1 c. is used to make up an odd amount due on a number of returned unpaid "C.O.D.'s." For instance, suppose a club treasurer sent out cards demanding payment each of fr. 1.25, and all were refused but one, the account between him and the Post Office would read:—

Money collected . . .	fr. 1.25
14 cards refused at 10 c. . .	„ 1.40

Due to Post Office . . .	fr. 0.15
--------------------------	----------

which amount would be indicated on the bill accompanying the unpaid cards (a document called "Bordereau de Retour") by one 10 c. and five 1 c. stamps.

A SPLENDID START THE FINEST PACKET

Packet No. 67, 1000 varieties. This packet contains 1000 different Stamps (and no Envelopes, Bands, and Cards), and is the cheapest packet ever offered by S. G., Ltd., satisfaction being absolutely guaranteed. The price it is offered at is the lowest ever quoted for such a collection, embracing as it does scores of scarce varieties, provisionals, new issues, and many very fine and obsolete varieties.

15s., post-free and registered.

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

New Issues and Discoveries

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, 39, Strand, London, W.C.

Colombia.—We have received a $\frac{1}{2}$ c. in the new type illustrated and described in our issue of 28 October, 1908.



101

1908. Type 101. (a) Perf. 10.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., orange.

Gwalior.—We have been shown a copy of the current 2 anna Service stamp in the mauve shade.



44

OFFICIAL STAMP. 1908. Type 44 of India, new shade, overprinted as Type 3, in black.

1312 a., mauve.

मवालिपर

सरविस

3

Hong Kong.—We have been shown a variety of the \$1 on \$2 Fiscal of the 1897 issue, which was used for postal purposes. As will be seen from the illustration, there is a diagonal portion of the surcharge in Chinese characters, and the essential point of the variety is that this portion is missing. Another variety is well known in which the whole of the Chinese overprint is omitted.



21



27

1897. Type 21 surcharged in black as Type 27, but diagonal portion of surcharge omitted.

211b/\$1 on \$2, sea-green.

Labuan.—We have been shown a variety of the 2 c. Postage Due stamp, in which the words POSTAGE DUE have been overprinted twice.



26

201

POSTAGE DUE. Type 26 overprinted vertically upwards with Type 201, in black.

Variety. Overprint double.

210a c., black and green (No. 112).

North Borneo.—We have seen the 2 c. in the two colours of the issues of 1897 and 1900 overprinted for use as Postage Due stamps.



35

71

POSTAGE DUES. Type 35 overprinted with Type 71, in black.

(b) Horizontally.

323a/2 c. black and lake.

323b/2 c. " " green.

Nyassa (Portuguese Colony).—Three values of the 1901 issue have been already catalogued with inverted centres, and we have now received a fourth value, the 2½ reis, which we accordingly chronicle below. This variety should come between Nos. 39 and 39a in the Catalogue.



2

1901. Type 2. Frame in black. Perf. 12½ to 15. Variety. Centre inverted.

2½ r., chocolate.

Paraguay.—We have had three more provisionals shown to us by Messrs. Th. Champion and Co. to add to the never-ending list. One of these consists, by way of a change, of an old lithographed 28 c. of the 1900-1 issue, overprinted with the latest type of surcharge.



30



39

Habilitado en

5

CENTAVOS

44

1908. Type 30 surcharged as Type 44, in black. 5 c. on 28 c., orange.

1908. Type 39 surcharged as above.

5 c. on 2 c., carmine.
5 c. on 60 c., chocolate.

Siam.—We have received a provisional 4 atts, overprinted in black on the old 5 atts of the 1906 set. We suppose that this provisional has been made to use up an existing stock of 5 att stamps in the colours rose and carmine, as the 4 atts has lately been issued in those colours.



50

C

4

54

1908. Type 50 overprinted in black with Type 54 upon the figures of value at the bottom of the stamp. 163¼ atts on 5, rose and carmine.

Switzerland.—We have received four more values of the new set, the completion of which is being pressed forward. Up to the present seven values have been issued, and for reference purposes we give the complete list. The three pre-

Correspondence

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—The small books of stamps introduced for sale by the Post Office in India are much appreciated by the public, and the demand for them has steadily increased. They are of a convenient shape, and are particularly acceptable during the rains, as there is no chance of the gum being affected by the damp. But a word of warning must be given in respect of them. Certain persons, who are at present undetected, have found that the booklets offer an easy means of making money. The purchaser, as a rule, does not take the trouble to count the stamps, and it has been found in some instances that a number of the stamps have been removed before sale. The wire fastening is apparently withdrawn, a page or two of four stamps taken out, and then the booklet is refastened.

The maximum weight of parcels conveyable by parcels post in India has been reduced from 2000 tolas to 800 tolas, owing to the inconvenience caused to the postal service by the heavier parcels, and the fact that the heavier parcels are only sent through the post to a very limited extent.

It is intended to have a big postal sorting-shed on the quay at the Bombay Docks. This will be specially manned for the arrival of the mail steamer, and the delay consequent on the abolition of the sea office between Aden and Bombay will be reduced to a minimum.

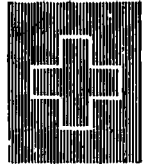
I hear that arrangements are under consideration for establishing an Anglo-Chinese postal service between India and Lhassa.

Now that many collectors of Indian stamps include Telegraphs as within the scope of their operations, I should like to draw your readers' attention to the three impressed Telegraph stamps for 4 annas and 1 and 2 rupees placed on sale in March last, particulars of which I communicated to *The London Philatelist* of July last. I also hear of the issue of some Service Telegraph stamps, and that the Superintendent of Government Printing, Calcutta, was instructed on the 28th ultimo (Letter No. 1932-5) to surcharge the following King's Head obsolete Telegraph adhesives with the letters "O. H. M. S." :—

viously mentioned are marked with an asterisk (*), but the numbers are changed.



16



13

1908. Type 16. Figures of value, figure of Helvetia and frame-line in first colour. Granite paper. Wmk. Type 13. Perf. 11½, 12.

- 245 20 c., yellow and red.
- * 247 30 c., pale green and golden brown.
- 248 35 c., yellow and emerald.
- * 249 40 c., orange-yellow and plum.
- * 250 50 c., yellow-green and deep green.
- 251 70 c., ochre and chocolate.
- 253 3 fr., chrome-yellow and yellow-bistre.

Rs. 2	.	.	.	510 sheets
Rs. 5	.	.	.	125 "
Rs. 10	.	.	.	30 "
Rs. 25	.	.	.	35 "
Rs. 50	.	.	.	10 "
				<u>710</u>

I am aware that you do not usually make a point of offering your readers information about that "Cinderella of Philately" the Telegraph stamp, but my justification for referring to it is to be found in the fact that both the London and Indian Societies' Indian Handbooks give exhaustive information about Indian Telegraph issues which, in my judgment, should be kept up to date by Indian philatelists as occasion and opportunity offer.

I will take this opportunity of tendering you my sincere congratulations on the appearance of the Sectional Imperial Album. I am a general collector, and my general collection, which began in the early sixties, and has gone on continuously, will all go into your new sections (and when I say all I include my Fiscals and Telegraphs) as they appear. The Imperial now comes up to my highest ideas of what general collectors really want. I little thought that we should ever have our wishes so thoroughly met. I am, of course, retaining my blank albums with movable leaves for my specialized countries, and my approval of the Imperial must not be taken to imply a condemnation of the blank album. For the all-round general collector the new Imperial is magnificent; it was absolutely necessary if the general collector of all countries is to be spared from, to a large extent, extinction. In my case I make two collections of my specialized countries, the less important of which goes into the Imperial Album. Your Great Britain section which I ordered direct from you was carefully packed in London, but reached me, after having been ruthlessly yanked out of its wrappings by the Postal Customs people, absolutely ruined for use, and I had to get another through a local firm

Yours faithfully,

WILMOT CORFIELD.

Calcutta, 12 October, 1908.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 22
Whole No. 204

28 NOVEMBER, 1908

Vol. VIII.

The Stamps of some of the Native States of India

By E. B. EVANS

(Continued from page 136.)

Nowanuggur—continued

NOTE.—Through a slip of the pen, the widths of the sheets of stamps of settings (*e*) and (*f*), on page 136, were given as 25½, 27, 27½, and 28 mm.; the figures should have been 35½, 37, 37½, and 38.

A collector, who is well acquainted with the characters used upon these stamps, has kindly given me some information as to the varieties of type which I endeavoured to describe on page 135. The character resembling a letter "*f*" reversed represents the letter *s*, and this should occur in the first and third lines on the stamps. The character resembling a badly drawn figure "2," at the end of the third line, represents the letter *r*. One, or perhaps two, of the variations of the former character are probably varieties of form or broken copies of the *s*, but one of them is undistinguishable from the character for *r*, and might be held to constitute an error of lettering.

1884. *Sheets of fifteen, without space at foot*, as in 1880. In September, 1884, I obtained a few sheets direct from the Postmaster, and can therefore answer for their being the varieties current at that time (the 1 docra, *blue*, was sent as well as the type-set stamp). There were 1, 2, and 3 docras stamps of one setting, and 1 docra stamps of another setting; probably the lowest value of the former printing was nearly exhausted, and was being replaced by the same value of a fresh printing. I take first the printing of which I received a complete set.

(*i*) Stamps 17 to 18 mm. wide, sheet 63 to 64 × 95 to 96 mm. Seven characters in the third line, except in No. 5, in which there are only six, the last character but one (the "*i*") having slipped up into the second line. Nos. 6 and 9 (?) have the "2" in the top line; Nos. 3 (?), 12, and 15 (?) have the "2" in the middle of the third line. It may

be seen that in this setting the reversed "*f*" is the character employed almost throughout. On No. 14 the first character of "do," the inverted "3" with an accent over it, is upside down. It should be noted that this is uniformly a *wide* setting.

1 docra, *dull magenta*.
2 " *yellow-green*
3 " *yellow*.

Errors. Six characters only in the third line.
All three values.

First character in the fourth line inverted.
All three values.

Varieties. Figure "2" in the top line.
All three values.

Figure "2" in the middle of the third line.
All three values.

(*j*) This is the other setting of which I received a sheet in September, 1884. I have since obtained a sheet of the 2 docras of the same setting (from the Breitfuss Collection), and I have a single 3 docras stamp also of this setting. Moens illustrates this as the first of all, but I feel sure that this is a mistake, both from the characters used and from the fact that I obtained it at so late a date. There are seven characters in the third line throughout. The stamps are very irregular in width, measuring 15½, 16, 17, and 18 mm., and the sheet is 60 to 61 × 92 to 95 mm., the last irregularity being caused by the bottom line sloping upwards considerably from left to right. No. 4 has the last character in the second line omitted, and No. 7 has the "2" in the middle of the second line, instead of at the end (as the fourth character instead of the sixth). Nos. 6, 8, 11, and 14 have the "2" in the top line; Nos. 8, 12, and 14 have the "2" in the middle of the third line. No. 13 on my sheet of the 1 docra has the first character in the fourth line inverted; this does not appear to be the case on the sheet illustrated

by Moens. The figures "3" on the highest value are usually large.

- 1 docra, *dull magenta*.
2 " *blue-green*.
3 " *deep yellow* (large figure).

Errors. Last character in the second line omitted.

All three values.

Sixth character of the second line in the place of the fourth.

All three values.

First character in the fourth line inverted.

1 docra, *dull magenta*.

Varieties. Figure "2" in the top line.

All three values.

Figure "2" in the middle of the third line.

All three values.

(k) Stamps 15 to 16½ mm. wide, sheet 55 to 56 × about 95 mm. Of this setting Moens illustrated the 2 docras only; I have the 3 docras also, and I conclude that the 1 docra must have existed. There are seven characters in the fifth line throughout; in No. 4 the fifth character, and in No. 11 the second character, fail to print completely or nearly so, but as the spacing shows that the characters were there, I do not list these as *errors*. There seems to have been a little care exercised in sorting the type, for the reversed "f" is always used in the top row, and the figure "2" is equally constant in the middle of the third row. The bottom frame line of Nos. 4 and 11 has dropped out or failed to print. Moens puts this under "1887," where he also places one of the settings I obtained in 1884. There seems to be no sure evidence as to the date, but from the colours of the papers I think it possible these may be amongst the earliest of the stamps with seven characters in the third line throughout the sheet.

- 1 docra ?
2 " *yellow-green*.
3 " *deep yellow*.

(l) Moens gives, also under 1887, a wide setting with the characters in the third line (seven as before) compressed, so that there is *no space between the two groups*.* The stamps seem to measure 17½ to 18½ mm., and the sheet 62 to 64 × about 94 mm. The top line of the sheet is broken over No. 3. Moens gives the 1 and 3 docras only, and I possess only single specimens of each value, which I picked out as the widest copies I had ever met with. Moens' illustrations cannot be relied upon for showing with certainty the difference between the reversed "f" and the figure "2," but I am inclined to think that the character is the "f" all

* Except in No. 15.

through, both in the top line and in the third.

- 1 docra, *magenta*.
2 " *green*.
3 " *dull yellow*.

(m) This I consider to be last of the settings without a space at foot; it is also the narrowest. The third line of characters is compressed, as in the previous setting, and the frame lines are set close to the type; on the other hand, there is much greater space between the stamps in the vertical rows, so that the sheet is long, as well as narrow. Stamps 13½ to 14 mm. wide, sheet 51 to 52 × 101 mm. This is not illustrated by Moens at all, but as far as the type goes it seems to be the previous setting with longer vertical frame lines, set close, a new frame line at the top, and the small horizontal bits of frame line spaced. There are seven characters in the third line and the reversed "f" seems to be always used in the first and third lines, though it is not quite easy to decide this point in some of the types.

Mr. W. T. Wilson shows me part of a sheet of the 1 docra of this setting, in which some displacement of type has occurred in the left lower corner; No. 13 shows the first character of the third line dropped to the level of the fourth line.

- 1 docra, *bright rose*.
2 " *yellowish green*.
3 " *pale yellow*.

Variety. With first character of third line dropped.

1 docra, *bright rose*.

July (?), 1887. *Sheets of fifteen with space at foot.* Moens says "End of 1887" for the first issue of these sheets, but the stamps were chronicled in *Le Timbre-Poste* for September 1 of that year, being described as rather narrower than the stamps in sheets of ten, and as including a 3 docra on *laid*, which is only known in sheets of this form.

(o) Stamps 14 to 15 mm. wide, sheets 52 to 53 × 103 to 105 mm. There are seven characters in the third line, and there is a space in the middle of it, except in No. 11; the reversed "f" is used throughout, both in the top and in the third line; *the stamps in the bottom row have each a separate bit of frame line at foot*, in addition to the bottom frame line of the sheet, which is some 5 mm. lower, as shown in the illustration of the second sheet, on page 134.

The great majority of the stamps in this and the following setting are less than 15 mm. wide.

- 1 docra ?
2 " *greenish blue*.
3 " *yellow*.

I have not seen the 1 docra in this setting, but it probably exists. In my 3 docras sheet the top frame line slopes upwards considerably from left to right, and the stamps in the second vertical row are more or less above the level of those in the first, and those in the third vertical row above that of those in the second, the forme having got out of shape.

(*p*) Similar to the preceding, but No. 8 has a figure "2" in the top line, and there is no space in the middle of the third line. This is the usual setting of the 3 docras on laid paper.

- 1 docra, *dull magenta*.
- 2 " *blue-green*.
- 2 " *yellow-green*.
- 3 " *dull yellow*.
- 3 " " " (laid).
- 3 " *pale* " "

Varieties. With figure "2" in top line.
All the above.

(*q*) A similar setting, with space at bottom, differing principally from the last in the fact that the left-hand vertical line of the sheet is short, not extending below the bottom line of the lowest row of stamps; the inner vertical lines are all thin, instead of thick; and the left-hand frame line of the right-hand vertical row is much too short, ending well above the bottom line of the adjacent stamp. Stamps 14 to 15 mm. wide; in the 2 and 3 docras the right frame line is splayed out at the bottom, making No. 15 wider than the rest, 16 mm. at top and 17 mm. at foot, and there has been some resetting of the type in these two values, the first form of reversed "f" being replaced by the second in some of the types; sheet 54 to 56 × 102 mm. Nos. 2, 3, 6, 9, 12, and 15 have the dot over the top of the first character in the top line, instead of between the first and second characters. No. 11 has the figure "2" in the middle of the third line (possibly others have this peculiarity also, but the sheets are not very clearly printed).

- 1 docra, *dull magenta*.
- 2 " *light yellow-green*.
- 3 " *yellow*.

Varieties.—With dot over the first character in the top line.

All three values.

With figure "2" in the middle of the third line.

All three values.

(*r*) This is very similar to *q*, the left-hand line of the frame is the same length, 96 mm., but it is usually rather low down, leaving a large gap at the left upper corner and extending almost to the bottom line of the frame. *The second vertical line from the right is lengthened by means of a short piece of rule nearly 6 mm. long, inserted at*

the bottom; it is almost always out of line with the rest of the vertical line, and is very often slanting. This is the setting shown in the illustration of a block of fifteen. Moens dates these 1888 and 1890.

Stamps 15 mm. wide throughout, sheet 55 × 101 to 102 mm. Nos. 2, 3, 6, 9, and 12 have the dot over the top of the first character in the top line; in No. 15 the dot is either absent or in its correct position. No. 11 has the figure "2" in the middle of the third line. No. 12 always has the top line of characters too much to the right, and the second line rather compressed; on one sheet of 3 docras that I possess, the last character in the second line is missing and the last but one, "i," of the third line has slipped up into the top line. The top frame line is usually bent, as shown in the illustration, and in later impressions there is a little bulge in the right-hand frame lines of Nos. 4 and 5. I should add that the defect in the third line of characters in No. 6 in the illustration is due to a bit of dirt on the particular sheet illustrated; the stamp is really normal.

- 1 docra, *dull magenta*.
- 1 " *bright* "
- 1 " *bright rose*.
- 2 " *light yellow-green*.
- 2 " *yellow-green*.
- 2 " *green*.
- 3 " *buff-yellow*.
- 3 " *yellow*.
- 3 " *pale yellow*.

Varieties.—With dot over the first character in the top line.
All the above.

With figure "2" in the centre of the third line.
All the above.

With the top line misplaced.
All the above.

As last, and with "2" in second line missing, and "1," of third line, out of place.

3 docras, *pale yellow*.

(*s*), (*t*), (*u*). In 1891 Moens appears to have received some sheets, made up on the same system as those described under (*p*), (*q*), and (*r*), in fifteen varieties with a space at the bottom of the pane, but much better set up than any of the preceding, in what would seem to be new type, with the frame lines straight. The top line seems to be always in two pieces, with a break over the right upper corner of No. 2 on the sheet, and Moens gives a second setting of this with the bottom line in two pieces also, and with the characters in several of the varieties shifted a bit to one side or the other, as if the setting were rather loose. I have sheets of what is plainly the first of these, but there is a break in the bottom line as well as in the top one, and I believe Moens' second setting merely has the two pieces of the bottom line

transposed; but there are some variations in the relative positions of the lines of characters (which I believe to be purely accidental, and possibly not constant); and, which I think more important, two distinct varieties of the shape of one of the characters, by means of which three settings may be distinguished. The variation is in the third character of the third line, which has the closed loop on the upper left larger in some cases than in others. This variation occurs also in earlier settings, but is not easy to recognize, owing to defective printing and bad type.

The stamps are 15 mm. wide, or very nearly so, and the sheets measure 54 to 55 mm. x 101 mm. No figures "2" in first or third line.

(s) Loop of third character in the third line large on Nos. 1, 5, 7, 10, 13, and 14; small in all the rest.

- 1 docra, *bright magenta*.
2 ,, *light yellowish green*.

(t) Loop of character large on No. 11 only.

- 3 docras, *pale yellow* (laid).

(u) Loop of character small throughout; most of the vertical lines seem to have small cracks in them. This is Moens' second set of these settings, of which I have only seen his illustrations; he gives the same colours for both.

- 1 docra, *bright magenta*.
2 ,, *light yellowish green*.
3 ,, *pale yellow*.

Stamps of these improved settings appear to be scarce.

I would repeat that there are, no doubt, other settings besides those which I have described; in fact I possess single copies of the stamps which I cannot identify on any of the sheets that I have seen.

1893. In this year an entirely new design was adopted for the stamps of this State with the Arms of the State in the centre, inscriptions reading "Sasthana Nawanagar" (= *Government of Nowanuggur*) above, and "Halar Post Stamp" (= *Postage Stamp of Halar*) below, Halar being stated to be the district of which Nowanuggur is the capital, and the value in words on a label at foot.



1 docra.

The value was described as reading "docdo" instead of *docro* or *docra*, and the first character and the last but one of the second word in the label are certainly very much alike. Probably, however, the last character

but one is intended to be the same as the last character at the top, which is the character for "r."

These stamps are printed from casts or electrotypes, in sheets of thirty-six, six rows of six, on *white wove paper*, varying in thickness and quality. They were issued perf. 12, but are also found imperforate, either wholly or partially.

1. Thick paper. Perf. 12.

- 1 docra, black.
3 ,, orange.

Variety. Imperforate.

- 1 docra, black.

2. Thin, hard paper.* Perf. 12.

- 1 docra, black.
2 ,, green (slight shades).
3 ,, orange.
3 ,, deep yellow.
3 ,, yellow.

Varieties. Imperforate.

- 1 docra, black.
2 ,, green.
3 ,, orange.

Imperf. horizontally.

- 1 docra, black.

Imperf. vertically.

- 1 docra, black.

Thin soft paper, very slightly toned. Perf. 12.

- 2 docras, deep green.
3 ,, brownish orange.

I should add that I have never seen un-used copies either of these or any other Nowanuggur stamps with *gun*.

At the end of 1895, and later, stamps of various issues were found surcharged with two characters, one resembling a figure "2" and the other a figure "3" inverted, in *magenta*, as shown in the accompanying illustration. These were first described as *Official* stamps, and afterwards as provisional 2 docras stamps, but I was informed, on good authority, that these characters are the word "rud," meaning *cancelled by the Post Office*. The stamps thus overprinted are therefore cancelled remainders. I have the 1 docra, *blue*, and all three values of the type-set stamps treated in this way, and the three values of 1893 are also chronicled with this overprint. My copies of the type-



3 docras.

* This paper is watermarked with the names of the manufacturers, "HOWARD & JONES—LONDON," across the sheet.

set stamps all appear to be of setting (*m*), though there is one 2 docras amongst them about which I am not certain.

I find the 1893 stamps also cancelled with two characters in *black*, which are no doubt other forms of the letters "rd," resembling the right-hand character of the inscription at the top of these stamps and the first character of the word "*docra*" in the lower label; and again with the figure "2" and the inverted "3" enclosed in an oblong, the double-line frame crossed by diagonal bars,

(To be continued.)

The Postal Issues of Italy and the Italian Colonies

By L. HANCIAU

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(Continued from page 197.)

II. Kingdom of Italy—continued

AFTER the rupture with M. Sparre, it was necessary to take advantage of the cordial relations with the good M. Matraire, who indeed appears to have been the Providence of the Department of Posts, with a view to an extension of the contract with that provider. The easy-going M. Matraire renewed whatever they pleased; and the more readily because he had not done badly so far with his contracts, which had already brought him in some £40,000, to keep him from want in his old age!

A new contract was entered into on the 29th January, 1863, to run until the end of the following March, in which it was stipulated that from henceforth the stamps should be perforated (Art. 2), and that the price (Art. 8) was to be raised to fr. 1.50 per 1000 stamps.

We must therefore presume that all the varieties of perforation, dating from March, 1862, were the work of the Department of Posts, in Turin, which had then devoted itself to essays of perforation, as we have seen above.

Although the decree says nothing about the date for the issue of the new 15 centesimi stamps, I can affirm that they appeared on the 12th February, 1863, and not on the 1st March, as is stated in the *Magasin Pittoresque* of 1864, as I have had the opportunity of seeing, among others, used copies, dated the 24th, 25th, and 26th February.

Issue of February 12, 1863.

Effigy of King Victor Emmanuel II, to left, in an oval with ground of horizontal lines; enclosed in a rectangular frame bearing the following inscription in coloured letters: "FRANCO BOLLO" at left, "ITALIANO" at right, "POSTALE" at top, and "C. QUINDICI"

impressed in *magenta*. This may be a postmark, but I think it more likely to be another form of the "cancelled" mark.

In conclusion, it seems only fair to say that, although the continued use of two distinct 1 docra stamps must have been unnecessary, I do not think that there was any intentional multiplying of varieties; the type-set stamps were of course printed off as required for use or for export, and the variations in them are simply due to the process employed.

at bottom. In the upper corners "C—15," and in the lower "15—C."

Engraved by M. Matraire, and lithographed in colour on thick or thin white



paper, producing stamps which measure $19\frac{1}{2}$ or $19\frac{1}{4}$ mm. in width, according as the paper stretched or not.

First transfer. In the value, "C. QUINDICI," the "C" is closed, and the frame line of the tablet is *not broken* under the letter "Q."

15 c., blue (pale, bright, dull), greenish blue.

Varieties due to defective printing as follows:—

- (a) "POSTALE," stop before "P."
- (b) With the first two letters of "POSTALE" double.
- (c) "POSTALE," "C" instead of "O."
- (d) "POSTALF.," defective "E," forming "F" and stop.
- (e) "C. QUINDICI," "C" nearly closed up.
- (f) "O. QUINDICI," "C" has become "O."
- (g) "ITALIANC," "C" instead of "O."

I have seen a block of twelve stamps, containing variety (c), from which it could be seen that this variety was in the *eighth* horizontal row of the sheet, in fact stamp No. 72.

If I may judge from used stamps that I have met with, a second printing, from a new transfer, should date from June, 1863.

Issue of June, 1863.

Second transfer. In the value, "C. QUINDICI," the "C" is open, and the frame line of

the tablet containing the value is broken under the letter "Q."

15 c., blue (pale, bright, deep, dull),
greenish blue.

Varieties due to defective printing or defective transfers.

- (a) The last four letters of "POSTALE," double.
- (b) "POSTALE," "C" instead of "O."
- (c) The top stroke of the "E" of "POSTALE" slanting.
- (d) "POSTALE," stop between "P" and "O."
- (e) ". POSTALE," a group of dots before the "P."
- (f) With a vertical line in front of the "C" in the left upper corner.
- (g) The "C" in the left upper corner very open.
- (h) The same letter incomplete at the bottom.
- (i) "POSTALE," stop after the word.
- (j) "ITALIANO," " " " "
- (k) "C. QUINDICI," "C" broken at the bottom.
- (l) "C. QUINDICI," " " " " instead of "I."
- (m) Last "I" of "QUINDICI" slanting.
- (n) Frame not broken under "Q."
- (o) Frame line of tablet and outer line broken in front of "Q," and below "N."
- (p) A dot at the left of and outside the lower tablet.
- (q) "C. QUINDICI," "C" instead of "Q."
- (r) "C. QUINDICI," " " " " instead of the last "I."

Moens' Catalogue lists this stamp *tête-bêche*, a variety which should not exist.

Manufacture.—There were several lithographic transfers, done in blocks of twenty-five stamps (5×5), four of which placed together formed a sheet of one hundred stamps (10×10). It seems very probable that the stamps were printed in more than one pane of one hundred at the same time; and they were, perhaps, delivered in half-sheets of fifty stamps, five vertical rows, as owing to the special gum used it was not possible to keep the sheets flat. In the first transfer the two lower blocks of twenty-five each show the twenty-third stamp with a coloured dot outside the frame at the right lower corner, and No. 100 on the sheet with the same corner missing; perhaps this was done intentionally.

The first transfer may be distinguished from the second by the fact that, in the former, the frame line of the tablet containing "C. QUINDICI" is unbroken, and that the letter "C" is always rather closed up. This latter peculiarity is the cause of some impressions which show the "C" almost completely closed, and others in which it is entirely so, producing a perfect letter "O." It was probably for this reason that the engraver-printer remedied this defect in the second transfer, making the "C" very much more open; at the same time he made the letter "Q" clearer by breaking the line of the tablet underneath it. The frame line is also broken, perhaps by accident, below the first stroke of the letter "N" in "ITALIANO,"

except in the fourth stamp of each block of twenty-five, and again below the "F" of "FRANCO"; this last defect sometimes occurs (but rarely) in the first transfer.

The second transfer being carelessly done, and the plate [stone?] not having been properly cleaned, defects occurred, which are reproduced in nearly every one of the blocks of twenty-five. The following is a list of the major defects:—

I. Top left-hand block.

No. 2. A coloured dot outside, after the "C" in right lower corner.

No. 4. On the left-hand frame line of the lower tablet is a large coloured dot.

No. 5. Outside the frame is a dot under the last "I" of "QUINDICI."

No. 8. Outside the frame is a dot above the "S" of "POSTALE."

No. 9. The "Q" of "QUINDICI" is not completely cleared, the frame line below it being unbroken.

No. 14. A thick vertical line before the "C" in the top left-hand corner.

No. 15. A dot between "PO" of "POSTALE."

No. 16. Three small dots . . before "POSTALE"; sometimes these dots are reduced to two or one.

No. 18. Similar to No. 9.

No. 23. The frame line is broken under the "A" of "POSTALE," and this word is followed by a stop.

No. 24. A portion of the top line of the frame of this stamp is composed of dots.

II. Top right-hand block.

Nos. 2, 4, and 5 as in Block I.

No. 8. Outside the frame is a dot above the "S" of "POSTALE," and "ITALIANO" is followed by a stop.

Nos. 9, 14, 15, 16, and 18, as in Block I.

No. 19. The lower part of the "C" in the top left-hand corner is missing.

No. 22. The last "I" of "QUINDICI" is composed of three dots; and the lower part of the "C" is missing.

No. 24. As Block I.

III. Lower left-hand block.

Nos. 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 18, and 24 as in Block I.

IV. Lower right-hand block.

Nos. 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 18, and 24 as in Block I.

All sheets do not show these defects. In some that I have seen, the following differences occur:—

First block. No. 2 does not show the defects mentioned above.

Second block. In No. 8 the stop after "ITALIANO" is missing.

Third block. No. 1—there is a wide, very open "C" in the top left-hand corner.

No. 22. The dots forming the last "1" of "QUINDICI" are replaced on the transfer by a badly made, slanting "1," but the lower part of the "C" is still missing.

Nos. 10, 24 have a point of exclamation in place of the last "1" of "QUINDICI"; and in such sheets No. 25 always has a large dot under the "D" of "QUINDICI."

On No. 23 the inscription sometimes reads "CUINDICI."

Fourth block. On No. 12 the inscription sometimes reads "PCSTALE," instead of "POSTALE."

Finally, I have met with a single block on which No. 17 has the lower lines of the tablet and of the frame broken before the "Q" and under the "N" of "QUINDICI"; whereas the break in the line should be under the "Q" only, as is usually the case in No. 17 (and in the other stamps of this transfer).

Forgeries used postally.—In September, 1862, the forgers of the stamps of the Neapolitan Provinces, 1861-3, were arrested; but it must be supposed that there were other gentlemen who believed in the principle of getting their letters carried gratis, for the stamps authorized by the decree of the 11th January, 1863, had hardly been issued when imitations appeared in that same province of Naples. They have been reported as coming from Lago (Cosenza), Aquila (Abruzzo), and Naples. I have no information about the forgeries from Lago, but I quote below a description of the others, which was given by M. Ch. Diena, to *Le Timbre-Poste*, in 1887.

The Naples forgeries are all of one type; they are engraved in *taille-douce*, instead of being lithographed.

The letters of the inscription are composed of thinner lines than in the originals, and the "S" of "POSTALE" leans backwards. The portrait of the King has an entirely different expression, and the curved line of the nose is more clearly defined; in the original the horizontally lined oval very nearly touches the frame [at top and bottom], whereas in the forgery the distance between the two is rather greater.

The colour is a *dirty blue*, which has imparted a bluish tint to the paper.

15 c., dirty blue.

The three copies in the possession of M. Diena bore the Naples obliteration, dated "NAPLES JUILLET 1863."

The Aquila productions are of worse execution than the preceding. They also are engraved in *taille-douce*; the colour is a very marked *black-blue*, which should render them recognizable at a glance. Even so the

forgers do not appear to have been arrested, nor troubled in any way.

15 c., black-blue.

M. Diena has four specimens which differ from each other in type, showing that they must have been separately engraved. They bear the obliteration of Aquila, dated December, 1863. They would seem to have also been used at Rieti.

I myself have seen another forgery, but I do not know where it originated, or for what purpose it was made. Was it intended to defraud the Post Office authorities or stamp collectors? The fact remains that its object was fraudulent. The following is a description of it:—

The letters "C" and the figures "15" in the corners are too small, the majority of the letters of "C. QUINDICI" are barred at the ends with little horizontal lines (*serifs*), which is not the case in the genuine stamps; in the letter "C" the bottom portion of the letter is not perfectly in line with the top portion; and the frame line is not broken under the letter "Q" (which is also the case in the first transfer). The lines in the background of the oval are wider apart; there are only three lines, instead of four, under the lowest portion of the bust, and five, instead of six, above the uppermost part of the head. The point of the bust is 1 mm. distant from the oval frame, instead of touching it. The portrait is a very fair copy of that of the genuine stamp.

15 c., dull blue.

In consequence of the discovery of these forgeries, the lithographer, M. Matraire, proposed to the Post Office Department that he should at once set about preparing a new design. But the authorities did not think that such a step was necessary, and merely issued peremptory instructions to the different post offices on the subject of the use of forged stamps. As a matter of fact, the Department was expecting the stamps that had been ordered from London, the first specimens of which were received about the middle of October; these consisted of eight values gummed on a sheet of paper, and overprinted "SAGGIO."

Essays.—I have noted the following, but it is probable that there are others:—

Of the adopted Design.

15 c., black, grey, blue on white paper.

As above, but printers' trials; same paper.

15 c., black; on the back 15 c., blue.

15 c. " " " " the red fiscal stamp of 1862, "marca da bollo."

15 c., blue; on the back, repeated impressions of the same stamp in black.

- 15 c., bright blue; *on the back*, repeated impressions of the same in *blue*.
 15 c., blue; *double impression on both sides*.
 15 c. ,, *double impression on the face, inverted impression on the back*.

It would appear that there are also proofs without any inscriptions; same paper.



No inscription or value; blue, black.

Same design, with the inscription in fatter type, not so tall, and the letters wider apart; the figures "15" are thicker and nearly fill up the spaces in the corners; the top of the "5" is vertical.



15 c., black on *white*.

Same design, but reversed, so that the head is turned to the right.



No inscription or value; black, blue on *white*.

Another design, engraved on copper and differing from the type adopted in the following points:—



The outer line of the frame is thicker. The labels are narrower and longer, and they touch the design of the corners.

The oval medallion is smaller and is further from the labels, and the two lines forming it are further apart.

The lines of the face are harder, and the moustache ends off in a single curved hair.

The letter and figures of the value are set obliquely in the corners; in the lower corner the "c" is turned to the right.

No other inscription.

15 c., black on *white*.

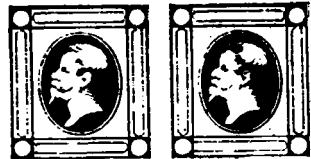
As above, but entirely reversed, so that the head is turned to the right, and the letters and figures in the corners are backwards.



15 c., black, blue on *white*.

Same design, but redrawn (on copper), with the head turned to the left.

The following are the principal points of difference:—



(a) The labels are much narrower than in the adopted design.

(b) The frame lines of the oval medallion are wider apart.

(c) The king's moustache is longer, more turned up; the hair is thinner, the ear larger, and the neck shorter and thicker.

(d) The shading at the back of the neck is formed of a number of small obliquely placed dots, instead of horizontal dashes.

(e) The lines of the background in the oval are further apart.

No inscription or value; black, blue on *white* paper.
 " " " red, on *glazed white* card.

Here we have a pair of designs, of similar type to the preceding, but differing from one another; engraved on copper as before:—



In the first of these two designs the head of Victor Emmanuel II is turned to the left, and is shown upon a horizontally lined

background; there is more hair about the temples, and the moustache is longer and more turned up; the oval medallion is enclosed by a double line, the outer line being the thicker; the frame is rectangular and the corners of the labels are not rounded off; in the corners of the design are rosettes.

The second design bears the same portrait turned to the left, but it is distinctly larger, and is shown on a plain background; the hair on the temples is curled towards the right; the corners of the frame have the same ornaments as before.

No inscription or value; 1st design, black on *white*.

" " 2nd " " "

* * *

(To be continued.)

Notes on Bhopal

By E. B. EVANS

AS a collector of, perhaps I may venture to say a specialist in, the unpopular issues of the Native States of India, I am naturally interested in any announcements concerning the State Post Offices. It is some little time back that I made a note of an extract from *The Times of India*, which was published in *The Philatelic Record*, and according to which the State Post Office of Bhopal was transferred to the Post Office of India on the 15th of July. Some interesting details are given relating to the previous history of the Post Office, and the arrangements to be made for the future:—

"The Bhopal State Post Office, like all early postal systems, was first established for official purposes only in 1852, but was later thrown open to the public, the first postage stamps being struck in 1869. The money order system was introduced later, but remittances were limited to Rs. 5. Letters could be registered, but there was no provision for insurance and there was no savings bank. Stamps that will now be withdrawn from circulation are quarter anna, half, one, two, four, and eight annas, and one rupee, and a new stamp for use exclusively on the Bhopal State Service will be introduced shortly. Postage stamps affixed to all articles posted within the Bhopal State will, when obliterated, bear the impression of the Bhopal coat-of-arms. There will now be fifty post offices and 437 miles of mail lines, exclusive of railways, in the Bhopal territory."

The list of the stamps of Bhopal certainly occupies an amount of space in the Catalogue which might appear to be unnecessary, but until within the last few years collectors have not really had much to complain of.

I should add that the unnecessary productions of recent years have not all of them found their way into the Catalogue yet; the list might be considerably lengthened. If the statement that postage stamps were struck in 1869 is correct, I fear that there must be some additions to be made at the beginning of our list, which starts with an issue assigned to 1877. The latter date is undoubtedly wrong, and I cannot now discover how it came to be adopted by all the catalogues; stamps of Bhopal were actually chronicled before the end of 1876, and the date first given to them was "1871," supposed to correspond with the date "1289" which is found at the top of the embossed device applied to the stamps down to 1902. As a matter of fact the Mohammedan year 1289 began March 11th, 1872, and ended February 27th, 1873. The embossing stamp, therefore, which fitted the centre of the earliest Bhopal stamps that we know, may be said to be dated 1872, and was probably engraved in that year; and the design with an octagonal blank space in the centre, in which the embossed device was impressed, cannot well be earlier than that date and may be later. It is not unlikely that the single-frame type, Type 2 in the Catalogue, may have been the earliest, as this appears to have been the type of the stamps seen in 1876; but stamps of Type 3 were seen in April, 1877, and the ½ a. of Type 1 in the following August.

If stamps were issued in 1869 they were probably of a design that is entirely unknown; let us hope that such was not the

case; but philatelists in India might devote a little research to this problem, and endeavour at the same time to ascertain the actual date of issue of the stamps that are all listed under 1877.

In regard to later issues, the numberless varieties of which may well have discouraged some would-be collectors of them, it is only fair to point out that there is no more intentional variation in the numerous redrawings of the same design than in the still more numerous numbered plates of the Penny stamps of Great Britain, and that for the general collector they might well be treated in the same manner—as indeed an attempt has been made in the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue, by placing together all the varieties of the same general design. The list might be simplified somewhat as follows:—



1876 (?) and 1877. Square type, with value in two forms at foot.

A. Double-line frame.

1. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black.
2. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red.

Errors.

- 1a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black (BFGAM).
- 1b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (EGAM).
- 1c. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (BEGAN?).
- 2a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red (BFGAM).
- 2b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (EGAM).
- 2c. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (BEGAN?).

The "N" in errors *c* is merely a badly formed "M."

B. Single-line frame.

3. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black.
4. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red.
- 4a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (error NWAB).



C. Single-line frame, larger lettering; "EEGAM" for "BEGAM."

5. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black.



1878-95. Rectangular type, with horizontal lines in the corners.

A. Wove paper. 1. Imperf.

6. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., green.
7. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red.
8. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., brown.

Errors.

- 6a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., green (NAWA).
- 7a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red (JAHN).
- 7b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (NWAB).
- 7c. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (EEGAM).
- 8a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., brown (JAHN).
- 8b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (NWAB).
- 8c. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (EEGAM).

2. Perforated.

9. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., green.
- 9a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (error NAWA).
- 9b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (ANAWAB).
10. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., brown-red.

B. Laid paper (1895). Imperf.

11. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red.



1881-98. Square type, with value in one form only at foot.

A. Wove paper. 1. Imperf.

12. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black.
13. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red.
14. 1 a., brown, purple-brown.
15. 2 a., blue.
16. 4 a., buff.
17. 4 a., yellow, orange-yellow.

Errors.

- 12a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black (NWAB).
- 12b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (BEGAN).
- 12c. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., (EEGAM).
- 13a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red (NWAB).
- 14a. 1 a., brown (NWAB).
- 14b. 1 a., (EEGAM).
- 14c. 1 a., (BEGAM).
- 14d. 1 a., purple-brown (NAWAH).
- 15a. 2 a., blue (NWAB).
- 15b. 2 a., (BEGAM).
- 15c. 2 a., (NAWAH).
- 16a. 4 a., buff (NWAB).
- 17a. 4 a., yellow (EEGAM).

- 2. Perforated.
- 18. ½ a., black.
- 19. ½ a., red.
- 20. 1 a., brown.
- 21. 2 a., blue.
- 22. 4 a., orange-yellow.

Errors.

- 18a. ½ a., black (BEGAN).
 - 18b. ½ a., ,, (BEGAN).
 - 20a. 1 a., brown (BEGAM).
 - 20b. 1 a., ,, (BEGAM).
 - 21a. 2 a., blue (BEGAM).
 - 21b. 2 a., ,, (NAWAH).
- B. Laid paper. 1. Imperf.
- 23. 4 a., yellow.
 - 23a. 4 a., ,, (error BEGAM).
2. Perforated.
- 24. 4 a., yellow.
 - 24a. 4 a., ,, (error BEGAM).



1886. Similar type, very large lettering. Wove paper. Imperf.

- 25. ½ a., pale red.
- 25a. ½ a., ,, (error BEGAN).
- 25b. ½ a., ,, (,, NWAB).

Almost all the varieties on the sheet of No. 25 are lettered "BEGAN."



1895. Similar type, small lettering. Laid paper. 1. Imperf.

- 26. ½ a., black.
 - 26a. ½ a., ,, (error NAW B).
 - 27. ½ a., ,,
2. Perforated.
- 28. ½ a., black.
 - 28a. ½ a., ,, (error NAW B).

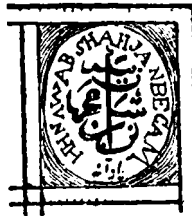
Similar type, with double-line frame to the octagon and value in one form only. Laid paper. Imperf.

- 29. ½ a., red.



1884. Rectangular type, with curved lines in the corners. Wove paper. Perf.

- 30. ½ a., blue-green.
- 30a. ½ a., ,, (error JAN).
- 30b. ½ a., ,, (,, BEGM).
- 30c. ½ a., ,, (,, NWAB).
- 30d. ½ a., ,, (,, SHAHAN).]
- 30e. ½ a., ,, (,, JAH).
- 30f. ½ a., ,, (,, JN).



1895. Similar type, with double frame to each stamp; lettered "JAN" for JAHAN. Laid paper. Imperf.

- 31. ½ a., bright green.



1896. Similar type, with the lines in the corners much wider apart. Wove paper. Imperf.

- 32. ½ a., black.



1884-99. Rectangular type, with the letters "B L C I" in the corners.

A. Laid paper. 1. Imperf.

- 33. ½ a., blue-green.
- 34. ½ a., black.

Errors.

- 33a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue-green (NWAB).
 33b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (SAH).
 33c. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (NAWA and JANAN).
 34a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black (NWAB).
 34b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (SAH).
 34c. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (NAWA and JANAN).

2. Perforated.

35. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue-green.
 36. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black.

Errors.

- 35a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., blue-green (NWAB).
 35b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (SAH).
 35c. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (NAWA and JANAN).
 36a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black (NWAB).
 36b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (SAH).
 36c. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (NAWA and JANAN).

B. Wove paper. 1. Imperf.

37. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., green.
 38. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black.
 39. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red.
 40. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black (NWAB).

The first "A" of "NAWAB" is always missing in No. 40.

Errors.

- 37a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., green (NAWA).
 37b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (NWAB).
 37c. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (NWAB).
 37d. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (NAWAA).
 37e. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (NWABA and BEGAAM).
 37f. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (SAH).
 37g. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (NAWAH).
 39a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red (SAH).
 39b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (NAWABA).
 39c. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (NWAB).
 40a. $\frac{1}{2}$ a., black (NWSABAHJAHNI).
 40b. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (SIAN).
 40c. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (SBAH).
 40d. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (SBAN).
 40e. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (NWIB).
 40f. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (BEIAM).
 40g. $\frac{1}{2}$ a. ,, (SHH).



1890-98. Almost square design, with characters in a circle in the centre.

A. Wove paper. 1. Imperf.

41. 8 a., blue.
 41a. 8 a. ,, (error HAH).
 41b. 8 a. ,, (,, JABAN).
 42. 8 a., green-black.
 42a. 8 a. ,, (error BEGAM).

2. Perforated.

43. 8 a., blue.
 43a. 8 a. ,, (error HAH).
 43b. 8 a. ,, (,, JABAN).

B. Laid paper. 1. Imperf.

44. 8 a., green-black.
 44a. 8 a. ,, (error HAH).
 44b. 8 a. ,, (,, JABAN).

2. Perforated.

45. 8 a., green-black.
 45a. 8 a. ,, (error HAH).
 45b. 8 a. ,, (,, JABAN).

By the omission of the *errors*, which are not of any greater interest in reality than the other varieties on the sheets, the list becomes a very simple one indeed, and even so includes more than what might be termed the intentional varieties of Bhopal.

The issue of 1902 is a perfectly straightforward one and needs little comment. The 8 annas and 1 rupee may be considered unnecessary values, and the general collector would disregard the two forms of embossing, and probably the shades of the 1 a. and 4 a.

It was after this issue had taken place, on the accession of the present Begum of Bhopal, that signs of real philatelic depravity began to manifest themselves. There was a demand for stamps which had become (or should have become) obsolete on the appearance of the new issue, and this demand the State authorities were kind enough to supply. There were stocks of some of the older stamps, and sheets which had not been already embossed with the original octagonal device received the new circular embossing, and can thus be distinguished from copies of the same stamps issued earlier. There seems to be no reason why these stamps should not have been put in circulation and used, the new embossed device forming presumably the control mark of the new ruler, and I believe that they could have been used by any one desiring to do so; but undoubtedly they were really remainders sold to meet philatelic demands. Some of them must have been laid by for some years, notably the $\frac{1}{2}$ a., *black on laid*, of 1884, the first of the stamps with letters in the corners, original sheets of which are found with the circular embossing; it is evident that if a stock of this stamp was kept back from circulation twenty years ago there was no good reason for issuing it in 1904. These varieties need not trouble the general collector, who may take no notice of the embossing, and accept the stamps for what they are—genuine remainders of an old issue.

Unfortunately the authorities showed themselves even more obliging than this; reprinting is luckily impossible in Bhopal, for it is evident that the stones are cleaned off after each lot of stamps is printed, and as there are no engraved dies the design has to be redrawn every time a fresh printing is required. In this way reprints, of a kind,

have been made, of the same general designs as the originals, but differing from the latter in the varieties of type and in having the new embossing. We have thus:—

- ½ a., black; of the square type of 1881 (48 new varieties of type).
- ½ a., black { of the rectangular type of 1884,
- ½ a., green { with curved lines in the corners
- ½ a., red { (32 fresh varieties of type).
- ½ a., red; of the rectangular type with letters in the corners (probably 32 fresh varieties).
- ½ a., yellow { of the square type of 1886, with
- ½ a., orange { very large lettering (24 fresh varieties.)
- ½ a., carnine { of the square type of 1895, with
- ½ a., black { double outer frame to the octagon and value in one form only (16 fresh varieties not very closely resembling any of the originals).

It is stated that all of these were admissible to postal use, but I should think it extremely unlikely that any of them were put on sale in the ordinary course. I have

seen what professed to be used specimens of some of them, but not in such condition as to prove their actual use. I should consider them all as having exactly the same *status*, and that a very dubious one.

Finally we have the statement, in the newspaper paragraph quoted at the beginning of these notes, that "a new stamp for use exclusively on the Bhopal State Service" was to be issued shortly. Is this the stamp that was chronicled a few months ago, and of which some sheets were said to have been stolen from the printers? I have heard nothing more about it, but it is probable that this is the stamp referred to. It is unlikely that a new stamp for ordinary postal purposes would have been ordered from England just before the State Post Office was given up.



Philatelic Notes and Queries

By E. B. EVANS

IN an interesting paper by "Plain Anchor," in the number of this magazine for the 24th of October, there is a reproduction of a circular which appears to have been published in April, 1841, by Mr. R. W. Sievier and Mr. E. Scriven, relating to stamps which they proposed to produce for postal purposes, in place of the stamps then in use; to this circular there appear to have been attached three specimens of a very inferior-looking label, which the promoters can hardly have expected would supersede the work of Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. A curious circumstance is that twelve months earlier Mr. Sievier was advocating the use of a far more business-like design, produced in such a manner as to be really difficult of imitation.

In *The London and Westminster Review* for March, 1840, a reproduction was given of a design with an embossed centre, surrounded by a frame of engine-turned pattern in two colours (after the style of the Patent Medicine stamps), accompanied by the following description:—

"This design proposes to prepare stamps with an EMBOSSED subject in the centre, such subject to be the Head of Her Majesty, the Royal Arms or any other device; the stamp surrounding the embossment to be printed in TWO or more COLOURS, the design or pattern of the stamp being susceptible of any variation.

"In preparing this design, the inventor, Mr. Sievier, stated that he had two objects in view; first, to secure (as much as the subject would admit of) the Revenue from fraud by imitations

of the stamp, and secondly, a rapid and cheap mode of providing for any possible required consumption. The first object, Mr. Sievier considered, would, in a great measure, be effected by the complicated nature of the work, requiring as it would the combined efforts of the Die Sinker, the Engine Turner, and the Mechanic, to perfect a copy. The second object, Mr. Sievier proposes to obtain by a machine which he has constructed, which will print with such rapidity and certainty, that he would undertake to deliver One Million impressions daily at very small cost, for instance if it were determined to so place the stamps of the above size on sheets of paper, so that the letter when folded should bear the impression on the outside, the cost of production should not exceed £30 per million, or 9d. per thousand, but if small separate stamps composed of an embossed centre and engraved border, gummed and attached to the letter after it was folded, the printing should not exceed 1½d. per thousand, or £6 5s. per million. One other advantage was suggested by the plan, that of determining the COST of PRODUCING the stamp to Government."

The circular reproduced by "Plain Anchor" was evidently of later date than that which I have just quoted, as it refers to the fact that the stamps then in use were capable of being cleaned. The curious part is that Mr. Sievier in his later scheme appears to have proposed something which was vastly inferior, both in design and execution, to that which he had proposed earlier. In both of the circulars reference is made to the combined efforts "of the Die Sinker, the Engine Turner, and the Mechanic," but, whereas in his Essay of 1840 the work of the former

two are plainly manifest, the labels attached to his circular of 1841 appear to reflect very little credit even upon the Mechanic. Is it possible that the specimens attached to the particular copy of the circular were affixed to it at some later date, Mr. Sievier's original essay having been lost?

It would be of interest to learn something of the history of the Cartoon reproduced on page 264. It is evidently connected with some agitation in the Post Office for increase of pay.

One paragraph in the same article reminds me of a question that was asked me not long back, namely, What was the name of the engraver of the original die for the first of our stamps? The earlier authorities called him "Charles Heath." Messrs. Wright and Creeke say "Frederick Heath," and "Plain Anchor" speaks of "William Heath." I am wondering whether the engraver was christened "Charles Frederick William," or whether the whole family took part in the engraving.

* * *

I AM glad to note, in *The Philatelic Record* for October, the commencement of a most valuable article, by Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, on "The Lithographed High Values of Queensland (1881 Series)." The stones for these stamps, as most collectors are no doubt aware, were produced by means of lithographic transfers from the Perkins Bacon plate of the One Shilling of the original issue, the value and, where necessary, the ornaments at the sides being erased, and the new values inserted, thus forming dies (of stone) for the different values required. In the making up of the plates the same system was adopted as in most other cases of lithographed stamps, that is to say they were not made up of single transfers from the original stone, but an intermediate stone was made up of a small number of transfers, and the stone from which the stamps were printed was made up with transfers of the block of impressions upon the intermediate stone. The process not being an absolutely perfect one, there are liable to be little defects by which the individual members of these blocks can be distinguished from one another, and we thus get groups of minor varieties distributed regularly throughout the sheets of stamps. It has hitherto been supposed that each of the five values of these Queensland stamps existed in five minor varieties only, arranged in one horizontal strip; Mr. Hausburg, however, has succeeded in proving that, although there are only five varieties of the Two Shillings and the Twenty Shillings, there are ten each (two rows of five) of the remaining three values, all of which are fully described and illustrated in his paper.

The points referred to in Mr. Hausburg's descriptions appear to be differences of

defects alone, and not what would be termed actual variations of type, but I should gather from the illustrations that the words "TWO" and "FIVE," and perhaps the final "S" of "SHILLINGS," were drawn separately on each of the five and ten transfers of 2s. and 5s., and that the Maltese cross at each side of the 2s. 6d. was also drawn separately upon the ten transfers of that value. In any case philatelists have a very interesting addition to their knowledge of the stamps of this series, for which they are indebted to Mr. Hausburg's research.

* * *

MR. D. FIELD sends me a copy of a little book, which I gather is the first of a "Series of Philatelic Handbooks" to be brought out by the publisher of *The West End Philatelist*, the subject in this instance being "Hong Kong," and the author Mr. B. W. H. Poole. The postal issues of Hong Kong are comparatively simple and straightforward; the designs adopted in 1862-3 remained unchanged down to the end of the reign of Queen Victoria, and if it were not for a good number of surcharged varieties the stamps of this colony would be a model of philatelic propriety. The most interesting puzzle (if such it may be called) connected with them arises from the fact that there are little varieties of type of the otherwise uniform design, which appear to be entirely unnecessary, but which, from the fact of their existence, must, I suppose, have been unavoidable. The general design of all the ordinary postage stamps of Hong Kong being the same, one would have expected to find evidence of a single original die, with blank labels at the left and at foot for the insertion of the value in Chinese and in English; but it seems that even for the first issue a separate original die was produced for each value, differing in the engraving of the characters for "Hong Kong" at the right-hand side, and I think also in the English name at the top, and, further, exhibiting in each case differences in the retouching of the portrait of the Queen and the lines of the background; while in the fresh values issued later, still more striking differences are to be found. These little points are fully dealt with by Mr. Poole, who, perhaps wisely, does not attempt to give reasons for the existence of variations which probably none but the manufacturers of the stamps could account for.

* * *

I AM indebted to Mr. Hilmer Djurling, the well-known Swedish philatelist, for a description of a newly discovered imitation of the *error*, Sweden Type of 1872, with numerals "20" and word "TRETIO" in place of "TJUGO." He states that three forgeries of this stamp have already been described

and that he has now found a fourth, which is fortunately not a very dangerous one, as it differs very distinctly from the genuine. It appears that the whole stamp is a forgery, and is considerably too short, measuring 23×22 mm., instead of $24\frac{1}{2} \times 22$ mm. The general appearance is as good as that of the original, but close examination reveals various little differences. The figures "20" are too small and too thin. The paper is somewhat glazed, it has a greyish tint, and is thicker than it should be. The perforation gauges 12, instead of 13, and the teeth are short and blunt. The postmark is incorrect, it is unlike any that is found upon the stamps of Sweden. The imitation seems in fact to be a failure.

* * *

I HAVE received the first number of a new monthly, *The Philatelic World*, edited and managed by Mr. A. J. Sefi, with whom I am able to sympathize not only as an editor but also because he is one of the few collectors in this country who devote much attention to the stamps of the Indian Native States.

The new magazine begins well, with an article, by the Editor, on "The Silk Thread Issues of Switzerland," and it is also to contain a translation of Captain Ohrt's handbook upon *Reprints*, which should be of great value to collectors as containing the latest information upon a very important subject. I hope to make further reference to this work in a future number, when the translation has reached a more advanced stage. The *World* is wide, and there is plenty of room in it for *Philatelic* periodicals of a superior class, such as the new-comer promises to be. May it live long and prosper!

* * *

A MONTH ago I ventured to make a few remarks upon the subject of "Science" as defined in one of the leading philatelic monthlies. The following quotation from the title-page of a new magazine is worthy of attention in this connection: "Devoted to the interests of Postage Stamp Collectors, Curios, Coins, and Kindred Sciences." It seems that we are a Science, after all.

New Issues and Discoveries

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 publishers of the *Australian Philatelist* (10.10.08) state that they have seen two copies of the 5d., with NSW watermark, perforated 11.



1902-4. Type 2, space at foot filled in. Chalk-surfaced paper. Wink. Crown and NSW, Type 33 of N.S.W.

(c) Perf. 11.

134d 5d., emerald-green.

Bolivia.—A correspondent informs us that for two values, the 50 c. and 1 bol., the Administration are reverting to the design of the old 1867 issue, but that the colours will be different from those previously employed. He has shown us a copy of the 50 c. in *vermilion* (instead of *blue*, as formerly), and the stamp appears to have been printed from the original plate of 1867.



1908. Type 4. Nine stars. Re-issue in new colour. Perf. 12.

103½c., vermilion.

Cayman Islands.—A new 6d. stamp has been shown to us by Mr. Herbert Jenner. It conforms to the new colour scheme, being printed in two shades of purple, and is on multiple, surfaced paper. The copies we have seen are on original cover, and are postmarked "6 Oct. 1908."



8

OCTOBER, 1908. Type 8. *New inscription. Name and tablet in second colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown*
CA. Perf. 14.

26.6d., dull and bright purple, G.

Colombia.—In sorting stock we have found two stamps with compound perforations, which were not previously known to exist. We duly list them below.



9

1883-6. Type 39. *Tinted paper.*

(c) Perf. compound of 10½ and 12.

1932½ peso, lake on bluish.

1892-7. Type 58. *Tinted paper.*

(d) Perf. compound of 13½ and 12.

2852½ peso, blue on green.



58

Curaçao.—We have now been shown a copy of the new 22½ c., given in the last Supplement to our Catalogue as *brown*; the stamp should have been described as:—

Centre in first colour. Perf. 12½.

652½ 22½ c., olive-green and brown.

Holland.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (14.11.08), the 20 c. stamp, to which we referred in "Foreign Notes" last week, was actually issued on 7 November.

Our contemporary also states that a 6½ c. Postage Due stamp was issued without a red surcharge on 1 October. The stamp is said to be Type 3 in our Catalogue, i.e. "32 loops—'T' of BETALEN slightly to the left of loop; top branch of first 'E' of BETALEN shorter than lower branch"; but as the last two stamps issued have been Type 1, we think that our contemporary may possibly be mistaken. Also no mention is made of the perforation, but that we suppose would be 12½. All things considered, we do not think we are justified in chronicling this stamp until we have seen it.



12

1908. Type 12. *Head in first colour. Perf. 12½.*

1932½ c., grey and yellow-green.

Norway.—On the authority of a continental contemporary *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (14.10.08) states that a 15 öre of the usual design was issued on 3 October, to supersede the provisional 15 öre on 4 sk.



12

OCTOBER, 1908. Type 12. *Wmk. Posthorn, Type 7.*
Perf. 14½ × 13½.

1352½ Gre, violet-brown(?).

Siam.—In addition to the provisional chronicled last week we have received a second one, a 2 atts on the 24 atts, purple and blue, of the April 1887 issue. It is evident that the authorities have run short of the proper stamps, as they so often do, and are also trying to use up accumulated stocks of obsolete issues.



9

2 2/2

2 Atts.

SEPTEMBER, 1908. Type 9 surcharged as Type 55, in black.

162½ atts on 24 a., purple and blue (No. 21).

Victoria.—In the last Supplement to our Catalogue we listed the 2½d. on Crown and £ paper, but in our issue of 24 October the report was contradicted. The stamp is now listed in the *Australian Philatelist* (10.10.08), so we chronicle as follows:—



6a

1908. Type 6a. *Wmk. Crown and Δ, Type 77.*

(a) Perf. 12½ or 12 × 12½.

2942½d., deep blue.

Western Australia.—According to the *Australian Philatelist* (10.10.08), Mr. Peck has in his possession a copy of the 2d., yellow, postmarked February, 1905, with the perforation compound of 12½ and 11.



20

1905. Type 20. *Wmk. Crown and Δ, Type 31.*

(c) Perf. compound of 12½ and 11.

162½d., yellow.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 23
Whole No. 205

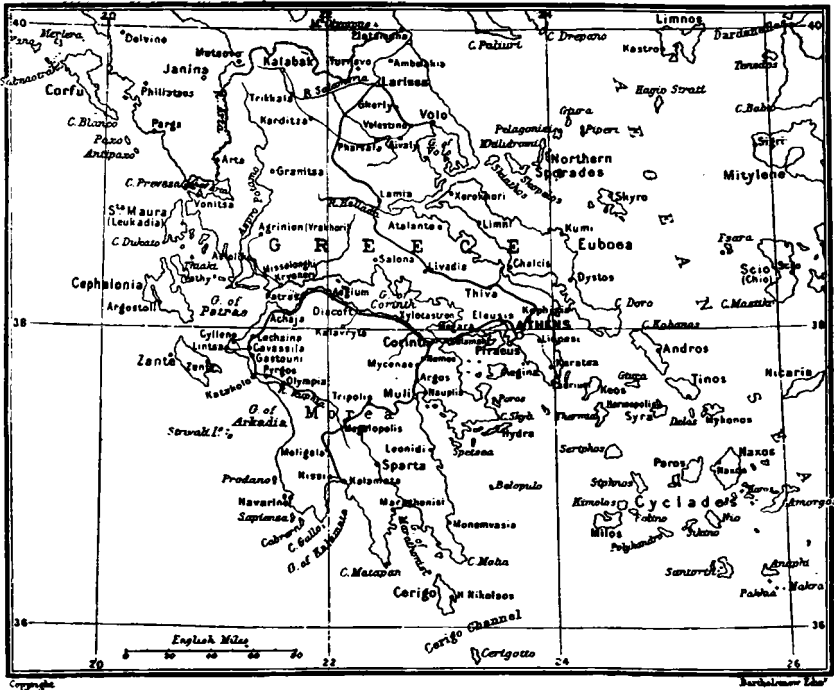
5 DECEMBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Greece



GREECE—called by its earlier inhabitants Hellas—though now one of the least important of modern States, was, as every one knows, in ancient times the Great Power of Europe, and was the seat of freedom and civilization at a period when the remainder of Europe was occupied chiefly by barbaric tribes. The history of the country makes fascinating reading—students of same in the original are permitted to dissent—and the records of its patriotic struggles, the memory of its illustrious men—poets, historians, orators, philosophers, and artists—its ancient mythology and the evidence of

once splendid architecture combine to invest it with peculiar interest.

The intellectual supremacy of Greece in antiquity was the foundation of modern civilization, and was due chiefly to the fine situation of the country for the trade of the early world between the ancient civilized countries of Asia and the newly opened lands of the Western Mediterranean, as well as to the capacity of a highly gifted people to make the most of such advantage. Side by side with the commercial, there was a great industrial development, and Greek merchants and sailors spread the culture of

their people by founding colonies in every part of the then known world. During the last centuries of antiquity Greece lost its importance on account of changes in trade routes. After the fall of the Roman Empire, with which Greece was incorporated, the country underwent a succession of changes, and suffered grievously from the invasion of barbaric tribes. In the thirteenth century the Venetians became the predominant power within its limits; they were followed by the Turks in the fifteenth, and the tyranny of the latter rulers completed the ruin of the land.

Insurrections took place, but they were abortive. In 1821 a general war for independence broke out, which the intervention of Christian Europe rendered successful in 1829, and modern Greece was constituted.

It embraces the southern extremity of the Turkish peninsula and is washed by the Ægean Sea on the east and by the Ionian on the west. It comprises also a multitude of islands with a total area of 25,014 square miles and a population of about 2,500,000.

The northern frontier of Greece was anciently the line which separated Epirus and Thessaly from Illyria and Macedonia, but the boundary settled in 1832 excluded the two former districts. At the Berlin Congress, in 1878, the Greeks claimed this ancient boundary line, but did not succeed in obtaining quite all they wished, an extension of territory being granted consisting of most of Thessaly and a strip of Epirus. In 1864 the Ionian Islands, over which Great Britain had a protectorate, were ceded to Greece, and thus to-day the area of the re-constituted kingdom approximates nearly to that of the ancient State.

Still Crete and other neighbouring islands belonging geographically and ethnographically to Greece are outside its limits, and should any political alteration ensue from the present Eastern troubles, doubtless Crete would be ceded to Greece. The people of the island have rather anticipated events by declaring their annexation already, and a reference to recent "Foreign Notes" in this paper, as also to the "New Issues" column of the present number, will show that practical efforts to have such annexation proclaimed to the world have been made by overprinting the postage stamps.

Agriculture is the principal resource of the country, the currant (a corruption of *Corinthi*) being the most favoured crop, whilst other fruits, wine, olives, and tobacco give an abundance for export. Greece has a great variety of mineral deposits, and the value of their export amounts to a considerable figure. The United Kingdom is by far the largest customer, taking more than a quarter of the total exports. It also supplies the greatest portion of the imports, though

Russia, Austria, and Turkey have each a considerable trade. The chief imports are agricultural products, yarns, and raw materials.

The Greeks are essentially a trading nation, and their capacity for commerce is exemplified in the saying "When Greek meets Greek," etc. In recent years there has been a great emigration, and altogether the Greek nationality is over 8,000,000.

Internal communication is good, and a considerable amount of the carrying trade of the Black Sea and eastern ports of the Mediterranean is under the Greek flag.

Of post offices there existed 640 at the end of 1905, and there passed through the post in that year almost 15 million letters, 1½ million post cards, and 1½ million packets of printed matter. The receipts were 4½ million, and the expenses 4 million drachmai.

The monetary unit is a *drachma* of 100 *lepta*; it approximates to the *franc*, but the value of the currency drachma varies considerably.

The chief towns are Athens, the capital (population with Piræus, its port, 240,000), Patras, the chief commercial centre (38,000), and Corfu (18,000), engaged chiefly in the trade with Italy and Austria.

Philatelic History

Until comparatively recent years the stamps of Greece were rather neglected, chiefly on account of the difficulty of arrangement of the earlier issues, but thanks to the researches of such eminent experts as Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, Lieut. Napier, Dr. Socolis, and others, classification has been made easier, and it is generally agreed that the list in the Catalogue, based upon these researches, is now a very good guide. Mr. C. J. Phillips, in his note upon "Stamp Collecting as an Investment," says: "A hard country to master, but once understood few will pay better. A grand lot of shades here; used stamps quite cheap."

General collectors with an eye for colour need not be dismayed, for it is easy to get together a very representative lot of stamps for a moderate outlay, whilst for specialists the country is one *par excellence*. Commemorative and provisional issues in later years have somewhat detracted from popularity, but the former anyway make a handsome picture gallery, and taken altogether a well-filled album of Greek stamps forms a display well worth looking at, even by an "outsider."

It was not until 1860 that the postal system was organized on modern lines, and decrees appeared in 1860 and 1861 relative to the first issue. Some of the articles in these decrees must have been revoked in later years, for they order "that sufficient stamps shall always be kept in stock."

and any one neglecting this rule shall be punished, "if a postal official, by penalties; if a vendor on commission, by the loss of the privilege of selling." These excellent stipulations could not have been remembered in 1900, and similar ones might be carried into practice in many other countries, with much advantage to collectors.

The first issue did not appear till October, 1861, and consisted of seven values, the three lower ones being intended for newspapers, the 10 l. for local letters, patterns, and book post, whilst the remaining values were for letters, according to weight, 20 l. for 15 grammes, etc.

The stamps bear a strong family likeness to the earlier issues of France, and naturally so, for the die was engraved by M. Albert Barre, who engraved the Laureated issues. The design was simply that of the French stamp with the head of Hermes or Mercury replacing that of Ceres, and with the inscription necessarily modified. The words at top stand for ELLENIKON GRAMMATOSEMON, in English "Greek letter-stamp." There was one matrix die for the design, the numerals of value being inserted in the secondary dies from which the plates (150 stamps, 15 rows of 10) were constructed.

The first printings were made at Paris, but it is not quite certain whether by M. Hulot, at the *Hôtel de la Monnaie*, or by Ernest Meyer, 22 Rue de Verneuil, but probably by the latter. It seems certain that the plates were made by Meyer, and as there were strained relations at this time between M. Barre and M. Hulot, the printing was probably done at the same establishment.

The 10 l. stamps had large double-lined numerals printed on the back before gumming. This was the outcome of a suggestion made previously by M. Barre with regard to French stamps, the idea being to more easily identify the several values and obviate the difficulty arising from the smallness of the numerals of value on the face. Had the suggestion been adopted it would have meant more expense, and needless to say it was rejected by M. Hulot. It will be remembered that larger figures of value were inserted on the later French issues. Anyway, the suggestion met with approval from the Greek authorities, for subsequent printings, with the exception of the low values of 1 and 2 lepta, had figures at the back.

All the stamps were imperforate; in fact, no stamps were perforated till 1889. The colours mentioned in the official decree are given in brackets, and in the Paris printings there is little variation of shade.



October, 1861. On toned paper.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 l., chocolate on cream (chestnut)	30	0	12	0
2 l., olive-yellow (pale yellow)	2	6	3	6
5 l., emerald (green)	40	0	3	0
10 l., orange on blue (orange)	35	0	7	6
20 l., blue (blue)	20	0	3	6
40 l., purple on pale blue (purple)	6	0	3	6
80 l., rose-carmine on cream (red)	12	6	6	0

(To be continued.)

PLEBASB 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

WE have now issued sections for Great Britain, West Indies, British North America, British African Colonies, and British Possessions in Europe.

Owing to the great run on this album in America, our New York house asked us to prepare the U.S. section in time for the Christmas trade, and a special edition is now being printed for the American market. In this we have had to omit the illustrations of the Government stamps, as we do in the American Catalogue, but in the edition for sale in Great Britain, etc., the U.S. illus-

trations will all be included. This will be a large and important section, probably the largest in the whole album, and its production has somewhat delayed the preparation of the British Colonies in Asia and Australia.

The group of sections for the British Possessions in Europe comprises five sections, as follows:—

No. 60.	Cyprus	price	6d.
No. 61.	Gibraltar	"	8d.
No. 62.	Heligoland	"	3d.
No. 63.	Ionian Islands	"	3d.
No. 64.	Malta	"	4d.

Purchase of a Fine Specialized Collection

I HAVE to announce that we have purchased a fine collection of the old issues of Colombia, those from 1859 to 1890.

This collection was formed many years ago on the Continent, and does not contain any of the modern rubbish, but is unusually strong in the stamps of 1859 to 1867.

In the early issues many values are represented by from ten to thirty specimens, which naturally include a number of very rare shades and many interesting minor varieties.

This collection has been combined with our new stock books of Colombia, which are now rearranged, and they can be sent to collectors on demand.

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

Venezuela.

THREE fine books of this country have just been rearranged, and they include a selection from some large parcels which we have bought at favourable prices, which in many cases have enabled us to *considerably* reduce the selling rates. This only applies to the issues of the last few years; in the early issues stock is getting low and a great many prices have been raised, there having been a steady demand for the older stamps for South America for some time past.

I think this is essentially a country which is worthy of more study; very few collectors seem to have worked it up, and yet what a lot remains to be done in it. For example, 1859 *issue*. Do all or any values exist both lithographed and engraved, and if so how can they best be separated? What is the status of the stamps on "blue" and on "green" paper?

1861-5. Both these issues want studying, and new lists require to be drawn up.

1866-74. There is much to do in these small square stamps, especially in those over-printed.

1880. All values have been reprinted, and the unused stamps offered by dealers without knowledge at 50, 60, or 75 per cent discount are certainly reprints, of which I have seen large stocks.

1887. Lithographed, both perforated and rouletted. There are points to be studied in these stamps which a specialist might find very interesting.

1896. "Miranda." Quite common stamps, but there are several printings; the earlier ones contained errors that are now rare, and in some printings *lête-bêche* pairs occur. All these want a considerable amount of careful study.

1902. "Carupano provisionals." These are rare and I know of no stocks; their history wants writing up.

1903. "Stamps issued during the Revolution and used in the Departments of Guayana, Mariño, and Maturin."

Mr. F. H. Napier, who has arranged our new stock books, writes:—

These are very interesting stamps; some one ought to write the subject up. Roughly speaking, Guayana plates were made first, and the plates for Mariño and Maturin made from them. In the process the frames got a little altered, but the plates of Mariño and Maturin are identical. Of these there are three for each value. I think there must be three each for Guayana as well, but I can only find three for the 5 c. and 1 bol. The second and third plates of Mariño have the name in small type. I am not quite sure about the third plate of Mariño; nor do I understand how the plates were printed *lête-bêche*. The various spacings of the values sometimes are on different and sometimes on the same plates.

Recent Purchase

A VERY fine and highly specialized collection of the older issues of North Borneo.

All issues are represented by blocks, pairs, and singles, in all shades, unused, and a great number of stamps used postally, a special point having been made of dated postmarks.

A number of errors and minor varieties that have not been catalogued will be found in this collection, and amongst the rarities I note as follows:—

1886.	5 c. on 8 c., green, inverted, unused.
1889.	10 c., blue, printed both sides.
1892.	6 c. on 8 c., green, POSTAGE only used, and dated 29 Mar. 1892.
„	6 c. on 8 c., "Postage & Revenue," pane of sixty, with errors, and pairs and singles, used and unused.
„	6 c. on 8 c., green, inverted, unused.
„	6 c. on 10 c., blue „ „

This collection is arranged in two books, and can now be sent to collectors.

The Philatelic World

THIS new monthly magazine has just appeared under the editorship of Mr. A. J. Sefi.

No. 1 is well produced, and contains about eighteen pages of reading matter and several pages of advertisements.

An interesting article upon the "Silk Thread" issue of Switzerland is commenced by Mr. Sefi, who bases his notes chiefly upon details given in the grand work by MM. Mirabaud and de Reuterskiöld, but is able to antedate some of the varieties. Mr. Sefi also gives lists of essays for colour, both with and without the silk threads, and in preparing this made use of our large reference collection, which contains a very fine lot of these interesting essays.

Another article that should be of much use to collectors is a translation of the *Handbook on Reprints*, written by Captain Ohrt, and of which instalments, translated by Miss A. Green, will appear each month. In this number we have the introductory matter only.

An article describing and illustrating some of the common forgeries issued nearly forty years ago does not strike me as of much use, as the forgeries are of the crudest description and could hardly deceive any one.

Mr. H. Clark has a well-written article upon "Making a Philatelic Library."

This is a capital first number, and I welcome *The Philatelic World* as a distinct gain to the literature on our hobby.

Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons, accompanied by his wife, has left for an extended tour in India, Ceylon, China, Japan, etc.

The following dates are those at which letters can be posted in London to addresses named. Mr. Gibbons hopes to be at the places named from three to five weeks later than the following dates:—

- Nov. 3. Passenger N.D.L. s.s. *Bulow*, c/o Aselmeyer & Co., Napoli, Italy.
 " 20. Cubbon Hotel, Bangalore, India.
 " 27. Mrs. Ulyett's Guest House, Hyderabad, Deccan, India.

- Dec. 4. Connemara Hotel, Madras, India.
 " 18. C/o Thos. Cook & Son, Colombo, Ceylon.
 " 25. Hôtel Metropole, Hanoi, Indo-China.
 1909.
 Jan. 8. Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank Corporation, Hong Kong, China.
 Feb. 16. } Ditto, ditto, Kobe, Japan.
 " 25. }
 Mar. 5. Ditto, ditto, Hong Kong, China.
 " 19. Ditto, ditto, Singapore, Straits Settlements.
 April 2. Grand Oriental Hotel, Colombo, Ceylon.
 " 9. Passenger homewards, N.D.L., Mr. S. Schmuck, Aden.
 " 16. Ditto, ditto, Mr. Th. Meyer, Suez, Egypt.
 " 23. Ditto, ditto, Mr. H. Bronn, Port Said, Egypt.
 May 1. Ditto, ditto, Aselmeyer & Co., Napoli, Italy.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. R. Hausburg have also left on an Eastern tour, but I have no address later than Ceylon. I believe, however, that they will visit Southern India and Japan, and I hope that Mr. Hausburg will send my readers some of his chatty notes on his trip.

British North Borneo

A Few Notes

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 191.)

[The publication of these notes has been delayed by an oversight, but the force of Mr. Poole's reply to the remarks of Mr. Dalwisk concerning the stamps in question has not been impaired thereby. Indeed, Mr. Poole has been able to revise several points.—ED. G.S.W.]

IN 1889, \$5 and \$10 stamps were added to the set (Types 14 and 15 of Catalogue).

These are perhaps unnecessarily large, but that they were not required for postal purposes is a sweeping statement that is probably far from the truth. These stamps were printed in sheets of 20, and I think it quite probable an enthusiastic specialist will find they can be plated. In fact, very little is known about these two stamps, and a little careful study would probably result in clearing up the mystery that at present surrounds their manufacture. They were produced by Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades, and it has been stated that they are lithographs. But all the stamps of small size were produced by the electrotype process, and I am rather

of the opinion that these large stamps were made in the same way. There were certainly two printings of the \$10, one of which contained the error "DOLLAPS." I think this occurred in the first printing, and that the damaged electrotype was removed and replaced by a perfect one before a great many sheets had been printed.

From 1890 to 1893, various provisionals were created, of which the illustrations below are typical examples.

These are not quite above suspicion, but the available facts relating to their issue seem to show that they are at any rate as good as most provisionals from other parts of the world. The 6 c. on 8 c. was in issue some time pending the arrival of the regular 6 c. value, and is the only one of the surcharged varieties of this period found post-marked to order. There were at least two settings of the type of the "6 cents" surcharge. In one of these, found upon both varieties of the 10 c. and 8 c. respectively, an error with large "s" in "cents" appears. The other setting, which is only known on

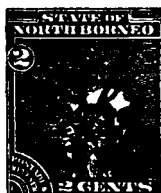
the 8 c. POSTAGE & REVENUE type, has one stamp with the letters misplaced and reading "centns," and another (fourth in



bottom row) with the "c" of "cents" inverted. Apparently this was the last printing, and it was made in 1892 just before the regular 6 c. stamp was placed on sale.

In 1894 the Company decided to issue a set of pictorial stamps to replace the lower values of the set then current.

This handsome and beautifully engraved set has been "howled down" as though it were worse than any Seebecks. But why? The Government of Borneo had as much right and as good grounds for issuing the set as New Zealand had for bringing out a handsome issue to replace the "dowdy" types that had previously done duty as postage labels.



The only objection is that the stamps were sold in postmarked-to-order sets, and as these can be easily distinguished, it is no real detriment to the value and interest of the stamps unused or legitimately used.

The values from 25 c. to \$10 were inscribed STATE OF NORTH BORNEO to conform with the others. Evidently the same dies as before, suitably altered, were used in making the clichés, or, it may be, these particular stamps were lithographed instead of electrotyped. That is a point the specialist can decide by careful study.

The provisionals of June, 1895, surcharged upon the \$1 stamps are also not above suspicion.



The values issued were 4 c., 10 c., 20 c., 30 c., and 40 c., but it is curious that a permanent stamp of 4 c. was not issued till five years later, a 10 c. stamp did not appear till 1902. and ordinary 20 c., 30 c., and 40 c. labels were never issued!

In 1897 the picture designs were all printed with new frames, in which inscriptions in Chinese and Malayan characters

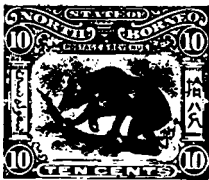
were inserted. I do not see what exception can be taken to these.

The 18 c. and 24 c. were errors, the former being inscribed POSTAL REVENUE, and the latter being without the words POSTAGE & REVENUE. Fresh plates were therefore made with the errors corrected.

Of course, if these errors were made on purpose the stamps are the veriest rubbish. But were they? I can find no evidence proving this, and I am inclined to think they are a genuine error on the part of the engravers or, at any rate, on the same level as the WAKITIPU error of New Zealand. Unused and genuinely used stamps of this set are quite as good as most other colonials.

In 1899 a large set of 4 c. provisionals appeared, and there is, I think, no room for doubt as to the rubbishy nature of these. Few of them were ever sent to Borneo at all, and there seems more than a little reason to believe that at the time of their issue there was already a good supply of the regular 4 c. stamps at the Post Office.

In 1900-2 five new stamps were issued, to which I think no exception can be taken,



except that, like all their pictorial predecessors, they are found postmarked to order.

In 1901-5 most of the values were surcharged BRITISH PROTECTORATE as shown,



and these are now current. I can offer no opinion as to the necessity or otherwise, of this surcharge.

In 1904-5 another large crop of 4 c. surcharges appeared, and these are all of the

4 cents

most rubbishy nature possible, and as there appear to be no "extenuating circumstances," they can be severely left to languish alone in their "glory."

In addition to the above, there are a number of stamps surcharged POSTAGE

POSTAGE DUE

DUE, and these are, I believe, as necessary as such labels usually are elsewhere, and thus on the same plane of collectability.

Taking it all round, therefore, the collector might do far worse than specialize in Bornean stamps, if he eschews the post-marked-to-order rubbish and anything else he has his doubts about.

I believe I am correct in stating that there will be no more cancelled-to-order stamps, and that huge crops of unnecessary provisionals are not likely to occur again, as the Post Office is now in some way under the control of Imperial authority. Indeed, it is not unlikely that the territory will one day be taken over altogether by the British Government.

The Stamps of Samoa

By D. C. G.

THE Samoan Islands, formerly better known as "Navigators' Islands," are one of the numerous groups of islets in the Pacific Ocean. They lie in lat. 13° 30' to 14° 30' South, and long. 168° to 173° West. They are eight in number, the principal islands being Savaii, Upolu, Tutuila, and Manua; their total area is about 1100 square miles. They are of volcanic formation and

have coral reefs, within which their harbours are situated. The climate is variable, and there is a good deal of bad weather during the winter months. The soil of the islands is very rich, and is chiefly formed of decomposed volcanic rocks, and brings forth all tropical trees, fruits, and flowers in great abundance.

The natives form one of the finest groups

of the Pacific islanders, and are intelligent, though lazy and averse to prolonged work.

The Samoan is the only South Sea dialect in which the sibilant sound is found.

Samoa perhaps first became known to the British public after the novelist R. L. Stevenson settled there on grounds of health, and became a warm, although probably mistaken, champion of the independence of the Samoans.

For some time the group of islands was more or less controlled by Great Britain, Germany, and the United States of America. In 1899, however, Great Britain gave up her claims in exchange for other concessions, and the islands were divided between Germany and the United States.

The chief ports are Apia on the largest island, Upolu, and Pago-Pago on Tutuila, one of the southernmost islands of the group. The trade of the islands is considerable; nearly all the imports come from Australia. The chief export, however, which is copra, goes almost entirely to Germany.

The Samoan Express Post was apparently established by Mr. W. E. Agar. It passed through one or two hands, and eventually came into the possession of Mr. Griffiths, the owner of the *Fiji Times* Express Post, who carried it on till its abandonment in 1881 or 1882.

Stamps were not used in the islands until 1877, when the Express issue made its appearance. The 1d., 3d., and 6d. values were issued in December of that year, the 1s., 2s., and 5s., in July, 1878, and the 9d. value in May, 1880.

These stamps were lithographed by Messrs. S. T. Leigh and Co., of Pitt Street, Sydney, New South Wales. They seem to have been prepared by taking lithographic transfers from a single design, which had the value label left blank. This would account for the different settings of some of the values.

For one setting the stamps were produced in small sheets of ten (two rows of five stamps). The outer edges of the sheets of this setting were not perforated, so that all the stamps were imperforate on at least one side, and some of them on two sides. This was the first setting.

It was probably at a later date that the 1d., 3d., and possibly the 6d. values were issued in larger sheets of twenty stamps (four rows of five), with the edges imperforate, but, necessarily, with some of the stamps in the centre of each sheet perforated on all four sides. There is a minor variety of the 1d. stamp of this setting with a stop after PENNY. This would seem, however, to be a variety of but little importance, since such flaws are not uncommon in stamps produced by lithography. The variety occurs on Nos. 3, 8, 14, and 17 on the sheet.

There are two main types of most of these stamps. The earliest impressions show no flaw in the line above the "X" of EX-PRESS, but in the later printings there is a break in this line. The 1s. stamp, however, seems to be unknown with the break in the line. Presumably the first printing of this value was a large one, and so a second printing was not needed.

Specimens with the line unbroken are considerably scarcer than those which show the break, and should be worth a good deal more, especially as they are far more readily distinguishable from the reprints, which always show the break. All the stamps are unwatermarked and all are perforated 12½ or 12. This perforation, however, is irregular, and often does not gauge exactly.

There are some quite distinct shades of the lower three values. The 1d. is known printed in *bright ultramarine* and in *deep blue*, the 3d. in *deep red* and in *pale bright red*, and the 6d. in *bluish violet* and in *bright mauve*. (Other shades of this stamp seem to be merely due to fading.)

The higher values appear to exist in one shade only.

Some of the values are known imperforate, as the following extract from *The London Philatelist* (Vol. IX, p. 173) (quoted from *Mekcel's Weekly*) shows: "In a recent consignment from a foreign correspondent, Mr. W. J. Gardner received, among other desirable things, one entire sheet of the 6d., lilac, first issue, Samoa, imperforate; one entire sheet and a block of four of the 1d., blue, first issue, Samoa, imperforate; a block of four 5s., green, first issue, Samoa, imperforate. . . . It was not until they fell into the hands of Mr. Max Etlinger that their real value was apparently appreciated. He at once sent for Mr. A. H. Weber, whose expert knowledge of all stamps is highly valued, and the find was pronounced something unique, as it was the first lot found without perforations in unbroken sheets, each sheet containing ten stamps. A close examination showed that the 6d. were of the first printing, and that the other two values were of the second printing." This find was divided among a few of the leading collectors of San Francisco. It is, however, perhaps worthy of note that in spite of the glowing account given above, these imperforate stamps were said in a contemporary number of *The Australian Philatelist* to be merely printer's waste.

There is in the Tapling Collection a rouletted specimen of the 6d. stamp, in un-used condition. It is, however, most unlikely that the stamp was issued in that state; at any rate, it is not known postally used.

A good deal of discussion has taken place as to the true status of the 2d. pink stamp

of the type of the first issue. [See the *Monthly Journal* for 1897.]

It is stated in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue that the 2d. value was added to the set when the stamps were reprinted. The 2d. stamp certainly only appears to exist in the type of the reprints.

It is true that this stamp was found among the "remainders" of the first issue purchased by a firm of stamp dealers when the stamps became obsolete in 1881, and before the regular reprinting of the stamps took place in 1885. But the character of the remainders sold in 1881 or 1882 appears to have been open to question, as is shown by the paragraphs in the current philatelic press of the time. The most reasonable explanation of the puzzle seems to be that while some of the "remainders" were really remainders, and

were therefore of the type of the original issued stamps, others of the stamps were specially printed (possibly before the Samoan Express Post was finally closed), and among these stamps was the 2d. value. These latter stamps were of the type of the reprints of 1885 and indistinguishable from them. The 2d. stamp therefore seems to exist only as a reprint.

These early stamps were apparently cancelled at first with pen and ink, like the early issues of Uganda, and such specimens are not infrequently met with. About 1880, however, a circular obliterator was brought into use, consisting of two concentric circles having APIA, the chief town of Samoa, between the circles at the top, and SAMOA at the bottom, and the date in the centre.

(To be continued.)

Similarities of Design

By NORMAN THORNTON

IN turning over the pages of any stamp catalogue one of the points which strike us in the illustrations is the frequent reduplicated use of similar designs in the stamps of different countries. This similarity sometimes arises from lack of individual imagination on the part of the designer, amounting in many cases to sheer plagiarism; occasionally it is the result of envy on the part of the authorities of some country, who, having seen a stamp of desirable design belonging to a neighbour, have straightway given orders that it should be copied for their own next issue, thus paying the original designer a thieving kind of compliment. In a great majority of cases, however, we find on examination that the stamps bearing these resemblances are the work of the same manufacturers, and that the same designs from duplicate dies have actually been employed in whole or in part, that is to say, head or background as required, with, of course, the necessary modifications and alterations of inscription. This was done either because these designs were suitable and ready to hand or from motives of economy. It is the engraving in the first instance that is expensive; this once done any number of reproductions can be taken, as may be seen if the process used, let us say for example, by Messrs. Perkins Bacon for their line-engraved work is understood. First the background was mechanically engraved on steel, then the central portion where the head was to come scraped away and the head inserted. An impression was then taken on a soft steel roller, from which it was transferred to the plate used for printing. It was thus easy to

take reproductions of the background in soft metal for future use before the head was added. Mr. Crofton, in an article in the *Philatelic Journal of India* (May, 1908), says: "Heads which look very much the same but are on different backgrounds must have been separately engraved"; further, he quotes an instance (Nova Scotia) where the head was "stamped" into the centre of the design; this being so, it would appear that the head could be reproduced mechanically on its own central background for insertion into a different frame.

In giving instances of some of the similarities of design, it is unnecessary to make more than passing mention of the use of the stock De La Rue types for later Queen's Head and for King's Head stamps, this being, of course, intentional for purposes of uniformity; as is also the case where stamps of dependencies have been modelled on those of the mother country, as the early Congos, the Spanish, Portuguese, and Danish Colonies, or the uniform Colonial types of France and Germany.

Let us first take some instances of interest



in the British Colonies. In 1860 the printing of a new series of stamps for Nova

Scotia was entrusted to the American Bank Note Company, and three very handsome designs resulted. The same firm used the



crowned head when they had to design a new set for Newfoundland, and it became the 24 c., 1866, of that country.



The American Bank Note Company's Nova Scotian designs were apparently very highly thought of, for we find that when the South Australian authorities commissioned two new values, 4d. and 2s., from Messrs. Perkins Bacon, in 1866, they requested that this design should be copied, and a die was accordingly engraved by Jeens with considerable success. When Messrs. De La Rue took



over the South Australian work in 1868 they also were requested to make use of this design, but whether it was that the line-engraved process gave better results than surface-printing, the 2d. which resulted was not such a success as Jeens' copy, and certainly falls far short of the standard set by the original. Returning to the North American Colonies and Perkins Bacon, we find the



same die (with necessary alterations) used for the 1851 stamps of New Brunswick and

Nova Scotia, and when this firm came to make the 1d. for Newfoundland in 1857, this die was again brought into requisition, the crown having been erased and re-engraved in the position in which it appears.



The 1d. Nova Scotia, 1853, is from an impression from the same original, with the centre removed, and the first Perkins Bacon Colonial head, used for New Zealand, "stamped," as Mr. Crofton says, into the centre.



The stamps of Ionian Islands and the Ceylon octagonal type bear the same head, and if the Ceylon stamp is closely examined a faint oval surrounding the head can be distinguished (even our illustration bears traces of it), and this appears to be accounted for by the use of the same die, otherwise this oval is without significance, being unnecessary to the design.



The heads used for Tasmania, Bahamas, Natal, Grenada, and Queensland all appear



to be from an engraving copied on a larger scale from the first New Zealand head, for which the Coronation picture of Queen Victoria served as model. This picture was again

copied by Messrs. Rawson, Wright, Edson, and Hatch, of New York, for the 12 pence



Canada, and further by the American Bank Note Company for Canada and New Brun-

wick, and on a slightly larger scale by the British American Bank Note Company, of Montreal, for Prince Edward Island.

Although the first issue of New Zealand did not appear until 1855, the dies were engraved some time before in 1852, and at the same time Messrs. Perkins Bacon were engaged upon the first issue of Chili, and the same original die was used to prepare the background for each of these stamps, the lower part with value being cut away in the case of the Chili series.



(To be continued.)

American Notes and News

By EUSTACE B. POWER

SO many collectors have recently called in to tell me how glad they are that my American Notes have disappeared from the *Weekly*, and these said collectors have wasted so much of the Czar's pound of flesh, that to put a stop to it I'm doing another batch now. Since my return from London I find that the stamp trade, not only dead but cremated during our heated summer, has begun to show signs of coming to life, although I've not yet discovered any one getting rich from the fact that the Government provides a margin on every sheet of stamps it sells. There are signs in the wind of a renewed interest in stamps: the best judge of this, I consider, is Mr. Putney, of the Scott Company, who comes in contact with the cheap sheet trade more than any man this side of the ditch. Mr. Putney says he's had hundreds of new names of boys, and that's a very good sign indeed. Somehow they don't come to us: perhaps ten per cent discount isn't enough, perhaps they've read somewhere that we sell only Millburys or New Havens, or perhaps some one has told them that we haven't the goods. Merciful heavens, I wish they could see the plums, the undoubted bargains, lying around at 198 Broadway waiting to be adopted by ardent ones!

Nicaragua: Twentieth Century

I NOTICE Mr. Nankivell in his paper gives us permission to keep all Salvadors and Nicaraguas on our side of the pond—for which kindness much thanks. The per-

mission is, however, not asked for, because we've got a really good demand for them and don't intend to ship them over to you. Mr. J. B. Leavy has just finished his Nicaragua article, and following his usual custom has worked off his collection on me in exchange for mere money. I have sold the nineteenth century, intact, to a client, but have priced up separately the twentieth century, and will send it to any one writing me for it. San Francisco papers, please copy!

Sectional Imperial Album

THE Sectional Imperial has now stood the test of criticism, and we find it is gaining in popularity right along. Curiously enough, the big section of Canada takes first place as a seller—fifty sections of that country have been sold in three months—all the rest of British North America being close second. I wonder if we shall get any orders for the United States section when ready? The sections seem to be very popular here—and although, of course, the whole world costs a good deal to buy (in sectional album leaves I mean), still, so few, comparatively, collect everything that the cost will not be irksome.

"G.S.W." Back Numbers

THERE are still a few back numbers of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* that I want here in New York, and if any one has them and will quote me I will gladly advise them if I can use them. I want as follows (numbers in brackets quantity of each):

Vol. I. Numbers 2 (5), 3 (3), 4 (4), 5 (6), 6 (1), 8 (1).

Vol. II. Numbers 7 (1), 12 (2), 19 (6), 21 (5), 27 (1), Title (8).

Vol. III. Numbers 1 (8), 2 (9), 3 (1), 4 (6), 7 (1).

Vol. IV. Numbers 22 (2), 24 (1), 26 (8), Titles (5).

Miscellaneous Want List

THERE are lots of other things I want too, especially fine used copies of U.S. 1847 five cents, brown. Two shillings apiece will I pay for each and every perfect copy, and I'll take all you want to salt me with, because, between ourselves, I've got a man tucked away who'll give me three shillings for them. Send along your myriads and I'll send you the money. I also want a pair of five cents U.S. 1851, unused, with gum, also new tyres for the benzine wagon, a fur coat, and a few other trifles.

Stamp Talk

CURIOSLY enough, I met a fellow passenger on the *Kaiser*, coming West, who was a stamp collector, and I didn't know it until he came in to call one day. I gave him our red books of Cuba, and I'm not sure if I'm a friend of his now or not. But it really is curious what a lot of collectors one can dig up if one only "talks stamps." Another good scheme is to take a collection and go and sit in the smoke-room and pore over it—really supposed to be dead to the world as it were, but easily brought to life when some one seems interested. I've caught many a fly that way.

Fiji Handbook

WHILST in London I really didn't do any work at all. I wanted to all right, but my

liver [sure it was *liver*, Eustace?—EDITOR] got out of order, and I felt so poorly that I had to spend my time either in watching the beaver-like activity of Hamilton-Smith prising up German stamps, or else in trying to find a typographical error in the Czar's forthcoming book on Fiji. That book's a "bummer," one of the finest handbooks ever published, containing masses (not a mass) of new discoveries and official thingumbobs. Every active collector ought to buy it. It's worth a hundred dollars, but is selling for slightly less than this.

A Victory

I DON'T want to be nasty; in fact, if you knew what good friends the cataloguer at Scott's and myself are you'd realize that what I'm going to write is just a cock-crow—probably when Putney sees it he'll telephone me to go out and have a—(merciful heavens, I'd forgotten I'd sworn off!)—a lemon soda. But on a yellow slip, pasted in the Standard Catalogue in the present edition, I find the following dig at me about Salvador. I say "at me" because I raised the rumpus originally, and when I'd scoured everywhere for stock I knew just what *was* rare. Here's what the yellow slip says: "Without definite information as to how many specimens of each undoubted original were printed and exist, it is impossible for *any* [the italics are mine] cataloguer to set prices other than those dictated by his own desire for profit." That was a dig at me all right, because I set the prices, and they hold *right* to-day, except in the 1898 issue. Now I'm told by a little bird that in the new Scott we're going to have some prices very like our own—hence I crow. I claim the drink—I—well, what's the use?

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Philatelic Congress at Saragossa

DURING the latter part of September a Philatelic Congress was held at Saragossa, in Spain, and a special concession was made by the postal authorities to the members of the Congress. A special obliterator was used to cancel the stamps on the letters posted in or near the building where the Congress was held. The illustration shows this cancellation in its natural size.

Some of my readers may remember that at the last Philatelic Exhibition held in Paris a similar favour was granted by the Post Office people. A post office was established in the Rue Ménars, and a special

obliterating stamp provided. Many thousands of people took their letters to that



office while it was open to get them stamped as souvenirs.

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste.

Profits of the French Post Office

Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste gives some rather interesting figures concerning the reduction of profit to the Post Office Department, consequent on the lowering of the internal rates of postage on ordinary letters from 15 c. to 10 c.

It appears that when the change took place the Post Office experts estimated that the first year's loss on that head would amount to 27,846,700 francs (about £1,113,800), but at the end of 1907 it was found that the loss was not so great as had been anticipated, for one reason that had not been fully reckoned with. It appears that as soon as the new rate came into force the number of internal post cards dropped nearly seventy per cent, as the cost was the same as for a letter, i.e. 10 centimes. The volume of letters increased in direct proportion, the nett gain being valued at five and a half million francs, but of course this is merely profit received under one head instead of under another.

As a matter of fact 185,280,292 more letters were transmitted through the post in 1907 than in 1906; and the nett profit resulting from this traffic was 25,830,117 francs (about £1,033,200) less in 1907 than in 1906.

But there were other changes introduced by the law of 30 January, 1907, touching the rates for certain classes of printed matter, samples, etc. These rates were slightly increased, and if the resulting increased profit be set off against the loss of profit on letters, it will be found that the nett profits of the Post Office Department were a round twenty million francs (£800,000) less in 1907 than in 1906.

A Bad Example

At the request of the Argentine Philatelic Society the Administration of Posts has decided to issue a special set of stamps (as was mentioned in *G.S.W.* of 24 October) in 1910 to commemorate the centenary of the independence of the Argentine, which was declared on 25 May, 1810. The celebrations committee has nominated a sub-committee to take charge of the new set of stamps; the members of this philatelic committee are M. Marco del Pont, one of the most prominent philatelists in South America, and Messrs. Gregorio F. Rodriguez and Miguel Gambin, who are the President and Vice-President of the Argentine Philatelic Society respectively.

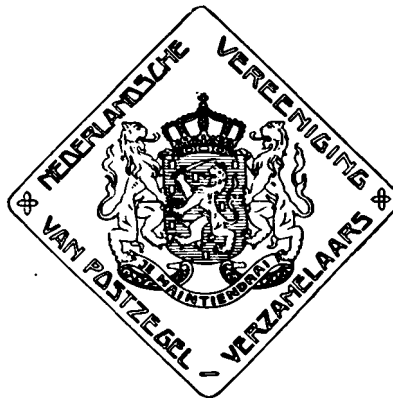
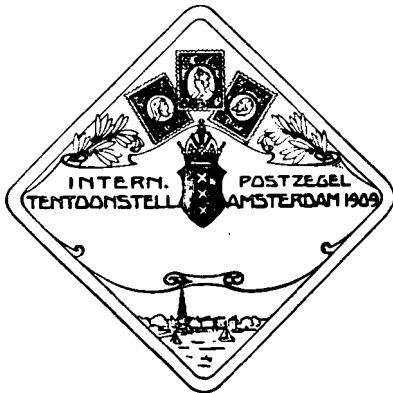
This is all very well, but in spite of the high standing of this Society in Buenos Aires, we take the liberty of informing it that one of the duties of such societies is to discourage commemorative issues rather than to use their influence in favour of them.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie.

Amsterdam Philatelic Exhibition

A LITTLE bird has whispered in my ear that this Exhibition is going to beat all records with regard to the completeness of the arrangements. I have heard that the Secretary has actually been able to arrange with the Customs authorities to allow exhibits to enter the country duty free; there has been trouble before over the Customs question in Holland.

The Bellevue Building, on the Leidschekade, has been chosen for the Exhibition. I believe that space is practically unlimited, and that the lighting arrangements are admirable.



The above are facsimile illustrations of the engraving on the medals it is proposed to award to successful competitors; they (medals, not competitors) are to be gold (large and extra large), silver-gilt, silver, and bronze, so there will be plenty of variety.

Talking of medals, did not somebody suggest that clasps should be added to medals won by the "Great Moguls"? Not a bad idea. Fancy some of the big pots sporting a large gold medal with half a dozen

clasps lettered "Berlin," "Paris," "London," etc., with dates. It would save exhibition committees money, too; so I offer them the suggestion free of charge.

Political Censorship in the Hungarian Postal Department

ACCORDING to *L'Annonce Timbrologique*, although the Hungarian Postal Administration enjoys membership of the International Postal Union, they have obtained an order from the Courts of "Justice" of Mitrovitza (Croatia) authorizing the confiscation of 2200 copies of a book entitled *Histoire des Serbes* (History of the Servians), the author of which is M. Stanoie Stanoyévitch, an eminent professor at the University of Belgrade.

The professor and the publisher have both been notified of the decision arrived at, and have been told that the books have already been burnt, although they were all despatched by *registered* post to addresses in Hungary! The intimation states further that the Administration do *not* consider themselves liable for compensation of any sort, in spite of registration.

The books are said to be worth £360 at the lowest estimate, and have been calmly confiscated and burnt in Hungary; *yet* the Administration have the assurance to advise the poor author that he had better neither ask for his books back nor for compensation!

A pretty state of affairs, truly!

An Argument for Automatic Stamp Machines
MANY months ago I believe that I referred to the six automatic machines installed in the General Post Office at Brussels; they contain a supply of stamps and post cards, which are obtainable in the usual way by putting a suitable coin in a slot.

The machines have already taken about 50,000 francs (£2000) during the six or seven months that they have been working; actually the takings average 250 francs (£10) a day, which is not bad, considering the small value of the coins used and stamps delivered.

The machines have proved to be of the greatest value to the public, as stamps and cards can be quickly obtained at any hour of the day or night. It is to be hoped that their use will be general before many years have passed. We all know how annoying it is to tear off to a post office to buy a stamp only to find that it is shut.

L'Annonce Timbrologique.

Speculation in New Caledonia

I NOTICE that *Alfred Smith & Sons' Monthly Circular* translates the following paragraph from *La Revue Postale*. It is certainly worthy of notice, especially in view of my notes of a week or two back, in which

I stated that the French Colonial authorities were evidently doing their best to suppress private speculation in the stamps of their Colonies (see "Zanzibar" on page 317 of *G.S.W.* dated 14 November).

The supply of 5 c. and 15 c. stamps having given out, the Governor requested the Director of Posts to send him a list of the stamps which remained in the reserve stock and were in little demand, in order to take some sheets of them for surcharging purposes. The Director sent to the Post Office printer one sheet of 2 c., brown on straw, one sheet of 30 c., and one sheet of 40 c. (1893 type), each containing 150 stamps. The printer had two surcharges applied to the sheet of 2 c. stamps, namely, 75 of 5 c. on 2 c. and 75 of 15 c. on 2 c. and then sent this sheet to the Governor, who, on the pretext that two surcharges on the same value were unsuitable, kept half the sheet for himself while the Director took the other half. The consequence is that these precious surcharges are only to be found in the hands of a few privileged persons and their friends.

[This is rather ancient history, referring doubtless to the stamps mentioned in note after No. 108 of the Catalogue. Still, it is useful to learn as much as possible about these French surcharges.—ED. G.S.W.]

Death of M. Guilin

WITH great regret I learn from *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* of the sudden death of M. Guilin, a well-known Paris dealer. He had a fine establishment just off the Boulevard Montmartre, in the Passage des Princes to be exact. M. Guilin was only thirty-two years of age when he met with a most tragic end, being asphyxiated by an escape of gas from a gas-stove.

Letters Delivered by Lift

THE Austrian Postal Administration is said by *La Revue Postale* to have established quite a new era in the history of letter boxes, the object of the innovation being to make less work for postmen.

In Vienna, as in all big continental cities, most people live in flats, as very few small houses are built; the result being that postmen have to do a great deal of stair climbing to deliver letters. Our contemporary states that in Vienna on some of the larger buildings vertical rails are fixed outside the houses, and a kind of special lift works up and down them. The cage of this lift is divided into a number of locked boxes, the various inhabitants of the flats having suitable keys. The postman places the letters for each flat in the proper boxes, and then an ingenious automatic device raises the cage to the level of each floor, whereupon a bell ringing notifies the inhabitants that the "dumb postman" awaits their pleasure!

This system seems to be admirable, and must save postmen a great deal of fatigue, but it sounds almost too good to be true.

New Issues and Discoveries

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.—In addition to the 5d., listed last week, we have seen a used copy of the 1s. perforated 11, and dated 21 August, 1908. The stamp should come between Nos. 135 and 135a in the Catalogue.



2

1908. Type 2, space at foot filled in. Chalk-surfaced paper. Wmk. Crown and NSW, Type 33 of N.S.W.

(c) Perf. 11.

1s., emerald-green.

China.—Mr. C. L. Harte-Lovelace has shown us a copy of the 2 c. of the current design in green, instead of scarlet. We are informed that this is a change of colour due to the fact that China is desirous of entering the Postal Union, and so is adopting Postal Union colours. The 2 c. is equivalent to ½d., and so should be green.

The 4 c. and 10 c. will soon be issued in carmine and blue respectively, for the same reason as given above.



30

1908. Type 30. Colour changed. No wmk. Perf. 14 to 16.

15½d 2 c., deep green.

Crete.—Adverting to "Foreign Notes," in our issue of 21 November, we have reason to believe that the stamps overprinted ΕΑΛΛΑΣ will have to be recognized as worthy of Catalogue rank after all. Even though Crete maintains its autonomy only by the will of four Powers, it is improbable that the Powers would interest themselves in the issue of its postage stamps. They were apparently issued in a regular manner by the Post Office at the instance of the governing authorities of the island, and whether such authorities were self-constituted or not can hardly concern us. Again,

we have in our possession an envelope duly franked by registered letter post with the overprinted stamps, so that there can be no doubt as to their availability for postage.

It will be noticed that one of the 10 lepta, listed below, consists of a hitherto unissued type, overprinted like the others. We believe that this stamp has been ready for issue for many months, but exactly why it was not used we are unable to say.

In a sheet of 100 of the new 10 lepta we have found two minor varieties in the lettering. No. 35 has the last letter of the overprint inverted, so that it reads ΕΑΛΛΑΣ. No. 48 has a Δ instead of an Α, reading ΕΑΛΔΣ.

We do not know if these varieties exist in any other values, but it is highly probable.

The illustrations of Crete will be found in the Catalogue.



7



33

ΕΑΛΛΑΣ

34

21 SEPTEMBER, 1908. Overprinted "Greece" in Greek, as Type 34, in black.

127	7	1 l., red-brown (No. 71).
128	16	2 l., violet (No. 101).
129	17	5 l., green (No. 102).
130	9	10 l., scarlet (No. 73).
131	33	10 l., dull carmine.
132	19	20 l., blue-green (No. 104).
133	31	25 l., black and blue (No. 124).
134	21	50 l., brown (No. 106).
135	22	1 dr., sepia and carmine (No. 107).
136	11	2 dr., brown (No. 90).
137	23	3 dr., black and orange (No. 108).
138	24	5 dr., olive-green (No. 109).

Varieties. (i.) Σ of overprint inverted, reading ΕΑΛΛΑΣ.
144| 33|10 l., dull carmine.

(ii.) Δ instead of Α in overprint, reading ΕΑΛΔΣ.
157| 33|10 l., dull carmine.

Danish West Indies.—In a recent issue we chronicled a new 50 bit stamp, describing the colour of the centre as grey. We have just had a copy shown to us, and find it should be described as deep brown, so :—

CORRECTION. 1908. Type 13. Centre in first colour. Wmk. Crown, Type 4. Perf. 12½, 13.

75|50 bit, deep brown and yellow.

Paraguay.—In our issue of the week before last we listed a 5 c. on 2 c., carmine, and a correspondent in Asuncion has now forwarded this stamp with the surcharge inverted.



39

44

1908. Type 39 surcharged in black with Type 44, inverted.

5 c. on 2 c., carmine.

Habilitado en
5
CENTAVOS

Turkey.—Dr. Weber, of Berne, has shown us a used copy of the 20 paras, green, of the 1874-5 issue with *overprint inverted*. It should follow No. 63a of the present Catalogue.

1874-5. Type 2 overprinted with Type 6, in black. Perf. 134.

Variety. *Overprint inverted.*
20 par., green.

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.

Correspondence

Two Pence Blue, Dickinson Paper (1841)

Further Notes by the Earl of Crawford, K.T.

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

SIR,—Since writing to you I have been enabled, by the kindness of Mr. Lewis Evans, to examine the impressions which were sent to his grandfather, Mr. John Dickinson, by Rowland Hill in the letter dated 17.3.41.

They are, as I anticipated, printed from the experimental plate of twelve (three rows of four stamps).

The impression in *blue* is shown by a block of six stamps from the *lower* right corner of the plate, being numbers

6	7	8
10	11	12

The brick-coloured stamp is also a block of six, from the *upper* right corner of the plate, being numbers

2	3	4
6	7	8

Mr. Evans informed me that these blocks originally consisted of eight stamps each, i.e. the first and second and the second and third rows respectively, also that the vertical pairs 1-5, red, and 5-9, blue, were cut off for the collection of Miss Dickinson, who subsequently married the late Sir John Evans (his father).

He further drew my attention to a point of extreme interest and of the most unexpected nature, as showing that the "pieces of paper" supplied to Messrs. Perkins and Bacon were too narrow to print the three horizontal rows at once, and therefore that the pulls consisted of only eight instead of twelve stamps, as naturally would be assumed.

The reasons brought forward by Mr. Evans in favour of his assertion appear to me to be conclusive.

I. Mr. Bacon, in returning the small pieces of paper, states "that he had gummed the backs of them."

II. The blocks in question are gummed on the back.

III. These blocks, *in addition*, show a narrow

line of gum along the upper and lower margins on the *front* of the stamps.

This can only occur by the action of capillarity: a small quantity of gum has crept between the paper and the surface of the table during the application.

Had the blocks been perforated I should have said it was no proof, as I have large blocks of the 1d. stamp with Archer perforation which show gum on the face to a marked degree; but this only proves that the gum was applied after the sheets were perforated.

It could not have occurred had the pieces of paper been wide enough to print three rows at once.

But from this new fact we learn still further.

It will be remembered that "two pieces of paper" were printed in blue (eight stamps each). Eight stamps were sent to Mr. Dickinson, and are still preserved in that custody. They were printed from the lower two rows of the small plate. That the other small piece of paper was also printed from the lower rows of the plate is proved by the three copies in my possession, being Nos. 9, 11, and 12. Consequently no copies in *blue* exist of Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, the upper row.

I must therefore correct the estimate of existing stamps put forward in your number of 14.11.08. Sixteen stamps in all were printed in blue, accounted for thus: six are with Mr. Lewis Evans, two in the collection of the late Lady Evans (his mother). Of the other "piece of paper" I have three, "Plain Anchor" has one, leaving four stamps to be found, of which at least three must be from the middle row, and therefore show traces of a line of gum along the upper margin on the face.

The impression in red was printed from the upper two rows (Evans, pair and six in the block). Of the two other "pieces of paper," my single copy of No. 6 proves that one more "piece" was printed from the upper two rows, *because it shows gum on the face of the lower margin*. Of the third "piece of paper" printed in red we know nothing. Therefore, so far as I can see, fifteen copies are not accounted for.

I am, sir, yours faithfully,

2 CAVENDISH SQUARE,
16.11.08.

CRAWFORD.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 24
Whole No. 205

12 DECEMBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Greece—continued

THESE were certainly two, if not more, printings made in Paris, but only advanced specialists divide these. In the autumn of 1861 the plates were sent to Athens, together with a supply of paper and original colours, and numerous printings of the stamps were subsequently made in the Greek capital. Difficulties occur in the classification of these printings and separating them from the Paris prints, but the task is one full of interest, and, bearing in mind a few leading principles, one that can be fairly well mastered.

The chief stumbling-blocks are the 1 and 2 lepta values, since these never had figures printed on the back. Excepting these denominations a broad distinction between the Paris and Athens prints may be made by classing the former as being *without small figures* at back, and the latter as *with small figures* at back. The word *small* is used advisedly, as it will be remembered the 10 l. Paris print had been printed with numerals at the back as an experiment. These figures, however, are much larger (8 mm. high) than those on the Athens print (6 mm. high), and in consequence the stamps are easy to sort. True, the Catalogue lists the 10 l. and 20 l. Athens print without figures, but the former is such a great rarity that its existence need hardly trouble the collector, whilst if the 20 l. does get among the Paris prints it matters little, for it is much more valuable; the colour, however, is quite distinctive, and there are other points of difference, which apply generally to all values, and which will be noted hereafter.

Whilst on the subject of the figures it is easy to understand the reason why they were reduced in size. A plate of 150 *clichés* of numerals was made corresponding in size with the plate for the stamps, and great care had to be exercised in printing from this plate to make the numerals fall correctly on the back of the stamps. With such large numerals as the "10" of the Paris print greater care would have to be taken than with smaller figures, especially with those

so wide as 20, 40 and 80, hence the change. The figures were more or less in the colour of the stamps.

The true test, however, between Paris and Athens prints lies in a comparison of the shading on the neck and cheek of Hermes.

The former stamps can be distinguished by the splendid execution, and the shading—which in reality is composed of very fine lines more or less broken up—appearing as if composed of dots and short dashes. These lines also begin and end with a sharp point whilst widening out towards the centre.

In the Athens prints these lines are unbroken, thicker, have blunted points, and are of the same width throughout.

The Paris issue was generally in use until the early part of 1862, and during the first three months stamps to the value of about £4000 were sold. At first the cancellation on all issues was in the shape of a diamond composed of dots with numerals in the centre signifying the number of the post office, similarly to that used in France. Later, possibly within two years, dated postmarks were introduced, and gradually superseded the earlier style. Collectors should be on the look-out for dated stamps, as they are of the greatest assistance in separating the issues.

Perhaps for the beginner one specimen of each value showing the characteristics above mentioned is sufficient, but it is treating the stamps with scant justice to stop short at this. The general collector, let alone the moderate specialist, should endeavour to obtain representative sets of some of the many "Athens" prints. Perhaps a division as follows would meet the case:—

(a) Fine or first prints made under superintendence of Paris workmen.

(b) Coarse prints made by local printers unaided.

(c) Prints made after plates were cleaned. To these might be added the printings on paper uniform for all values, and issues without figures on back.

The above may seem too many stamps of

one type for a general collector, but they could be so selected that a representative lot of the numerous shades might be presented without duplication, whilst at the same time the various states of impression—in many cases so different as to almost warrant a belief in the use of different plates—would be clearly defined.

(a) First Athens Print

When the plates were despatched from Paris a practical printer was also sent to instruct the Athens workmen in the art of printing stamps, and he took with him a quantity of paper and ink similar to those used for the Paris printing.

The work was well done, and in consequence these early Athens prints resemble the Paris prints in many respects.

The colours, however, are not identical, doubtless due to fresh mixings in a different climate, and generally they are not of so soft a tone as in the earlier stamps. The values from 5 lepta upwards can be distinguished by having figures at the back, and as regards the 5 l. a reference to the Catalogue will show that it had a particular shape of "5" (known as *closed figure*) which is not to be found on later printings.

The 1 and 2 lepta can be sorted by means of the lines of shading, but as further guides it may be noted that the 1 l. is a trifle lighter in colour than the Paris prints, whilst the 2 l., though varying in shade, is mainly a *yellow-brown*.

The shades of the other values call for little comment in an article of this description, but they vary. Those in the list following may be taken as typical of the early impressions.



1861-2. First Athens print. Figures at back, except on the 1 l. and 2 l. Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 l., chocolate on cream	60 0	—
2 l., yellow-brown on straw	4 0	—
5 l., deep green on greenish	25 0	5 0
10 l., yellow-ochre on greenish blue	—	40 0
20 l., Prussian blue on bluish	—	20 0
40 l., bright violet on blue	40 0	4 0
80 l., dull rose on cream	40 0	6 0

(b) Coarse Athens Prints

As soon as the local workmen were left to themselves the impressions speedily degene-

rated, until at length it appeared as if the later stamps could not have been printed from the same plates as served for the earlier. Ignorance of the methods of surface-printing, chiefly with respect to keeping the plates clean, and carelessness in the compounding of colours, appear to have been the causes of the inferiority of these printings. Then, again, there was considerable variation in the quality of the paper used, much of which was inferior to the earlier supply.

This group, indeed, is especially one for a specialist; the Catalogue lists a good many shades, but there are very many more. For a general collector, however, it is only essential that stamps showing the characteristics of the period should be taken, and these are generally found in shades differing markedly from the earlier prints. The impressions during this period were heavy, rough, and blotchy, and the lines of shading are not distinct. The colours of the paper follow more or less the scheme of the earlier prints, and all values had figures at back, except the 1 and 2 lepta. The 5 lepta in these printings, as well as the later ones, may be distinguished by the *open* "5."

	1862-70. Coarse prints. Same type. Imperf.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 l., brown on cream	3 0	2 6
2 l., bistre-brown on straw	2 6	4 0
5 l., pale green on greenish	10 0	0 2
10 l., orange on bluish	7 6	0 3
20 l., pale blue on ,,	10 0	0 1
40 l., dull purple on blue	15 0	0 9
80 l., deep carmine on cream	5 0	0 6

(c) Prints from cleaned plates

In 1870, the condition of the plates having become so bad, a German workman was called in who thoroughly cleaned the plates, and helped to print the first supplies from them. As a new printing press was also put into service, the early impressions are good, and somewhat resemble the first Athens prints. The 1 lepton can be distinguished by having much shorter lines of shading on the cheek than on any other printing.

The improvement soon wore off, and the impressions gradually became worse until at length all lines on cheek and neck were exceedingly coarse, blunt at the ends, and in many cases the ink ran together, producing solid blotches of colour on the back of the neck and at the throat.

The shades and papers in this group are also very numerous, but in 1872 a very thin transparent paper was introduced, and perhaps for a general collector this will be the easiest guide. The Catalogue says the transparency of the paper is due in great measure to the gum.

1870-77. *Printings from cleaned plates.*
Thin transparent paper.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 l., red-brown on buff	15 0	2 6
2 l., stone on cream	2 0	—
5 l., sage-green on greenish	40 0	2 6
10 l., red-orange on greenish blue	80 0	5 0
20 l., indigo on bluish	100 0	0 4
40 l., lake on blue	3 0	2 6
80 l., deep rose on cream	—	—

It will be noticed that in all the above printings the 5 l., 10 l., 20 l., and 40 l. were upon *coloured* paper. In 1876 it was decided to have one class of paper for all values, and in consequence these values were printed on a more or less *cream* paper. The plates were cleaned, but the execution was still indifferent. The paper of course is the distinguishing feature of the group.

Later, viz. in 1879, it was decided to dispense with the figures on the back, and printings were thus made of the same values on similar paper to the above. The 80 l. was in little demand, and it was withdrawn 31 December, 1881. This value was never printed in Athens without figures at back.

1876-81. *Same type on cream paper.*
With figures at back.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 l., green	7 6	2 0
10 l., orange	10 0	0 2
20 l., blue	20 0	0 3
40 l., flesh	2 0	3 0

Without figures at back.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 l., green	4 0	0 1
10 l., orange	3 6	0 1
20 l., ultramarine	15 0	4 0
40 l., mauve	5 0	2 0

(To be continued.)

PLEASE NOTE

The Prices quoted in the foregoing article are taken from our publishers' *Intant 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

Amateur and Professional

UNDER this heading *The Philatelic Journal of India* for October last has an editorial from the pen of Mr. C. S. F. Crofton.

Mr. Crofton bases his remarks upon a note printed in the margin of the forms of application for membership of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

This note is to the effect that only amateurs are eligible for membership of this Society.

Mr. Crofton disagrees with this regulation for two reasons:—

First. That no case has been made out for differentiating against the dealer.

On 20 May, 1876, new values were issued, the first printings of which were made in Paris and later ones in Athens, and there is much the same difference between the two printings as for the other values. These values were always without figures at back, and it will be noticed the 60 l. was on coloured paper in the Paris printing. The 30 l. can also be determined by the colour (the official name was "dust colour.") There was a big remainder of the 60 l. Paris print.

1876. *Without figures at back.*
Paris print (May).

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
30 l., olive-brown on cream	60 0	7 6
60 l., green on green	2 6	4 0

Athens print (September).

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
30 l., red-brown on cream	5 6	0 4
60 l., green on buff	60 0	15 0

The 20 and 30 lepta were ordered to be changed in colour at the same time as the 80 l. was withdrawn, and about April, 1882, the new stamps were issued, the 20 l. in pink and the 30 l. in blue.

1882. *Without figures at back.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
20 l., pink on cream	4 0	0 1
30 l., blue	20 0	4 0

The above completes the issues of the first type, and though the explanations given are but bald they may serve as some guide to their collection. It is impossible in an article of this scope to give more than a few leading characteristics. Suffice it to say that students of this first type will be well rewarded for their trouble.

Second. That if a line must be drawn, it is drawn in the wrong place.

Now before considering these two reasons, I should like to say a few words to explain how it is that at the present time there are a few dealers who are members of the Royal Philatelic Society.

Some twenty-five or thirty years *The Philatelic Record* was practically the organ of the Philatelic Society, and was published jointly by Pemberton, Wilson, and Co. and Stanley, Gibbons, and Co.

The Committee of the Society elected Mr. A. H. Wilson and Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons members of the Society, as representatives of the two firms then publishing

the official journal. I believe that both of these gentlemen continued to be members for many years after they retired from the trade.

In four other cases members of the Society who were elected as amateurs became regular dealers and tendered their resignations to the Council.

In these cases the Council decided not to accept the resignations, no doubt out of a feeling of goodwill and friendship for these particular members, and two (or maybe three) such dealers retain their membership to the present day.

Now let me revert to Mr. Crofton's arguments, with which, I may say at once, I disagree *in toto*.

First, he says that no case has been made out for differentiating against the dealers.

Why in the world should the Royal Philatelic Society be asked to *explain* its adoption of any particular rule or regulation?

If Mr. Crofton wants to see dealers rendered eligible for election as members, it would be as well for him to consult and take the opinion of some of the leading dealers before taking up cudgels on their behalf, which we who are in the trade have not asked or wished him to do.

Secondly, Mr. Crofton says that, if a line is drawn, it is drawn in the wrong place.

Where else would he draw it?

The regulation of the Royal Philatelic Society reads as follows:—

Any other person interested as an amateur in the science and practice of Philately, and not engaged or employed in trade or trading transactions in connection therewith in any other capacity than that of compiler, author, editor, or assistant in the preparation or publication of any work of a scientific, technical, or literary nature, is eligible for election to membership of the Society.

This is the line drawn by the Royal Philatelic Society, and which guides it in its elections of members, and I quite fail to see any other distinction or difference that could—with justice—be adopted, to render a person eligible for membership.

Now look at the present existing Philatelic Societies in France, Germany, and America. In almost all cases they are dominated by dealers, and what do they do to spread and popularize our hobby? In most cases nothing at all!

Can Mr. Crofton give me the name of a Philatelic Society in the whole world that has done *one-tenth* as much for our hobby as has been done by the Royal Philatelic Society, London?

I think I should be correct in saying that more than one-half of the *original* philatelic articles and books produced in the past

twenty years have been produced by the members of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

We who are in the trade shall be well advised if we do all we can to support the Royal Philatelic Society, London, as it is at present constituted. It is very largely owing to the prestige of this Society that Philately has obtained its present position with the aristocratic and moneyed classes, and the *least* that the dealers can do in return is to accord it the most loyal and strong support, and not to seek for the means of introducing members of the trade, which, in my opinion, would be a very false step, and one tending to materially weaken the position that is now held by the Society.

I should like to know if this attack on the Royal Philatelic Society, London, has been authorized by the Philatelic Society of India. It appears in their official organ, and I should think that the Committee of the India Society would be well advised to repudiate this article by the editor of their journal.

The "Koch" Collection

GERMANY is losing its finest general collection—that formed by Mr. G. Koch, of Giesen, near Frankfort.

I am informed that Mr. G. Koch decided to sell his collection owing to the scandals and doubts as to the authenticity of many stamps emanating from official sources on the Continent.

He has placed the whole of his superb collection in the hands of Messrs. Gilbert and Köhler in Paris, and these gentlemen have already held two sales, and the third—the stamps of Germany—is being held as I write these notes.

Following the example set by Mr. J. Bernichon, Messrs. Gilbert and Köhler have once more shown us how an auction catalogue of stamps should be written, and I consider that all our London auctioneers, *without any exception*, might take lessons from their French confrères.

Each good stamp is most carefully described, and EVERY FAULT, EVEN THE MOST MINUTE, is pointed out. All stamps that are mentioned singly are guaranteed *in all respects*. All scarce stamps or rare obliterations are illustrated, and in the third catalogue of this sale there are no less than *twelve* full-sized plates of illustrations, a most important feature for those who are unable to attend personally.

The following were some of the best prices realized in the second sale. I have added the 10 per cent extra which has to be paid by the purchaser and calculated 25 fr. to £1.

	£	s.	d.
Philippine Isles, 1854, 1 rl., blue, CORROS, torn	10	15	0
Philippine Isles, 1863, 1 rl., violet, unused	4	16	0
U.S., Providence, entire sheet (eleven of 5 c., one of 10 c.)	9	15	0
U.S., St. Louis, 10 c.	20	6	0
U.S., Baltimore, 5 c., black on blue	33	8	0
U.S., State, \$2, \$5, \$10, and \$20, unused, but \$5 slightly damaged	31	5	0
Spain, 1851, 2 rl.	21	4	0
Ceylon, 1857, 4d. and 5d. used together	15	0	0
India, 1854, ½ a., red, unused	8	12	0
India, 1854, 4 a., blue and red, with lines all round	4	16	0
India, Service, long, 4 a., unused	6	8	0
India, Service, long, 8 a., unused	11	9	0
Patiala, 2, 3, and 5 rupees	11	11	0
British Central Africa, no wmk., £10, used	6	3	0
British Central Africa, no wmk., £25, used	18	1	0
Bechuanaland, 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s., unused	23	15	0
Cape, woodblock, 1d., scarlet, used	8	2	0
Cape, woodblock, 4d., blue, used	5	15	0
Niger Coast, 5s. on 2d., unused	13	8	0
Niger Coast, 10s. on 5d., unused	13	6	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and carmine, unused	13	10	0
Mauritius, 1d., on blue, early print, used	24	5	0
Mauritius, 2d., on blue, early print, used	33	0	0
Mauritius, 2d., large fillet, used	30	16	0
Swaziland, 10s., brown, unused	8	5	0
Barbados, pair, 1d. on 5s., used	17	0	0
Canada, 6d., perf., used on letter	7	2	6
British Guiana, 1850, 12 c., blue	24	4	0
British Guiana, 1851, 4 c., blue	10	12	0
British Guiana, 1856, 4 c., crimson	28	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., violet	12	11	0
St. Vincent, 5s., carmine	10	12	0
St. Vincent, 4d. on 1s.	11	2	0
Newfoundland, 6d., vermilion, used	9	18	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., vermilion, unused	13	4	0
Newfoundland, 1s., vermilion, used	16	12	0
New South Wales, Sydneys, Plate II, laid, pair with and without clouds	10	2	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 3d., green on yellowish, used	10	16	0
Queensland, 6d., imperf.	5	2	0

In many cases the French collectors seem to have quite lost their heads, as I find that in a large number of cases we could have supplied equally fine copies from our stock at from 20 to 30 per cent *less* than the prices paid at this auction.

New Colour Dictionary

I HAVE pleasure in announcing that Mr. B. W. Warhurst has just prepared for us a new and improved edition of his *Colour Dictionary*.

In this new work there are two hundred names of colours and sixty illustrations in

true colours. These illustrations are printed in solid colour, with thick lines, fine lines, scrollwork, etc., so as to show the different effect of the colour from the various methods of printing.

Mr. Warhurst has also written nearly thirty pages of text explaining all about colours, and which should be of great use to all collectors.

In a great many instances the descriptions in the 1909 editions of our Catalogues will be based upon the colours in this dictionary. Prices, post free, 2s. 8d. in strong paper covers, or 4s. 8d. well bound in cloth.

King Edward VII Land

UNDER date 16 November, a client who has evidently good sources of information writes us:—

You probably know that no such stamp will again be issued, since Lieutenant Shackleton in the *Nimrod* (from which this stamp was posted), finds that the land so named by Captain Scott has disappeared.

Well, this is about the best that could happen. There is now no King Edward VII Land, and as no post office has ever existed on that portion of the globe and cannot now exist there is no need to include this stamp in our Catalogue.

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

Canada.

A FAIR lot of this, the best selling country of the North American group.

In the "pence" issues there are some nice pairs on letters, and a good lot of singles both used and unused.

The later issues are all well represented, and some fine and rare unused shades will be secured by those who have an early pick.

Grigueland.

A good lot including some really rare unused stamps, and well worth inspection even by the most advanced specialist.

In arranging this book, Lieutenant F. H. Napier has discovered in our stock a hitherto unrecorded variety.

This will come in our Catalogue after No. 81 as—

Type 16, double surcharge, both inverted.
½d., grey.

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.

The Stamps of Samoa—*continued*

By D. C. G.

THE post office was closed in 1881, and remained so for some years, and letters had to be sent through the various consulates or by ship as opportunity offered.

The first issue was reprinted in 1885. The reprints are, however, not identical in type with the original stamps; the colours are slightly different, the perforation is, as a rule, much more regular, and the gum is whiter, and less thickly applied. These reprints were printed in sheets of forty (five rows of eight) stamps, and only one such regular reprinting took place. The stones were destroyed in 1897, so that no more reprints can be made.

The catalogue prices of this issue are high, but it is astonishingly difficult to obtain really fine used specimens, or mint unused specimens even at full catalogue rates, and in America and Germany they are more appreciated than in England. Used on the original envelopes the stamps are practically unobtainable, and unused, they are very scarce in pairs or blocks, which are extremely useful for plating.

The next issue of stamps in Samoa did not appear until 1887, when the well-known palm tree design was brought into use. The following is a copy of the document by which Mr. Davis was appointed postmaster of Samoa [*Monthly Journal*, Vol. XV, No. 171]:—

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
APIA, SAMOA,
December 20th, 1886.

Malietao, King of Samoa, do hereby appoint Mr. John Davis, of Apia, to be Postmaster for the Kingdom of Samoa, and give him full power to enter into any arrangements with other countries he may consider necessary for the forwarding and delivery of letters, and other mail matter to and from this country.

Also hereby acknowledge the Postage Stamps hereto affixed, as the Samoan Postage Stamps.

MALIETOA, *King of Samoa.*

Specimens of the 1d. and 4d. palm tree stamps were attached to this document, and King Malietao's official seal, with coat-of-arms and crown in the centre, surrounded by the inscription, "Malietao I e Tufu O Samoa."

This issue, like the contemporary stamps of Tonga and the Cook Islands, was designed and printed through the medium of the New Zealand Government Printing Office, and consisted of 4d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 1s., and 2s. 6d. values. The stamps were, naturally, watermarked with the NZ and Star used for the New Zealand stamps of that period.

The earliest stamps of this type were perforated 12½, and the two higher values with this perforation are really quite scarce, especially unused. In 1893 the stamps appeared perforated 12 × 11½, and here again in the unused state the 1s. and 2s. 6d. values are very difficult to obtain. The 11 gauge perforation was brought into use in the year 1895, and with this perforation the stamps are quite common, both used and unused, many of the "used" specimens, however, being of the postmarked-to-order description.

With the last-mentioned perforation these stamps occur in several distinct shades. In particular the 1d. stamp may be found in *emerald-green* and *blue-green*, the 2d. in *yellow*, *ochre*, and *deep orange*, the 4d. in *blue* and *deep blue*, the 1s. in *rose* and *bright carmine*, and the 2s. 6d. in *pale* and *bright mauve*. The 1d. and 4d. stamps vary slightly in shade, also with the 12 × 11½ perforation.

In April, 1895, there was a disastrous fire at Apia, which destroyed a great many business premises and which did not spare the post office; and the whole stock of stamps was burnt, except a number of the 1s. value. As the number of 1s. stamps which escaped the fire was comparatively small, there were not sufficient to create new values by surcharging. In order, therefore, to eke them out until a fresh supply of stamps could be procured from New Zealand, the Postmaster cut up the surviving 1s. stamps and made them serve for all values under one shilling. Thus a newspaper is known which was franked by a small fragment of a shilling stamp to represent a postage of 1d. only. Usually, however, the shilling stamps were divided in half either diagonally or vertically. A considerable delay was experienced in obtaining a fresh supply of stamps; hence these bisected stamps may be found post-marked from April to June, 1895, and possibly even later.

In 1892 a 2½d. stamp was issued bearing the portrait of Malietao, the King of Samoa. This stamp also was prepared and printed in New Zealand, and so has the same NZ and Star watermark. When first issued it was perforated 12½, and it is much scarcer with this perforation than with the later perforations, namely 12 × 11½ (1893) and 11 (1895). It is to be noticed that the later printings, perforated 11, are of a much deeper shade of *rose* than the two earlier.

In 1896 a supply of the 2½d. stamps of this type was printed in *black* by mistake, but was sent to Samoa, and regularly used until the supply was exhausted. This stamp was perforated 10 × 11, and had the same water-

mark. This printing must have been a fairly large one, as the stamp is comparatively common both in the unused and used conditions.

In 1893 a 6d. value in the older palm tree type made its appearance. This stamp is found perforated $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ and 11 only, as the date of its issue would lead one to expect. There are two quite distinct shades, *deep* and *pale red-brown*.

In November, 1893, the surcharged stamps of Samoa began to appear. A 5d. value was then found to be necessary, and was produced by surcharging the current 4d. stamp FIVE PENCE in two lines, in *black*, with two bars across the original value. The words measure 6 mm. and $8\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in length respectively. Various minor varieties of this surcharge may be found, most of which seem to be due to damaged type or defective printing. The only important errors are the stamp with inverted overprint, which is decidedly scarce, and the stamp—the last in the third row—which has PENCE at the foot of the stamp and no bars at all. Another printing was made, for which smaller type was used, the words FIVE PENCE measuring only about $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and 6 mm. in length respectively. On the first

seven rows of stamps in the sheet of sixty the thin bar is above the thick, while on the last three rows the thin bar is below.

The stamps with this small surcharge are scarce either used or unused, and in all probability this printing was a small one. It does not appear to be known which of these two printings was the earlier, but possibly the smaller type was used first, and, being found unsatisfactory, was abandoned for the larger. The stamp with the smaller overprint has been chronicled with double surcharge.

Apparently it was soon realized that the *black* surcharge did not show up at all well on the *blue* stamp, with the result that at the end of November, 1893, the 4d. stamp was issued surcharged with "5d" in large *red* type, the original value being barred out as before. The value is sometimes barred out by one line and sometimes by two lines. Minor varieties of overprint exist. The main varieties are the stamp with double and with inverted surcharge—both of which are quite scarce—and the stamp with the "d" of "5d." on a line with the figure instead of being placed on a higher level.

(To be concluded.)

Similarities of Design—continued

By NORMAN THORNTON

TURNING now to the consideration of instances of similarities in foreign countries, we find that the types which have in most cases served as models for copying are those of the early French stamps. The chief reason for this popularity seems to be the simplicity of the design of the frame, and the fact that in two instances, at least, the stamps copied from it were actually designed and printed in Paris.

In 1856 stamps were issued in the department of Corrientes in the Argentine Republic to defray special expenses incurred by letters to places where there were as yet no Government post offices. Señor Coni, the Director of the State Printing Establishment in Corrientes, was unable for some time to find any one capable of engraving the stamp until one day a baker's boy, hearing of his difficulty, volunteered to do the work, saying that he had been apprenticed to an engraver in Italy. Señor Coni showed the boy a French stamp of the Ceres type 1849, engraved by M. Barre, and directed him to copy it. This he did, making his engraving on wood in two rows of four, the inscription alone being altered; but, as the crudeness of the stamp shows, his apprenticeship had not made him a skilled workman, and it is to be

hoped that he exhibited more talent in the making of cakes than of engravings.



The next country to plagiarize the stamps of France was Greece. As all collectors of this country know, the first issues were printed in Paris in 1861, and the design is almost identical with that of the then current



stamps of France, the head of Mercury being substituted for that of the Emperor Napoleon and the inscription suitably altered.

The two types were, in fact, engraved by the same man, M. Albert Barre, son of that M. Barre, engraver to the Paris Mint, who made the first Ceres type. The Paris printings from the plates for Greece were done at the printing establishment of Ernest Meyer.

In 1870, M. Hulot, of the Paris Mint, was commissioned to make a new set of stamps for Roumania, but owing to the outbreak of war the issue was delayed for two years; the type approved was modelled on that of the French stamps. It will be noticed that the key pattern was modified, being very narrow, but the corner crosses remain, and in general appearance there is little difference in the designs. It is here noticeable that,



with the exception of the 15 bani, the stamps were printed in the same shades as were being employed at that time for the French stamps.

Another French type which has been rather closely copied, or, at any rate, has served to furnish inspiration, is the "Peace and Commerce" type. The 1882 issue of Luxemburg was designed by Monsieur A. Marc, and bears a sufficient resemblance to merit mention here. Each type has a male and female figure, clad, as one might say, in exceedingly classical style, on either side of a white tablet bearing the figure of value.



The figures obviously represent Ceres and Mercury; the latter, of course, typifies Commerce, but philatelists have dubbed Ceres "Peace," though strictly she stands for Agriculture. The dies for both series were engraved by M. E. Mouchon, and the Luxemburg stamps were printed at Haarlem. The Postage Due stamps of France and Monaco are of exact similarity; both were engraved and printed at the French Government Printing Office, and the 1901 issue of Tunis (Postage Due) is in a very similar design, this being remarkably the only French possession which has Postage Due stamps of this model without overprint.



The designer of this type was M. Georges Duval, to whom is also sometimes attributed the design of the first issue of Hayti.



If one considers how handsome are some of the stamps of Crete, it is rather surprising that the designers of the Cretan Postage Due stamps of 1900 could think of nothing more original than an exact copy of the Norwegian type engraved by Messrs. Trousen of Christiania. This engraving is selected rather than the earlier type by Petersen, as the crown bears a remarkable resemblance to that on the Cretan stamp. True the latter is slightly larger in size, and a floral pattern can be discerned worked into the background behind the posthorn. The Postage Due stamps have not the artistic appearance of the ordinary issues manufactured for this island by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co., and though I can discover no evidence of their origin, it is hard to think that this firm was the responsible party, even though they themselves were not above taking hints in their work from that of other designers; witness the inclusion on the 5 drachmai stamp of "St. George and the Dragon," exactly as they appear upon our own gold coinage, even to the milling round the medallion. We may also notice here that when in 1882 Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co. had an order from the Argentine Republic, the stamps which resulted were obviously inspired by the second



Hungarian type; both show a letter bearing the figure of value, surmounting a posthorn, the whole surrounded by a wreath, but the crown of St. Stephen giving way to the

Argentine Sun, which appears over the top of the missive.

A stamp well known to most young collectors as being in many cases one of the first to find its way into their collections is the 5 c., lake, Argentine, 1888, lithographed by J. Kidd of Buenos Ayres; but this was not the first use of this design, it having originated with the American Bank Note Co. of New York for use in the 1867 issue of the same republic, and this design was commandeered by Messrs. Mège and Audriot of Monte Video to do service for the 10 c. lithographed



of the 1883 issue of Uruguay, the head of Rivadavia giving way to that of General Artigas.

In 1876 the Uruguayan authorities instituted a competition for a new design for postage stamps, and an attempt was submitted by Mr. Welker, one of the best engravers in Monte Video, which was really a reproduction of the German Empire 1875 type with the Uruguayan Arms substituted for the German eagle in the centre. The design was, however, not accepted, although



essays may be met with in various colours on white or tinted paper. These are but a few of the better-known instances of these similarities, and no doubt readers who may be interested in these comparisons will be able to find out for themselves many other cases of a like nature.

Are Bargains Possible in 1908 ?

By W. WARD

MR. PHILLIPS invites accounts and instances of bargains one has had, but prefaces his remarks with a collector's view that they cannot now be found. Personally I quite agree with Mr. Phillips, and am quite confident that there will always be bargains—at least for those who are "alive." Perhaps a few of mine may be of interest—to all except Mr. Phillips! A friend of mine some two years ago sent to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., for their St. Helena book, or at least one of them. He had his pick, and then asked me whether I would care to look through it. I did care, and asked him in return if I could select one or two. My friend seemed rather surprised, but allowed me. I forthwith picked a very fine copy of what afterwards turned out to be No. 17, perf. 12½, short bar, though I didn't know at the time, but any sort of St. Helena marked at 2d. is cheap! Then I asked my friend whether I could have another pick! He said it was his turn. He got a 6d., milky blue, at 3d.!

I fear I could give one or two more instances at the expense of the publishers of *G.S.W.*, but I have every desire to keep on friendly terms with 391 Strand. At any rate, none of these have been minor varieties as Mr. Phillips instances, which anybody could quite easily pass over, but were regular orthodox specimens. I rather suspect Mr.

Phillips of some ulterior motive in asking for examples of bargains—perhaps he is finding out that 391 is a recognized happy hunting-ground.

Still, as regards bargains, he is a very sleepy collector or dealer that cannot get, at the lowest, one a week. Certainly not all will pay the rent, but still there are those that will permit the usual 2½ per cent commission for cash!

I do not wish any one to envy me, nor yet do I wish to make everybody's mouth water at some of the El Dorados I have known, but perhaps my earliest bargains will be of interest. Of course, I was going to school at the time, and I think I was only just able to count my years in two figures. Any rate, I found a warehouse, that if I went on a Monday afternoon and gave a couple of coppers to a man there, he would give me whatever stamps they had had in. It was a West African house, and in those days the mails used to come in over the week-end, ready for Monday morning's business. The chief trade of this certain firm was with Gambia, and for weeks on running I have had handfuls of the embossed stamps, of anything from half a dozen to a couple of score. It grieves me to think of my ignorance then. Fancy, embossed Gambias for 2d. a handful!

The Philatelic Congress of Saragossa

Translated from the "Madrid Filatélico" by ERNEST PHILLIPS

The Preliminary Meeting before the Opening of the First Spanish Philatelic Congress, held in Saragossa on September 24, 1908.

THE first meeting of the Congress was held in one of the large rooms of the Franco-Spanish Exhibition, in commemoration of the glorious siege of Saragossa. This room was very kindly lent by the Executive Committee. In the absence of Don Juan Diag de Brito, who had been delayed on the way, the chair was occupied by Don Vicente Pallardó, assisted by Señor Don Manuel Adlert and Don Carlos Llorca, the latter acting as Secretary.

Señor Pallardó explained that he was obliged by circumstances to preside at the first meeting of Spanish philatelists, and he felt proud to occupy such an honoured post, which he did not think he merited, as it might be filled so much better by many of the really eminent philatelists whom he was then addressing. He went on to speak of the object of this meeting, and declared that the Secretary of the Committee would speak later on the results of the Congress. He himself declined to accept the honour of the achievement, which rightly belonged to Don Carlos Llorca. Finally, he said that if the Congress were not successful, it would not be for lack of good wishes, but rather for lack of sufficient funds.

The Secretary then proceeded to read the minutes, in which he told of the work, begun by himself in the *Eco Postal*, a paper under his direction; this work was seconded by his professional colleagues and by many enthusiastic experts, who were greatly assisted by philatelists from all parts of Spain. This fact was demonstrated by the presence in that room of so many intelligent and distinguished philatelists. He went on to say that, not having quite finished making up the accounts, it was not yet possible for him to submit them to the Congress. However, the members could examine the accounts so far as they had been made, the papers relating to which he had brought with him. He finished by thanking all those who had helped to facilitate his efforts, especially the worthy President of the Executive Committee of the Exhibition, Don Basilio Paraíso, who, with great disinterestedness and enthusiasm, had furnished him with all the facilities necessary for the realization of this memorable Congress.

A letter was read from the Post Office Director accepting with pleasure the offer of Honorary Presidentship, promising his as-

sistance, if his multitudinous occupations allowed him to do so, and unreservedly congratulating the organization of the Committee.

The President stated that, on his own initiative, Señores Aleña and Llorca were trying to obtain the concession of a special obliterating stamp for the use of the Congress in their correspondence during the 25th, 26th, and 27th, on which days the sessions would take place. The result of this attempt would not be known until the following morning.

It was arranged to discuss at the inaugural session the two themes "Technical and General Ideas of Philately" and the "Review of the New Spanish Postal Series."

Inaugural Session of the First Spanish Philatelic Congress, held in Saragossa on September 25, 1908.

The session was held in the same room as the preliminary session, at five o'clock, under the presidentship of Señor Carreras Candi. Señor Llorca read the account of the previous session, which was approved.

The President then read his article on the first subject under consideration, which treated of "The Scientific Importance of Philately." This was attentively listened to, and evoked much applause.

The President stated that the postal authorities had agreed to allow the Congress the use of a pillar-box and a special obliterating stamp for the stamps used in correspondence. [This was referred to and the postmark illustrated in last week's Foreign Notes.—ED. G.S.W.]

Don Miguel Aleña, director of the *Madrid Filatélico*, read a well-written article on "The Technical and General Ideas of Philately." This was very well received, and it was apparent he had devoted much study to his subject.

"The Review of the New Spanish Postal Series" was the subject chosen by Señor Carreras Candi. Before entering on the discussion of his theme, Señor Candi asked the members to freely expound their ideas, as the subject was an important one and deserved serious attention.

Señor Candi made an interesting speech on this subject, and proposed to perforate the $\frac{1}{4}$ c. stamp, issue stamps of 1 c., 35 c., and 65 c., have one uniform series for all the colonies, issue stamps for Andorra, and surcharge the complete series of Spain for Morocco.

Don José Monge said that he had listened to Señor Carreras Candi with pleasure, and agreed in the main with all his proposals. He thought Señor Candi may have omitted to mention in the new stamps he proposed issuing the 45 c., for the double inland registration. Also, he thought that the 2 c. and 1 p. values were quite unnecessary. He proposed to issue simply the following values: 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 25 c., 50 c., 1 p., 2 p., and 5 p. stamps. Señor Monge insisted on the issue of the 45 c. value, as, besides serving for the double inland registration, it was necessary for ordinary use in Portugal, Gibraltar, and Morocco.

Señor Arias Carvajal asked that the 2 c. value should not be suppressed as being unnecessary. He was seconded by Señor Llorca, who proved that the stamp in question was necessary for franking the newspapers sent to Portugal.

Señor Pallardó, seconded by Señor Carvajal, proposed to issue a registered letter stamp, the same as other countries now had in use.

Señor Lasa was opposed to this, as Spain belonged to the Universal Postal Union, and, as the 25 c. was issued in the regulation colour, it was unnecessary to issue another value. Señor Diag de Brito concurred with this view.

These various questions were put to the vote; the results were as follows:—

Change the design of the $\frac{1}{2}$ c., making it of the same type as the rest of the series.

Make new stamps of the 1 c., 35 c., 2 p., and 5 p. values.

Suppress the 4 p. and 10 p. stamps.

Suppress the 20 c. stamp. Señores Farré and Llorca were opposed to this.

Make new stamps of the 45 c. and 65 c.

The result of all these changes was that the current issue of stamps should be composed of the following values:—

$\frac{1}{2}$ c., 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., 25 c., 30 c., 35 c., 40 c., 50 c., and the 1 p., 2 p., and 5 pesetas.

The Congress now entered upon the discussion of the issues for the colonies.

Before the debate started, Señor Aleña announced that very shortly there would be new issues for the colonies: one series for Rio de Oro, and another for the rest of the Spanish possessions. Both issues would be composed of stamps of the same values as were now current in Spain.

Señor Arias Carvajal said that there ought to be *one* uniform series for the whole of the colonies, without giving the preference to Rio de Oro, which happened to be precisely the least important of the possessions.

Señor Don José Monge asked that these series should all be made in sufficient quantity to avoid the frequent surcharges, on account of certain values being exhausted.

At the same time, he requested that the colonies be prohibited from using surcharges, and that the issue should contain only the following values: 1 c., 5 c., 10 c., 25 c., 50 c., 75 c., 1 p., 2 p., 5 p. He made these suggestions as he believed that one of the objects of the Congress was to consider collectors, and that this object would be achieved in carrying out these proposals.

Two of these proposals were put to the vote; and it was unanimously agreed that there should be *one* uniform series for the whole of the colonies, consisting of the values now current in Spain.

The Congress now turned to Señor Carreras' proposal—to surcharge the current issue of Spain for use in Morocco. Señor Aleña suggested surcharging all the values up to the 4 p. stamp.

Don José Monge objected that all these values were not necessary, and proposed adding to those now in use the 50c. and 1 p. values. He believed that there should not be too many of these stamps, as the series would be ridiculed by collectors.

The matter was now put to the vote; it was found that all the members, with the exception of Señores José Monge and Arias Carvajal, were in favour of surcharging *all* the values.

The Congress then entered on the debate of the final proposal, made by Señor Carreras—the issue of stamps for use in Andorra. Señor Carvajal was opposed to this, declaring that the issue of these stamps might possibly cause friction with France.

Señor Carreras, in answer to Señor Carvajal, observed that, having assisted at the last Congress of the Universal Postal Union, as representative of the Dominican Republic, he could assure the members of this Congress that there need be no fear of causing friction with France, or with any other country, seeing that France desired to place Andorra on the list of foreign mails. As both France and Spain bordered on Andorra, both of these countries would see to the despatch of mails on their respective frontiers.

Put to the vote, this proposal was rejected by a great majority.

(To be continued.)

NEW CHEAP MOUNTS

At the request of many clients we have prepared a New Cheap Mount, made from a thicker paper; a gum is employed that permits the Mount to be removed from a book or sheet without damage to the paper, or tearing the Mount, which can thus be used several times over, such Mounts being particularly serviceable for exchange clubs, or for use in dealers' stock books, etc. These Mounts are put up in neat glazed card boxes, 1000 of a size in a box, and are sold in sets of three sizes, viz. three boxes and 3000 Mounts for 25. 6d.; 9000, price 6s. 6d.; or separately, *any size*, at 1s. per 1000, post-free.

Condition

By CHARLES H. GREENWOOD

THE subject of condition in stamps has become of vital importance of late, and will no doubt become of even greater importance in years to come.

We all know that amongst the early "stampists" condition was practically a negligible factor. As long as a stamp was represented in a collection it did not matter, their motto being, of course, "Half a stamp is better than no stamp." The early collectors had, however, some regard for the appearance of their stamps; this is shown by their habit of trimming perforations from the edges of the stamps, evidently to give the stamp a neater appearance. But times have changed, and we have a different standard nowadays. Our standard of condition seems to depend, in a large measure, on how far from the mint state a stamp is. After all, the mint unused copy can nearly always be relied upon to fetch more than the same stamp in used condition, though why this should be so leaves good ground for argument.

There is, however, a great deal of difference in the standards of condition adopted by different collectors. This often makes matters very inconvenient when exchanges are going on between collectors; it also makes "buying without seeing" very much in the nature of "pig-in-the-poke" transactions.

One thing certain nowadays, at any rate, is that a badly torn copy should *never* be included in *any* stamp collection; for even if the stamp be rare and valuable, it is certain to offend us so much by its bad condition that it will spoil the whole page. Far better should a collection be without a particular stamp than have it represented by a "vulgar fraction," as we may term a torn copy.

Having got rid of this "undesirable," we may proceed to classify the various states of condition.

Unused.—On unused stamps there is not much to say. These stamps from the point of condition can always be classed in their two states of "Mint Unused," or, to use the perhaps more familiar term, "Original Gum," and the poorer relation "No Gum." The stamp that has been used in the post, but not postmarked, gives us food for debate indeed. Whatever the merits and demerits of such a stamp may be, we venture to say that in nine cases out of ten the stamp comes to be recognized as "Unused—no Gum."

Used.—Used stamps open up a wide field in the subject of condition. It is in these stamps that so many errors of description

occur. There is no doubt, though, that the ideal used copy is the clean, lightly post-marked specimen that we never find, for instance, on British stamps (high values).

Next in order come the clean average "good copies," a class of stamps much more common than the first-mentioned. These, in most collections, of course form the vast majority, and for ordinary purposes may be considered quite satisfactory for any collection.

Then we get, of course, the real "mailed-fist" postmark—the style found on stamps used on parcels in Great Britain. This method of cancellation has often been condemned by philatelists. But why? When the authorities lightly postmark stamps they are accused of using the collector as a means of revenue. And surely it is the duty of the officials to see the stamps are sufficiently inked to prevent any risk of cleaning. This system of heavy postmarks has the effect of making high-value British stamps rather scarce with genuine light postal cancellations. Telegraphic cancellations are rather more common, but nowadays all stamps on telegraph forms are practically blacked out at headquarters after being sent from branch and provincial post offices.

High-value registered packages are the happy hunting-ground of the seeker after fine British stamps.

Now we come to a very important class of used specimens, i.e. the postage stamp fiscally used. There can surely be no objection to including these stamps in a collection. They are, whether penmarked or bankmarked (with rubber stamp), nearly always superior to the average postmarked specimen in appearance. That they have been used as receipts should certainly be no detriment to their inclusion in a collection. The postally-used stamp has, of course, simply been used as a Government receipt, i.e. the receipt of the amount of the postage. It is not my purpose to suggest that these stamps are preferable to finely postmarked copies; but where these stamps are much cheaper than the rare post-marked copy, there are surely good grounds for collecting them.

Nowadays huge numbers of Colonial stamps are found perforated with firms' initials—these are generally common stamps—so the "imperforated" ones are more desirable in a collection, though beginners' collections generally contain a fair proportion of stamps so perforated.

Whether we be "Great Mogul," "Medium Collector," or "Beginner," we can hardly be

too fastidious about the condition of our treasures, and when we consider the state of most beginners' collections, we cannot emphasize the fact too much.

Nowadays fine copies of earlier issues are so scarce that there will be hardly enough to

go round in a few years, simply because of the carelessness of the early collector with regard to condition. Do not let us be guilty of the same error with the now comparatively common and more recently issued stamps.

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

A Little-known Island

I SUPPOSE that Clipperton Island is one of the least-known islets of the Pacific Ocean. It is situate on the mail route between Panama and Honolulu, about 1900 miles from the former. The nearest point to it on the mainland is Acapulco, in Mexico, 580 miles distant. The possession of the island is a matter of dispute between France and Mexico, but it is occupied by Mexicans, and, strange to state, is provided with a stamp of American origin.

The stamp is, of course, for internal use only, but may occasionally be seen on envelopes, accompanied by stamps of a Postal Union country. I cannot find out what country's stamps are used, but I imagine that they would be those provided by the Panama-Honolulu mail steamer; perhaps some reader can give me information on this point.

The design of the stamp is quite original, the central feature being a picture of the island, over which an albatross hovers; in the lower left-hand corner a lobster may be distinguished, and on the right the figure of value; the date of issue, 1895, is also included in the design. The inscription reads "Clipperton Island" at the top, and "Postage" below.

I am rather surprised that I cannot find an illustration of this stamp in back files of the many journals, as it appears to have been in issue for thirteen years.—*Le Timbre-Poste*.

[The bogus nature of these so-called stamps was exposed in the *Monthly Journal*, Vol. VI, p. 25.—Ed. G.S.W.]

Austrian Jubilee Issue to be Permanent

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Berliner Briefmarken-Zeitung* has informed our contem-



porary that it was the intention of the Austrian Postal Administration to demonetize the "heller" values of the last issue, as

soon as all post offices could be provided with a sufficient supply of the new pictorial stamps, generally referred to as the "Jubilee Issue."

I believe that the generally accepted idea with regard to this issue was that it was only commemorative, and was to be issued for a short time only to celebrate the sixtieth year of the reign of the Emperor Franz Josef. It would appear that that idea was groundless, and that the issue is intended to be permanent.

Our contemporary's correspondent goes so far as to say that the demonetization of the old heller values of the designs illustrated above actually dates from 1 November last, but I should like confirmation of that statement before accepting it as a fact.

The number of French Colonial Post Offices

AN interesting table showing the number of post offices existing of each of the French Colonies is taken from the *Annuaire officiel des Postes et Télégraphes* (1908), by *Le Journal des Philatélistes*.

AFRICAN COLONIES.

Ivory Coast	41
Dahomey	25
French Guinea	31
Upper Senegal and Niger } W. Africa	42
Mauritania	16
Senegal	42
French Somali Coast	1
Mayotte, etc.	5
Gaboon	20
Tschad	2
Middle Congo } Congo	17
Ubanghi-Chari }	4
Madagascar, etc.	177*
Réunion	30

ASIATIC COLONIES.

Indian Settlements	5
Cochin China	76
Tonkin and Upper Laos	101
Lower Laos	13
Annam	40
Cambodia	25

AUSTRALIAN COLONIES.

New Caledonia, etc.	39
Oceania	7

* Possibly a misprint for 17.

AMERICAN COLONIES.

St. Pierre and Miquelon	4
Martinique	29
Guadeloupe, etc.	37
French Guiana	18

If all these offices are added together they number 678, and the name of every office is given in the official publication mentioned above. Nearly 700 offices is not a bad total for French Colonies, considering that so many of the latter are not yet in enjoyment of the full benefits of civilization.

An Interesting Advertisement!

It is so rarely that an advertisement in a stamp paper is well set out in flowing periods, with faultless expression, that I feel bound to reproduce one I discovered in a Swiss advertising journal.

Mixed packets of
Colombian postages, stamps

Over 25 Kinds containing in the lot since 1890 1902 issue per 1000 M. 15.—-5000 M. 60.—. On ordering 50% must be accompanied or to good references

Also exchange of well mixed lots of stamps against good lots of fancy unused postal cards per 100—1000 at once. All fine glossies bromiress both black and coloured. Not ordinaires nos singles cards wanted. Every thing Registered posted and reply by return. Good references presented. Address

X—X—,
HONDA, Repub of Colombia, S. A.
English, french and spanish correspondence.

I think that the lucidity of the above will appeal to all my readers!

An Esperanto Stamp Paper

A SHORT time ago a new philatelic journal, emanating from France, came into being, its peculiarity being that part of the matter is in Esperanto and part in French; even the advertisements appear in both languages, it we agree to call that unphilological jumble Esperanto a language. The title of the paper is *Tra la Filatelio*, and it appears once a month.

The parties responsible for the above publication have also issued post cards and a stamp with inscriptions in Esperanto. Of course the stamp has no franking power whatever, and is only placed on letters as a kind of advertising label: in England it would not be admissible, in view of regulations issued a month or two back by the Postmaster-General. The design of the stamp is distinctly original: on a yellow-brown ground there appears a sphere in red and deep green, representing the earth; above this the inscription "De D^o L. Zamenhof, Esperanto" (Dr. Zamenhof is the "inventor" of Esperanto); below the sphere, in two semicircles, we read, or attempt to read, "Lingvo internacia la dua por ĉiuj.—Vivu! Kresku! Floru!" It is said that Esperanto is an easy language to pronounce; but who, who could say "ĉiuj" with any success before breakfast? At first sight, the last three words carried me back to my school days, when Cæsar taunted me with his gigantic conceit "Veni, vidi, vici," but, on mature reflection, I have formed the opinion that the hidden meaning is "Live, grow, and flourish." If I had a sixpenny postal order, I would send that solution up to the editor of . . . *Pearson's Opinion*, and then undoubtedly I should receive a prize that would make me rich beyond the dreams of avarice. Then I should be able to collect "Post Office" Mauritius in mint blocks of four. [Oh! — — — stop it! — E.D. G.S.H.]

Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal.

New Issues and Discoveries

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.

Abyssinia.—Messrs. H. Griebert and Co. have shown us the complete set of postage stamps overprinted with corresponding values in Turkish currency, i.e. in piastres.



1/4

piastre

16

1908. Types 1 (1 to 2 guerche) and 2 overprinted as Type 16, in black. Perf. 14x13½.

118	1 pi. on 1 g., green.
119	1 pi. on 1 g., red.
120	1 pi. on 1 g., blue.
121	2 pi. on 2 g., brown.
122	4 pi. on 4 g., claret.
123	8 pi. on 8 g., lilac.
124	16 pi. on 16 g., black.

Bermuda.—The *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* (19.11.08) states that a correspondent has seen the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. printed all in green.



13

1908. Type 13. *Change of colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown CA. Perf. 14.*
41 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., green, O.

China.—In chronicling the new 2 c. in our last week's issue, we are afraid that we made a blunder in illustrating and describing Type 30, instead of Type 29.

The correct description should be as follows:—



29

1908. Type 29. *Colour changed. No wmk. Perf. 14 to 16.*
151 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., deep green.

Crete.—In addition to the set of postage stamps overprinted EAAAΣ chronicled last week, we have received a set of Postage Due stamps similarly overprinted.



51

EAAAΣ

34

POSTAGE DUE STAMPS. 1908. Type 51 overprinted with Type 34, in black.

- 212 1 l., red.
- 213 5 l. "
- 214 10 l. "
- 215 20 l. "
- 216 40 l. "
- 217 50 l. "
- 218 1 dr. on 1 dr., red (No. 209).
- 219 2 dr., red.

Holland.—We find that we were correct in surmising in our issue of 28 November that



52

Erwen's Weekly Stamp News (14.11.08) was wrong in listing the new 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. as Variety III. It is Variety I, i.e. "34 loops, 'T' of BETALEN over centre of loop; top branch of 'E' of TE shorter than lower branch."

POSTAGE DUE. 1 OCTOBER, 1908. Type 52. *Variety I only. Perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.*

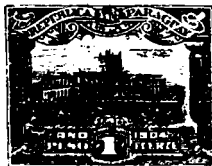
355 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., ultramarine and black.

Paraguay.—Mr. Alfredo Clebsch has sent us a new provisional, made by overprinting the 1 peso (in two shades) of the "Lopez Palace" Official stamp. The overprint is in four lines, the date "1908," being in red, and the wording and bar in black. The overprint reads: "Habilitado—1908—UN CENTAVO—".

The word "Habilitado" and the bar are printed in one operation, being always 14 mm. apart. This same overprint was used on the 1 p., black and orange, chronicled in our issue of 12 September, 1908.

"1908" and UN CENTAVO are naturally printed separately, as the date is in red, and the words in black.

These stamps are surcharged in sheets of twenty-five, and No. 19 on the sheet shows an error in the setting, the surcharge reading UN CETTAVO.



40

Habilitado

42a

1908

UN CENTAVO

45

46

1908. Type 40, with OFFICIAL added under figure of value, overprinted "Habilitado—1908—UN CENTAVO—" in four lines, thus: with Type 42a in black, Type 45 in red, and surcharged as Type 46 in black.

- 1 c. on 1 p., black and carmine.
- 1 c. on 1 p. " lake.

Variety. *Surcharge (Type 46) reading UN CETTAVO.*

- 1 c. on 1 p., black and carmine.
- 1 c. on 1 p. " lake.

Siam.—We have received the third provisional, a 9 atts on the 10 atts of 1900. We will illustrate the surcharge, Type 56, next week.



47

1908. Type 47 surcharged as Type 56, in black.
164 9 atts on 10 a., ultramarine.

Victoria.—In addition to the third shade of the 3d. stamp, chronicled in our issue of 22 August, 1908, we have had a fourth shade, i.e. light yellow, shown to us by Mr. Orr-Ewing.



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1908. Type 67. *Wmk. Crown and A*, Type 77.
(a) *Perf. 12½ or 12 x 12½.*
295c[3d., light yellow.

Correction.—We made a rather peculiar mistake in the chronicle of the new 2½d. in our issue of 28 November. Mr. R. W. Gosse has pointed out that we illustrated a South Australia



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stamp of practically similar design to that of the correct illustration, which we now give.

Correspondence

Beyrout Postmark

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

SIR,—In reading the article in the *Stamp Weekly* on "British Stamps Used Abroad," I noticed that the authors state that the Beyrout cancellation of 1884, a style which was seldom used in Great Britain, was never used abroad, except at this office. If *abroad* also includes the colonies, I can correct the statement, as I have a copy of the Cape of Good Hope 6d., 1884-90, with a similar cancellation. A portion only of the obliterating stamp is visible, and shows ERLY—88, presumably Kimberly.

I should like to know if this cancellation is still in use in Great Britain. It has certainly been used recently, as I have a copy of 6d., Great Britain, 1902-4, similarly cancelled.

In the issue of the *Weekly* for 15 February of the present year, Mr. W. Ward, in the course of his interesting article on Newfoundland, mentions that Gibbons' Nos. 17 and 17a of this colony are placed by most foreign catalogues as Nos. 2 and 3. This is most undoubtedly incorrect, as I have a copy of No. 17 showing a portion of the "mill" watermark.

Yours truly,

GEO. SOWMAN.

20 November, 1908.

Great Britain

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—I am obliged by Mr. Ewen's courteous letter in your 14 November issue, in which he points out that in 1864 the authorities decided the corner letters of the 1862 issue were too small, and as regards the 1s., Plate 3 (marked Plate 2), I would point out that this plate was in existence from 16.6.62 till 11.4.66,

whereas Plate 4, Emblems, the first of the large-letter issue, was not put to press until 8.12.64, so that Plate 3 must have been kept unused for nearly four years. Failing a better reason, doubtless Mr. Ewen is correct as to its being "kept in reserve."

I hope other collectors will find some point of interest to write upon. The Earl of Crawford's letter in the same issue shows how much some of us still have to learn, and also how beneficial knowledge is when given by those who have it, and how much pleasure may be derived by fellow collectors from the clearing up of uncertain but interesting points. I hope in another article to go further into the matter.

Yours faithfully,

PLAIN ANCHOR.

20 November, 1908.

Cayman Islands

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

SIR,—In W. Ward's interesting article "Philatelic Peculiarities" (14.11.08), attention is drawn to the fact that when Cayman Islands "Queen's Head stamps first came out, packets of them, unused, were mailed from Georgetown with a 3d. Jamaica to defray postage and registration," etc. As these stamps first appeared in 1900, and Cayman Islands was not admitted into the Universal Postal Union until 1901, Jamaican stamps had to be used, as this group was under the postal administration of Jamaica. For the first few months these "Queen's Heads" were only available for postal purposes between Grand Cayman, Little Cayman, and Cayman Brac, and were, for the time being, local stamps.

T. S. FRASER.

LEEDS, 14 November, 1908.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 25
Whole No. 207

19 DECEMBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

Countries of the World

By W. PERCY BARNSDALL

Greece—continued

ON 1 April, 1886, three stamps of the entirely new values of 25 l. (blue), 50 l. (green), and 1 dr. (grey) in a new design made their appearance. These stamps still showed the head of "Hermes," but in a smaller size. They were of Belgian origin, being designed by M. H. Hendrickx and engraved by M. A. Doms, the gentlemen who were responsible in a like capacity for the current Belgian issues. Early in the following year the remaining values were issued, viz. 1 l., 2 l., 5 l., 10 l., 20 l., and 40 l. It will be noticed that the earlier denominations of 30, 60, and 80 l. were omitted. The stamps were of uniform design, except that the numerals of value in the 1 dr. are on a lined ground, instead of a white ground as shown in the illustration below. The first supplies were printed in Belgium at the Government Printing Works, Malines, and the plates were then sent to Athens. In 1889 the Belgian supplies commenced to run out and the stock was gradually replaced by stamps of Athens manufacture. The 1 l. was the first to appear, in March, 1889, followed in May by the 20 l. and 25 l., in June by the 10 l., in August by the 5 l., whilst the 2 l. and 40 l. were not issued till 1891. The stock of the higher values lasted longer, so that the 1 dr. was not issued till 18 February, 1895, whilst no Athens printing of the 50 l. is known at all.

There is no difficulty in separating the two sets, the Athens one being easily distinguished by the inferior manner in which the work was done and from the poor and varying colours which were employed. The paper of the Belgian printings is more highly surfaced than that of the Athens, which is very rough. The latter was watermarked in the sheet with Greek words signifying "Paper of the Public Service," and occasionally portions of the letters appear on the stamps. The Belgian stamps scarcely vary in tint, but the shades of the Athens, with the exception of the 40 l. and 1 dr., vary considerably, the catalogue listing four

or five of each value. There are no expensive stamps in either series, so that representative sets can easily be obtained which will show marked shades and the difference in printing at one and the same time.



1886-1895. Imperf.

Belgian print.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 l., pale brown	0 1	0 2
2 l., ochre	0 9	1 0
5 l., green	1 0	0 2
10 l., dull orange	2 0	0 2
20 l., carmine	4 0	0 6
25 l., dull blue	2 6	0 2
40 l., purple	7 6	5 0
50 l., bronze-green	2 0	0 2
1 dr., grey	3 0	0 3

Athens print.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 l., black-brown	0 3	0 2
2 l., fawn	0 4	1 0
5 l., emerald	0 6	0 2
10 l., orange	0 6	0 2
20 l., pink	0 6	0 1
25 l., pale blue	2 0	0 2
40 l., purple	8 0	8 0
1 dr., grey	5 0	0 3

On 13 Jan., 1893, the 25 l. and 40 l. appeared in altered colours, depreciation in the currency calling for a higher denomination to defray foreign postage; thus the old and new values for the single foreign letter rate had their colours transposed.

13 Jan., 1893. Same type. Athens print.

Colours changed.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
25 l., purple	0 9	0 2
40 l., blue	1 0	0 3

Greece, so noticeably behind in postal matters, did not bother itself about perforating its stamps till shortly after the issue of the small "Hermes" type. According to an article by Dr. Socolis, reviewed in *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* (Jan. 1893):—

It was then that the Government Mint—the department in Greece which supervises postal matters—resolved upon the introduction of perforation. Accordingly a large perforating machine was ordered, and this arrived about the beginning of 1888. . . . Unfortunately the size of the perforation squares was not adapted to the size of the stamps, which latter were too large, and in consequence of this defect the holes of the perforation were struck into the figure of the stamp, approaching the centre of the stamp with every specimen towards the right side of the sheet. The stamps of the last perpendicular row are therefore nearly divided by the perforation. In consequence of this the perforating process was abandoned after a very short time, but not before some of the stamps of each value had been operated upon. . . . Some values of the older print were also experimented upon. . . . Until 1890 no more perforations were executed. Then another attempt was made. The authorities procured a hand machine from Leipzig and mounted this in the Post Office at Athens, and all sorts of values and issues were pretty creditably operated upon.

The first machine, which was subsequently altered, gauged $13\frac{1}{2}$ and the hand machine $11\frac{1}{2}$, and for years stamps of $11\frac{1}{2}$ were quite scarce; but with the appearance of the provisionals in 1900 large quantities of perforated stamps were "put on the market." At that time "the Greek Post Office would perforate sheets sent in by private individuals"; thus it comes about that these stamps are now comparatively common.

The Catalogue lists some of the first type pin-perforated or rouletted, unofficially, and also perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$. The former can unhesitatingly be neglected by the general collector. As regards the latter it must be a matter of personal taste, but there is an element of doubt about the official nature of such stamps, and as they were only perforated years after their first issue *imperf.* and after an entirely new issue had made its appearance, no great detriment will be incurred by their omission. In the following lists the prices of the $11\frac{1}{2}$ gauge are given, and as these are cheaper and the stamps themselves have a better appearance than those perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$, doubtless most collectors would take them this way.

1889-91. Same type. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ or $13\frac{1}{2}$.

Belgian print.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 l., pale brown	2 0	3 0
2 l., ochre	6 0	—
5 l., green	10 0	10 0
10 l., dull orange	12 0	12 0
20 l., carmine	20 0	20 0
25 l., dull blue	25 0	20 0
40 l., purple	16 0	12 6
50 l., bronze-green	1 3	0 4
1 dr., grey	5 0	0 3

Athens print.

1 l., olive-brown	0 2	0 1
2 l., fawn	0 4	0 4
5 l., yellow-green	0 4	0 1
10 l., ochre-yellow	1 0	0 1
20 l., pink	1 0	0 1
25 l., bright blue	3 6	1 0
25 l., dull purple	1 0	0 1
40 l., purple	7 6	7 6
40 l., blue	1 0	0 6
1 dr., grey	4 0	0 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

Amateur and Dealer

LAST week I said a few words under the heading "Amateur and Professional," arising out of an editorial of Mr. Crofton's in the *Philatelic Journal of India*.

This week I wish to deal with the latter portion of Mr. Crofton's remarks, in the course of which he makes a by no means thinly veiled attack upon some of the leading members of the R.P.S.L.

Mr. Crofton, in the course of his remarks, divides dealers into about five classes:—

- 1st. The dealer with a shop front and a bold advertiser.
- 2nd. The dealer with no shop and a small advertiser.

3rd. The man who professes not to be a dealer, but who makes a good income from stamps.

4th. The man who is constantly making new collections in order to sell them at a profit.

5th. Private dealers who are of no use to anybody, including speculators in new issues, etc. etc.

Mr. Crofton claims that his Class 3 is well represented in the Royal Philatelic Society. With this I quite disagree. I have the pleasure and honour of knowing nearly all the leading collectors in the R.P.S. personally, and among them I number some of my best friends, and I am in a position to

assure Mr. Crofton that there is hardly a collector in the Society who makes a good income from stamps.

There have been, and I trust there always will be, collectors in the Society of great philatelic ability, and whose desires often outrun their income. There are many men who take up a country or a group of countries, and in a few years they have exhausted all there is to learn about the stamps of their group; are these gentlemen to be termed "dealers" if they decide to sell such collections and turn their energies to pastures new?

Such arguments and many others used by Mr. Crofton in this article appear to me to be futile in the extreme.

Mr. Crofton further states:—

"When a dealer employs a man, that man is an employé of the trade . . . and in our opinion any one who is paid for his writing by a stamp firm is undoubtedly a professional . . . we look upon any attempt to put them on a higher plane than ordinary dealing as supremely ridiculous."

Now, I think that Mr. Crofton goes too far here, and that not only are his remarks in bad taste, but they are also unsound.

First of all, what is a "dealer"?

Chambers's Dictionary says: "One who deals—a trader."

And to "deal" is to "transact business." Now, the R.P.S. says in effect: "Our Society must consist of amateurs."

Then in its well-considered regulations it goes on to say that it does not bar any one from being a member who acts as compiler, author, or editor of any publication, as long as they are not *dealers* in stamps.

According to Mr. Crofton, the R.P.S. must bar such men as Mr. Bacon, who has written several handbooks, Major Evans and Mr. Castle, who edit magazines, simply because these gentlemen, whose time is valuable, accept remuneration for work of this nature.

If one carried out Mr. Crofton's Utopian ideas the Society would probably lose nine-tenths of its members, and these the very men who have helped the Society to attain its present position.

Surely Mr. Crofton cannot argue that the mere fact of writing handbooks or editing papers is "dealing" or transacting business in stamps; and yet that is what he seems to suggest.

1909 Catalogue

THE new Catalogues for 1909 are in preparation, and Volume II (Foreign Countries) will be issued first. It is hoped that this part will be ready by 1 January next, and *prepaid* orders can now be booked, and the Catalogues will be sent out in the order they are booked. Prices will be the same as last year: Part I (Great Britain and Colonies),

ready in February next, price 2s. 9d. post free; Part II (Foreign Countries), ready about 14 January, price 2s. 10d. post free.

In Part II there will be about 36 extra pages and a number of alterations in prices, as well as many improvements that will, I trust, render the Catalogue of still greater use to collectors than it has been in the past.

The First Spanish Philatelic Congress

I DO not think that much attention has been given to this congress in the British philatelic journals, and I therefore publish copious extracts from a translation from *El Madrid Filatélico* of the proceedings, which may be of some little interest at the present time owing to the forthcoming congress in Manchester.

Notice to Collectors of Everything except Stamps

AMONGST the many thousands of my readers there must be many who are interested in other objects in addition to stamps, and I therefore propose from time to time to give the actual prices realized at auction in London for various items of interest.

Violins

ON 25 November last, Messrs. Glendining and Co., Limited (7 Argyll Street, Oxford Circus, London, W.), sold a collection of violins, etc., the following being the chief prices realized:—

	£	s.	d.
An Italian violin, by D'Espine	12	10	0
A violin, by Fendt of Paris	6	0	0
A fine old Italian violin	8	0	0
A fine old violin, labelled Bergonzi	5	0	0
An Italian violin, by Gaetanus Gagliano, powerful tone	11	10	0
A fine violin, by J. B. Vuillaume, 1874	24	0	0
A fine violoncello, by Barak Norman, 1725, with bow, in case, and pedigree	13	10	0
An excellent old violin, labelled Nicolas Amatus, with Tubb's bow, in case	11	10	0
A fine old violin, by Joseph (Filius Andrea) Guarnerius, with guarantee of Mr. Bruckner	95	0	0
A fine Italian violin, by A. D'Espine, in perfect condition, in case, with receipt for £80	40	0	0
An English violoncello, by Paul Voigt, Manchester	4	17	6
An old Italian violin, labelled Carlo Bergonzi, with bow, in case	8	15	0
An Italian viola, with bow, in case	5	0	0
A fine old Italian violin	15	0	0

Auction Prices

SO far as the season has gone, prices seem to be an improvement upon last year's, and Messrs. Glendining and Co. realized the following at the sale on 17 and 18 November, at their galleries, 7 Argyll Street, Regent Street, London, W.

Messrs. Glendining's success is no doubt due to two facts:—

First. They print their catalogues five to six weeks before each sale, and send a large number to the best buyers in Europe and America, and frequently have hundreds of bids on their books before the sale commences. In addition there are many commissions sent to the various agents in London.

Second. They send a large number of lots of each sale to selected buyers in the country, who are thus enabled to send much better bids than if they had to depend on descriptions.

The following were some of the better prices realized:—

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, I.R. Official, Queen, 5s., used	3	17	6
Great Britain, I.R. Official, Queen, 10s., used	5	0	0
Great Britain, Admiralty, 2½d., Type 2, mint	3	5	0
Levant, 1906, 1d. on 2d., used	5	0	0
Sicily, 1859, ½ g. (2), 1 g. (2), 2 g. (3), 5 g. (5), 10 g. (2), 20 g. (4), and 50 g. (1), all mint	7	5	0
Sicily, 1859, ½ g. (2), 1 g. (1), 5 g. (4), 20 g. (2), all unused, and 1 g. (4), 2 g. (3), and 5 and 10 g., used	4	18	0
Sicily, 1859, ½ g., 1 g. (4), 2 g. (3), 5 g. (4), 10 g. (3), and 20 g. (2), used	5	0	0
Sicily, 1859, 5 g., brick-red, mint horizontal pair, rare piece	4	0	0
Sicily, 1859, 50 g., brown-lake, retouched plate, fine unused copy	3	12	0
Pahang, 1890, 8 c., orange, mint	3	0	0
Perak, 1883, 1 c. on 2 c., rose, mint	8	0	0
Sungei Ujong, 1878, 2 c., brown, unused	11	0	0
Sungei Ujong, 1878, 8 c., orange	4	0	0
British South Africa, 1d. on 3d., mint	3	0	0
Cape, 1s., pale green, pair	5	15	0
Lagos, 1884, 10s., lilac-brown, mint	11	0	0
Lagos, 1904, 10s., single CA, mint	5	0	0
Natal, 1859, no wmk., perf. 14, 1d., red, mint block of twenty-five	5	15	0
Trinidad, 1860, no wmk., clean-cut perfs., 4d., brown-lilac, strip of six, mint	6	15	0
Trinidad, 1860, no wmk., clean-cut perfs., 6d., deep yellow-green, block of six, mint	7	17	6
Trinidad, 1860, no wmk., clean-cut perfs., 6d., pale yellow-green, block of six, mint	9	5	0

Collections Wanted

DURING this present year we have purchased many more collections than in any previous year since we have been in business. We have not kept a record, but it has been no uncommon thing to buy ten to twenty collections in a week, and we find such a demand that we are prepared to purchase double the number.

There is no limit of price; we will buy a collection for £1 or one for £10,000, or more—IF the price is right.

In sending a collection for sale, it is in all cases necessary for the owner to fix the lowest price at which he can sell, and, naturally, the lower the price the more chance there is that business can be effected.

The Postage Stamps of Belgium

THESE stamps have always been rather popular in this country, and I cannot call to mind any really first-class article upon them in any magazine printed in English. The handbook issued by J. B. Moens is, of course, a masterpiece, but no doubt there are many of my readers who do not possess this work or who cannot read French.

I am therefore pleased to announce that I have arranged for a very important and exhaustive article, which will be written in French by Monsieur Ch. de Bont, Secretary of the Philatelic Club of Brussels, and which will be translated by Mr. Frank Phillips, and commence in the first number of our new volume.

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

India.

TWO fine books have just been rearranged. Owing to the largely increased demand for Indian stamps (caused, no doubt, by the issue of the fine handbook of the Philatelic Society of India), I found that our stock was selling out very quickly, but I have been able to make some good purchases of parcels of the older stamps, and the result is that these new books contain a really fine lot of stamps.

The 1854-55 issues are unusually fine, both in used and unused, and include a number of blocks, portions of sheets showing the inscriptions, etc. etc. The 4 annas are a nice lot and include a number of pairs, among them being four pairs with wavy blue line between the stamps and four pairs of the second setting with the stamps 6½ mm. apart.

There are also a number of the different *retouches* discovered by Mr. Hausburg on the ½ and 1 anna stamps, and explained fully in the handbook.

The later issues are very complete in all shades and varieties.

Colombia.

TWO extremely fine books have just been rearranged. These include the old collection which I described recently, and the result is a finer lot of these interesting stamps than we have had in our possession for many years past.

The Stamps of Samoa—*continued*

By D. C. G.

ON 26 January, 1894, the permanent 5d. stamp was issued, printed in *red*, and of a rather pleasing design, the main feature of which was a large white cross. This stamp was at first perforated $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$, but in 1895 appeared perforated 11; it is much commoner with the latter than with the former perforation.

On 28 January, 1895, the 2d. stamp made its appearance with the overprint "Surcharged 1½d." This stamp also exists with both the above-mentioned perforations. The surcharge was at first printed in *pale blue*, but later on in *bright ultramarine*. According to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue the stamps with the surcharge in the latter colour are reprints. This, however, can scarcely be correct, as used copies of the stamp with the overprint in the *ultramarine* shade are known. There are two shades of this stamp, *yellow* and *orange*, and the line dividing the "1" and "2" of "½" varies considerably in the angle at which it slopes. The stamp is known with double surcharge.

The 2d. stamp was also issued on the same day, surcharged "R 3d." in two lines, for use on registered letters. This also exists in both the *yellow* and the *orange* shade, and with the two perforations $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ and 11. It may be found with double surcharge—an uncatalogued variety—with both perforations. It is stated in one or two catalogues that this stamp (perforated 11), surcharged in *green*, is a reprint. This, however, is not so. On being asked as to the status of the stamp with the *green* surcharge, the postmaster replied that no reprints of the later stamps had been made, and that "the 3d. stamp, surcharged in *green*, on 2d., *yellow*, was printed on 7 February, 1900." The post office was closed on 28 February of that year, on Samoa being divided between Germany and the United States.

There was, therefore, an interval of three weeks during which the stamp with the *green* surcharge was current. To clinch the matter envelopes have been seen franked with the stamp with *green* surcharge, and posted during this period. The stamp is fairly easily obtainable unused, thanks to the aspersions cast upon its character; but used copies are exceedingly scarce, which is only natural, considering that it was in use for so short a period.

In the year 1898 or 1899 the 2½d. stamps—the value most in demand—ran short, and, pending the arrival of a fresh supply, provisionals were created. These were as

follows: With "Surcharged 2½d." in two lines, in *black*, on the shilling stamp (both *rose* and *carmine* shades); in *red*, on the shilling stamp (*rose* shade only); in *red*, on the 1d., *green*; and in *black*, on the 2s. 6d., *mauve*. The most important varieties are the 2½d. on 1d. with inverted surcharge, and the 2½d., in *black*, on the shilling stamp with double surcharge—a variety not catalogued by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons. A minor variety which occurs several times on the sheet of all these surcharged stamps is one which has a tall, square stop instead of the ordinary small stop after the "d" of "2½d." The overprint was probably struck on three stamps at a time side by side. This would account for the three minor varieties differing in the angle at which the diagonal line of the fraction is set. Unused, these stamps with the normal surcharge are quite common, but they are rather scarce in the used condition.

In 1899 the ½d. and 1d. stamps of the palm tree type appeared printed in *green* and *red-brown* respectively, instead of in *brown-violet* and *green*. These two stamps also are much scarcer used than unused.

In the same year the whole of the then current set of stamps was overprinted PROVISIONAL GOVT. in sans-serif type, in two lines, the overprint being in *red* on the ½d., 2d., 4d., and 2s. 6d., and in *blue* on the remaining values. These stamps are quite common unused, as considerable remainders have come on the market, but are comparatively scarce in used condition. The *raison d'être* of this issue has never been satisfactorily explained, and it is probable that the object of the issue was to raise money from philatelists rather than to serve any real postal purpose.

As mentioned before, in the early months of 1900 Samoa was partitioned between Germany and the United States, when the existing postal service was suppressed, and stamps issued under the respective authorities of the two countries became current.

In the islands given over to the control of the United States ordinary unsurcharged American stamps were issued and are still in use. These stamps, of course, can only be recognized by the postmark. The ordinary type of obliteration employed is a duplex postmark consisting of a large circle having, e.g., PAGO PAGO (the chief port of Tutuila) at the top of the circle and SAMOA at the bottom, with the date, e.g. JUL 25 1906 5 PM, in four lines in the centre, and an oval made up of seven short parallel lines, with a thick curved line at the top and bottom of the oval.

The German Government, however, issued a special set of stamps for use in the portion of Samoa ceded to Germany. This series consisted of the current German stamps of the 1889 issue surcharged "Samoa" diagonally, reading upwards, of the values of 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, and 50 pfennig.

The 3 pfennig is found in two shades, *brown* and *yellow-brown*, the 5 pfennig in *green* and *dark green*, and the 20 pfennig in *ultramarine* and *dark blue*. In each case the last-mentioned shade is about twice as scarce as the first. Some extreme specialists divide these stamps into two sets, with brownish and with white gum, and also distinguish between a thick and a thin lettered surcharge—such difference being caused only by the amount of ink used in printing. The stamps of this set are considerably scarcer used than unused. In neither condition do they seem to be plentiful and it is not unlikely that they will considerably appreciate in value in the near future.

Later in 1900 the permanent set of the ordinary German Colonial type with a ship in full steam made its appearance. This set

contains the usual values, namely 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, and 80 pfennig, and 1, 2, 3, and 5 mark stamps. These stamps also are scarcest in the used condition.

The cancellation mark used by the German post office in Samoa consists of two concentric circles, intersected across the middle by two parallel lines a short distance apart from one another. In the top label thus formed is the town name, e.g. APIA, in the bottom label (SAMOA) with a star before and after it, while the date is inserted in figures across the centre.

Specialists should note that unsurcharged German stamps may be found duly used in Samoa, since the German consulate at Apia for some years conducted a post of its own. Such stamps, of course, can only be distinguished by the postmarks, of which one or two types exist, and are of a similar character to our own British stamps used abroad.

NOTE.—The writer wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness to Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., of Ipswich, for information on several points connected with Samoan stamps.

A Christmas Deal

By W. WARD

I FELT contented with myself, and incidentally, the world at large. Maybe it was that feeling of "Goodwill towards men" that seems to quite grip one at this great season of the year. I was sitting in front of my office fire with no other company than that of a cigar. It was near nine o'clock, and my clerk had gone home. It had been about the heaviest Christmas Eve I could remember. Curiously, this year most of my customers, the regular ones, had not gone away for the holidays, declaring that they could not afford to do so. Nevertheless, they had "afforded" to make complete wrecks of some of my best and most specialized stock books. No wonder I felt at peace with my fellow-creatures.

Though my clients were not spending the last week of the year away from their daily surroundings, I had arranged to go down into the Midlands to stay with an old friend. Because of this, I had now stayed after closing hours to balance my books, since I should be away all the following week, otherwise I should have followed my clerk, who, perhaps now, would be arranging the festivities and garlandage of his suburban home. My books closed, I was enjoying a well-earned smoke and retrospective thoughts as to the day's happenings. There was my United States stock book that I fondly anticipated sending across the "pond" to an American customer. It

would be of little use to send now, for had not S. picked it to pieces?

My carefully arranged book of Niger Coast—one that not another dealer in town could touch—broken, broken by J. and M. My mint Jamaica "Pineapples" ruined completely by the "doctor," who had also spoiled the symmetry of my Orange Free States and River Colony. My lovely—What's that? Some one has come in the outer office. Some "chum" come to look me up, I guess.

"Come in!"

Hardly had I commanded when into my inner office stepped a tall man in a great-coat with fur cuffs and collar. On his head was one of the largest and most peculiarly shaped "Trilby" hats I had ever seen. Though he must have pulled fifteen stone, besides being over six feet in height, his headgear was large enough for a giant three times as big.

I intended to at once ask him to sit down, but he forestalled my hospitality.

"Of course, you know that this is somewhat after our office hours? Still, what may be my pleasure of doing for you this evening, sir?" I asked my late visitor.

"As you are a stamp dealer, I presume you purchase stamps?" he answered in a quiet voice, and with as little concern as if we had been in the midst of a colloquy.

"Certainly," I said. "Though against my

rules to transact any casual business after hours, I am perfectly willing to inspect what you have for disposal."

Unbuttoning his enormous coat, he proceeded to withdraw a dark red wallet from an inner pocket. "Whilst travelling recently in Holland I picked up half a sheet of the 1872 issue of the two-and-a-half gulden."

Thus speaking, he handed me a pane of fifty or so of these stamps. I was feeling about on my desk for my eyeglasses, which I generally take off when smoking. Somehow or other I had mislaid them, so holding the sheet so that the light reflected on the stamps, I intended to just give a casual glance to ascertain their condition. No sooner did I see them properly than I noticed that the *King's head was inverted on every stamp!*

"They're in rather nice condition, are they not?" remarked the stranger.

"Er—yes—er—very," I replied, with great difficulty, for the sight had completely staggered me. I had never even known, let alone seen, this error before.

"Are they worth half a sovereign apiece to you?"

Worth half a sovereign! Worth ten shillings! Were they worth a hundred times ten shillings? Yes, and more. But perhaps this man did not know of their value; perhaps he even did not know of the fact that the heads were inverted! Still, he seems to have an idea that they are good stamps, and besides, he mentioned the date of their issue. I must tread carefully, I thought. Perhaps it would be better to test his knowledge, so reaching down my "green" Gibbons, I turned to the Netherlands. "See," I said, "they're not catalogued very much more than the price you ask."

He looked at where my finger was pointing, turned over the next page, and back again.

"Well, how much will you give me? Are they worth eight shillings each to you?"

Eight shillings! Why, the fool was coming down, instead of going up on account of their rarity. I was just going to say I would give that figure when the thought came to me, Perhaps if I give him what he asks, he may think there's something about them, and give them a careful looking over. It was very evident he had not studied them very much.

"I'll give you seven shillings each."

"Split the difference and they are yours," he answered.

Nervously drawing out my cheque-book, for my good fortune had quite excited me, I made to draw the amount, when he stopped me.

"If it is all the same to you, I would prefer gold."

"Well, if I can manage it," I replied.

I could just do it from my pocket, though I had to make up with a couple of "fivers," having only some nine pounds in coin. Luckily, as it turned out, my assistant had been unable, during the pressure of business in the early noon, to go to the bank, so I had sufficient, besides several good cheques of my customers to meet almost any opportunity that might present itself. Just as I was counting over the coins I heard my outer office door click and what sounded like a book fall. I started up, but my visitor immediately apologized for not shutting the door after him, so I did not go to see what had occasioned the slight noise.

Checking over the amount, my "Triebied" visitor thanked me, wished the season's greetings, and assured me that I need not trouble to see him to the outer door. Fearing that I might have given way to too many profuse thanks, etc., I allowed him to depart unattended.

As soon as I heard the door bang to, and the footsteps descend the stairs, gradually growing fainter until they were lost to my ears altogether, I sat still. But the next minute I caught hold of the sheet of stamps. I must have been born under a lucky star. Never had I had such a bargain—such a scoop. And they had cost practically nothing. What would my trade contemporaries L. and N. say? Then I fell to wondering what, and how much, should I charge for them. Perhaps it would be better to break up the sheet and sell in ones and twos, and not let any one know how many there were. Surely if I were careful I could easily net £100 each—nay, I might get £200 apiece if I took my time over their selling. I could let my agent in Amsterdam have one—yes, only one—to show round and get the Dutch collectors to become more than anxious to procure it. Whilst thus gloating over the great and glorious possibilities of the future, I stretched to take a box of matches off the mantelpiece, when my hand touched my eyeglasses. Putting them on, I caught up the pane of stamps from the desk to give them a very careful overhauling as to their mintness, when, good Lord! my hands trembled, and I dropped them. They were forgeries. All my hopes and future gone! Picking them up from the floor, I fretfully scanned them. They were evidently printed in fours from a quadruple zincotype facsimile of the two gulden fifty cents. Hardly knowing why I did, I opened the door that led into my outer office or shop. The sight that met my eyes was like an imprisoned man being punished for some offence during his confinement. The counter, the shelves, the cash-register—all were cleared, all gone! Now I knew the reason of the outside door

clicking and the dropping of that book. The man in the Trilby had had a confederate, or confederates, and he had kept my attention while they ransacked the outer office.

Here was I, in the midst of joy one moment, the next, with all my hopes and pleasure dashed aside.

Why had I been so conservative? Why had I not bought that safe when the agent tried to persuade me only last week? Oh, why did I not at least keep my stock books inside my private office instead of in the shop? True, I had a paltry few hundreds at the bank, but what was that without my stock? My stock that had taken twenty years and more to gather in the perfection I had it. Sinking into my chair I closed my eyes, thinking to ease my mind at least a little. Hardly had I shut my eyes when I received a hearty smack on my back.

"Now, old sleepy! Good job I was passing, or you might have slept to-morrow in."

The speaker was none other than my great friend Jack Layburg.

"Jack, old chap, I've had a great loss. I've been duped—mug'd—over some bally 'fakes,' while— But come and look here!" I said, catching hold of his arm and drawing him to the door. Look at my—"

The sight that met my eyes caused me to stop. Everything was in place; nothing had been touched! Rushing back, I looked over my desk for the half-sheet of inverted head two-and-half gulden 1875 Holland. There were none to be seen. I counted my money. It was in full—I had spent none.

So after all it was only a dream, though it took me some minutes to realize that I had dreamt of a bargain and lost it. I told my chum, and of course he roared. Still I had learnt something. First, not to trust to my eyes, and secondly, to keep my stock in safes.

A Novel Competition

IN G.S.W. for 19 September last we announced a competition with all entries to be sent in by 1 December. This has proved a great success, and we have had a very large number of forms

to go over. We are now able to announce the awards.

The following is the list of stamps sent in by the "Office Boy," and under each one we place his idea of what the stamps represent:—



A Pleesman



Buffer Bill



Unkel Remus



Queer Hardie



C. J. Fillups



Sir Wilyum Harkort



Supragret Butee Show



Supragret Butee Show



Supragret Butee Show



Supragrets after the Erf.



Watin for a Tram in a Fog



Supragret Droppin on Man



Our Lady of the Snows



Puckin chikkens in a hot kitchen



Venus helpin the Cook



E. Pie or Nix. the Eryl Burd



The Mishin Link



Cotter Bowling. Temp. 120°



Mokes at Margit



Hakkensmit Restlin



Mr. Monki Bran, won't wash cloze



Sampil of Lundin Water



Wot Vasko sore goin' home after a nite of it



L.C.C. Stemsbote



My Old Pal Jumbo Wot O, the Zoo

Naturally most of the entries come from subscribers in Great Britain, but there are also some from Switzerland, India, New South Wales, Orange River Colony, Canada, Cape Colony, Bermuda, Jamaica, etc.

The winners are as follows:—

1st Prize. Sets of Stamps value £3.

MR. E. W. HERBERT,
35 Wembdon Road,
Bridgwater,
Somerset.

2nd Prize. Packets of Stamps value £2.

MRS. E. M. KINGSLEY,
Maycroft,
Meopham, Kent.

3rd Prize. Publications value £1.

(NOTE.—Two of the competitors were so close that we could not distinguish between them, and award this prize to each of the following):—

MR. S. E. SCHUTZ,
Broadmoor,
Crowthorne,
Berks.

MR. J. WELDERBURN WILSON,
39 Ullet Road,
Sefton Park,
Liverpool.

* * *

THE following competitors stand next in order of merit:—

Rev. J. F. Jennett; Miss M. Milne; Mr. F. R. Jennett; Mr. A. J. Hammond.

* * *

IN making the awards we note that No. 1 has been given correctly by every competitor.

Nos. 10, 12, 15, 16, 18, 20, and 23 have been given correctly by quite half of the competitors, and the ones that have been found most to differ from the idea of the "Office Boy" have been Nos. 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 22.

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.

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.

*

Some Popular Stamps

By "SEMICOLON"

THE phenomenal demand for the recent Canadian Tercentenary issue has shown that, in spite of the denunciations of the Philatelic Press, the day of the commemorative stamp is not yet over. In view of this fact, it is interesting to inquire why it is that some stamps are so much more popular than others, and on consideration it is evident that many causes must conduce to this popularity.

The first requisite for a popular stamp is that the design must be of general interest. The most popular designs with English collectors are perhaps the portraits of members of



the Royal Family other than Queen Victoria and King Edward. These last are excepted, as they are so often portrayed on stamps; but until the appearance of the above-mentioned Canadian stamps the portraits of the



Prince and Princess of Wales were only to be found on stamps of the current Newfoundland series, and even now the only portrait of Prince Edward is on the ½ c. of the same series. The latter has been, since its issue in 1897, the most popular portrait stamp, and bids fair to continue so for many years to come, no stamp in a collection evoking more admiration from lady friends



than this portrait of the "baby Prince." Perhaps a more up-to-date one of the Prince

in the uniform of a cadet would be still more popular.

It is also necessary for the success of a stamp that the printing be well executed, the colouring tasteful, and the design not too



elaborate. Most countries are now careful not to offend in the matter of printing, though the Christchurch Exhibition stamps of New Zealand are an exception. As to colouring, a set of stamps in single colours is more effective than a gaudy bicoloured series such as that of French Congo for 1900. When the design for a stamp contains much small detail it often shows to better advantage printed in black with a coloured frame, and many very popular stamps are printed in this way, notably the pictorial issues of the Congo State. The stamps of Portuguese



Nyassa for 1901, however, reverse this arrangement, the frame being in black, while the design, consisting of a giraffe for the low values and a group of camels for the high values, is printed in such colours as green, blue, or mauve! In spite of the incongruity of blue giraffes and mauve camels, these stamps are very popular, but they would undoubtedly look more artistic if printed on the "central-design-in-black" principle. A colour scheme which collectors could well dispense with is that of the current ½ c. of the Republic of Panama, which is printed in carmine, blue, green, and orange. Over-



elaborateness of design is indulged in by artists who try to reduce into the small space at their disposal a view which could only be properly displayed on a large canvas, and which, when shown on a stamp, can hardly be seen without the aid of a powerful magnifying-glass. A very popular stamp, in the production of which good printing and sober colouring are associated with a simple design, is the 1d., red, of Jamaica, bearing a view of the Llandoverly Falls.



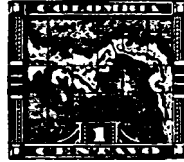
As a general rule, a stamp in any way peculiar will be popular with general collectors. Such stamps as the Cape triangulars and the small $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps of Victoria are popular, not because of any special beauty of design, but because of the peculiarity of their shape. Nearly all the commemorative stamps now produced are large, and in most cases oblong in shape; and as such issues are primarily made to sell to collectors, this shape may be taken as an index of what is most popular with them. The recently issued stamps of Ecuador go a step further than



those of other countries, for, in addition to the usual oblong pictorials, there are several perforated triangular stamps, which will certainly sell in large quantities.

It will be found on examination that any popular stamp which is not particularly distinguished by beauty of colouring or engraving is sought after because the design it bears is not often seen on stamps. Map stamps are very popular for this reason, as

very few countries have yet issued them; indeed, it is surprising that such designs are not more general, when we consider the



great demand for such stamps as the Canada "Map of the World" and the map stamps of Panama and the Dominican Republic. Stamps bearing zoological subjects, though more often met with, are in great request, probably because of the fascination which the animals themselves have for the average mortal. Here, again, those countries which desire to turn an honest penny have still a large field for enterprise; a few more snakes and fish might be added to our "Philatelic



Zoo" in spite of the invectives of New Issue chroniclers, and our collections would be still more attractive.

The greatest requisite of all for the popularity of a stamp is that it must be cheap. This is so obvious that little need be said on the subject. It is not within the province of this article to go into the question as to why Australians are so popular, or why the stamps of other countries are more popular at one time than at another, our business being chiefly with the popularity of stamps with the general collector who wishes to make his collection attractive to non-collectors. It will, however, be seen from the foregoing paragraphs that cheapness is not the only essential for a popular stamp.

If those gentlemen who, on the arrival of each pictorial new issue, make scathing remarks about "pictorial rubbish," would only realize that the pictorial stamp has come to stay, and that it is a good thing for our hobby that it is so, they could devote their valuable time to stopping the flow of new colours and surcharge varieties from those philatelic volcanoes, Paraguay and Nicaragua, and would earn the everlasting gratitude of philatelists. Let them realize that there are some folks who cannot collect Sydney Views and "Post Office" Mauritius, and also that, leaving out the pecuniary side of the question, there are some who do not

even wish to. These latter wish all new issues to be artistic and interesting (as regards the design), but do not want them to appear too frequently. Much may be done to obtain the issue of artistic stamps by

editors of philatelic journals, and when they take up the work collectors may begin to look forward to the time when the majority of stamps in their collections will be works of art, and not the minority as at present.

The Philatelic Congress of Saragossa

Translated from the "Madrid Filatélico" by ERNEST PHILLIPS

Second Session of the Congress.

THE session opened at half-past three, under the presidency of Don Francisco Carreras Candi.

Señor Pallardó read an article on "A Philatelic Dictionary." No discussion resulted, as all the members agreed with the reader's remarks.

Señor Diaz de Brito then read a paper on "The advantages resulting from the formation of a Spanish Philatelic Society."

The President invited the members to discuss the matter, and to freely give their views on this subject.

Señor Vidal spoke in favour of the formation of this Society, and said that the idea was quite feasible; he proposed that the Directing Councils should consult with their respective members, as was done in the case of the formation of the Philatelic Society of Catalonia.

Señor Laso said that he understood Señor Brito referred to the formation of a new independent Society; he argued that the present Congress ought to discuss the matter.

Señor Carreras explained that Señor Brito was speaking of a federation of the different Societies.

Señor Carvajal, speaking against the proposal, said that the Societies ought to remain independent of each other.

Having sufficiently discussed the subject, it was found to be approved of by the majority of the members.

Señor Adler opened the subject, "That either the $\frac{1}{2}$ c. stamp, or the four united quarters, should be used for printed matter."

This matter was unanimously agreed to by all present.

Señor Tarré then raised the question "Whether stamps should be demonetized."

Señor Vidal spoke against demonetization, saying that there should not be too many issues of stamps of a country, for fear of forgeries.

Señor Carvajal spoke in favour of demonetization.

Señor Monge remarked that he could not agree to the demonetizing of stamps.

The matter was eventually settled in favour of demonetization.

Señor Monge (José) then treated of "The

advantage of fixing a limit to the issues of stamps in Spain." He observed that, since the year 1857, there had been fresh issues of stamps every two or three years; and since 1879 there had been three issues, which had served for ten or eleven years. He proposed to ask the Government to issue a fresh series every four years.

Señor Paraíso, in view of these various assertions, declared himself in favour of a new issue in the interests of the Government.

The proposal was therefore unanimously carried, with the amendment of Señor Monge.

Señor Llorca read a paper entitled "The philatelic value of facsimile stamps." He explained what was meant by this term, and proposed that, in view of the harm which they might cause to Philately, no value at all should be attached to facsimiles, which he ranked with forgeries. He also proposed that they should be stamped with the word "Facsimile" on the face of the stamp; in certain cases, when the design of the stamp might be spoilt, the word could be stamped on the back.

Señor Monge said that, as it was a question of the demonetization of stamps, he did not think the Government could punish the manufacturers, so long as they stamped the stamps with the word "Facsimile."

Señor Laso objected that the word ought, in all cases, to be printed on the face of the stamp, in order to protect collectors against mistakes, as otherwise they might place the stamps in their albums, without noticing the printed word on the back.

Señor Brito seconded this suggestion; he related a case, which occurred in Valencia, in which Switzerland made a diplomatic reclamation in reference to a forgery.

Señores Llorca, Pallardó, Monge, and Laso discussed the best way of interesting the Government in the matter.

Señor Aleña made the following suggestions:—

1st. That philatelists ought to denounce every stamp which was not in every way genuine.

2nd. As a journalist, and as a director of a philatelic paper, he requests his colleagues to read thoroughly the foreign papers, so as to avoid the cataloguing of any facsimiles.

3rd. That they should ask the Government to prosecute the forgers of stamps, demonetized or not, as they did great harm to Spanish collectors and to those in other countries.

Consequent on this discussion, Señor Llorca proposed to modify his suggestion thus: "That no value at all should be attached to facsimiles, and that the Constituent Powers should be asked to forbid their fabrication and circulation."

This modification was approved of by all.

Third Session of the Congress.

The session opened at ten o'clock under the Presidency of Señor Carreras Candi.

Señor Laso opened the subject, "War Tax stamps and fiscal stamps which ought to be catalogued." He said he was in favour of simplifying the issues of stamps; all postage stamps should be collected, including War stamps which had been authorized for postal use. There were many of these stamps which had been used illegally, and he suggested that these should only figure in collections as curiosities. With regard to fiscals, he did not think they ought to be collected; and he thought it senseless to propose selling them at the same prices as the unused.

Señor Monge, referring to Señor Laso's declaration that War Tax stamps had been used as postage stamps, said he supposed that gentleman was referring to the 5 c. value.

The President confirmed this supposition, and was also of opinion that only War Tax stamps which had been used for postage purposes should be collected. Fiscals ought not to be accepted, even if catalogued.

Señor Adlert objected to this, saying that these stamps ought to be catalogued and collected, so that an idea of their real value could be obtained.

Señor Aleña observed that his opinion was that all stamps postally used should be catalogued; in the case of fiscals, the 5 c. was the only one which had been postally used, and therefore should be catalogued. Concerning War stamps, various values had passed through the Post Office. In certain villages, where the stock of postage stamps had been exhausted, the circulation of fiscals had been authorized, and these stamps should certainly figure in catalogues and collections.

Señor Pallardó said that all stamps should figure in catalogues if they had been officially authorized by the Government. War stamps which had been used on ordinary war correspondence should also be catalogued.

The matter was then put to the vote.

First, that all War Tax stamps which were now no longer available for postal use should be catalogued and collected.

This was passed unanimously.

Secondly, that fiscal stamps, postally used, should not be collected.

This was also passed, Señores Carreras and Aleña dissenting.

Señor Bourmán opened the subject, "Whether unused stamps, which had been prepared but never put into circulation, ought to be catalogued or not."

Señor Monge said that barred stamps should be catalogued, but remainders should be omitted.

Señor Aleña thought that every stamp issued by royal decree should be catalogued, even if they had not been circulated, as he looked upon them as Officials.

Señor Tarré asked how collectors could obtain possession of the stamps which the Government kept as remainders.

Señor Laso stated that he was in favour of excluding from the catalogue those stamps prepared by the Government which had not been put into circulation. He said that these stamps were kept from the public, and should therefore be ignored by collectors.

The subject was put to the vote, and it was agreed not to catalogue these stamps, Señores Aleña and Vidal dissenting.

It was unanimously agreed to hold a Philatelic Exhibition at Valencia in May of the following year.

The President suggested that, as the next assembly of the Universal Postal Union would be held in Madrid, the second Philatelic Congress should be held in the same town and on the same date. This motion was unanimously passed.

They then proceeded to name a "Permanent Executive Council" of Spanish Philately, composed of seven members. These gentlemen should discuss all matters relating to Philately, would undertake the organization of the two meetings just discussed, and would be allowed to give the necessary orders for the distribution and facilitation of the labour thereby entailed. Señor Llorca submitted a list of the gentlemen who should form this Council. His list was unanimously approved, and the names of the members elected were as follows:—

Don Manuel Cerecedas, Don Francisco Carreras Candi, Don Enrique Laso, Don Miguel Aleña, Don Vicente Pallardó, Don Manuel Adlert, Don Carlos Llorca.

It was also agreed that the three last-named gentlemen should form the Committee for next year's Exhibition. They would be permitted to name subordinates in Valencia if necessary, to see that all the necessary arrangements were made.

After the usual votes of thanks to all concerned, the Congress was declared to be at an end.

Notes on the Postage Stamps of China

By C. L. HARTE-LOVELACE

(1) *Varieties of the 1878 Type.*

THE stamps of this type may be divided into three distinct sets:—

- A. On thin, transparent paper, measuring in size $24\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
- B. On the same paper, but measuring $26\frac{1}{2} \times 29\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
- C. On thicker, more opaque paper, measuring $24\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$ mm., as in Set A.

Of these three sets the first is the commonest, the second the scarcest.

SET A.

This set was first issued in August, 1878.

The sheets were made up of five rows of five, with unusually large margins at the top and bottom, measuring about 40 mm., while the side margins were about 5 mm. Twenty-five different clichés were evidently used, for I know of at least three distinct settings, in all of which the same varieties appear, but in different positions on the sheet.

The stamps were perforated by a single-line cutter, one punch of which—near the end—was broken. The perforation gauges exactly $12\frac{1}{2}$ and is quite regular. Consequently the only varieties of perforation to be found are where one line has been missed, and the stamps are consequently imperforate between, either vertically or horizontally.



I



↑ II

There have always been rumours that this set was issued imperforate also, but the copies generally met with in this state are

on a paper more brownish and thicker than the usual, and are really the imprints on the envelopes in which the stamps were sent to the postmasters, put to show the contents.

Illustration I, however, shows a pair of the 3 candarins imperforate with traces of a third. The stamps are evidently from an imperforate sheet, being Nos. 15 and 20 on it; and they have the usual-sized margin of the sheet on the right. I have been told by a non-philatelist who lived in China that the sheets were issued both perforated and imperforate, but I can find no official mention of the fact.

I find Dr. Bishop, in *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* for 10 July, 1896, mentions the fact that he has seen the 3 candarins of 1878 imperforate.

The first shade of the 1 candarin was yellow-green. Then came green and deep green, of which the last is the rarest of the three. It must not be confounded with heavily inked impressions of the ordinary green, but is quite a distinct shade. The earliest dated postmark I have on the green shade is November, 1879.

My dated yellow-green copies are September and December, 1879.

Some of the stamps in the sheet show variations from the normal, not only by breaks in the frames, etc., but by the insertion of a dot which varies in position, is sometimes double, and does not appear in all the stamps, and by differences in the drawing of the frames.

I have noted twelve fixed varieties of the 1 candarin in my efforts to plate them, but up to the present have not been entirely successful in my endeavour owing to my lack of complete sheets.

The most noticeable variety is that illustrated in Fig. II, in which there is a break in the outer frame under the "C" of CANDARIN.

In the first setting this is a left-hand marginal stamp.

This variety exists in the yellow-green shade, and therefore occurred soon after, if not at the commencement of the issue in 1878.

Of the 3 candarins the principal shades are orange-red and Venetian red. Of course many intermediate shades may be found in this as in all values, but these are due to surplus or deficiency in the printing-ink.

The most noticeable variety in this value is in the twenty-first stamp of the sheet, in which there is a V-shaped mark in the left-

hand corner of the central design, where the dot referred to in Fig. II generally exists.



III



IV

Of the 5 candarins the shades are yellow-ochre and bistre, the latter being very scarce.

The most noticeable varieties are—

(1) No stop after CHINA in the fourteenth stamp of the sheet.

(2) The character in upper right-hand corner touches the lower frame in the eighth stamp of the sheet.

[The illustration shows variety (2). There should be a stop after CHINA, but it has failed to print.—ED. G.S.W.]

SET B.

This set was probably issued about June, 1882, for the fourteen dated copies I have are all between July, 1882, and May, 1883. It was certainly not issued first of all—before Set A—as I believe many people think from its scarcity, for I have dozens of copies of Set A dated from 1878 onwards.

Its scarcity is probably due to the fact that it was not long in use; about nine months, if we take Mr. Mencarini's date of issue of Set C, 3 March, 1883, as correct.

The stamps were issued in five rows of five, with narrow margins, about 2½ mm., at the top and bottom, and wider margins, about 18 mm., at the sides.

All the varieties mentioned in Set A may be found in this set, but differently placed in the sheet.



V



↑

For instance, the break under "C" in the 1 candarin now occurs in the eighth stamp of the sheet. [Illustration V is that of a pair.—ED. G.S.W.]

The paper is generally very thin, but I have three specimens of the 1 candarin on thicker paper, watermarked as in illustration.



VI

This is evidently part of LONDON, and is, of course, a paper-maker's watermark. It has never before been noticed, and it is peculiar that in none of the sheets I know of is there any watermark, not even in a sheet of the 1 candarin of this Set B. Whether the other values exist in this paper I do not know; out of thousands of these stamps I have examined, these three specimens of the 1 candarin, Set B, are the only ones I have seen showing any signs of watermark. Perhaps some of the readers of G.S.W. will look up their copies of the stamps and throw some light on the matter.

The shades in this set are not numerous: of the 1 candarin there are green and pale green; of the 3 candarins, salmon-red and dull red; and of the 5 candarins, yellow-ochre.

SET C.

This set was issued, according to Mr. Mencarini, on 3 March, 1883.

The clichés were set closer together than in Set B, and there were only five rows of four stamps. The margins of the sheets are 6 to 8 mm. all round.

In this setting five clichés of each value were omitted; among those omitted are the variety of the 1 candarin with the break under "C," but all the other varieties mentioned occur, though in different places on the sheet.



↑ VII

In place of this omitted variety I may mention one in which there are breaks in the frame under "A" and "N" of CANDARIN.

This variety occurs in Set A, but is not nearly so pronounced as in Set C.

It occurs in the sixth stamp of the sheet of Set B.

As I have mentioned, the clichés are rearranged; for instance, the third of the 1 candarin, Set B, is the fifth of Set C.

The twenty-first cliché of the 3 candarins in Set A, as illustrated in Fig. III, now takes the twentieth place in Set C; the eighth cliché of the 5 candarins in Set A, as illustrated in Fig. IV, is now in the fourth place in Set C.

The main distinguishing feature of Set C is in the paper. This is slightly thicker than any used before, and far more opaque. I have three mint specimens of the 1 candarin on toned paper in the green shade. The perforations of this set are generally rougher, though they gauge the same as before; the plates show signs of wear, especially those of the 3 candarins, of which value more were printed than of the 1 candarin and 5 candarins put together.

The printing is much better done than in Set A, and those well acquainted with these stamps can distinguish this thick-paper set from the thin-paper at a glance. The 1 candarin was printed in green and bright sage-green; the 5 candarins in chrome-yellow instead of yellow-ochre; the shades of the 3 candarins are very numerous, the most marked being vermilion, red, dull Venetian red, and orange-brown.

Whether there were more than the three settings as indicated by the three sets before described I do not know. I do not think the thick paper was used directly after Set B, in March, 1883, as put down by Mr.

Mencarini, but think this date, which is, I believe, official, indicates the new setting of twenty only. Probably there was a stock of the thin paper to be used up first.

My reasons are, firstly, the scarcity of the thick paper, whereas Mr. Mencarini makes the number issued about the same; secondly, I have a 5 candarins in the orange shade and thin paper, which ought to be No. 21 of Set A, but which has a margin showing it to be either one of the third setting as used for Set C, or one of a setting hitherto unknown. It is impossible for me to say which, because I do not know of any sheets of Set C, nor even blocks. I think the probabilities are in favour of its belonging to the setting of Set C. In case any one might like to know the relative scarcity of these sets, I subpend an approximate table based on the value of the 3 candarins used of Set A as unit, according to my experience of some thousands of these stamps.

		Set A	Set B	Set C
1 cand.	unused	3	5	4
	used	3	8	4
3 cands.	unused	3	30	4
	used	1	4	1½
5 cands.	unused	4	60	5
	used	3	8	4

Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

Abyssinia

THIS country, as I have previously stated, was admitted to the Postal Union on 1 November, 1908, but the new set of stamps to celebrate the occasion, and which will conform to Postal Union requirements, will certainly not be ready for issue before 1 January next.

A short time ago, probably some time in August or September, a stock of 200,000 of each of the values ¼ to 16 guerches (or piastres) of the current (old design) stamps was delivered in Adis Ababa, the capital of Abyssinia, as it was thought that that quantity would last till the new stamps could be put on sale.

According to the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung*, 100,000 stamps of each value were delivered to the Royal Treasury and 100,000 to the Post Office. Between 10 and 18 September the whole of stock held by the Treasury was overprinted with the corresponding values in *piastres* in each case; and these stamps were apparently sold concurrently with the uncharged stamps at the Post Office!

Truly an extraordinary state of affairs, savouring rather of Government speculation!

These surcharged stamps were described and illustrated in last week's *G.S.W.*, but there will certainly be a heavy crop of minor varieties, some of which will probably be of interest to the specialist, but hardly worth mentioning in the catalogues.

Stamps for Greenland

I LEARN from *Der Deutsche Philatelist* that stamps are said to be in use in this "land," or I suppose "territory" would be better. That journal states that Greenland is a



colony of Denmark, but I had always thought it to be merely a Danish sphere of influence.

The illustration shows the design of all three values, 1 öre, olive-green; 5 öre, brown; 10 öre, blue; and it will be seen from the wording of the illustration that the stamps purport to be Parcel Post stamps.

The correspondent of the above-mentioned journal writes as follows :—

The stamps are used as Parcel Post stamps in Greenland, our most northerly colony, and they are issued by the Danish Government. As they can only be purchased near the North Pole [*sic*], they are very rarely seen; we have our copies from a master mariner, who has just returned from Greenland.

As will be seen, the design of the stamps consists of a polar bear *rampant* in a shield, forming the arms of Greenland; the shield is surmounted by a royal crown, which leads one to believe the stamps *are* issued officially.

To my mind the great argument against their being PARCEL Post stamps, at any rate, is that there exist only *three* quite *low* values, whereas if they were intended to frank parcels, there would surely be some high values.

I have not mentioned these stamps in our New Issue pages, as I can get no official information as to their issue; it is even possible that they are merely rather ugly labels printed off by some enterprising speculator for the benefit (?) of collectors. I dare say we shall learn more about them soon.

Winter Sports for Postmen

It appears that the pleasures of alpine sport are no longer to be confined to the élite; French postmen are to be instructed in the art of skiing (pronounced "sheeing" by the way). It has just been decided by the Government to introduce this mode of locomotion in mountainous districts for the better conveyance and distribution of letters during the snowy season.

The first suggestion was due to the Touring Club of France, who offered to loan skis to the Government for trial in the Alps, Pyrenees, and Vosges. Last year they were found to save the employés a large amount of time in distributing letters, owing to the speed that can be attained on ground covered even with soft snow.

L'Annonce Timbrologique.

A well-paid Postman!

A POSTMAN belonging to the United States service is said by *Le Timbre-Poste* to enjoy an annual salary of £7000! His "round" is situate in the icy North-West, in the State of Alaska, and so perhaps it may not be a case of pure *enjoyment* after all.

I do not think that our rural postmen will cast envious eyes on their fellow officer, when they learn that the duty of this post-

man is to carry the mails twice a month for a distance of 425 miles, amidst snow and tempest, where the temperature stands many, many degrees below zero.

The journey takes six days, and is undertaken by a sledge and teams of dogs. The postman has to keep up a "stable" of over fifty dogs for this purpose, furnish them in the first instance, and provide himself with sledges, so the £7000 is not all profit!

Cretan stamps overprinted ΕΑΛΛΑΣ

I HEAR that the French are sighing heavily whenever they think of the stamps of Crete, which have lately been overprinted HELLAS; in fact, they have been heard to "Hélas." No! I am not guilty, as I have copied that horrible pun direct from Mr. Richard Borek's paper.

Our contemporary remarks that there is one point about this overprinting that we have reason to rejoice over: there is no doubt that the issue was not merely an official speculation, as the quantity of stamps overprinted was quite large. The only exception is the 10 lepta with head of Prince George, of which I hear that about nine-tenths were bought up privately by Post Office officials, as they know very well that there was no stock on that value *overprinted* to spoil their market later on! Of all other values there are plenty more to be overprinted later if required.

The numbers overprinted are given by our contemporary as follows :—

1 lepton	. . . . .	150,000
2 lepta	. . . . .	100,000
5 "	. . . . .	150,000
10 "	(Prince George)	30,000
10 "	(Hermes)	100,000
20 "	. . . . .	50,000
25 "	. . . . .	100,000
50 "	. . . . .	50,000
1 drachma	. . . . .	10,000
2 drachmæ	. . . . .	10,000
3 "	. . . . .	10,000
5 "	. . . . .	5000

A Hoard unearthed

ACCORDING to the *Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal*, a wonderful find took place in Hanover last August. A rumour has been going round that a number of boxes have been unearthed in the Hamburg post offices, which are said to contain a quantity of unused postage stamps, issued subsequent to 1859. A certain dealer residing in the town made inquiries at the head post office, but was told very mysteriously that it was an official secret, about which no information could be given.

I expect that the "find," presuming it exists, forms part of a reserve stock, which

used to be kept at the chief post office, and that it was lost sight of in 1866, that year of confusion and tumult throughout the whole of Germany.

The most interesting point about it is the great question whether many stamps of the 1859-61 and 1860 issues exist with the original rose or white gum in a good state of preservation. I wonder if the postal people will try to make a good thing out of the find; from what I know of the

thrifty German, I should think that they would.

An Award

IT may interest many readers to hear that La Société Lausannoise de Timbrologie has awarded Mr. C. J. Phillips a silver medal for his research work concerning the history of the stamps of the Fiji Islands, culminating in his book on that subject.

New Issues and Discoveries

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.

China.—The editor of the *Monthly Circular* (31.10.08) has seen a copy of a new 10 cent stamp in *sky-blue*.



29

1908. Type 29. Colour changed. No wmk. Perf. 14 to 16.
153|10 c., sky-blue.

Hungary.—According to *Le Bulletin Champion* (25.11.08), the 50 filler Postage Due stamp has been seen perforated 15.



31

1908. Type 31. Figures in centre in black. Wmk. Type 9. Perf. 15.
322|50 fi., green.

New Zealand.—*The Philatelic Advertiser* (25.11.08) lists the 2s. of the current set with mixed perforations of 11 and 14, the watermark, of course, being N Z and Star, close.



35

1902-7. Type 35. Wmk. N Z and Star, close, Type 41.
(d) Mixed perfs. 11 and 14.
302a|2s., blue-green.

NOTE.—Present No. 302a becomes 302b.

Papua.—We are afraid that the description of certain values of the new permanent set, as given in the Supplement to our Catalogue, is not wholly accurate. We first listed the 3d. on the authority of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (4.1.08), our contemporary stating that the centre design, in black, was line-engraved, while the frame, title, and value were lithographed. On examining the stamps carefully, we have come to the conclusion that all values are produced by lithography, so we would request our readers to delete the list given in the Supplement subsequent to No. 24a, and to substitute that given below.

Mr. W. H. Peckitt informs us that he has just received the 2d. and 1s. values of the permanent set in the perforations mentioned below.



5



6

1908. Types 5 (3d.) and 6. Lithographed. Wink Crown and A (Type 4 of Australian Commonwealth). Centres in black.

(a) Perf. 11.

25½d., yellow-green.

26½d., carmine.

28½d., ultramarine.

29½d., sepia.

30½d., myrtle-green.

31½s., orange.

(b) Perf. 12½.

35½d., violet.

36½d., ultramarine.

37½d., sepia.

38½d., myrtle-green.

Russia.—According to *The Philatelic Advertiser* (25.11.08), the 3 kop. of the current set has been seen with the background omitted. This will be 115a, and the 7 kop. listed in our issue of 24 October will be 115b instead of 115a.



7

Type 7. With thunderbolts. Vertically laid paper.

Perf. 14½.

Variety. Background omitted.

115a½ k., carmine.

Siam.—The illustration herewith represents the surcharge of the 9 atts on 10 a. stamp, described last week.



9 Atts

56

It will be noticed that it is exactly similar to the 2 atts surcharge, Type 55, except that the Siamese character of value, on the left, is altered.

United States.—We have received the new 2 cent stamp, the issue of which was presaged in "Foreign Notes" in our issue of 14 November. It is a fine stamp of great artistic merit, and fully comes up to our expectations.



113

NOVEMBER, 1908. Type 113. Perf. 12.

448½ c., carmine.

Correspondence

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—In "Topical Notes," page 291, 7 November, you give a few examples of bargains, and it seems to me they raise the question as to whether one is justified in taking advantage of obvious errors in pricing. I have obtained a number of opinions from friends, and with few exceptions they are of opinion that one should take the gifts the gods provide, and especially from the sheets of a dealer (poor dealer!). The said gods have not been particularly propitious in my case, for although I have come across a number of stamps priced anything under *three-pence*, whereas they should have been about 1s. or 1s. 6d., yet the best I ever got was from a sheet of Colonials containing a CC and CA priced 1d. and 5s. respectively, whereas they should have been the other way about.

There is also the other side of the question. Is a dealer justified in offering a small sum for a number of stamps containing a valuable specimen, the value of which is quite unknown to the seller? Personally I think he is entitled to his bargain, because his expert knowledge has only been gained by study and perhaps expense. Of course if the seller says, "I wish to dispose of these stamps: what are they worth?" it rather alters the case, and I do not believe any dealer of repute would purchase for a ridiculous sum.

From your remarks in the article referred to you appear to have taken your loss as a good sportsman takes a beating in any game, but I think that an article from your pen on the "Rights and Wrongs" of these questions would

be most interesting to *G.S.W.* readers, because I fancy there is a considerable difference of opinion existing.

Yours faithfully,

E. W. BARBER.

WEST BROMWICH, 21 November, 1908.

P.S.—It occurs to me that instead of a competition in *G.S.W.* you might offer to place on a few of your appro. sheets during a certain month a number of stamps "Priced in Error," without your staff knowing which they were, and then afterwards let us know through *G.S.W.* whether they were spotted. *There'd be a scramble* for sheets that month. My fee for this magnificent (?) suggestion is the choice of ten stamps in the Mauritius purchase mentioned on page 310, free of charge.

Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition and Philatelic Congress

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—It will probably interest many of your readers to know that the Earl of Derby, C.B., who, as Lord Stanley, was P.M.G. from 1903-5, has honoured the Committee of the Congress and Exhibitions by becoming a co-patron with the Earl of Crawford, K.T.

I might add that everything points to the Exhibition and Congress becoming a great success. The Hon. Committee include nearly 150 of the most prominent philatelists in the kingdom. The general press all over the kingdom has devoted considerable space in calling attention to the event, and amongst the philatelic societies

that have promised their support may be mentioned the Royal, Herts, Manchester, Hull, Liverpool, Bath, Oxford, Bradford, Leeds, Bristol, Huddersfield, Sheffield, etc.

Would you mind inviting philatelists who are desirous of receiving prospectus to kindly send name and address on a post card to the Hon. Exhibition Secretary, Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht, Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester? I might add that the subscription list has still

many blank lines upon it, and we shall be pleased to devote at least one line to each of your readers who may feel generously inclined. Mr. Albrecht is also Treasurer.

Thanking you for previous kindly notices,

Yours truly,

GEO. WHITE,

Hon. Sec. Publicity Committee.

EXHIBITION OFFICES, 9 ALBERT SQUARE,
MANCHESTER, 24 November, 1908.

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 second general meeting of the season 1908-9 was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, 17 November, 1908, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Franz Reichenheim (President), H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), M. P. Castle (Hon. Vice-President), W. G. Cool, T. H. Harvey, W. A. Boyes, R. Frentzel, A. H. L. Giles, W. T. Standen, J. E. Booth, J. A. Leon, D. H. Jackson, W. H. Eastwood, G. White, S. Chapman, W. Hogg, J. E. Lincoln, Lt.-Col. H. Barclay, Messrs. J. R. Laing, W. A. Gunner, E. W. Arnold, K. Wiehen, E. Bounds, J. W. Campion, P. Ashley, H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and one visitor.

The President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 October, 1908, were read and confirmed.

Before proceeding to the other business of the meeting the President alluded with a few touching words to the lamentable and untimely death of Sir William B. Avery, Bart., one of the Hon. Vice-Presidents of the Society, and moved the following resolution:—

"The Herts Philatelic Society wish to express their deepest sympathy with Lady Avery and the other members of the family at the lamentable death of Sir William B. Avery, Bart., one of their Hon. Vice-Presidents, and asks the Hon. Secretary to forward this resolution to her."

This motion was seconded by the Vice-President, an old personal friend of the deceased, and carried unanimously.

Messrs. J. Cook, D. H. Jackson, A. Montader, G. White, W. F. Clarke, H. M. Hansen, J. H. Rosenheim, and A. Lange were duly elected ordinary members of the Society the two last-named gentlemen having also been passed by the Committee on the suggestion of the Vice-President, although their names did not appear on the agenda.

In the absence of the Hon. Librarian the President informed the meeting of some valuable additions to the library, presented mostly by himself and also by Messrs. D. Field, H. F. Johnson, A. Montader, P. Kosack, L. Harald Kjellstedt, H. Griebert, and the Bath Philatelic Society.

Messrs. S. Chapman, W. G. Cool, and W. Jacoby sent contributions to the Society's collection of entires, and Mr. W. G. Cool and Mrs. H. R. Baird gave some good specimens of forgeries.

All these donations were acknowledged with thanks.

The Vice-President promised a generous donation, amounting to about £20 in value, to the Society's collections at a later date.

The Vice-President and Mr. M. P. Castle expressed views on the "Open Letter" appearing in the November number of *Monthly Report*, and suggested that in future the Editor should decline to publish anonymous letters. This the Editor agreed to do.

The President then called upon Mr. M. P. Castle for a display of his collections of the stamps of Bahamas and St. Vincent, which, although started recently, were complete in every respect and accompanied by explanatory notes afforded a great amount of instruction and enjoyment to all the members present.

After the conclusion of the display, the President proposed and Mr. P. Ashley seconded a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Castle. Needless to say this was carried with enthusiasm and suitably responded to.

The meeting terminated at 8.20 p.m.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: C. W. Harding.
Meetings: Tuesdays (7.15 p.m.), Room B3, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.
Hon. Secretary: T. B. Fraser, 22 Oriental Terrace, Armley, Leeds.
Annual Subscription: 5s.

THE usual fortnightly meeting was held at the Leeds Institute on 17 November, there being a good attendance.

The President, Mr. C. W. Harding, occupied the chair. A fine display of the South American Republic stamps was exhibited by Mr. Egly.

A large number of stamps were sold by auction, some of the single ones realizing a good figure, but the majority of the mixed lots were disposed of at bargain prices.

At the close of the meeting, a hearty vote of thanks was given to the Auctioneer, Mr. J. E. Kitchen, for his services.

Novelties were exhibited by Mr. Knight, Mr. Egly, and the Secretary.

North London Philatelic Society

President: Charles M. C. Symes.
Hon. Secretary: C. S. Muratori, 28 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 of the above took place on Thursday, 17 November, at headquarters.

Mr. C. M. C. Symes occupied the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as correct.

The business of the meeting included a display with notes on the stamps of the West Indies, Part I, namely, Antigua, Bahamas, and Bermuda, by E. Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S.L. In the absence of Mr. Heginbottom, the Hon. Sec. read the interesting notes, and showed the stamps, which were much admired.

Much has been written about Mr. Heginbottom's stamps, so it will be enough to say that they included everything catalogued, in fine condition, even the rarities, many of which are practically unobtainable now.

At the conclusion of the display, Mr. A. J. Sefi proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Heginbottom, for so kindly lending his stamps, for the purpose of the display, and also for the notes on them, this being seconded by Mr. C. S. Muratori and heartily accorded.

A vote of thanks to the chair and also to the Hon. Sec. for reading the notes concluded the business of the meeting.

On Thursday, 17 December, the second part of Mr. Heginbottom's collection of West Indians will be shown, namely, Barbados, when all interested are invited to attend.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

EDITED BY STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

No. 26
Whole No. 208

26 DECEMBER, 1908

VOL. VIII.

The Postal Issues of Denmark and the Danish Colonies

By L. HANCIAU

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

(Continued from page 277.)

THE Circular of December 19th, 1874 (see page 108, vol. xviii., *Monthly Journal*), announces the issue of Post Cards with stamps in the new currency for January 1st, 1875.

Issue of January 1st, 1875.

As in the case of the 4 öre wrapper, the die for the stamp of that value was probably not ready, and in consequence use was made of the die Type B of the wrappers. It should be noted that the 8 öre has smaller figures than those of the cards of the same value which appeared in September, 1875.

(a) "BREV-KORT" measures 42 mm.; white, surfaced card. The sixteenth turn in the frame at upper left is always replaced by one of the corner ornaments on all the cards of this issue.

4 öre, dull blue.

8 ,, carmine.

(b) "BREV-KORT" measures 40 mm.; white, unsurfaced card.

4 öre, pale blue, ultramarine, slate-blue.

8 ,, carmine (pale to bright).

Varieties. Without stop after "POSTFRIM."

8 öre, carmine.

With the ornament at the left upper corner inverted.

8 öre, carmine.

The second ornament at lower left is a corner ornament.

8 öre, carmine.

* * *

A Circular of the 19th July, 1875, announced the issue of 6 and 10 öre cards, which came out at different dates.

"Official Communications.

"No. 20. July 19th, 1875.

"There will be despatched to the Post Offices, within the next few days, for use in communication with Norway, a certain quantity of new

post cards, with impressed stamp, colour brown, at 6 öre each. The price for 100 will be 5 crowns 76 öre.

"In addition, there will be despatched later to the Post Offices new post cards with impressed stamp, colour green, at 10 öre each. The price for a packet of 100 copies will be 9 crowns 60 öre.

"In the meantime, whilst awaiting the issue of these cards, a 10 öre card can be produced by affixing two 3 öre postage stamps to the 4 öre card now in use."

Issue of July 25th, 1875.

There being, as usual, no time to engrave a 6 öre die, that of 1870 was employed again, with the numeral and the value alone changed, as in the case of the 4 and 8 öre cards of January, 1875; but a whole crop of varieties was produced, for what reason I cannot say.

The formula is similar to that of the preceding cards and has the same inscriptions.

Surface-printed in colour on white, unglazed card.

6 öre, brown.

(a) The central figure has the head bent over and the body round.

(b) Similar figure, but the body oval; the head of the small figure bent.



(c) Similar to (b), but the head of the small figure less bent.

(d) The central figure has the head very much bent over and the body oval.



(e) The central figure has the head horizontal and body oval.

It is unnecessary to add that the inscription "6 ØRE" varies in all the above varieties, (a) to (e).

Varieties. "POSTFRIM" without dot.

6 øre, brown (b).
6 " " (d).

With two white interlaced circles partly covering the crown and the figure.

6 øre, brown (b).

The first ornament in the frame at lower right is a corner ornament.

6 øre, brown (b).
6 " " (d).

* * *

The 10 øre card that follows was mentioned in the Official Communication of the 19th July. It appeared on the 1st September following (see Circular of 30th August, 1875, page 110, vol. xviii., *Monthly Journal*). A new 8 øre card appeared at the same date.

Issue of September 1st, 1875.

Formula similar to that of the previous cards. The stamp is from a freshly engraved die, without figures in the centre



or in the oval band, so that it could be used for various values. It was engraved by Ph. Batz and is a copy of the die of 1875, with three stars in the crown. The 8 øre has a figure in the centre which almost fills the whole circle.

Surface-printed on white, unsurfaced card.

8 øre, carmine.

10 " yellow-green.

Variety. The sixteenth ornament at (upper) left is a corner ornament.

10 øre, yellow-green.

The higher value exists with small and large figures in the oval band.

* * *

The International Postal Conventions prescribed that the cards should be of uniform size, 140 × 90 mm. In order to conform to this rule we have the following :—

Issues of January 1st and July 1st, 1879.

The dimensions of the cards being increased to 140 × 90 mm., those of the frames are also increased to 129 × 80 mm. The pattern of the frame, the arrangement, and the inscriptions remain unaltered. Up to this time the cards were not provided with lines for the address; there are now four dotted lines, the first headed "Til," in script type, and the third and fourth shorter than the other two.

Surface-printed in colour on white surfaced card.

The stamp of the 4 øre is Type A of the wrappers of 1875, which being no longer required for its original purpose is now employed for the post card, without any alteration.

On the other hand, the type of the 8 and 10 øre cards of September, 1875, is still employed for the 8 øre card.

Jan. 1, 1879. 4 øre, blue (dull, pale, deep).
July 1 " 8 " carmine-rose.

* * *

The use of the 6 and 10 øre cards is extended to the Universal Postal Union, and they are consequently replaced by those described below, which are announced by the following :—

"Notification.

"The public are hereby informed that there will shortly be put in circulation new Post Cards for correspondence with foreign countries, similar to those hitherto in use, colour brown, at the price of 6 øre each (5 crowns 76 øre per packet of 100 copies), and colour green, at the price of 10 øre each (9 crowns 60 øre per packet of 100 copies), in replacement of the old ones, and having printed upon them 'VERDENSPOSTFORENINGEN — (UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE.)'

"So long as the existing stocks of 6 and 10 öre cards remain unexhausted they may also be used for foreign correspondence.

"Chief Office of Posts and Telegraphs,
"March 1st, 1879.
(signed) "SCHON."

Issues of April 1st and September 1st, 1879.

Form with Greek pattern frame, 129 × 80 mm., and four lines of heading as follows:—

"VERDENSPOSTFORENINGEN" in an arch;
"(UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE.)" "BREV-
KORT FRA DANMARK.;" "(Paa denne Side
skrives kun Adressen.)"

There are four dotted lines for the address, the first headed "Til" in script type, as on the cards last described. Stamp and Arms as before.

Surface-printed in colour on buff card.

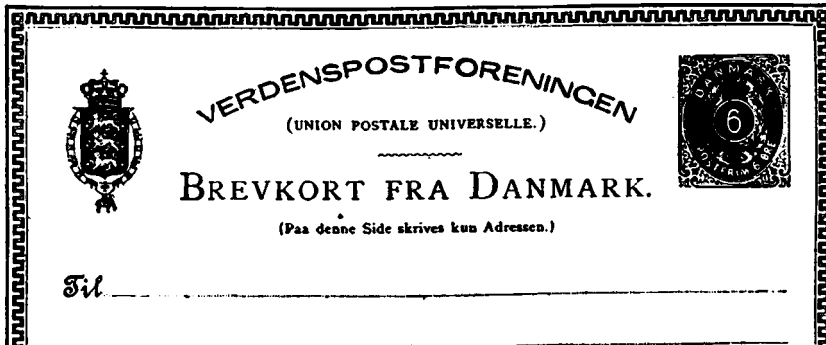
single post cards at 6 öre should be sent to the Stores Department of the Head Post Office. Post Cards of the same nature as those mentioned above may be returned to the Post Offices in exchange for other postal values, and should be despatched to the said Department in order that an equal exchange may be carried out."*

By the Circular of June 20, 1882 (see page 110, vol. xviii., *Monthly Journal*), the issue of a new 10 öre card was announced, and the Circular of March 7, 1885 (see page 160, idem), mentioned a 5 öre card.

Issues of July, 1882, and April, 1885.

Formula of the cards of April and September, 1879, and the same size, but with stamps of the Arms type of 1882-85, with small figures in the corners.

Surface-printed in colour on buff card.



The types of the stamps are those of the cards of July and September, 1875; in the case of the former the value in the oval band is in different type, and the central figure has the head more bent over.

April 1, 1879. 6 öre, brown on buff.
Sept. 1 " 10 " deep green, yellow-green,
on buff.

Varieties. No stop after "POSTFRIM".
6 öre, brown on buff.
Central figure with head more raised.
6 öre, brown on buff.

* * *

The suppression of the 6 öre cards necessitated the following circular:—

"Official Communication

"No. 37. | December 29th, 1885.

"Regarding the postage to Norway and Sweden.

"In accordance with the foregoing, it is hereby notified that the remaining stocks of double and

Four lines of heading and four lines for the address, as before.

July, 1882. 10 öre, carmine on buff.
April, 1885. 5 öre, green, yellow-green on buff.

* * *

Issue of, 1886 (?).

The same, but stamps with large figures in the corners.

5 öre, green, yellow-green on buff.
10 " rose, deep rose "

* * *

Issues of August and November, 1887.

Similar formula, but five lines of heading, the first two as before, the third "DANMARK"; the fourth "BREVKORT. (CARTE POSTALE)"; the fifth "Paa denne Side skrives kun Adressen. (Côté réservé à l'adresse)." Four lines for the address. Stamp of the type of 1885 with large figures in the corners. [See illustration, p. 408.]

Size 129 × 80 mm.

Surface-printed in colour on buff card.

* This probably refers to exchange of the cards in the hands of private persons.—TRANS.



Nov. 25, 1887. 5 öre, green, yellow-green on buff.
 Aug. 10 " 10 öre, carmine, vermilion on buff.

Varieties. Without the dotted ground to the shield.

5 öre, yellow-green on buff.
 10 " carmine "

* * *

The Circular of September 15, 1888 (see page 161, vol. xviii., *Monthly Journal*), announced the issue of a new card, value 3 öre, and also another 5 öre card, both for inland correspondence. They made their appearance on the 1st October, 1888.

Issue of October 1st, 1888.

Formula as in 1879, with two lines of heading and four lines for the address, the first headed by "Til." Stamp at right, the re-engraved die of the 8 and 10 öre cards of September, 1875, for the 3 öre, the Arms type of 1882 and 1885 for the 5 öre, (i.) With small figures in the corners; (ii.) With large figures.

Surface-printed on white, or bluish-white card.

3 öre, grey, deep grey, olive-grey.
 5 " yellow-green, green (i.).
 5 " " pale yellow-green (ii.).

Varieties. (a) With larger "i" in "Side."
 (b) With figure "1" for "i" in "skrives."
 (c) With figure "1" for "i" in "Side" and "skrives."

5 öre, yellow-green (ii.).

* * *

The Circular of November 25, 1905, which was given under the adhesive stamps (see page 204, vol. xviii., *Monthly Journal*), announced the following issue, which appeared in 1906:—

Issue of April, 1906.

The inscriptions, size, frame, etc., remain as before, but the stamps are changed. The 3 öre is of the type of the adhesive stamps of July, 1905, with numeral in an oval; the 5 and 10 öre are of the type with head of King Christian IX, re-engraved at Berlin for surface-printing, as described for the Wrappers of 1906. The 3 and 5 öre have the formula of October, 1888, and the 10 öre that of August, 1887.

Surface-printed as usual.

3 öre, grey on white.
 5 " green "
 10 " red on buff.

* * *

In accordance with the Official Communication of the Director-General of Posts, dated January 28, 1907 (see page 205, vol. xviii., *Monthly Journal*), cards were issued with stamps bearing the portrait of King Frederick VIII.

Issues of March and April, 1907.

Cards as last; stamps of the new type, with portrait of King Frederick VIII, engraved at Berlin for surface-printing, as described under the Wrappers of 1907.

March 20, 1907. 5 öre, green on white.
 April 22 " 10 " red on buff.

* * *

(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.

The Stamps of some of the Native States of India

By E. B. EVANS

(Continued from page 341.)

Orcha

IN June, 1900, a set of stamps was chronicled for this State, which seems to have had no use for them at all. The history of the *issue* was eventually related in *The Philatelic Journal of India*, as follows:—

"We have now some more definite news about the Orcha stamps. It seems that they were a private speculation on the part of a European jeweller, who hit upon the idea when on a trade tour in the Orcha State. He stipulated that he alone was to have the sale of them. He is dead now, and the State considers that this incident has loosened the bonds of the contract, and it is now, we believe, prepared to supply Philatelists (if they care to buy!)."

There were four values of these interesting curiosities, the general design being the same in all, but differing in the ornaments in the upper right- and lower left-hand corners, and in the triangular spandrels, as shown in the illustrations given below.



They were lithographed on thin, white wove paper, the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna in sheets of twenty, five horizontal rows of four, and the other values in sheets of twenty-four, six horizontal rows. One row of four transfers of the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. is stated to have been spoiled, and removed from the stone in consequence. The value of the stamps and of the sheets was given in the upper and lower margins, thus:—"20 HALF ANNA STAMPS—VALUE 10 AS." "24 ONE ANNA STAMPS—VALUE RS. 1 AS. 8," etc. To render them more valuable to collectors the stamps were post-marked (?) in sheets, with an obliteration

consisting of the letter "O" within an oval of bars, carefully applied to each horizontal pair of stamps; and in order that no one should cavil at *used* stamps with original gum, the trouble and expense of gumming were entirely dispensed with. Whether these labels also exist *unused*, or not, I am unable to say, but I have never seen them in that condition.

Copies in their normal condition are perfect, about 13, but I have a horizontal pair of the 4 a. imperforate, *used* in the same manner as the rest. The 1 a. has been chronicled in the same condition and the other two values presumably exist.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ a., red.
- 1 a., mauve.
- 2 a., orange-yellow.
- 4 a., dark green.

Varieties. Imperforate.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ a. (?).
- 1 a., mauve.
- 2 a. (?).
- 4 a., dark green.

ENVELOPE.

There is also a stamped envelope, belonging to this set, of white laid paper, 137 × 80 mm., bearing a circular stamp of the annexed design, lithographed in the right upper corner. It does not appear to have been considered necessary to obliterate this, and as Postal Stationery was going out of fashion at that date, it was hardly necessary to issue this envelope at all.



- $\frac{1}{2}$ a., emerald-green.

I mention the supposed stamps of Orcha solely as a warning, in case any of my readers should be offered them for sale.

The above was in type before I had an opportunity of seeing the article in *The Philatelic Journal of India*, which is reproduced in the present number. What I have given is the history of the Orcha stamps, as at present known to collectors. That history may be entirely wrong, but I think we require actual proof that such is the case before finally rejecting it. If the stamps have really been in regular use for the last eight years, there should be no difficulty in proving that fact, and it would have been better to do this before challenging statements made at the time of the issue of the stamps and hitherto undisputed.

(To be continued.)

Bhor and Orcha

From "The Philatelic Journal of India"

FOR as long as the present regime lasts, we are anxious to dissociate ourselves from the views of some of our predecessors regarding the legitimacy of the current issues of the two States above-mentioned. It was in September, 1900, that we first announced a forthcoming issue for Bhor, adding that as the post offices in Bhor have for years past been worked by the Imperial Post, the stamps cannot be employed for any legitimate purpose. The current half-anna stamp did not reach England until about a year later, when it was greeted by the *Monthly Journal* for September, 1901, in the following terms:—

"In spite of the inscription 'Bhor State Postage' at the top, we believe it to be intended solely for the extraction of *Revenue* from stamp collectors, as the post offices in that State have long been worked by the Imperial Government. We mention this curiosity by way of warning."

In June, 1902, the *Monthly Journal* disposed of the matter to its own satisfaction as follows:—

"There has been some discussion in the magazines as to the possibility of there being any use for a state issue of postage stamps here, and we published in January some information which professed to show that there was still a State Post Office in Bhor, though it did not do much business. We are glad, however, to learn from the following letter, received by Messrs. Alfred Smith & Son, that such is not the case, and that the stamp of last year may be safely struck out of our lists."

"OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE POST OFFICE OF INDIA.

"CALCUTTA, 22nd April, 1902.

"GENTLEMEN,—With reference to your letter dated the 10th October, 1901, containing an enquiry relative to the stamps issued by the Bhor Native State, I have the honour to say that as the postal arrangements within the State in question are managed by this department, there is no scope for the use of the Bhor Native State stamps for the payment of postage within that State.

"I have, etc.,

"Asst. Director-General."

About a year later, when we were ourselves exercising the functions of political agent to the Bhor State, we took the trouble to write in these pages a description of the State Postal system, including a list of the State Post Offices which were working at that time. When a system which is in progress under one's own eyes is disbelieved in, one is rather at a loss to know what to do next to conquer prejudice, and there the

matter had to rest for a time. In 1906, however, Mr. Wetherell got hold of, and printed in this journal, an official description of the postal arrangements in the majority of the Native States which contained the following passage:—

"Though the Nawab of Junagad and the Chief of Bhor have no objection to the opening of Imperial Post Offices and lines in their States, they are unwilling to abolish their State daks and stamps. The Government of Bombay is also unwilling to bring pressure to bear on these Chiefs to accept postal unity."

During the present year the Government of India has published an official Imperial Gazetteer in four volumes containing a chapter by a leading authority on each department of the administration. That the chapter on the Post Office is innocent of philatelic influence may be gathered from the fact that postage stamps take up no more than twelve lines out of many pages, and that the most important change that has ever taken place in Indian postage stamps was the adoption of Postal Union colours. In discussing the Native State postal systems, this chapter states clearly that Bhor and Orcha use their own stamps.

The various reasons, inherent in the stamps themselves, why the Bhor issue should not be speculative have been pointed out before, and do not require more than the briefest recapitulation. They are:—

1. That the issue is confined to one low value.
2. That it was accompanied by similar stamps for receipts and Court Fees.
3. That so far from pushing its sale, the State has actually discouraged applications from philatelists.
4. That the stamp it succeeded was hopelessly inefficient.

The current issue of Orcha was announced by us at very much the same time as the Bhor stamp, and while the same spirit was in the air. In the autumn of 1900 we suggested that all the Orcha stamps were intended for the collection of *revenue*; a little later we expressed the belief that the stamps were entirely speculative, and that they were not used for any postal purpose, and finally we produced the following pretty little story which has been incorporated in Gibbons' Catalogue ever since.

"We have now some more definite news about the Orcha stamps. It seems they were a private

speculation on the part of a European jeweller, who hit upon the idea when on a trade tour in the Orcha State. He stipulated that he alone was to have the sale of them. He is dead now, and the State considers that this incident has loosened the bonds of the contract, and it is now, we believe, prepared to supply philatelists (if they care to buy)."

As an amusing instance of the lengths to which people may be led astray by a story of this kind, we may point out that no less an authority on Indian Native State stamps than Major Evans illustrated in the French Official Catalogue of 1904, the common one anna receipt stamp of Orcha as a bogus postal!* This is all the more remarkable since he himself in the *M. J.* of October, 1900, considered the same stamp was probably correctly classed as a fiscal.

The circumstances of Orcha are extraordinarily like those of Bhor. In the latter a Poona tradesman who was charged in these pages with "engineering" the issue, turned out on enquiry to have been merely the contractor for supplying the presses and material; and if only the Orcha jeweller had not died, we expect he too would have no difficulty in clearing his reputation. Mr. Wetherell's official account shows that Orcha has seventeen post offices of its own, which is more than several of the accepted stamp-issuing States. The account is eloquently silent as regards postage stamps, but we do not know whether this is due to editing. The Imperial Gazetteer clearly states that Orcha uses its own postage stamps, and, finally, the postal issue was accompanied by issues for receipt and court fee purposes which are very familiar in used condition to collectors of fiscals.

Between 1900 and 1904 our editorial outlook underwent a considerable change, for in the latter year the new issue for Jaipur was chronicled without any reservation, though there were just as many Imperial Post Offices in that State as in the former two. A philatelic demand accordingly arose for Jaipur stamps that could not be satisfied with the original primitive methods of manufacture and a new issue was therefore ordered from England.

We have now to endeavour to account for the prejudice on the part of the Imperial Post Office which has given rise to misleading and inaccurate statements regarding the Bhor issue. It is hardly necessary to state that we do not for a moment believe the inaccuracies are intentional. We look upon

* I do not quite understand why my faith in a story, which was published in a highly respected contemporary, should have led to the insertion of the wrong illustration in the French Official Catalogue. The fact is that after sending my MS. (in which no illustrations were inserted) to the editors of the Catalogue in question, I heard no more of it until the work was published, and I therefore had no opportunity of correcting any errors in illustrations or otherwise.—E. B. E.

them as merely careless, or in the alternative, as inspired by excessive zeal. In the administration of a system of uniform rates, irrespective of distance, over a large area, the loss on the long distances is expected to be made up by the profit on short distances, and when the latter is carried off by any considerable number of local posts, the success of the whole is seriously impeded. It was for this reason that in most European countries the introduction of uniform rates was accompanied by the suppression of local posts. The English Circular Delivery Companies and the Oxford and Cambridge College issues are instances of infractions of the postal laws which were visited by the displeasure of the authorities. In India the Government has not cared to enforce postal laws upon the semi-independent native princes, and the absorption of the local posts is left to amicable and mutual arrangements made by the Post Office Department, with whom the extension of these arrangements has always been a cardinal point of policy. The Imperial Post Office is always trying to get the Native States to give up their own systems, not, as some think, out of tender care for philatelists, but simply for its own profit and efficiency. Much as we sympathise with these endeavours, and much as we wish them success, yet we are bound to say that the official opinion of the Imperial Post Office regarding the necessity or scope of any native issue is the very last opinion we should look to to form our own estimate. The post offices of Bhor and Orcha may at any time succumb to the blandishments of their big neighbour, and collectors of native issues, among whom we do not number ourselves, may find themselves with some awkward blanks to fill.

NOTE.—It would manifestly be unseemly for an ignorant person like myself to express any decided opinion upon a subject on which the views of the present "we" of *The Ph. J.* of *I.* are diametrically opposed to those of former occupants of the editorial chair. I possess the stamps in question and therefore speak of them without any prejudice against them.

Bhor is a State which has never pressed its stamps upon the attention of collectors; its earlier half and one anna stamps remained in use for many years, without any intentional change, varying only in the shade of the red paint employed, and in the illegibility of the impressions produced; it is therefore not impossible that the stamp chronicled in 1901 may have been doing its duty during the last seven years, in the same unobtrusive manner as its predecessors, though it is curious that, if such be the case, no used copies should have turned up in ordinary course.

Orcha commenced business in a very different fashion ; the first stamps seen were in entire sheets, neatly postmarked to order, indicating an intimate acquaintance with the weaker side of Philately, which was only too likely to arouse a certain amount of suspicion. So far as I am aware, the stamps of Orcha have never yet been seen by European collectors and dealers in any less questionable shape ; if therefore their reputation is none of the best, that fact is due in part to the action of the State authorities at the commencement of the issue, and in part to the inaction of the writer of the article given above, who has allowed an innocent and indeed highly meritorious State to be grossly libelled for eight long years. For a State

which starts its stamp-issuing career in such a very dubious manner, and which, on being shown the error of its ways, forthwith repents, reforms, and employs its stamps for so many years, without further advertisement of their existence, is truly deserving of the greatest credit. Still it is odd that none of those *used* stamps turn up, and I hesitate to recommend the stamps of Orcha, without some further information as to their character ; lest, peradventure, the original story as to their illegitimate origin should turn out to be true after all, and it should appear that the State authorities, finding that Stamp Collectors had no use for their stamps, realized that they had no use for them either.—E. B. EVANS.

Malta Post Office

A History of the Post Office and the Stamps of Malta

By LIEUT. W. R. GATT, Royal Malta Artillery

IT has not been possible to trace the exact date when the Malta Post Office* was first established, but since Malta has been under British rule it has always possessed a local Post Office, distinct from the Crown establishment and having to do solely with the distribution of local correspondence. The local Post Office was necessarily worked at a loss—the more so when, about 1880, the burden was thrown upon the Island Exchequer of partially maintaining mail services between Malta and Sicily.

Consequently all arrangements for internal posts were of the most meagre description, the letters finding their way about the Island as best they could, by means of the Police and of the Mail Contractor's boys, many of whom could not read the addresses and were thus obliged to get through their duty much at haphazard.

In 1859 I find that the conveyance of the country mails was done by an omnibus company, at an annual remuneration of less than £100 ; in addition there was a sum of £40 voted by Council for the mails between Malta and Gozo, St. Julians, Sliema, and Valletta.

Important local letters were seldom entrusted to the Island Post Office at all. Moreover, as though to accentuate the uncertainty of the local post, letters were not as a matter of course delivered at their addresses, but were left at the Police stations to be called for, unless they were prepaid an

extra halfpenny ; whilst insufficiently prepaid and registered letters were not sent out for delivery at all (except to Gozo), but remained at the local Post Office until the addressee happened to go there in search of correspondence.

Contemporaneously with the Island Post Office there was a Crown establishment of the Post Office, which dealt with the correspondence for abroad, the revenue derived from the postage going into Imperial funds. The work was supervised by a Packet Agent. The earliest date of such appointment that I could find was 1817, when Mr. Robert Macnab was made Packet Agent.

In 1849 the Local Post was allied to and began to work side by side, under one roof, with the Crown establishment, at the suggestion of the late Mr. Bouchier, then Her Majesty's Packet Agent and Island Controller of the Customs ; this officer undertook to supervise the Island Posts without any additional emolument, an economical arrangement for the local finances, which his successors acquiesced in, although it was distinctly stipulated on the part of the Crown that they should be under no compulsion to do so.

Meanwhile the Crown Post Office had gradually advanced from the small beginnings of a packet agency to a proper mail office.

Mr. Bouchier's successor, Mr. Coxon, became Deputy Postmaster-General, a title subsequently shortened into that of Postmaster, and he and his successors have held no other appointment, except that of unpaid Superintendent of the Island Post Office.

* There existed a Post Office during the rule of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem here, but very scanty particulars are to be had.

Trustworthy evidence of the rapid strides made by the Post Office may be found in the necessary increase of officials in 1884. The staff was increased from one to seven clerks; whilst a minor establishment of four permanent officers, assisted by five auxiliary letter-carriers, was approved of.

The Crown Post Office always paid its way, and produced a surplus revenue; consequently its transfer to local control was very much desired, and this was agreed to in 1883 by the Imperial Government; but it was delayed for over six months by the stormy state of our insular politics, through an obstinate refusal on the part of the elected members of Council to allow the Post Office Ordinance to be read even a first time, without having all its provisions translated into Italian, although the text was in that language.

The difficulty was, however, at length surmounted; but six months' postal revenue was lost for ever.

As stated above, it was in the year 1817 that a British Packet Agency was first established at Malta, by His Majesty's Postmaster-General. In 1841, it was found that the business had outgrown the premises in Strada Reale, Valletta, occupied by the Agency, which in the following year was removed to the building in Strada Mercanti, where the work of the Post Office was carried on until 1884.

The following extract (translated from the Italian) from the *Portafoglio Maltese* of the 10th May, 1841, shows that some attention was being drawn to postal matters in that year:—

“LETTER POSTS

“It is said that Cyrus the Persian was the first to institute a letter post in his Empire. Augustus is said to have been the first to introduce it in Europe; but in Japan and in China it was still earlier, and the Spanish on arriving at America found posts in existence from Cuxo and from Lima. Augustus, however, only invented it to transmit with regularity and speed Government despatches to the various parts of his far-spread kingdom. In the Middle Ages the Pope and Charles the Great revived a postal system for the same object. Louis XI, by an ordinance dated 1464, extended it more, but it was only under Charles VIII that the post was used for commercial and private purposes. Ferdinand and Isabella on taking Granada established post offices in their states, and in England posts commenced under Edward IV; it was only towards the middle of the seventeenth century that the post was regularly administered in England and France. In May, 1630, there were created in France postmasters and letter-carriers, hereditary offices the sale of which was the only thing to which the Government paid any attention for the next forty-two years. In 1676 all the offices of the various departments were brought under one administration, and Louis XIV let out the posts to Lazarus Petit for 1,200,000 francs, a price which regularly

increased later, till the time of the Revolution, when it produced for the treasury 12,000,000 a year.

“The English Parliament established posts in 1660, which produced 525,000 francs four years later; in 1723, 5,040,000; in 1793, 15,175,000 francs, and after that much more. The Local Post, that which serves the city internally, was only established at Paris in 1759; but in London it dated from 1683. At Paris horses were used by letter-carriers, but in London the omnibuses carried the postmen into the suburbs. At the post offices of these two kingdoms, in less than three hours, 4000 bags are opened containing from thirty to thirty-six thousand letters which are at once sorted, charged, postmarked, and ready for distribution, but it is done most quickly and simply in England.”

The new premises were, however, found unsuitable as the business increased, the accommodation for the public being wholly inadequate as well as the space for the official business of the department. Various schemes of alteration were proposed and abandoned; among them may be mentioned a project of Sir Gaspard Le Merchant, then Governor of Malta, to remove the Post Office to the Old Borsa in Strada San Paolo, which, with this object in view, the Local Government altered at some expense without consulting the Post Office, the upshot being that the Postmaster-General declined to move, the place being entirely unsuitable.

Nothing more was done until the year 1880, when on an urgent representation from the Chamber of Commerce, Sir Arthur Borton, Governor of Malta, submitted to the Colonial Office a proposal to alter the building; this proposal was ultimately accepted by the Imperial Government, on the recommendation of Her Majesty's Postmaster-General, who came out to Malta with special instructions to report upon it, the Treasury sanctioning an increase of rent of £200 a year for enlarged and improved premises. The project, however, was defeated in the Council, an investment of public money at 4½ per cent being a financial operation beyond the comprehension of the hon. members on the elected side; and for some time, nothing was done.

The Local Government, however, did not abandon their intention to improve the premises, and the original scheme of alteration gave way to the bolder plan of rebuilding the entire structure, only leaving untouched the historic façade of the Grand Master Zondadari.

The Post Office building was originally erected as a private residence in the year 1604. Having been purchased in 1719 by the Giurati, it was, after alteration and embellishment, formally dedicated in 1721 to the Mercantile Community by the Grand Master Zondadari, whose brief reign of less than two years and a half thus left its mark upon our

street architecture. The inscription on the façade runs as follows :

MARCUS ANTONIUS ZONDADARIUS M.M.
HAS ÆDES IN COMMODIOREM FORMAM
REDACTAS
PUBLICIS MELIŢÆ NEGOCIIS
ET PUBLICÆ PIETATI APERUIT
ANNO DMI. MDCCXXI.

In 1762 the house was once more renovated under the Grand Master Pinto, and it continued to be occupied by the Giurati until the suppression of that body by Sir Thomas Maitland in 1818. Before the latter date, and up to the year 1850, a portion of the house was used for the custody of the archives, which now occupy a part of the upper floor of the Auberge d'Italie. Pinto's restoration is commemorated on a mural tablet within the building :—

AULAM HANC CUM : SEQ : MANSIONIBUS AB
EMO. ET SERO.
M.M. ET PUPE F.D. ANT. MANOEL DE
VILHENA CONTIGUO
MONTI PIETATIS BENIGNE COMM DATAM
EMUS ET SERUS.
M.M. ET PRINCEPS FR. D. EMMANUEL PINTO
DE FONSECA.
FÆL REGNANS EODEM MONTE IN M.
CURIAM CASTEL :
SPLENDIDE RENOVATAM ET AMPLITAM
TRADUCTO UNIVERSITATI
CLEMENTER RESTITUIT QUÆ ILLAM AD
PROPIUM USUM
CONCINNAVIT AN. DMI. 1762 MENS.
AUGUS. PRÆSIDENTE
EXO. D. SENESCALLO BAJULAVO FRA D.
FRANCISCO
XIMENES DE TEXADA SEDENTIBUS NOD.
JURATIS
JO. CAROLO BORG. XAVERIO MADIONA
AUGUSTINO MARCHESE. ET JACOBO
ISUARD XUEREB.

In 1884, when the branch of the Imperial Post Office was transferred to the Local Government and united to the Island Post Office, it became necessary for the better working of this Department to have a more commodious and spacious building. Accordingly on the suggestion of the late Mr. Duke, Imperial Postmaster, and the late Mr. F. V. Inglott, Colonial Postmaster, the Government came to terms with the proprietors of the "Palazzo Parisio" in the same street, a building very well adapted for the needs of a Post Office.

The distinguishing feature of this building as a Post Office is the placing of the public counters not only on the ground floor, but close to the entrance, right and left of which there are the *Poste Restante* with all the private boxes in American style, and all facilities for the purchase of stamps and registration of letters.

Turning upstairs to the left, the first landing brings us to the window for the issue of money and postal orders. Pursuing our way to the first floor, we find a spacious apartment devoted to the parcel post business, whilst in the "loggia" may be observed tables for the convenience of the naval and military orderlies, to whom the service correspondence is issued direct from the adjoining sorting-rooms.

The latter are two in number, for the Inward and Outward Mails respectively, and in their arrangement may be recognized the late Sir Ferdinand V. Inglott's attention to matters of detail, which had already been displayed in the old building. Facing us in the passage is a doorway bearing the ominous word "Administration," through which we reach the Chief Clerk's and Accountant's room, the Postmaster's room, and the Correspondence room. A library for the use of the officers of the Department has lately been added. Other improvements have been and are being made from year to year; but one which would be of the greatest importance has no likelihood of being carried out, owing to lack of funds. The Palazzo Parisio possesses a large yard, surrounded by a number of rooms in which all the minor branches, such as *Poste Restante*, Private Boxes, Sale of Stamps, Registration of Letters, Money and Postal Orders, Parcels Post, etc., could very well be worked, as in the principal continental Post Offices, thus saving the public from having any need to go upstairs.

The Palazzo Parisio was built during the eighteenth century by the wealthy Prelate Monsignor Giovanni Domenico Sciberras, after the design of the Italian architect Peruzzi.

Monsignor Sciberras, Commander of the Order of San Giovanni di Barcellona in the Priory of Castile, and Bishop of Epifania, *in partibus*, whose portrait may be seen in the Chapter Room of the Cathedral at Notabile, died on the 25th of June, 1744, and lies buried in the Church of the Frati Minori Conventuali (Santa Maria di Gesu), Valletta, where his Arms appear in the pavement of the North Aisle, but the epitaph has become illegible. His princely surroundings, as well as his intimate relations with the Holy Sec, exposed him to the jealousy of the Grand Master Pinto, whose attempt to pay him surreptitiously, by night, a necessary visit of ceremony, was cleverly defeated by the attendance of a number of the Bishop's retinue, bearing torches, to escort the Grand Master in state from the Palazzo Parisio back to the Palace of Valletta. The Palazzo was the residence of Napoleon when on his way to Egypt in 1800. It was also occupied by Sir Ralph Abercromby in the same year, during the time the Egyptian Expedition remained at Malta; and afterwards by

General Fox, the Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean.

Postal Circulars (translated from the Italian).

1. "POST OFFICE.
"PIAZZA TESORERIA.

TARIFF.	TARI.	GRANI.
Each letter handed to the messenger of the respective districts will be charged	1	—
Each letter sent from the Post Office will be charged on delivery	—	10
Letters addressed to persons on board ships, in the country, or in Gozo (which are delivered gratis), will be charged	1	10
Letters for Sicily or any other parts beyond the island will be charged	2	—
Letters arriving from abroad will be charged on delivery	2	—

"No letter containing more than two sheets of paper will be accepted for Malta and Gozo; and letters addressed to Sicily or any other parts beyond this Island must have one single sheet.

"VALLETTA, August 20th, 1813."

NOTE.—In the currency of Malta of this period—20 grani = 1 tari; 12 tari = 1 scudo = 1s. 8d.

2. "Tariff of the Postage authorized to be levied for account of Government on All Letters received at and forwarded from the Island Post Office in Malta.

	Outward and from the Great Harbour.	From the Quarantine Harbour.
Each single letter	3d.	4d.
Every other letter if weighing less than an ounce	5d.	8d.
Every other letter if weighing one ounce and less than two ounces	10d.	1/3
Every other letter if weighing two ounces	1/8	2/6
Above two ounces for each ounce or any part thereof	10d.	1/1

"THE PALACE, VALLETTA, December 24th, 1825."

3. "NOTICE.
"IMPORTANT.

"Compulsory prepayment of Postage on Letters to the United Kingdom.

"On and from the 1st March next, the full postage on all letters posted at this office addressed to any part of the United Kingdom MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE, otherwise the letters WILL NOT BE FORWARDED.

"The Agent for Her Majesty's Packets has been authorized to return to the writers, after the above date, any letters addressed to the United Kingdom, on which the postage is found to be WHOLLY UNPAID or paid less than a SINGLE RATE.

"This arrangement will be enforced, irrespective of whether the conveyance to the United Kingdom shall take place by British or French Packet, via Marseilles or via Southampton.

"By order of the Post-master General,

"(Sd.) JOHN S. COXON,
H. M. Packet Agent.

"H.M.'S PACKET OFFICE, VALLETTA,
"February 1st, 1858."

4. "GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

"Her Majesty's Postmaster General has been pleased to make an alteration in the official title of the officer at the head of the Malta Post Office and to designate him as Deputy Postmaster General instead of Agent for Her Majesty's Packets.

"By command of H. E. the Governor,

"(Sd.) VICTOR HOULTON,
"Chief Secretary to Government.

"THE PALACE, VALLETTA,
"April 6th, 1858."

(To be continued.)

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 1s.; post-free in Great Britain, 1s. 2d.

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39t Strand, London, W.C.

Philatelic Notes and Queries

By E. B. EVANS

Reprints

I REFERRED last month to the fact that a translation of Captain P. Ohrt's valuable work upon *Reprints* was being published in *The Philatelic World*, and although I still have only the first instalment of that translation before me, I refer to

again on account of the observations contained in the introductory portion of the book on the subject of the definition of a reprint. This is a very important point, because when writing about reprints it is essential that we should be agreed as to what is a reprint and what is not.

The definition adopted is given as follows:

"Reprints are all new impressions of postage stamps, in any colour whatever: (1) after a new design has been accepted and already utilised; (2) which have been made with genuine dies; (3) for postal purposes, and for preparing prints of all necessary stamps. The old postage stamps need not have been withdrawn from sale."

It is possible that this definition may have suffered somewhat from translation, for I confess that section (3) appears to me to be quite unintelligible. The author amplifies this definition to some extent, but his explanations do not appear to have any reference to this ambiguous portion, and all that it seems necessary to quote is the following:—

"The mere fact that a stamp is still being issued does not prove it to be an 'original,' for many reprints have been sold at their full face value, and allowed to be used for postage, solely for this reason, that otherwise the post office would lose if the reprints, after being sold cheaply, came to be used for ordinary postage."

A good many years ago I made an attempt to define a Reprint, and I am inclined to think that, with a little modification, my definition would still meet the case, but then one is apt to be prejudiced in favour of one's own offspring. My definition, as given in *Stamps and Stamp Collecting* fifteen years ago, runs:—

"Impressions from the original plates, blocks, or stones, from which stamps were printed, taken after the issue of the stamps had ceased."

I would alter the latter part of this to make it read, "after the issue of the stamps to the Post Office had ceased," because stamps may remain on issue to the public long after they have ceased to be printed in the ordinary course; and any fresh impressions that are taken (except for the purpose of a reissue of the stamps) are reprints.

I consider that, strictly speaking, a reprint should be from the original plate or stone, but it is generally recognized that an impression from a fresh plate or stone constructed (like those first used) from the original die, may be accepted as a reprint, and not regarded as a mere imitation, even though there may be distinct differences in the spacing of the stamps, and in such touching up of the plate or stone as may be necessary to complete it. I think also that a reprint should be in approximately the same colour as the original, and that impressions in *black* or *red* can hardly be termed reprints of a stamp which was only issued in *blue*. Such things appear to me to be of the nature of "fancy impressions," whatever their date may be, though of course those taken before the issue of the stamps, as Proofs or Colour Trials, and any that

might be printed during the issue of the stamps for some similar purpose, are on a very different footing from those printed later amongst the *reprints* proper.

Impressions that are allowed to pass for postage occupy a different position—indeed, they occupy several different positions. Among the best-known examples are those of the early issues of France, which seem to be usually regarded as simply *reprints*, and those of the 1869 issue of the United States which are commonly listed as *reissued* stamps. There does not appear to be any essential difference between the official or the philatelic positions of the stamps that have been thus differently treated; and if fresh supplies of stamps are put on sale at post offices (even though this may be principally for the convenience of collectors) and are allowed to pay postage, I think such sale should be regarded as a reissue.

The statement that "the reprints by the United States of the two issues of 1847 are from an original die which has been altered," is possibly again an error of translation. The original dies and plates of the two values of 1847 were no longer available, and the reproductions of 1875 were from new dies and plates, made in imitation of the originals.

* * *

The Line-engraved Stamps of Great Britain AFFORD an inexhaustible subject for study: each new generation of philatelists finds some fresh point to investigate, and each, let us hope, brings us a little further on the way towards the complete history of our first postage stamps. The construction of the plates, the arrangement of the corner letters, the numbering of the plates; the paper, with its two types of watermark; the perforation, with its two gauges mixed up with the two Crowns; and the gum, with its supposed effect upon the bluing of the paper, have all had their turn; and in the last few years increased attention has been paid to a more or less novel point, namely, the variations in the type of the letters in the lower corners of the stamps from 1840 to 1864, and the question whether those variations could be made to prove the use of different fonts of type at different periods.

A paper by Mr. J. Bornefeld, published a short time back in *The Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*, goes into this question far more deeply and systematically than any article that has previously appeared, but no doubt it does not contain the very last word upon a very complicated subject. It was recognized by Messrs. Wright and Creeke, who were, I think, the first to make any mention of the different sizes of the corner letters, that those upon plates 1 to 131 were of smaller size than those used later, with the

exception that upon plate 133 both sizes of the letter "G" occur. Mr. Bornefeld greatly doubts the accuracy of the latter part of this account, for the reason that, although he has found certain differences in letters upon the same plate, he has never found what he considers two really different founts of letters used together. Messrs. Wright and Creeke very carefully examined the actual imprimatur sheets, which Mr. Bornefeld has not, I gather, had an opportunity of doing, and it is probable that the former are correct in saying that there is a mixture of letters on that particular plate; on the other hand it must be remembered that they only recognized two founts of letters, whereas Mr. Bornefeld goes further, and claims that there were four, two of them later than the type introduced with plate 132.

There is no doubt that certain changes in the type of the lettering did take place, and it is probable that, as Mr. Bornefeld maintains, these changes were not accidental but were made with a view to rendering the letters clearer and more distinct; a comparatively small type of lettering was used on plates 1 to 131, upon this point he agrees with Messrs. Wright and Creeke; a larger type was employed later, and here again the authorities are in agreement. According to Mr. Bornefeld, his second fount was employed for plates 132 of Die I to 20 of Die II, and that there was then a third fount used for plates 21 to 68 of Die II, with the exception of plates 50 and 51, for which a fourth fount was used, which we must presume was considered unsatisfactory. In the case of the 2d., plates 1 to 4 have the first fount, plate 5 the second, and plate 6 the third.

For the differences between the various founts I must refer those of my readers who desire to go into this matter to Mr. Bornefeld's paper and the excellent illustrations which accompany it; with their assistance and a certain amount of practice and experience it should not be difficult to separate the four founts referred to. On one point I am quite unable to accept Mr. Bornefeld's views, and that is with reference to his suggestion that the same punch was employed for but very few impressions on the plate and "that probably in many instances a punch was discarded after *one use only*." The manufacturers of the plates, and they surely know something about it, assert that the punches lasted for years, and all the evidence seems to point in the same direction. When the design and method of reproduction with corner letters had been adopted, we may suppose that a fair number of punches was purchased or manufactured, all of the same fount, and these seem to have lasted some twelve years, down to the time of the manufacture of plate 131 of Die I, of the

Penny. A new lot of punches appears to have then been required, and it was perhaps decided to use rather larger letters; the second supply must have been a smaller one, according to Mr. Bornefeld's account, for it produced only 93 plates in place of 131. The third lot, I gather, consists of letters rather taller than those of the second and less wide in proportion; they seem to be in no way superior to their predecessors in distinctness, and they are apparently less uniform than either lots 1 or 2, for Mr. Bornefeld gives illustrations of three varieties of each letter of lot 3, and of only one of the two previous sets. This third lot was used for 46 plates, but may not have been entirely worn out, as the Roman letters were superseded by the *sans-serif* type in the subsequent plates with letters in the four corners of the stamps. Mr. Bornefeld's fourth fount of Roman letters was used, as stated above, for two plates only, 50 and 51 of the penny, Die II; the letters are larger than any of the others and illustrations are given of two varieties of each. They were presumably experimental, and considered to be too large; the use of letters of that size, unless they were struck exactly in the centres of the squares, would be likely to result in damage to the frame lines. Possibly the presence of these letters on plates 50 and 51 denotes that a fresh supply of punches was required in the middle of the period covered by the third fount, and that after trial of the fourth type a further lot similar to the third was obtained, thus accounting for the irregularity of the latter.

The fact that different founts of letters are not found used together on the same plate (except perhaps in the one instance noted by Messrs. Wright and Creeke) is certainly evidence of intentional changes in the type, and at all events shows that when a fresh set of punches was obtained those previously in use were discarded, for they cannot all have worn out at the same moment. Philatelists are certainly indebted to Mr. Bornefeld for having carried the corner-letter question a long step further, even though they may not endorse all of his theories, and I hope that what he has done may lead others to investigate the matter also and give us the results of their studies.

* * *

Forgeries

THE forger and the faker are always with us, and as this is an age of progress those gentlemen are by no means standing still, but are advancing with the times, if not more so. *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* has recently published illustrations of some of the old-time forgeries, the sight of which might tempt any philatelist of the present day to be *laudator temporis*

acti, for most of the early attempts to deceive collectors were by no means dangerous. On the other hand, *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, for October 31st, contains a full page plate showing an approval sheet, which had been sent to a collector in Belgium by, I gather, an enterprising gentleman at Leghorn, every stamp upon which is an imitation, and a good one! All are forged, stamps, surcharges, watermarks, postmarks, everything; in each case the imitation is well done, and in some cases detection is extremely difficult. It is true that there is one little point which should arouse suspicion, but it is a point to which the bargain-hunter pays little attention; enormous discount off catalogue prices is offered, 65 per cent on all purchases, and a larger discount still if the whole sheet is taken. The stamps are not all of them of a nature (if genuine) to be sold at such ruinous reductions as these, but the inexperienced collector is not aware of that fact, and some of his more experienced brethren are too eager for bargains to look very closely into their purchases.

It should not be necessary to warn collectors over and over again that very great bargains offered by entire strangers should be most carefully examined; it may be of interest to point out that "Fermo P.," which forms part of the address given by the vendor of the curiosities referred to above, is an Italian form of *Poste Restante*, and therefore does not indicate this person's real whereabouts.

* * *

New Zealand

I GATHER that the philatelic or postal vagaries of our Antipodes are increasing and multiplying as prolifically as ever. I have, fortunately, no further interest in "New Issues," but my friend Mr. Cornelius Wrinkle assures me that the list of varieties is still "mounting up at a considerable rate." He finds some consolation in the fact that these "varieties are genuine results of developments of stamp production," that is to say, of incompetence and muddling, "about which there is no suspicion of the made-for-collectors class of article." I am afraid that as an impartial observer I cannot fully agree, and if I collected New Zealand stamps it would not be much consolation to me to know that the numberless minor and unnecessary varieties, that are constantly turning up, are all more or less legitimate. At the present day there is no reason whatever why any civilized country should spend ten years in experimenting in the manufacture of stamps; and further, I am strongly inclined to suspect that these futile experiments would have ceased long ago, if it were not for the fact

that they result in substantial profit to the Post Office by increased sales of stamps that are never used for postage.

Mr. Wrinkle is of opinion that one of these days there will be a boom in recent New Zealanders, and he may be right; collectors are a long-suffering race, with somewhat short memories, and the specialist is apt to be a little wanting in discrimination; still, ten years of experiments, with all the results sold over the post office counter, instead of being consigned to the waste-paper basket, would try the patience of St. Philatelia herself, and I am not sure that a "boycott" would not be a more deserved result than a "boom"—though it is possible that the latter is the more likely of the two.

* * *

MESSRS. C. NISSEN & Co. kindly send me a copy of *The Stamp Collectors' Annual* for 1909, the sixth issue of a little periodical in which we are accustomed to find "The story of our" philatelic "lives from year to year," as well as some original articles and peeps into futurity. That useful feature "The Philatelic Literary Index" is given a prominent place, and must represent a great amount of solid work; there is an interesting paper on "British Stamps of Great Rarity," with a list including some varieties which must presumably have existed, but which have yet to be discovered; a miscellaneous collection of articles upon divers stamps and subjects of varying interest; and a handy list of Philatelic Societies and Exchange Clubs concludes a novelty which the general collector my well add to his accumulations.

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New Issues and Discoveries

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.

Brunei.—We have now received a change of colour that we were led to expect, viz. the 8 c. in blue, as the 5 c. had already assumed the colours of the previous 8 c. Although this stamp is all in blue, the centre is printed separately from the frame, the shades being different.



1908. Change of colour. Type 4. Centre in first colour. Wink. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
29/8 c., blue and indigo-blue, O.

Canada.—Mr. Vincent Whipple sends us copies of the 1 c. and 2 c. of the Tercentenary stamps, issued on 17 July, 1908, showing slight differences of shade. The 1 c. is usually seen in green on white paper, but there are a few copies from sheets bearing the plate number 3, in a slightly bluer shade of green, on greenish toned paper. The 2 c. is known in two shades of carmine, one being a little brighter than the other.

Our correspondent states that plate 3 of the 1 c. is rather uncommon, and that he has seen the values enumerated below with the plate numbers as follows:—

- Plate 1 1/2, 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 15, 20 c.
- " 2 1, 2, 5 c.
- " 3 1 c.

Perhaps our readers may be able to give other plate numbers.

Crete.—We have received a sheet of 100 of the 10 lepta overprinted stamps, Prince George of Greece type, No. 130 in our chronicle of 5 December, 1908. There are two errors of lettering



EAAAΣ
34

in the EAAAΣ overprint: No. 30 on the sheet has the order of letters wrong, reading EAAAΣ;

No. 34 has the "E" omitted, and reads AAAΣ. We should not be surprised if these varieties became extremely rare, as very few of this type were overprinted.

According to the *Bulletin Champion* (25.11.08), the two Official stamps which were chronicled in our issue of 8 February, 1908, have also been overprinted EAAAΣ.

21 SEPTEMBER, 1908. Type 9 overprinted as Type 34, in black.

Varieties. (iii) "E" of overprint omitted, reading AAAΣ.

10 l., scarlet (No. 73).

(iv.) Overprint reading EAAAΣ.

10 l., scarlet (N. 73).



71



72

OFFICIAL STAMPS. Types 71 and 72 overprinted as Type 34, in black.

- 253/10 l., dull claret.
- 254/30 l., slate-blue.

Ecuador.—In arranging our stock we have found a variety of the 20 c. on the 50 c. Official stamp, formed by overprinting the fiscal stamp of 1898.



F 6



O 5

OFFICIAL STAMP. 1898. Fiscal stamp, Type F6, surcharged as Type O5.

789a/20 c., in black, on 50 c., lilac.

Nicaragua.—We have been shown a copy of one of the 1902 provisionals, a 15 c. on 2 c., orange-red, with the surcharge double.

15 **CVOS.**

1902

15

26

1902. Type 15 surcharged as Type 26, in black.
Variety. SurchARGE double.
206a|15 c. on 2 c., orange-red.

North Borneo.—Messrs. Bridger and Kay send us a copy of 10 c., brown and slate-lilac, of the 1902 issue (No. 115 in the Catalogue) with the overprint BRITISH PROTECTORATE double.



BRITISH

PROTECTORATE.

46

48

1901-4. Type 46 overprinted with Type 48, in red.
Variety (iii). Overprint double.
133a|10 c., brown and slate-lilac (No. 115).

Nyassa (Portuguese Colony).—Messrs. Bridger and Kay have shown us a 50 reis of the pictorial issue with the centre inverted. This stamp should come in the set commencing with No. 39a in the Catalogue.



1901. Type a. Frame in black. Perf. 12½ to 15.
Variety. Centre inverted.
50 r., black and blue.

Paraguay.—We have received another provisional and a batch of minor varieties from our



Habilitado en

5

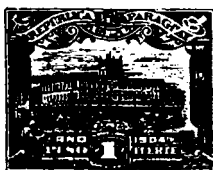
CENTAVOS

39

44

agents in this country: it is useless to attempt to describe these things, so we will content ourselves with merely listing them, as follows:—

1908. Type 39 surcharged in black as Type 44.
5 c. on 60 c., orange-brown.
Varieties. (i.) SurchARGE inverted.
5 c. on 60 c., orange-brown.
(ii.) Double surcharge (one slanting).
5 c. on 60 c., orange-brown.



Habilitado

40

42a

1908

UN CENTA

45

46

1908. Type 40, with OFICIAL added under figure of value, overprinted "Habilitado—1908—UN CENTAVO—" in four lines, thus: with Type 42a in black, Type 45 in red, and surcharged as Type 46 in black.

- Varieties. (ii.) Type 45 omitted.
1 c. on 1 p., black and carmine.
(iii.) Type 46 double.
1 c. on 1 p., black and carmine.
(iv.) Type 42a omitted.
1 c. on 1 p., black and lake.

Rio de Oro.—In our issue of 26 September, 1908, we listed a 15 c. on 75 c. provisional stamp, on the authority of a continental contemporary: the surcharge was there stated to be in black, but copies we have just received have the surcharge in violet. We do not know whether it exists in both colours, but we will not include the black surcharge in our Catalogue until we have seen it.

We therefore correct our former chronicle as follows:—



3

7



Correction. 1908. Type 3 surcharged with Type 7, in violet.

40|15 c. on 75 C., orange-brown.

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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.

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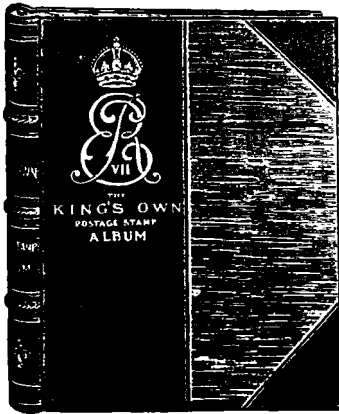
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NABHA.				
778†	1885-1906.	Queen. ½ a., ½ a., 2 a., and 4 a.; King. ½ a., ½ a., 1 a., and 2 a.	8	2 3
NATAL.				
780†	1882-91.	Queen. ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	8	4 3
781*	"	" ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	7	0 10
782†	1902.	King. " Single wmk. ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1s.	6	3 6
783*	"	" " " ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1s.	7	1 6
NEAPOLITAN PROVINCES.				
784†	1861.	Embossed. ½ tornese, ½, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50 grana	8	5 0
785†	"	" Inverted heads, ½ l., ½, 1, 2, 5, 20, and 50 g.	7	15 0
NEGRI SEMBILAN.				
786†	1891-6.	1 c., 3 c., and 2 c. of three types	5	1 3
787†	1899.	Provisionals. 4 c. on four values	4	1 6
NEPAUL.				
788†	1886-1903.	Native issues. ½, 1, 2, and 4 annas	4	1 3
789†	1907.	London print, "Mahades," 2, 4, 8, and 16 pice	4	0 6
NEW CALEDONIA.				
790†	1881-93.	Colonial stamps surcharged, several types	8	5 0
791†	1892.	Tablet type. 1 c., 2 c. (2), 4 c., 5 c. (2), and 10 c.	7	0 10
792†	1900-2.	Provisionals on Tablet type	6	2 8
793†	1903.	Jubilee issue. 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c. (2), 10 c. (2), 15 c., 20 c., and 30 c.	7	2 0
794†	"	" Surcharged set	10	1 6
795†	1905.	Pictorial. 1 c. to 25 c.	8	1 0
796†	Postage Due. 1906.	5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 30 c., 50 c., 60 c., and 1 fr.	7	3 0
NEWFOUNDLAND.				
797†	1887-97.	Pictorial, etc. ½ c., 1 c. (2), 2 c. (2), 3 c., and 5 c.	7	3 9
798†	1897.	Cabot issue. 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 6 c., and 10 c.	6	2 0
799†	1897-1901.	Royal Family. ½ c., 1 c. (2), 2 c. (2), 3 c., and 5 c.	7	1 8
NEW SOUTH WALES.				
801*	1854-1905.	Various issues, including 2d. Laureated	17	2 9
802†	1888-1905.	½d., grey; ½d., green; 1d., view; 1d., arms; 2d., Emu; 2d., Queen; 2½d., 4d., 6d., 8d., and 1s.	11	4 0
NEW ZEALAND.				
804*	1882-97.	Queen. ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	7	0 9
805†	1898-1901.	Pictorial. London and Colonial prints, no wmk. ½d. (2), 1d. (3), 2d. (2), 2½d. (both spellings), 3d., 4d. (2), 8d., 9d., and 2s.	15	8 3
806*	"	" Similar types. ½d. (2), 1d. (3), 1½d., 2d. (2), 2½d., 3d., 4d., 1s., and 2s.	13	4 6
807†	1901-7.	" wmkd. ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 9d., and 2s.	8	5 3
808*	"	" " ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d. (2), and 1s.	9	1 6
809†	Postage Due. 1899-1906.	Two types. ½d. (2), 1d. (2), 2d. (2), and 4d.	7	1 6
810*	Official and Life Ins. 1891-1902.	½d. (2), 1d. (2), and 2d. (2).	6	0 8

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A 259.	2 c., brown	.	0 1
A 260.	4 c., blue	.	0 1
A 261.	5 c., green	.	0 1
A 262.	10 c., scarlet	.	0 2
A 263.	15 c., violet	.	0 3
A 264.	20 c., "	.	0 3
A 266.	30 c., chocolate	.	0 5
A 267.	35 c., olive-green	.	0 6

CEYLON.

1908. *King. New type with figures in corners.*

5 c., purple	.	0 2
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DOMINICA.

1907. *Type 9. Multiple watermark.*

43. 15, magenta and green (Ch.)	.	1 4
---------------------------------	---	-----

HOI-HAO.

1908. *Stamps of Indo-China overprinted "HOI-HAO" and value in Chinese.*

A 354.	1 c., sepia	.	0 1
A 355.	2 c., brown	.	0 1
A 356.	4 c., blue	.	0 1
A 357.	5 c., pale green	.	0 1
A 358.	10 c., scarlet	.	0 2
A 359.	15 c., violet	.	0 3
A 360.	20 c., "	.	0 3
A 362.	30 c., chocolate	.	0 5
A 363.	35 c., olive-green	.	0 6

INDIA.

1905. *Service. King's head.*

555. 3 pies, blue-grey	.	used 0 3
------------------------	---	----------

NEW SOUTH WALES.

1907. *Various types. Wmk. Crown and double-lined &*

471. 1d., carmine	.	used 0 4
480. 2d., ultramarine	.	" 0 3

TASMANIA.

1902-3. *Local Print. Wmk. "V" over Crown (sideways). Perf. 11.*

208. ½d., pale green	.	used 0 3
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TCHONGKING.

1908. *Stamps of Indo-China overprinted "TCHONG-KING," and value in Chinese.*

A 540.	1 c., sepia	.	0 1
A 541.	2 c., brown	.	0 1
A 542.	4 c., blue	.	0 1
A 543.	5 c., pale green	.	0 1
A 544.	10 c., scarlet	.	0 2
A 545.	15 c., violet	.	0 3
A 546.	20 c., "	.	0 3
A 548.	30 c., chocolate	.	0 5
A 549.	35 c., olive-green	.	0 6

VICTORIA.

1898-1906. *Various issues. Revised prices, etc.*

265a.	3d., grey-green	.	6 0
296a.	5d., chocolate	.	used 0 2
581.	1s., rosine and yellow-green (Postage Due)	"	1 3
584.	½d., "	"	0 2
585.	1d., "	"	0 2
586.	2d., "	"	0 3

YUNNANFOU.

1908. *Stamps of Indo-China, overprinted "YUNNAN-FOU," and value in Chinese.*

A 674.	5 c. pale green	.	0 1
A 675.	10 c., scarlet	.	0 2
A 676.	15 c., violet	.	0 3
A 677.	20 c., "	.	0 3
A 679.	30 c., chocolate	.	0 5
A 680.	35 c., olive-green	.	0 6

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Answers to Correspondents

C. J. H. (Cambridge).—The postmark on your British 1d. red is not that of a British P.O. abroad, but is an ordinary and common English postmark. A 19 is the postmark used at Appledore.

P. B. (Ipswich).—Your 2½d. Cayman Isles dated "A.P. 11. 80" are, of course, dated this in error for '08. I have seen many such errors which are especially common on old issues of Greece. I have met with stamps dated as early

as 1461 and as late as 2891 !! Such things are only curiosities and have no philatelic interest.

R. F. (Carlisle).—Thanks for your kind appreciation of the new Sectional Imperial Album; it is going very well indeed and we only regret that we cannot produce it quicker. The portion now in hand is that of the British Possessions in Africa—one of the most popular groups.

Correspondence

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly."

DEAR SIR.—There are some little mistakes in Mr. Armstrong's description of the Alwar stamps which it may be well to correct while materials are available.

The first ½ a., green, was chronicled in the *Monthly Journal* for February, 1901, and was no doubt issued as early as January of that year; the sheets contained 77 stamps, eleven horizontal rows of seven ("66" was an error on my part); they are quite as close together as in the earlier issues, as is stated in the *M. J.*, and much closer together than the ¼ a., *state-blue*, which immediately preceded them. There was a printing in green with the stamps as wide apart as the *state-blue*, but this was probably earlier and in that case would not come into the 20th Century list. I do not know the number of stamps on the sheets of that printing, but most likely it was 60, in ten rows of six, like the *state-blue* stamps.

The later sheets, containing 35, have the stamps slightly wider apart than in the sheets of 77.

Yours faithfully,

EDW. B. EVANS.

SYDENHAM, June 11th, 1908.

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly."

SIR,—In continuation of my letter on the subject of the stamps of Alwar, I am sorry to have to point out some even more important errors in the paper on *Bhopal* in the number for June 20.

The description given in the *Monthly Journal* of the variety of Type 18 which was discovered in 1901, referred solely to a certain pair of sheets of these stamps in my own possession, which so far as I know are unique. It is quite a mistake to say that "the stamps are printed upon half-sheets," etc.; the two sheets alluded to were printed in the way described. I have never heard of any

others printed in the same way, and in point of fact I have never seen any other copies on that thick wove paper. The sheets have not got "a double frame line," the line at the bottom, only, is partly double evidently through a slip of the draughtsman's pen.

There are NO "variations in the spelling of the name and title of the Begum" either in this or in the subsequent issues; if there were they would be listed in the catalogue, as in the case of the issues in which such variations do occur.

The values of the stamps of 1902 are given in Arabic characters, as upon all the other stamps of Bhopal, none of which have the values indicated in any other way.

I know of no foundation for the statement that "the supply of the 8 annas . . . unexpectedly gave out" or that the surcharge upon No. 196 is taken from the "seal of the new Begum." It seems a pity to put in picturesque details which may have no foundation in fact. The so-called overprint is simply an Arabic letter ("S" ?), written upon the stamps in red ink.

Again, it is misleading to say, in reference to the doubtful varieties produced of late years, that "The stamps were for the most part printed from the old stones, which had been cleaned and re-touched." The stones employed may have been "old," but if so, they "had been cleaned" so effectually that there was nothing left upon them, and the things printed from them were entirely new varieties of the *old designs*. The stamps listed under 1904 are described as if both values were of the same type, which is not at all the case, the ½ a. being of one of the square designs and having no "lines of shading closer together." The ¼ a., green, seems to have dropped out, and I believe there are numerous other values of equal value.

Yours faithfully

EDW. B. EVANS.

Philatelic Societies

Junior Philatelic Society Brighton Branch

Hon. Sec. and Treas. : J. Ireland, 103 Western Road, Hove.

The second Annual Meeting was held on June 9th, presided over by Mr. Mead.

A satisfactory report was read by the Secretary showing that twelve new members were elected during the past season, and the accounts showed a balance on the right side.

The Chairman then announced that, owing to the calls upon the secretary's time, he had been compelled to hand in his resignation. This was accepted with regret, and a vote of thanks for his services and energy in forming and carrying on the branch was moved by the Chairman. This was seconded by Mr. J. Ireland and carried with acclamation.

The retiring Secretary then proposed that Mr. Ireland be

elected Secretary. This was seconded by Mr. H. Clark and carried.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—

Chairman : W. Mead, Esq.

Committee : J. Corner Spokes, H. Clark, G. H. Type, and W. Cyril Owen.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman for presiding over the meetings.

It was decided to subscribe to the following journals : *The Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*, *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, *The Philatelic Journal* and *The Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society*. Mr. Charles J. Smith kindly offered to present *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* for the ensuing year for which he was accorded a vote of thanks.

The Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Mrs. Spokes for the use of the room. This was seconded by Mr. Owen and carried with acclamation.

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16. ST. VINCENT	8	0 4	34. " SOMALILAND	10	
17. TOBAGO	6	0 4	35. " SOUTH AFRICA	10	
18. TRINIDAD	22	1 0	36. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE	18	
19. TURKS ISLANDS	8	0 4	37. EAST AFRICA & UGANDA	6	
20. TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS	4	0 3	38. GAMBIA	6	
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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.
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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.

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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.

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812†	1877-80.	" Rouletted. 1, 5, 10, and 25 centavos	4	1 9
813†	1882.	Arms. 1 c. to 50 c.	7	1 6
814†	1890.	Train, etc. 1 c. to 10 pesos	10	1 6
815†	1891.	Industry. 1 c. to 10 pesos	10	1 6
816†	1892.	Discovery New World. 1 c. to 10 pesos	10	1 6
817†	1893.	Volcanoes. 1 c. to 10 pesos	10	1 6
818†	1894.	Victory. 1 c. to 10 pesos	10	1 6
819†	1895.	Arms. 1 c. to 10 pesos	10	1 6
820†	1896.	Map. 1 c. to 5 pesos	9	1 6
821†	1897.	" 1 c. to 5 pesos	9	1 6
822†	1898.	Arms. 1 c. to 5 pesos	11	1 6
823†	1899.	Justice. 1 c. to 5 pesos	11	1 6
824*	1881-99.	Various issues, low values	26	2 0
825†	1900-2.	Island. 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c. (2), and 10 c.	7	1 3
826*	"	" 1 c., 2 c., 5 c. (3), 10 c. (2), 15 c., and 20 c.; 2 and 5 pesos	11	2 6
827†	1901-4.	Island type surcharged. Various provisionals	8	4 0
828†	1901.	Postage Due stamps overprinted (and issue). 1 c. to 50 c.	7	9 0
829†	1904.	Arms. American print. 1 c. to 20 c.	9	1 9
830†	1906-8.	" " Surcharged. 10 c., 15 c., 20 c. (2), 50 c., and \$1	6	5 0
831†	1907-8.	" London print. 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 10 c., 15 c., and 10 c. on 2 c.	6	1 2
832†	Zelaya District. 1906.	American print, overprinted "CARO" (large). 1 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 6 c., 10 c., and 20 c. on 5 c.	7	2 8
833†	Zelaya District. 1908.	London print, overprinted "COSTA ATLANTICA C." 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 50 c.	9	5 6
834†	Zelaya District. 1908.	London print. Similarly overprinted. 1, 2, and 5 pesos.	3	37 6
835†	Postage Due. 1896.	1 c. to 50 c.	7	1 6
836†	" 1897.	1 c. to 50 c.	7	3 0
837†	" 1898.	1 c. to 50 c.	7	1 6
838†	" 1899.	1 c. to 50 c.	6	1 6
839†	" 1900.	2 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 20 c.	4	1 4
840†	Official. 1890.	1 c. to 10 pesos	10	1 6
841†	" 1891.	1 c. to 10 pesos	10	1 6
842†	" 1892.	1 c. to 10 pesos	11	1 6
843†	" 1893.	1 c. to 10 pesos	10	1 6
844†	" 1894.	1 c. to 10 pesos	10	1 6
845†	" 1895.	1 c. to 10 pesos	10	1 6
846†	" 1896.	1 c. to 5 pesos	9	1 6
847†	" 1897.	1 c. to 5 pesos	9	1 6
848†	" 1898.	1 c. to 5 pesos	11	1 6
849†	" 1899.	1 c. to 5 pesos	11	1 6
850†	" 1900.	Justice. 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., 50 c., 1 peso and 2 pesos	8	7 9
851†	" 1903-4.	" Surcharged. Various provisionals	7	2 3
852†	" 1906-7.	Arms. 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., 20 c. on 1 c., 50 c. on 1 c., and \$1.00 on 2 c.	8	5 6
853†	" 1907.	Fiscal stamps, surcharged, 10 c., 35 c., 70 c. (2), 1 p., 2 p., 3 p., 4 p., and 5 p.	9	8 6

NIGER COAST.

854†	1892.	Oil Rivers. 1d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., and 5d.	5	4 6
855†	1893.	1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., and 1s.	5	20 0
856†	1894.	Nc. wmk. 1d., 1d., 2d., 5d., and 1s.	5	5 6
857†	1897-98.	Crown C. A. 1d., 2½d., 5d., 6d., and 1s.	5	5 6

NIUE.

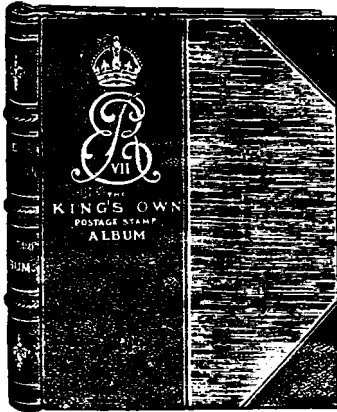
858†	1902-4.	Surcharged on New Zealand. 1d., 1d., 2½d., 3d., and 6d.	5	1 6
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BLANK ALBUMS WITH FIXED LEAVES.

**THE KING'S OWN
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THIS Album has been specially designed for those collectors who either commence a collection with the Postage Stamps of King Edward VII, or who collect these Stamps as a Supplement to a General Collection.

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24.	3d.	brown on yellow	.	0	5
25.	4d.	black and red on yellow	.	0	6

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830.	10 pa. on 5 c., green (Type 87)	.	0	2
831.	20 pa. on 10 c., carmine (Type 38)	.	0	3
832.	30 pa. on 15 c., slate (Type 36)	.	0	5
833.	1 piast. on 25 c., blue (Type 36)	.	0	6

Figures on both sides of word, as 10 para 10.

837.	10 pa. on 5 c., green (Type 87)	.	0	1
838.	20 pa. on 10 c., carmine (Type 38)	.	0	2
839.	40 pa. on 25 c., blue (Type 39)	.	0	4
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A 391.	2 c., brown	0	1
A 392.	4 c., blue	0	1
A 393.	5 c., pale green	0	1
A 394.	10 c., scarlet	0	2
A 395.	15 c., violet	0	3
A 396.	20 c., "	0	3
A 397.	25 c., blue	0	4
A 398.	30 c., chocolate	0	5
A 399.	35 c., olive-green	0	6
A 399a.	40 c., brown	0	6
A 399b.	75 c., orange	1	0
A 399c.	1 fr., lake	1	3
A 399d.	2 fr., green	2	3

MONGTSEU.

1908.	As for Kouang-Tcheou, but overprinted "MONGTSEU."	s.	d.
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A 439.	2 c., brown	0	1
A 440.	4 c., blue	0	1
A 441.	5 c., pale green	0	1
A 442.	10 c., scarlet	0	2
A 443.	15 c., violet	0	3
A 444.	20 c., "	0	3
A 445.	25 c., "	0	4
A 446.	30 c., chocolate	0	5
A 447.	35 c., olive-green	0	6
A 448.	40 c., brown	0	6
A 450a.	75 c., orange	1	0
A 450b.	1 fr., lake	1	3
A 450c.	2 fr., green	2	3

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A 489.	2 c., brown	0	1
A 490.	4 c., blue	0	1
A 491.	5 c., pale green	0	1
A 492.	10 c., scarlet	0	2
A 493.	15 c., violet	0	3
A 494.	20 c., "	0	3
A 495.	25 c., blue	0	4
A 496.	30 c., chocolate	0	5
A 497.	35 c., olive-green	0	6
A 498.	40 c., brown	0	6
A 500a.	75 c., orange	1	0
A 500b.	1 fr., lake	1	3
A 500c.	2 fr., green	2	3

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

1908.	Type 1. Multiple watermark.	s.	d.
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Foreign Notes

By FRANK PHILLIPS

The Limit!

THOSE who are absolutely beyond the pale (I mean not only those who do not collect stamps, but also those to whom our science is—well, a thing of mystery, to say the least), frequently have astounding ideas as to the enormous worth of any bit of paper bearing the least resemblance to a stamp, with which they do not happen to be familiar.



I translate the following letter, word for word, from *Die Post*; and, really, it needs no comment, except, perhaps, that the stamp referred to is catalogued by our publishers at eighteen pence!

HÖHENMÖLSEN, 22.4.08.

DEAR SIR,—I see by your advertisement in the *General-Anzeiger* that you, dear sir, are a collector of postage stamps. My father is the owner of a 3 pf. stamp inscribed DEUTSCHES REICH. Last year an Englishman offered us 200 marks (£10) for it, but we would not part with it under 500 marks (£25). If you desire to purchase this stamp, my dear sir, I would beg you to enter into correspondence with my father: to you it should certainly be of at least twice the value than that which a foreigner offered for it.

Yours truly,

GERTRUD N.

Floating Stamps

THOSE of my readers who have removed the adhering paper from the back of a stamp by the usual procedure of soaking in warm water, will no doubt have been caused a certain amount of trouble by various stamps curling up in the process of drying. This occurs particularly in the case of the older issues of Great Britain, Austria, East Indies, etc. and is due to a very thick vegetable gum being used. *Der Deutsche Philatelist* gives a rather good hint with regard to the prevention of this curling. First, soak the stamp in lukewarm water until the paper is removed from the back, and then transfer to hot water until the gum is quite dissolved off the back; this may take as long as five or ten minutes. Lastly, place the stamp in cold water for a few minutes; if dried face downwards on blotting-paper in a cool place, the stamps ought not to curl up. Another hint: use plenty of water in these operations, and don't be afraid to renew it often; dirty water turns the stamps a greyish colour.

Austrian "Unauthorized" Perforations

IT appears that the new Postage Due and Newspaper stamps, lately chronicled in this paper, have actually been seen with the perforation gauging 7! They were originally, and are still issued, the Postage Dues imperforate, and the Newspaper stamps perf.

12½. According to the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal*, the Board of Trade in Vienna caused 400 sets to be specially per-



forated 7, and the greater part were sent to the offices of the International Postal Union at Berne! The remainder was distributed to certain highly placed personages known to be philatelists, and a proportion was divided between the chiefs of the ten head post offices of the Empire.

We are glad to be informed as to the exact standing of this perforation, or later we might have accepted it as a rare variety. As it is, the stamps so perforated are of about as much interest to collectors as perforated zinc!

The Father of the International Postal Union

THOUGH it is generally admitted that the German Postmaster-General, von Stephan, was the man who actually carried through the work of founding the International Postal Union, we must not forget that the great idea was originated in the brain of the late Danish Postmaster, Joseph Michaelson. Michaelson was first employed in 1859 in a position of authority in the Department of Posts, and even so long ago he unfolded his schemes to his Government; he wished to do away with all postal charges on letters and parcels in transit in a country which was neither the country of origin nor destination: in a word, he wanted to establish a fixed tariff, payable in each case to the postal service of the country of origin.

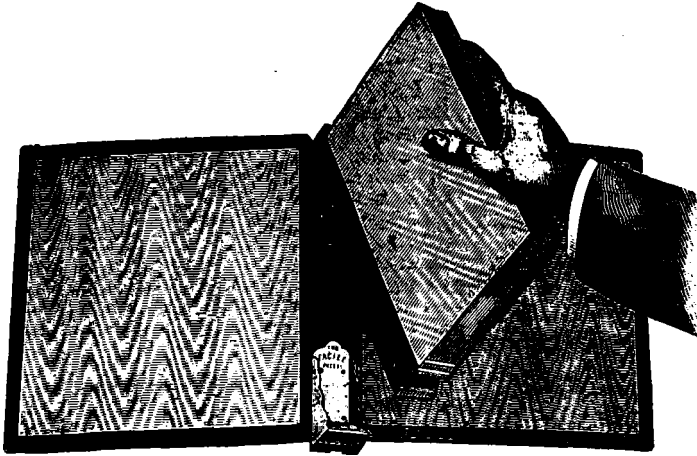
The Danish Government cannot be reproached with having failed to "recognize" the merit of an idea which was a decade or two before its time: such things happen too often in modern life. Instead, Michaelson was severely censured for his "absurd and impracticable" scheme, and was reduced to the rank of sub-Postmaster, and sent to an unimportant village called Flogelse. Poor Michaelson was not able to take his exile kindly, and three years later resigned the service.

The death of Michaelson, at the age of eighty-two, has just been announced from Copenhagen. His merit was, however, recognized before his death, the Danish Government having conferred upon him a pension for meritorious work, and having placed a marble bust of him in the National Museum.

Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal.

The "FACILE" Postage Stamp Albums.

(PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.)



A—SHOWING LEAVES RELEASED.

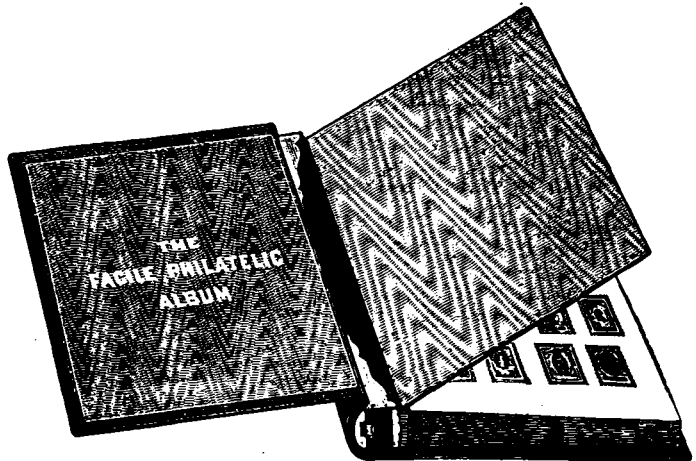
THESE Albums present externally the same appearance as our well-known

**"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.
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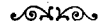
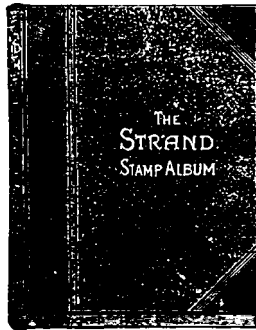


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WEEKLY



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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. VII of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

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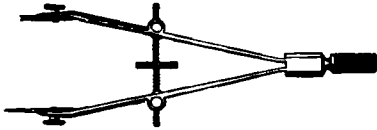
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NORTH BORNEO.			
859†	1886-87. Arms. ½ c., 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 8 c., and 10 c.	6	4 6
860†	1888-89. Large Arms. \$1, \$2, \$5, and \$10	4	25 0
861†	1894. Pictorial. 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., 6 c., and 8 c.	6	2 0
862*	1894. " 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., 8 c., 12 c., and 24 c.	7	1 3
863*	1894. Arms. 25 c., 50 c., and \$1	3	2 0
864†	1895. Surcharged on Arms. 4 c. on \$1, 10 c. on \$1, 20 c. on \$1, 30 c. on \$1, and 40 c. on \$1	5	3 6
865†	1897. Pictorial. 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., 18 c., and 24 c.	8	4 0
866†	1897. " 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., and 12 c.	7	1 3
867†	1899. Provisionals. 4 c. on 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, and 24 c.	6	4 6
868†	1899. " 4 c. on \$2, \$5 and \$10	3	2 0
869†	1900-02. Pictorial. 2c., 4 c., 10 c., and 16 c.	4	0 9
870†	1901-4. Protectorate. 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 6 c., and 8 c.	7	1 2
871†	" " 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., 12 c., 18 c., and 24 c.	10	2 9
872*	" " 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., 10 c., 12 c., 16 c., 18 c., and 24 c.	12	2 6
873†	1904-5. Provisionals. 4 c. on 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24, 25, and 50 c.	8	3 6
874†	" " 4 c. on \$1, \$2, \$5, and \$10	4	4 0
875†	Postage Due. 1894-7. 2 c., 2 c., 3 c., 6 c., and 8 c.	5	2 6
876†	" " 1901. 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., 12 c., 18 c., and 24 c.	9	4 6
877*	" " 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 6 c., and 8 c.	6	0 9
NORTHERN NIGERIA.			
878†	1902-5. King, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., and 1s., single	6	6 6
NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION.			
879†	1860. Perf. 1 and 2 gr., and 1 and 7 kr.	4	0 9
880†	Officials. 1870. ½ gr., ½ gr., ½ gr., and 1 gr., Hamburg, ½ sch. (2)	6	2 0
NORWAY.			
881*	1856-1905. Various types, including 2nd and 4th issues and provisional	29	2 0
882*	1878. King Oscar, kr. 1, kr. 1.50, and kr. 2	3	2 0
883†	1905. Provisionals, kr. 1, kr. 1.50, and kr. 2, surcharged on 2 sk.	3	10 0
884†	1906-8. " 30 öre on 7 sk., 15 öre on 4 sk., and 30 öre	3	1 6
885†	1907. King Haakon, kr. 1, kr. 1.50, and kr. 2	3	6 0
NOSSI-BÉ			
890†	1894. Tablet type, 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., and 10 c.	5	0 8
NYASSA.			
891†	1897. Surcharged on Mozambique, 2½ r., 5 r., 10 r., 20 r., 25 r., and 50 r.	6	1 3
892*	1898. " 2½ r., 10 r., 15 r., 25 r., 50 r., 75 r., 80 r., 100 r., 150 r., 200 r., and 300 r.	11	1 6
893†	1901. Giraffe, 2½ r. to 50 r.	7	0 9
894*	1901. " 2½ r. to 50 r.	7	0 9
OLDENBURG.			
895†	1867. Rouletted, ½ gr., ½ gr., 1 gr., 2 gr., and 3 gr.	5	6 0
ORANGE RIVER COLONY.			
896†	1868. First issue, 1d., 6d., and 1s.	3	7 6
897*	1882-96. 1d., 1d., ½d. on 5s., ½d. on 3d., and 1d. on 3d.	5	1 9
898†	1900. " V.R.I." ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1s.	6	2 6
899†	1900-2. On Cape, ½d., 1d. and 2½d. Provisionals, 4d. on 6d., and 1s. on 5s.	5	2 3
900†	1903-4. King; Single wmk., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., and 3d.	5	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 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.

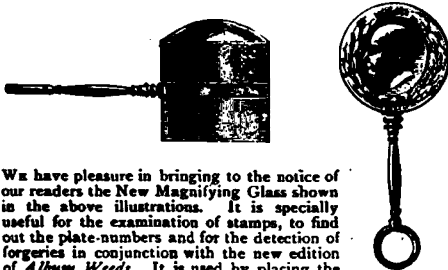
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NEW STAMP MAGNIFYING GLASS.



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 Woods*. It is used by placing the flat side in contact with the stamp to be examined.

Price, post-free in Great Britain, 5/7; abroad, 6/-

Recent Issues and Revised Quotations.

ALL UNUSED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

ANGRA.

Cat. No. 1897-8. Type 7. King Carlos. s. d.
41. 100 r., blue o 1 blue used o 6

ANTIGUA.

1908. Type 4. Watermark mult. C.A.
44. 2½d., ultramarine o 4

AZORES.

1906. Type 26. King Carlos.
26S. 25 r., rose used o 1
26B. 50 r., blue " o 1

DOMINICA.

1908. Type 9. Multiple watermark.
37. ½d., green O o 1
42. 6d., black and chestnut C o 8

FRENCH MOROCCO.

1902. Type 5. Revised price.
M 126. 20 c., brown-purple used o 1

FUNCHAL.

1897-9. Type 2. King Carlos
36. 75 r., rose used o 4
43. 200 r., mauve on flesh " o 8

GERMAN MOROCCO.

1906-7. Surcharged on stamps of Germany. Wink Lowenges.
M 30. 35 c. on 30 pf., black and orange on buff used o 4

GIBRALTAR.

1904-7. King's head. Multiple watermark.
58. 2d., grey-green and carmine used o 2
65. 2½d., ultramarine " o 3

GWALIOR.

1907. Service. Overprinted on stamps of India inscribed
POSTAGE AND REVENUE.
138. ½ a., pea-green o 3

HORTA.

1897-9. Type 2. King Carlos.
40. 100 r., blue on blue used o 4

MOROCCO AGENCIES.

1907. Surcharged on stamps of Great Britain.
M 3. 15 c. on 1½d., purple and green used o 2
M 4. 20 c. on 2d., green and scarlet " o 2
M 5. 25 c. on 2½d., ultramarine " o 2
M 5a. 40 c. on 4d., green and brown " o 4
M 6. 50 c. on 5d., purple and ultramarine " o 5

MOZAMBIQUE.

1905. Provisional on Type 10.
151. 50 r. on 65 r., dull blue used o 4

PARAGUAY.

1904-6. Type 39. Lion.
104. 2 c., vermilion o 1
104. 2 c. used o 1

PONTA DELGADA.

1897. Type 7. King Carlos.
36. 75 r., rose used o 4
38. 100 r., blue on blue " o 4
48. 200 r., mauve on pink " o 9

PORTUGAL.

1905. Type 39. Change of colour.
888. 75 r., brown on yellow used o 1

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391 STRAND, LONDON.

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Macau.—The following stamp has inadvertently been omitted from our Catalogue, although a place is provided for it in the last edition of the Imperial Album.



6 AVOS
PROVISORIO
仙陸

16
22
1894. Type 16 surcharged as Type 22, in black. Perf. 12½.
1204½ a. on 10 r., green (B).

St. Helena.—We have received three of the values referred to in our issue of 27 June, and the fourth (the 10s.) is noted as issued on or before 27 June, in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (20.5.08).



13
MAY, 1908. Type 13. Name and value in second colour. Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.
38½d., ultramarine, O.
40½d., black and red on yellow, C.
42½d., lilac and purple, C.
MAY, 1908. Type 13. Name and value in second colour. Wmk. Crown C.A. Type w. 6. Perf. 14.
50½s., green and red on green, C.

Sudan.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (20.6.08), the 5 piastres overprinted "Army Service" was issued with the multiple Crescent and Star watermark on 27 May, or earlier.

Our contemporary also gives the following very interesting information concerning the overprinting of these stamps:—

"The 'Army Service' stamps are printed once a year, in December. For instance, in December, 1905, the War Office purchased from the Khartoum Post Office the following quantities of stamps and had them surcharged at Cairo.

1 mill.	40,000	1 piast.	10,000
2 "	20,000	2 "	2,000
3 "	13,000	5 "	400
5 "	60,000	10 "	200

"The 2, 5, and 10 piastres had single Rosettes wmk.

"In December, 1906, the following quantities were done (see *E. W. S. N.*, No. 375).

1 mill.	35,000	1 piast.	11,500
2 "	20,000	2 "	200
3 "	15,000	5 "	nil
5 "	65,000	10 "	nil

"For the current year there were overprinted in December, 1907, a further 1000 2 piastres, 120 5 piastres, and 50 10 piastres. Unfortunately

our correspondent is silent as to the quantities of the other values. The 5 piastres, this time, had multiple wmk. Crescent and Stars."



Army

Service

33

ARMY SERVICE. MAY, 1908. Type 2 overprinted with Type 33, in black. Wmk. Multiple Star and Crescent, Type 4. Perf. 14.

219½ piast., brown and green.

Switzerland.—Mr. A. E. Tucker has shown us a copy of the 25 c. on granite paper perforated 11½ × 12.



10
1905-8. Type 10. Wmk. Type 13. Granite paper. (b) Perf. 11½ and 12 compound.
225½s c., blue.

Zanzibar.—The following letter is taken from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (20.6.08):—

ZANZIBAR POST OFFICE,

27th May, 1908.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of 14th last, I have the honour to inform you that this Post Office does not intend at present to issue 1 and 75 c. stamps, and that the stamps above five rupees are also for postal use.

I have, etc.,

[Signed] A. T. DE SOUZA TIELO,
Acting Postmaster.

In view of this information we feel compelled to list the seven high values that we believed to be merely fiscal stamps, and to which we referred in our issue of 30 May.

MAY, 1908. New type. View of Port. Large oblong. Multiple wmk., Type 18. Perf. 14.

230	10 r.	blue-green and brown, O.
240	20 r.	black and yellow-green, O.
241	30 r.	sepia, O.
242	40 r.	orange-brown, O.
243	50 r.	mauve, O.
244	100 r.	Antwerp blue, O.
245	200 r.	brown and greenish black, O.

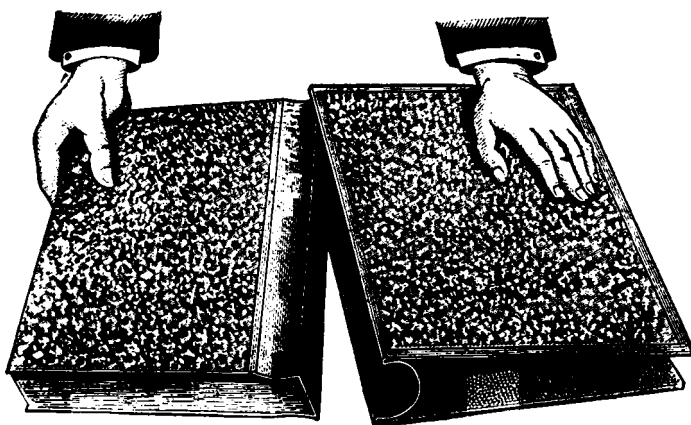
Note.—Nos. 226 to 238, listed in our issue of 27 June, are all on ordinary paper.

The Sectional Imperial Album

THIS NEW ALBUM IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN A PAMPHLET
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391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

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Section	Pages.	Price.	
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4. BARBADOS	12	0	6
5. BERMUDA	6	0	4
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4	0	3
7. DOMINICA	10	0	6
8. GRENADA	12	0	6
9. JAMAICA	12	0	6
10. LEEWARD ISLANDS	6	0	4
11. MONTSERRAT	4	0	3
12. NEVIS	10	0	6
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER	10	0	6
14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS	4	0	3
15. ST. LUCIA	12	0	6
16. ST. VINCENT	8	0	4
17. TOBAGO	6	0	4
18. TRINIDAD	22	1	0
19. TURKS ISLANDS	8	0	4
20. TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS	4	0	3
21. VIRGIN ISLANDS	8	0	4

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		s.	d.
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23. CANADA	22	1	0
24. NEW BRUNSWICK	4	0	3
25. NEWFOUNDLAND	12	0	6
26. NOVA SCOTIA	4	0	3
27. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	4	0	3
28. BRITISH GUIANA	22	1	0
29. " HONDURAS	8	0	4
30. FALKLAND ISLANDS	6	0	4

AFRICAN COLONIES.

31. BRITISH BECHUANALAND	8	0	4
32. " CENTRAL AFRICA	8	0	4
33. " EAST AFRICA	12	0	6
34. " SOMALILAND	10	0	6
35. " SOUTH AFRICA	10	0	6
36. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE	18	0	10
37. EAST AFRICA & UGANDA	6	0	4
38. GAMBIA	6	0	4
39. GOLD COAST	6	0	4
40. GRIQUALAND WEST	10	0	6
41. LAGOS	8	0	4

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WEEKLY

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HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

(Opposite The Hotel Cecil)

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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. VII 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. Vol. VII. January to June, 1908. 416 pages, 4s. 9d., post-free.

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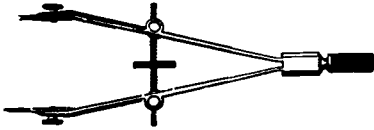
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PANAMA.				
902†	1887-96.	Map, 1 c. (2), 1 c. on 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 20 c.	6	1 6
903†	"	" 1 c., 2 c., 5 c. (2), 10 c., and 20 c.	6	0 9
904†	1904.	Provisionals, 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., and 10 c.	4	1 3
905†	1906.	Pictorial, 1 c., 2½ c., 5 c., 8 c., and 10 c.	5	1 6
906†	"	" 1 c., 2½ c., 5 c., and 10 c.	4	0 6
907†	1906.	Canal Zone on Map, 5 c., 8 c. on 50 c., 10 c., 1 c. on 20 c., and 2 c. on 1 p.	5	1 9
908†	1907.	" on Pictorials, 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 8 c., and 10 c.	5	1 6
909*	1907.	" " 1 c., 5 c., 8 c., and 10 c.	4	0 8
PARAGUAY.				
910†	1870-84.	Early types, including provisional	4	1 6
911†	1884-9.	1 c. (2), 2 c., and 7 c.	4	1 0
912*	1889-99.	Various issues, including portraits and provisional	8	1 3
913†	1892-7.	1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 14 c., and 80 c.	6	1 6
914†	1895-9.	Provisionals and corrected type	4	0 8
915†	1900-2.	Arms. 2 c. to 24 c.	6	1 6
916*	"	" 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., and 5 c. (3)	6	0 8
917†	1901-2.	Arms. 1 c. to 40 c.	10	2 6
918†	1902-3.	Provisionals	8	2 0
919†	1903-6.	Lion types. 1 c. (2), 2 c. (2), 5 c. (2), 10 c., 20 c., 30 c., and 60 c.	10	1 6
920*	"	" 1 c. (2), 2 c. (2), 5 c. (2), and 10 c.	7	0 8
921†	1904-8.	Lion. 1 c. (2), 2 c., 10 c. (2), 20 c. (3), 30 c. (2), and 60 c.	11	2 6
922†	"	Government Buildings	2	3 0
923†	1907.	Provisionals. 5 c. on 2 c. (3)	3	4 0
924†	1908.	" 5 c. (3), 5 c. on 10 c., 5 c. on 20 c. (2), 5 c. on 30 c. (2), 10 c. (3), 5 c. on 60 c. (2)	10	3 6
925†	1896-1901.	Telegraph stamps used for postage	4	1 9
926†	Postage Due. 1904.	2 c. to 20 c.	4	0 8
927†	Officials. 1890-2.	1 c. (2), 2 c. (2), 5 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 50 c.	8	4 0
928*	"	1892. 1 c., 2 c., 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 50 c.	6	2 0
929†	"	1901. 1 c., to 10 c.	6	2 0
929††	"	1903. Lion type. 1 c. to 20 c.	5	1 0
929†*	"	1903. " 1 c. to 30 c.	6	1 0
929††	"	1904-8. Lion. 1 c. (2), 2 c. (2), 5 c., and 10 c.	6	4 6
929†*	"	" " 1 c. (4), 2 c. (4), and 10 c.	9	2 0
PENRHYN ISLAND.				
930†	1902-3.	½d., 1d., 2½d., 6d., and 1/-	5	3 0
PERAK.				
931†	1878-91.	Overprinted on Straits. 2 c. (3), 1 c. on 2 c. (4)	7	2 6
932†	1891-5.	Tiger. 2 c. (2), 5 c., and 5 c. on 5 c.	4	0 10
933†	"	" 1 c., 2 c. (2), 5 c., and 10 c.	4	0 6
934†	1895-9.	Tiger's head. 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 8 c., and 10 c.	7	3 6
935†	1900.	Provisionals. 1 c. on 2, 4, and 5 c., 5 c. on 8 and 50 c.	5	1 3
PERSIA.				
936†	1876-84.	Early issues. 1 sh., 5 sh. (2), 10 sh., and 10 c.	5	2 3
937*	1879-84.	" 5 sh., 10 sh., 5 kr., 5 c., and 1 fr.	5	1 9
938*	1885-99.	Various issues, including Controls. 1 ch. (2), 2 ch. (3), 5 ch. (6), 8 ch., 10 ch. (2), and 1 kr.	15	1 3
939†	1889.	1 ch., 2 ch., 5 ch., 7 ch., 10 ch., 1 kr., 2 kr., and 5 kr.	8	1 9
940†	1891.	1 ch., 2 ch., 5 ch., 10 ch., 14 ch., and 1 kr.	6	2 0

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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.

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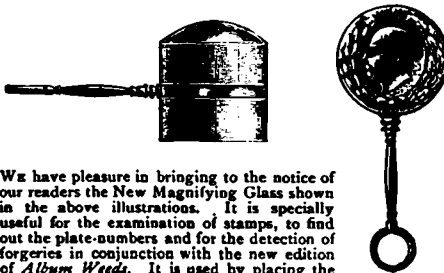
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34.	10s., green and red on green C . . .	12 6
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213.	1 c. on 10 c., blue and orange . . .	0 1
214.	1 c. on 12½ c., black and blue . . .	0 1
215.	6 c. on 20 c., black and purple . . .	0 2

NICARAGUA.

Stamps overprinted for Province of Yelaya.

1908. *Type 37, surcharged in black, overprinted with Type Z 3, in black.*

457h.	20 c. on 2 c., rose (No. 321) . . .	0 9
457c.	20 c. on 2 c., rose („ 322) . . .	1 0

Fiscal Stamps.

Type 45 (overprinted CORREO, 1908).

Further overprinted with Type Z 3, reading up, in green.

460h.	5 c., orange-yellow (No. 365) . . .	0 3
460c.	10 c., turquoise-blue („ 366) . . .	0 5

Fiscal Stamp.

Type 45, surcharged with Type 47, similarly overprinted.

460d.	15 c. on 50 c., green (C) (No. 378) . . .	0 7
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NORTHERN NIGERIA.

1902. *King's Head. Single Watermark.*

12.	2d., purple and yellow . . .	0 6
14.	5d., „ chestnut . . .	1 0
17.	2s. 6d., green and blue . . .	8 6

PARAGUAY.

1908. *Type 39. Colour changed.*

117a.	10 c., Prussian blue . . .	0 2
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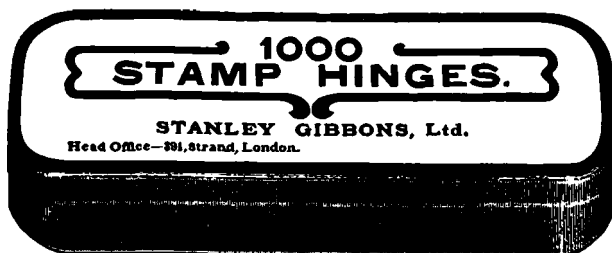
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150.	5 c. on 10 c., purple . . .	0 3
150a.	5 c. on 30 c., slate-grey . . .	0 3
150b.	5 c. on 30 c., orange-yellow . . .	0 3

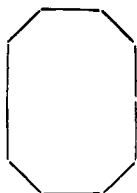
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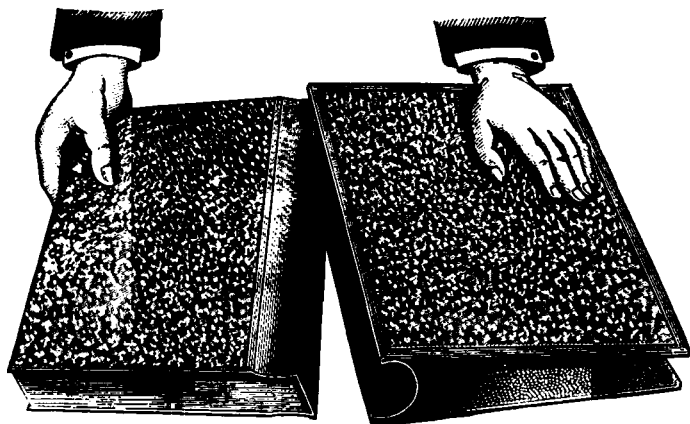
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Correspondence.—The Editor regrets that he has no time for direct correspondence. All letters requiring a reply will be dealt with under the head of "Answers to Correspondents."

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.

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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.

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960†	1862-73.	Early issues, including error	3	4 0
961*	1868-95.	Various issues, including "HEAD" overprint	12	0 9
962†	1874-95.	Various types, with and without overprints	23	3 0
963†	1894.	Overprinted head. 1 c. (2), 2 c. (3), 5 c., and 10 c.	7	1 0
964†	1895.	Commemorative issue. 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 50 c.	4	4 0
965†	1896-1900.	1 c. to 30 c.	5	1 3
966*	" 1897-1900.	1 c. (2), 2 c. (2), 5 c. (3), 10 c. (2), 20 c., and 50 c.	11	0 9
967†	1897-1900.	1 c. (2), 5 c. (2), and 10 c.	5	1 0
968†	1898-1907.	Pictorial types. 1 c., 1 c. on 12 c., 2 c. (2), 2 c. on 12 c., and 22 c.	6	2 0
969*	"	" 1 c. (2), 2 c., 5 c. (2), 12 c., and 22 c.	7	0 6
970*	1907.	" 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 1 p.	4	1 6
971†	Postage Due. 1874-80.	1 c., 5 c., and 10 c. (2)	4	1 3
972†	" 1897.	Overprinted Deficit. 1 c., 5 c., 10 c., and 20 c.	4	2 0
973†	Officials. 1894.	Overprinted Gobierno. 1 c., 2 c. (2), 5 c., 10 c., and 20 c.	6	3 0
974†	Arequipa. 1881-4.	Various issues, including error	4	5 0
PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.				
980†	1870-9.	Early issues and types	5	5 0
981†	1880-8.	Alfonso XII. 1 c., 2 c., 2½ c., 2½ c., 5 c., 6½ c., 10 c., 12½ c., 20 c., and 50 c.	10	1 6
982*	"	" 2 c., 2½ c., 2½ c. (2), 12½ c., 20 c., and 25 c.	7	1 0
983†	1880-90.	Provisionals. 2½ c. on ½ c., 2 c. (2), 2½ c. (2), 5 c., 20 c., and 50 c.	8	1 9
984†	1889-96.	Baby King, many values	29	6 0
985*	"	"	29	1 6
986†	1898.	Alfonso XIII. 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., and 40 c.	7	2 0
987†	1886-96.	Stamps for printed matter. Two types	19	2 0
988*	1890-6.	" Baby King	7	0 6
989†	1898.	" 1 m. to 5 m.	5	0 9
990†	1877-98.	Set of Cuba, Philippines, and Porto Rico	21	1 0
991†	1899-1904.	U.S. Philippines overprinted on stamps of U.S.A.	9	4 0
992*	1899-1906.	" all issues, including 50 c.	14	3 0
993†	1906.	" portrait types, 2 c. to 30 c.	10	3 6
994†	1901-6.	" Special Delivery and Postage Due	4	1 6
PONTA DELGADA.				
995†	1892-3.	5 r., 10 r., 20 r., 25 r., and 50 r.	5	1 3
996†	1897.	2½ r., 5 r., 15 r., 20 r., 25 r., 50 r., 65 r., and 115 r.	8	2 6
997*	1897.	2½ r., 5 r., 10 r., 25 r. (2), and 65 r.	6	0 6
POONCH.				
998†	1884-8.	1 pice (2), ½ a., 1 a., 2 a., and 4 a.	6	2 6

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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.

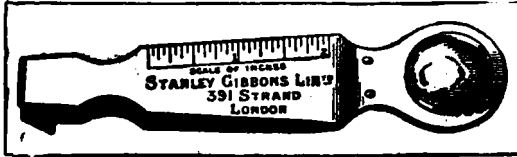
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" 116	"	45	"	"	12/1
" 117	"	30	"	"	4/1
" 118	"	40	"	"	21/1

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Answers to Correspondents

J. H. R. (Ganton).—We have examined the stamps you sent and report as follows:—

Madagascar.—The overprint is forged.

Spain.—The 12 c., red and black, is an essay worth about 1s.

Natal.—The 1s., blue, is a fiscal which was never authorized for postal use; the obliteration is indistinct, but is probably that of a telegraph office.

Tunis.—The 25 c. is the common stamp faded by exposure to sunlight.

W. H. L. (London).—The best book for your purpose will be *A History of British Postmarks*, by J. H. Daniels, published by Upcott Gill, 170 Strand, W. C.

"1829" (Smethwick).—The postmark you mention is quite common and is one that was largely used prior to the introduction of adhesive stamps.

We cannot answer any questions about post cards or envelopes, as we do not deal in them and have nothing of this sort to refer to for particulars.

A. C. H. (Bexhill).—The Straits Settlements you mention can only be classed with the normal varieties and has no extra value.

We should like to see the French Levant to which you refer, and would write you about it after inspection.

Philatelic Societies

City of London Philatelic Society

Hon. Sec.: D. H. Jackson, 80 Hanley Road, Stroud Green, London, N.

Meeting Place: Millie's Restaurant, 14 Broad Street Place, E. C.

Subscription: 2s. 6d. yearly (no Entrance Fee).

The sixth annual meeting was held at the head-quarters on Wednesday, 20 May.

The President took the chair for business at 7.15, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Camroux for a donation to the Forgery Collection and to Mr. Meggy for gifts to the Forgery Collection and the Library.

The President handed to the winners the medals gained at the three competitive displays during the past season, viz.:—

1. To Mr. A. H. I. Giles for a display of twenty-five stamps of Australia and Tasmania (total value by catalogue not exceeding £7).

2. To Mr. D. H. Jackson for a display of the colonial stamps of Holland.

3. To Mr. H. zur Nedden for a display of twenty-five stamps each bearing the portrait of a different person.

The Rules were next considered, and the several alterations and additions suggested by the Committee were adopted.

Officers for the next season were then elected as follows:—

President, W. B. Edwards, B.Sc.; Vice-Presidents, J. Read Burton and A. H. Harris; Hon. Exchange Supt., H. W. Westcott, 11 Dalkeith Road, Ilford, Essex; Hon. Counterfeit Detector, A. H. L. Giles, R.N., 883 Fulham Road, London, S.W.; Hon. Librarian, H. V. Brand, Broad Street Station, London, E.C.; Hon. Treasurer, W. H. Eastwood, 109 Ferme Park Road, Crouch End, London, N.; Hon. Secretary, D. H. Jackson, 80 Hanley Road, Stroud Green, London, N. Committee, Messrs. A. C. Constantinides, J. L. Eastwood, J. A. Leon, F. A. Meggy, and all the office bearers as enumerated above.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred J. Melville.

Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.

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

The annual excursion of the above society took place on Saturday, 13 June, to Weybridge. There was a very large gathering of members and friends, and a most enjoyable time was spent. Owing to the great kindness of Mr. B. Hallett the party were free to ramble over the New Haw Lock estate. Boating on the Wey was also freely indulged in, and it is reported that the Treasurer of the Society was frequently "in the bank."

The weather was lovely, and altogether it proved one of the most enjoyable outings the Society has ever held.

Junior Philatelic Society Manchester Branch

President: I. J. Bernstein.

Hon. Sec.: Jno. S. Higgins, Jun., 7 Green Street, Manchester.

The third annual picnic of the Manchester Branch of the Junior Philatelic Society took place on Saturday, 27 June.

Under the leadership of Mr. J. Taylor, thirty members took train to Delamere and were favoured by splendid weather. A very enjoyable time was spent in rambling through the delightful woods. In the course of the walk a most instructive description of the forest, embracing its geological and historical features, given by Lieut.-Col. J. Holmes-Poulton, was listened to with great interest. Tea was served at Norley, and the return journey, which was made from Delamere by the 8.27 train, brought a most enjoyable outing to a close.

Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society

President: Mr. A. S. Allender.

Hon. Sec.: J. H. M. Savage, 68 Babbington Road, Higher Tranmere.

Meetings: Mondays at 6 Colquitt Street, Liverpool.

Subscription: 1s. 6d. per annum; no entrance fee.

Session 1908-9

- Sept. 21. Paper on "Jamaica," by J. Bate. Display: Jamaica.
- Oct. 5. Paper on "U.S.A., Part IV, 1890-1908," A. W. Brown. Display: German Empire.
- Oct. 19. Notes on Faking Stamps, R. O. Dagg. Display: Mafeking and Roumania.
- Nov. 2. Paper on "Arrangement of a Collection," J. H. M. Savage. Display: Spain.
- Nov. 16. Paper on "War Stamps," Miss G. E. Lyster. Display: Dutch Indies.
- Nov. 23. Invitation by the L.P.S., Hotel St. George, 7.30 p.m. Lantern Lecture by the President and other members of the Manchester P.S.
- Nov. 30. Paper on "The Universal Postal Union," H. L. Edwards, jun. Display: British South Africa.
- Dec. 14. Some philatelic terms explained, with lantern, W. and R. Rockliff. Display: Trinidad.
- Dec. 28. Paper on "Crete," W. M. MacKay. Display: Russia.

1909

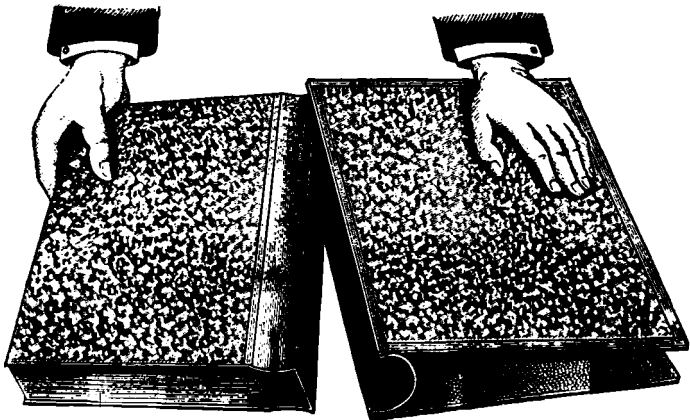
- Jan. 11. Notes on Newfoundland, R. S. Archer, jun. Display: Newfoundland.
- Jan. 25. Paper on "Chili," S. Pearn. Display: Chili.
- Feb. 8. "Philatelic Stumbling Blocks," W. C. Taylor. Display: Hong Kong.
- Feb. 22. "Philatelic Tit-Bits," P. A. Fletcher. Display: Orange River Colony.
- Mar. 2. Invitation by L.P.S., Hotel St. George, 7.30 p.m. Paper on "France," with lantern, Dr. H. Armstrong.
- Mar. 8. Paper on "Minor Varieties of the 'Sower' Type of France," A. S. Allender. Display: Ceylon.
- Mar. 22. Discussion, "What should be done with Forgeries?" opened by J. C. Cuthbertson. Display: Portugal.
- Mar. 29. Invitation by L.P.S., Hotel St. George, 7.30 p.m. General Display for special prize.
- April 5. Discussion: "'General' Collecting," by J. O. Jones, v. "Specializing," by G. J. Edmondson. General Display.
- April 26. Annual Meeting.

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5. BERMUDA	6	0	4	25. NEWFOUNDLAND	12	0	6
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4	0	3	26. NOVA SCOTIA	4	0	3
7. DOMINICA	10	0	6	27. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND 4	0	3	
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10. LEEWARD ISLANDS	6	0	4	30. FALKLAND ISLANDS	6	0	4
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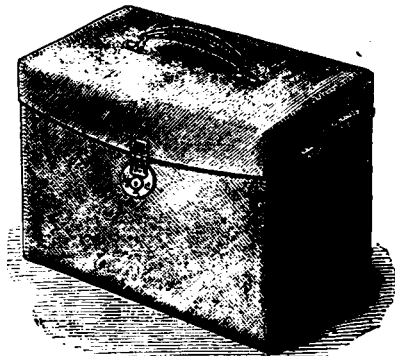
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Editorial Notes

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. VII of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d., post-free.

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" 6	"	6	6	" 14	"	4	0
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1002†	1879. " 15 c., 25 c., 50 c., and 1 p.	4	8 6
1003†	1880-1. " ½ m., 10 c., and 40 c.	12	5 0
1004*	1880-5. " many values	12	0 9
1005†	1882. " ½ m. to 3 c.	9	0 9
1006†	1890-2. Baby King	15	1 6
1007*	" "	13	1 0
1008†	1893-4. " including 40 c.	11	1 9
1009*	1893-7. " ½ m. to 40 c.	15	2 0
1010†	1890-7. " "	13	2 0
1011†	1898. 1 m., 2 m., 3 m., 5 m., 1 c., 2 c., 3 c., 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., and 10 c.	11	1 0
1012*	" 1 m., 2 m., 3 m., 5 m., 2 c., 3 c., and 5 c.	7	0 6
1013†	" Provisionals. 1 m. to 20 c. omitting 8 c.	10	1 6
1014†	" War Tax. 2 c. (2), 2 c. on 2 m., 5 c., 5 c. on 1 m. (2).	6	0 6
1015†	1899. U. S. Administration. U. S. stamps, overprinted. 1 c. (2), 2 c. (2), 5 c., 8 c., and 10 c.	7	2 0
PORTUGAL.			
1016*	1853-64. Early issues. Queen and King	6	1 3
1017*	1867-87. King Luiz. 5 r., 15 r., 20 r., 25 r. (2), 80 r., 100 r., and 150 r.	8	0 9
1018*	1880-7. " 5 r. (2), 10 r., 20 r., 25 r. (4), and 50 r.	9	0 6
1019*	1892. King Carlos. 5 r., 10 r., 20 r., 25 r., 50 r., 75 r., 80 r., and 100 r.	8	1 0
1020†	1893. Provisionals	8	1 6
1021*	" " 5 c. (3), 10 c. (2), 20 c., and 25 c.	7	0 9
1022†	" " with date.	4	1 0
1023†	1894. Prince Henry Commemoration. 5 r. to 50 r.	6	2 0
1024*	1894-5. Commemorative issues	5	1 3
1025†	1895. St. Anthony. 2½ r., 5 r., and 25 r.	3	1 3
1026†	1895-9. King Carlos. 2½ r., 5 r., 15 r., and 50 r.	4	0 6
1027*	" " most values from 2½ r. to 500 r.	17	1 9
1028†	" " without figure of value	4	15 0
1029†	1898. Vasco da Gama. 2½ r. to 150 r.	8	3 6
1030*	" " 2½ r. to 100 r.	7	1 6
1031*	" Postage Due and Private Stamps	4	0 9
PORTUGUESE AFRICA.			
1032†	1898. Vasco da Gama. 2½ r., 5 r., 25 r., 50 r., and 100 r.	5	1 3
PORTUGUESE CONGO.			
1033†	1898-1905. King Carlos. 2½ r., 5 r., 10 r., 15 r., and 50 on 65 r.	5	0 8
PORTUGUESE GUINEA.			
1034†	1881-5. On Crown type of Cape Verde. 10 r., 20 r., 25 r. (2), and 40 r.	5	1 0
1035†	1898-1905. King Carlos. 2½ r., 5 r., 10 r., 15 r., 25 r., and 50 r. on 65 r.	6	0 9
1036†	Postage Due. 1904. 10 r., 20 r., 30 r., 50 r., and 60 r.	5	1 0
PORTUGUESE INDIA.			
1037†	1873-6. Early types. 10 r., 15 r., and 20 r.	3	3 6
1038†	1881-3. Provisionals. 5 on 15 r., 5 on 10 r., 5 on 20 r., and 4½ on 40 r.	4	5 0
1039†	1881-2. " on Crown type	5	3 0
1040†	" " high values	5	9 6
1041†	1882-3. Crown type. 4½ r. to 8 t.	6	1 6
1042†	1885. King Luiz. 1½ r. to 1 t.	4	0 6
1043*	1885. " 1½ r., 4½ r., 6 r., and 4 t.	4	0 9
1044†	1895. King Carlos. 1½ r., 4½ r., and 6 r.	3	1 9
1045†	1898. Vasco da Gama. 1½ r. to 9 r.	4	0 6
1046†	1898-1900. King Carlos. 1½ r., 4½ r., 6 r. (2), and 1½ t. on 2 t.	5	1 3
1047*	1898-1902. " 1 r., 1½ r., 2 r., 3 r., 4½ r., 6 r. (2), and 2 t.	8	0 8
1048*	1902. Provisionals. 1 r. on 2 t., 2 r. on 8 t., 2½ r. on 6 r., and 3 r. on 1 t.	4	1 0
1049†	" King Carlos. 1 r. to 9 r., and 2 t. on 2½ t.	8	1 0
1050†	Postage Due. 1904. 3 r., 4 r., 5 r., 6 r., 9 r., and 2 t.	6	0 8

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1908. *New type. Figures in lower corners.*

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5 c., purple	0 2
5 c. ,,	used 0 1
6 c., carmine	0 2

1895-6. *Service Queen. Revised prices.*

Cat. No.		<i>s. d.</i>
410.	3 c., terra-cotta and emerald	used 1 0
413.	25 c., buff	,, 1 0

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

1901. *Tiger. Single watermark.*

18.	10 c., black and claret	used 0 2
19.	20 c., lilac and black	,, 0 6

JHIND.

1903-6. *King's Head. Revised prices.*

153.	½ a., pea-green	used 0 1
155.	2 a., purple	,, 0 4
156.	3 a., orange-brown	,, 0 6

JOHOR.

1896-1904. *Various issues. Revised prices.*

37.	4 c., purple & black (Kemahkotaan), used	0 4
38.	5 c. ,, green (,,) ,,	0 6
39.	6 c. ,, blue (,,) ,,	0 6
42.	2 c. ,, yellow (Ketahkotaan) ,,	0 3
49.	2 c., green and blue (King) ,,	0 2
52.	4 c., yellow and red (,,) ,,	0 3
53.	5 c., green and brown (,,) ,,	0 4
72.	10 c. on 4 c., yellow and red (,,) ,,	0 8

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

1905-6. *King's Head. Multiple watermark.*

33.	zd., lilac and ochre, C.	0 4
-----	----------------------------------	-----

PANAMA.

1906. *Portrait type. New shade.*

294b.	5 c., black and dull blue	0 4
294b.	5 c. ,, ,,	used 0 2

ST. KITTS-NEVIS.

1908. *Type 1. Multiple watermark.*

16.	6d., grey-black and violet	0 8
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SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

1904-7. *King's Head. Multiple watermark.*

23.	2½d., ultramarine	us:d 0 6
32.	1d., carmine	,, 0 1
34.	3d., orange-brown and lilac	,, 0 4

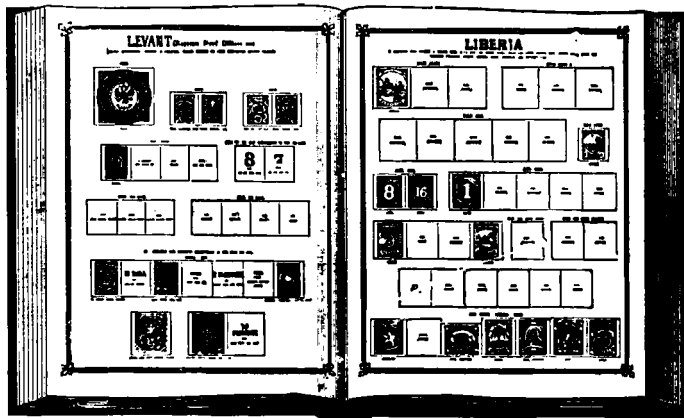
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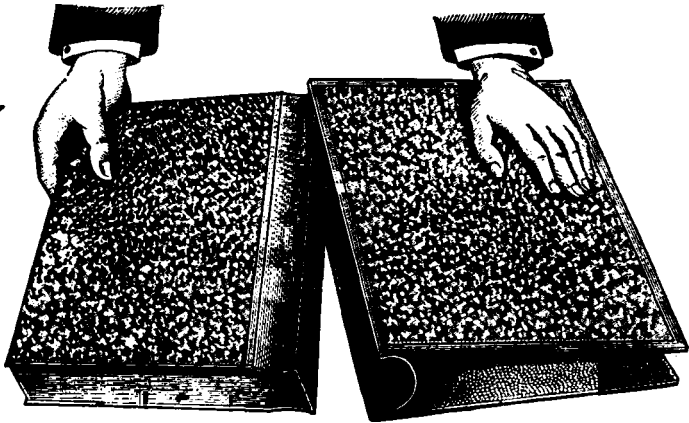
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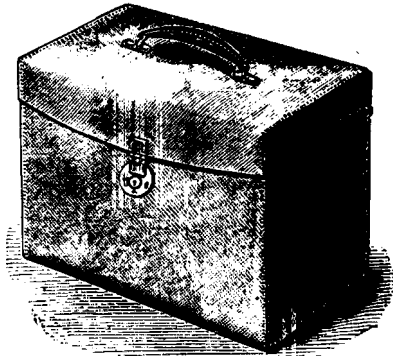
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Editorial Communications.—All communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to

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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.

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PUTTIALLA.				
1053†	1884-5.	Queen. Early issue, including error	3	5 0
1054†	1903-6.	King. 3 pies to 4 a.	6	1 3
1055*	"	" 3 p., 1 a., 2 a., 3 a., and 4 a.	5	1 0
1056†	1885-1902.	" Service. Queen, including 8 annas	6	2 6
1057*	1885-1906.	" Queen and King	9	0 10
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1059†	1897-1907.	1d. to 1s., including rare 1/2d.	10	6 0
RÉUNION.				
1060†	1835-93.	Provisionals, including two early imperf.	7	2 0
1061†	1892-1901.	Commerce and Navigation, including two provisionals	7	1 0
1062*	1892-1900.	" " 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c. (2), 10 c., 15 c. (2), and 25 c.	9	0 8
ROMAGNA				
1063†	1859.	1/2 baj. to 6 baj.	7	6 0
ROMAN STATES.				
1064†	1852-67.	1/2 baj. to 8 baj., and 10 c. and 20 c.	10	4 6
1065*	1852.	1 baj. to 7 baj.	7	2 0
1066†	1868.	2 c. to 80 c.	7	3 6
ROUMANIA.				
1067†	1865-8.	Early issues	4	3 6
1068†	1872-87.	Various types	6	1 6
1069*	1872-1902.	Many issues and types, including high values	32	1 6
1070*	1890.	King Charles. 11 b., 3 b., and 5 b.	3	0 6
1071†	1893-1905.	1 b. (3), 1 1/2 b., 3 b., 5 b. (2), 10 b. (2), and 15 b.	10	1 3
1072†	1903.	Pictorial. 1 b., 5 b., 10 b., 15 b., and 25 b.	5	1 0
1073†	1906.	Commemorative. 1 b., 3 b., 5 b., 10 b., 25 b., and 1 l.	6	2 6
1074†	1906.	Charity stamps. 3 b. to 15 b., 1st series	4	1 0
1075*	1906.	" " " "	4	1 0
1076†	1906.	" " " and series	4	1 0
1077*	1906.	" " " " "	4	1 3
1078†	1906.	" " " 3rd series	4	1 0
1079*	1906.	" " " " "	4	1 3
1080†	1907.	" " " " "	4	1 0
1081*		Postage Due and Parcel Post Stamps. 1881-98.	5	0 6
RUSSIA.				
1082*	1868-1904.	Many issues, including large 1 rouble	21	1 0
1083*	"	Various types	12	0 6
1084†	"	1 k. (2), 2 k. (2), 3 k., 4 k., 5 k., 7 k., and 10 k.	9	1 3
1085†	Wenden. 1875-84.	Various types of a kop.	3	1 0
1086*	Levant. 1903-4.	20 pa. on 4 k., 1 pi. on 10 k., and 2 pi. on 20 k.	3	0 9

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105.	50 r., brown	„	0 6
106.	75 r., lilac	„	0 9

PARAGUAY.

1904-6. Type 39. Lion.

103.	1 c., orange	0	1
106.	5 c., pale blue	0	4

1907. Type 39 surcharged with type 41, in black. SurchARGE inverted.

131.	5 c. on 2 c., vermilion	20	0
------	-----------------------------------	----	---

1908. Type 66 surcharged with Type 44, in black.

149.	5 c. on 10 c., emerald-green	0	3
150.	5 c. on 10 c., reddish purple, used	0	3
	5 c. on 20 c., ochre	1	0
150b.	5 c. on 30 c., orange-yellow, used	0	3
150c.	5 c. on 60 c., orange-brown, used	0	4

1886. Official Stamps. Types 51 to 57.

201-207. Set of seven stamps,
 1 c. to 20 c. 35 0

1906-8. Official. Type 66. Lion.

259.	1 c., olive	0	6
------	-----------------------	---	---

SIRMOOR.

1885-8. Type 2. Portrait.

7.	3 pies, chocolate	used	0 3
13.	2 annas, pink	„	0 6

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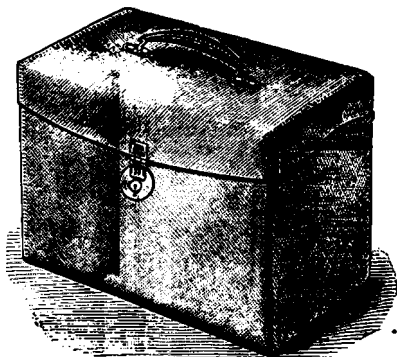
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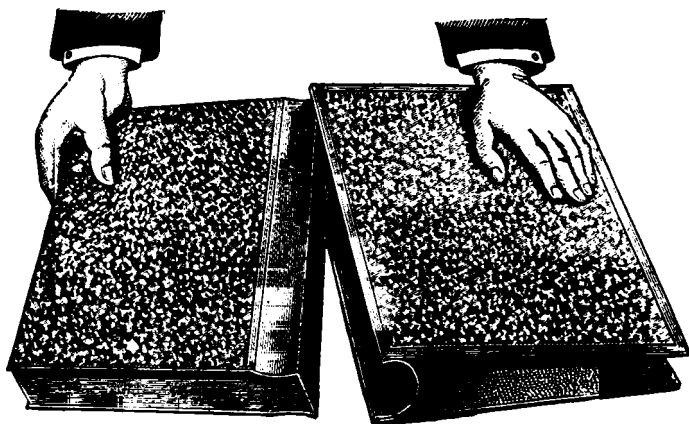
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5. BERMUDA	6 ... 0	4
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14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS	4 ... 0	3
15. ST. LUCIA	12 ... 0	6
16. ST. VINCENT	8 ... 0	4
17. TOBAGO	6 ... 0	4
18. TRINIDAD	22 ... 1	0
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38. GAMBIA	6 ... 0	4
39. GOLD COAST	6 ... 0	4
40. GRIQUALAND WEST	10 ... 0	6
41. LAGOS	8 ... 0	4
42. MADAGASCAR	22 ... 1	0
43. MAURITIUS	24 ... 1	0
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GIBBONS STAMP

WEEKLY



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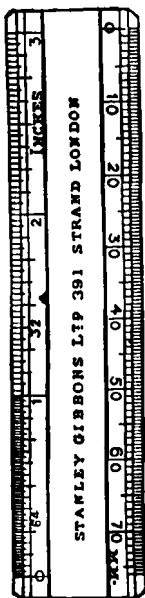
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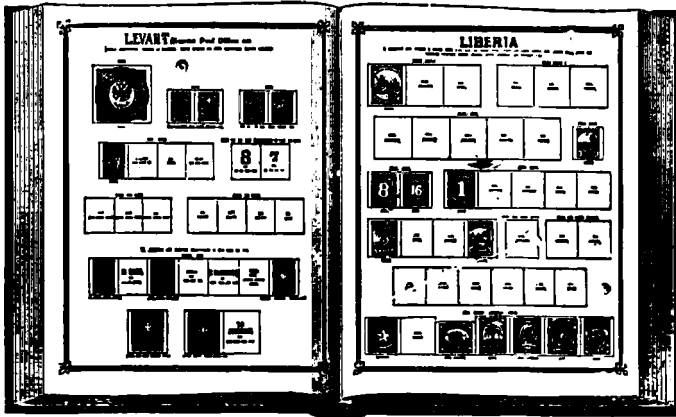
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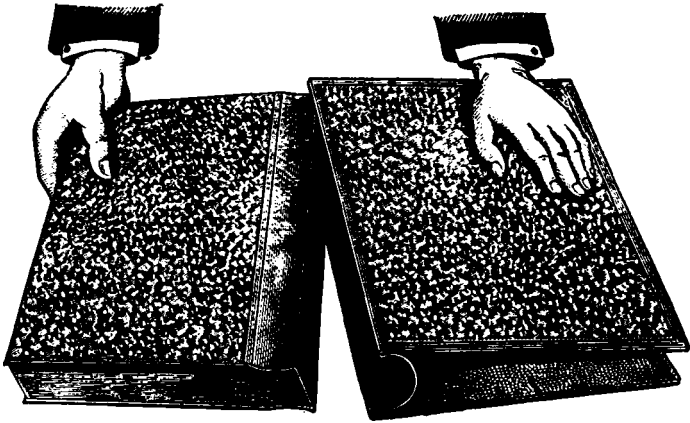
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WHICH WILL BE SENT POST-FREE, ON APPLICATION.

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 $11\frac{5}{8}$ by $10\frac{7}{8}$ in.

Each Page measures $11\frac{1}{2}$ by 8 in.
clear of Binding.



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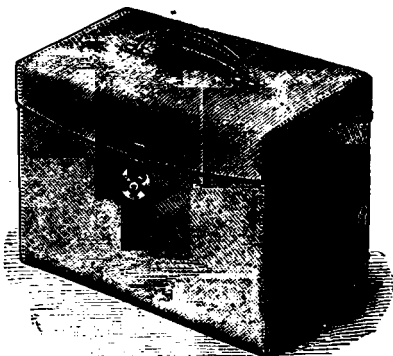
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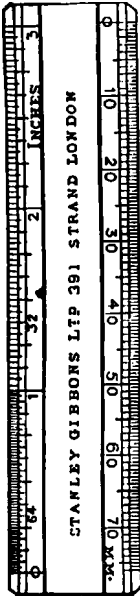
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130.	6 c., violet	"	0	2
131.	10 c., sepia	"	0	2
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	5 c. on 1 c., greenish blue		0	3
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1903. *Official Stamp. Type 205.*

1028.	24 c., scarlet	used	2	0
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1906. *Officials. Portrait of Escalon.*

1042.	2 c., carmine	used	0	2
1043.	3 c., yellow	"	0	3
1044.	5 c., Prussian blue	"	0	9
1045.	10 c., violet	"	0	6
1046.	13 c., brown	"	0	6
1047.	15 c., orange-vermilion	"	1	0
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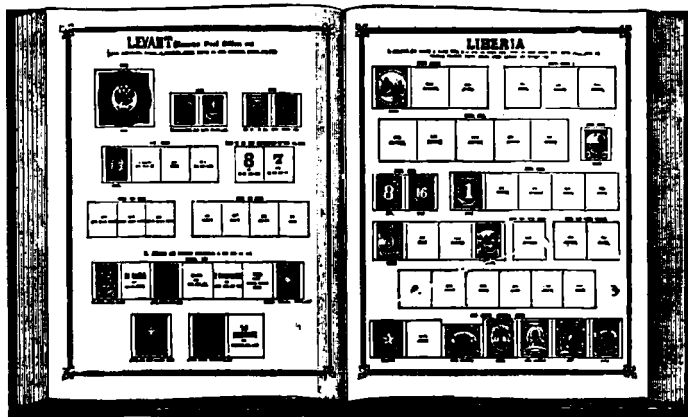
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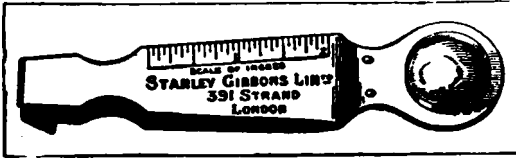
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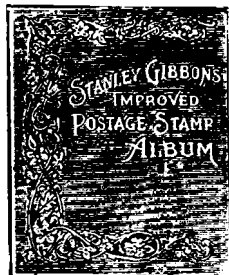
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WEEKLY



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	5 c. on 60 c.,	used 0 4
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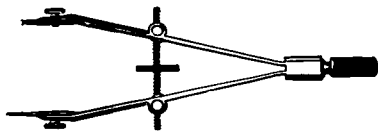
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It consists of a pair of broad-headed flat metal tongs, one of which is fitted with a solid wedge. The object of this is to permit the free end of a mount held by the tongs to be bent over, moistened, applied to the back of the stamp, and pressed down, 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.

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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.

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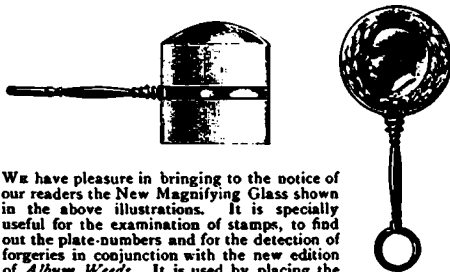
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We have pleasure in bringing to the notice of our readers the New Magnifying Glass shown in the above illustrations. It is specially useful for the examination of stamps, to find out the plate-numbers and for the detection of forgeries in conjunction with the new edition of *Album Woods*. It is used by placing the flat side in contact with the stamp to be examined.

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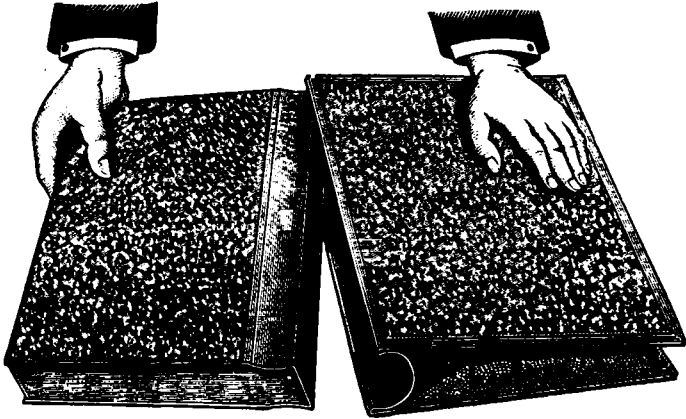
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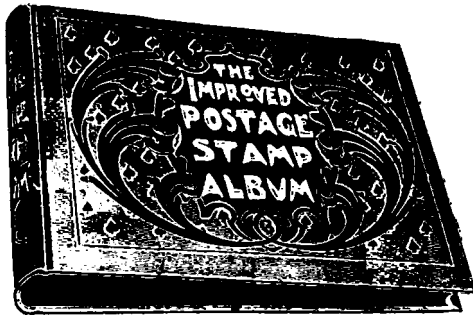
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WE have many collections offered to us that for one reason or another we do not wish to purchase, and we have therefore decided to open this "Stamp Collections Register" in order to bring under the notice of our 12,000 readers of the "Stamp Weekly" the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this Register in our paper we also issue the Register in pamphlet form and send it to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to "G.S.W."

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.
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- 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.
- 10th.—Collectors are advised to fix the very lowest price they will accept, in the first instance, as this will ensure a quicker sale and save co. correspondence.
- 11th.—It will greatly facilitate a sale if the owner will calculate the current catalogue price of his stamps.

No. 41. A VERY FINE SPECIALIZED COLLECTION OF

COLOMBIA AND ITS STATES

FORMED IN SOUTH AMERICA.

THIS collection is fairly complete, and has been made by one of the advanced collectors of South America, who has now placed the collection in our hands for sale.

The stamps are all in exceptionally fine condition, and the great bulk are unused. The collection contains a large number of uncatalogued varieties, many of which we now see for the first time.

Among the better things we note, in Colombia, 1859, 10 c., yellow, *tête-bêche*, mint; 1860, 5 c., blue, *tête-bêche*; 1861, the set, all unused, excepting the 10 c., blue. 1862, 20 c., red, used; 1 peso on white and blue paper; 1863, 50 c., red, error of colour.

In Cali there are 18 different varieties of the 1879 issue.

In Antioquia the 1868 issue has the 2½ c. and 10 c., used; the 5 c. and the 1 peso, unused. The other issues here are very complete, and include a number of rarities on laid and on wove paper. In the 1886 issue, there is an interesting pair showing the centre of one stamp erased.

The issues for Barranquilla are very complete, and include a number of very fine shades.

In Bolivar there is the 10 c., green, first issue, and the later issues almost complete, including the 20 c., green, error; the 1 peso of 1880 on blue laid paper, and other rarities.

The local issues of Cartagena are nearly complete, and include a large number of errors, and many varieties we have not chronicled.

The Panama are an exceptionally fine lot, and include a large number of errors in the issue of 1894.

The Republic of Panama are about the finest thing in the collection, and this section is extremely complete, and includes many really great rarities, both in singles and pairs; in fact, it is one of the finest lots of these stamps that we have ever met with.

The Tolima include a good lot of the first issue, and some scarce errors and varieties in the later issues.

The collection contains 2445 pieces, and the price fixed by the owner is

£525.

At which we can well recommend this as a very advantageous purchase.

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GIBBONS STAMP

WEEKLY

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1,253†	1900.	Jubilee, including re-engraved 5 c.	4	1 0
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1,257†	1903.	Provisionals. 10 c. on 15, 25, and 30 c.	3	1 6
TASMANIA.				
1,258†	1857-70.	Early type. Shades of 1d., red, imperf.	3	6 0
1,259†	1871-91.	1d., TAS wide, 2d., 8d., and 2½d. on 6d., TAS close	4	2 6
1,260†	1892-1902.	Queen, small, ½d., 6d., 1s., and 1½d. on 5d.	4	2 6
1,261†	1900.	Pictorial. Wmk, multiple TAS, 1d., 2d., 3d., and 4d.	4	1 6
1,262†	1902-3.	" " V and Crown, ½d., 1d., and 2d.	3	0 6
THURN AND TAXIS.				
1,263†	1852-67.	Northern District, 1, 2, 3, 5, and 10 sgr.	5	1 3
1,264†	"	Southern District, 1, 3, 6, 9, 15, and 30 kr.	6	1 6
TIMOR.				
1,265†	1885.	Provisionals on crown type, including error	3	1 6
1,266†	1887-95.	King, 5 r., 10 r., 20 r., 25 r., and 1 s. on 5 r.	5	1 0
1,267†	1893-1902.	5 r., 10 r., and 5 a. on 25 r.	3	1 0
1,268†	1898-1900.	King Carlos, ½ a. to 3 a.	5	0 6
1,269†	1903-5.	" 3 a., 5 a., 6 a., 9 a., 10 a., 13 a., 15 a., and 20 a. on 12 a.	8	2 6
1,270†	Newspaper stamps.	1893. 2½ on 20, 40, and 80 r.	3	0 9
TOBAGO.				
1,271†	1882-9.	Queen, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1½d. on 2½d.	6	4 0
TOGO.				
1,272†	1897-1900.	3 pf. (2), 5 pf., 10 pf., and 20 pf.	5	1 9
TOLIMA.				
1,273†	1871-84.	Early types, 5 c. (3), 10 c. (2), and 20 c.	6	1 6
1,274†	1884.	Arms, 1 c., 2 c., 2½ c., and 50 c.	4	1 6
1,275†	1903.	Arms, 4 c., 10 c., 20 c., 50 c. (2), 1 p., and 2 p.	7	1 6
1,276†	1903.	Arms, 5 p. and 10 p.	2	2 6
1,277*	1903.	Arms, 4 c., 10 c., 20 c., and 50 c. (2)	5	0 6
TRANSVAAL.				
1,278†	1885-98.	Provisionals, ½d. on 2d., 1d. on 6d., 2d. on 3d., and 2d. on 6d.	4	5 0
1,279*	1887-90.	Arms, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 6d., and 1s.	6	1 0
1,280†	1895-7.	Wagon with pole, ½d. (2), 1½d. on 1s., and 1d.	4	0 6
1,281*	"	" ½d. (2), 1d. (2), 2d. (2), 1½d. on 1s., and 1s.	8	0 8
1,282†	1900.	Surcharged V.R.I., ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	7	4 0
1,283†	1901-2.	" E.R.I., ½d., 1d., 3d., 4d., and 1½d. on 2d.	5	1 6
1,284*	1902-3.	King, single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., and 6d.	5	0 9
1,285*	1904-7.	" multiple, ½d. to 6d.	7	1 0

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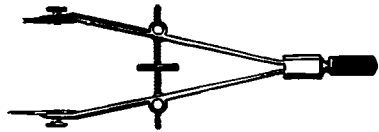
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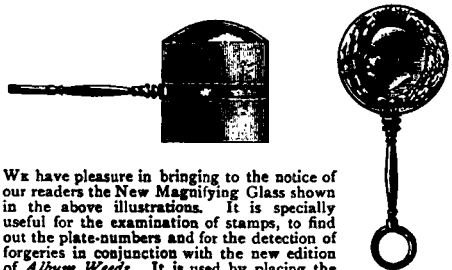
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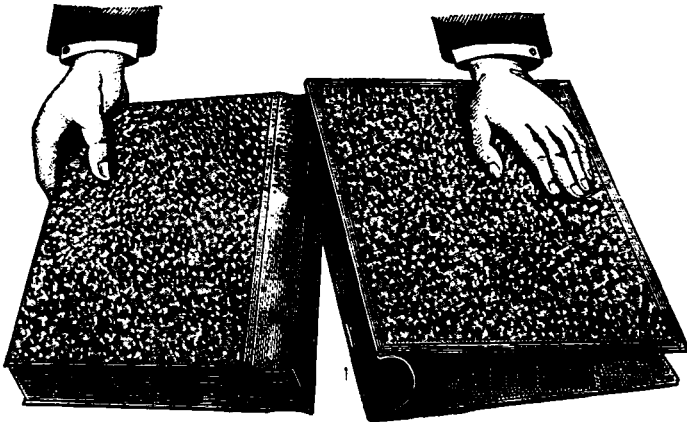
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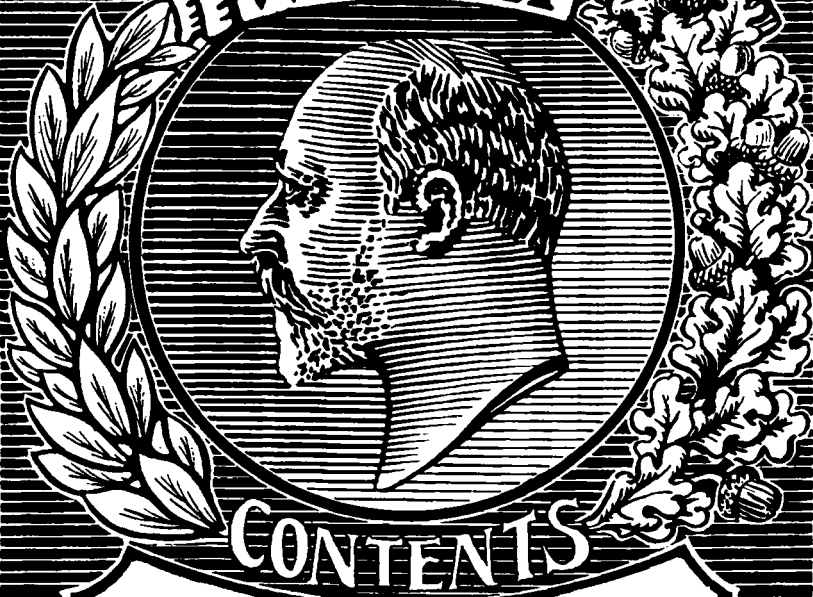
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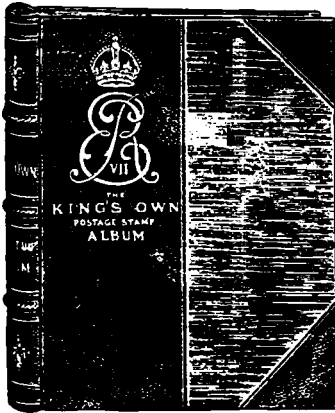
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1,298*	1860-81.	Star and Crescent type with various overprints	6	0 6
1,299*	1880-8.	Crescent type, including high values	10	0 10
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1,304†			5	1 6
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1,327*		,, 1 c. to 1 ½, and new 2 c.	13	1 3
1,328†	1904.	St. Louis, 2 c. Jamestown, 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c.	4	0 8
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1,331†		,, 1888-1902. 10 c. (2)	2	1 6
1,332*		,, 1888-1902. 10 c. (3)	3	1 0
1,333†	Postage Due.	1895. 1 c. to 10 c.	5	1 3

BLANK ALBUMS WITH FIXED LEAVES.

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, $8\frac{1}{2} \times 10\frac{1}{2}$ inches; available for mounting Stamps, $6\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

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2	1d.	0	6	0 6
3	2d.	0	5	1 0
4	$2\frac{1}{2}$ d.	0	9	1 6
5	4d.	1	0	1 6
6	6d.	1	6	...
7	1s.	2	6	4 0
(II) Thick paper, vertical wmk.				
9	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	0	6	...
10	1d.	0	3	0 6
11	2d.	0	8	1 0
12	$2\frac{1}{2}$ d.	0	9	...
(III) Thin paper, vertical wmk.				
17	2d.	0	6	1 0
19	4d.	1	0	...
20	6d.	1	6	...
21	1s.	7	6	...
22	2s. 6d.	40	0	...

PAPUA.

Large type. Thick paper, wmk horizontal.		s.	d.
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24	6d.	10	0
25	1s.	4	6
26	2s. 6d.	15	0
Large type. Thick paper, wmk. vertical.		s.	d.
27	$2\frac{1}{2}$ d.	0	6
29	6d.	3	0
Large type. Thin paper, wmk. vertical		s.	d.
30	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	0	6
31	1d.	1	0
32	2d.	1	6
Small type. Thick paper, wmk. vertical.		s.	d.
38	$2\frac{1}{2}$ d.	0	6
Small type. Thin paper, wmk. vertical		s.	d.
40	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	1	0
41	1d.	0	4
42	2d.	0	6
43	4d.	2	0
44	6d.	3	0
45	1s.	4	0
46	2s. 6d.	15	0
New type. Wmk. Crown A. (a) Perf. 11.		s.	d.
47	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	0	1
48	1d.	0	2
49	4d.	1	0
(b) Perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.		s.	d.
51	4d.	0	6

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NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

Correspondence

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—In the article on "Twentieth Century Colonials" in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, Mr. Armstrong states that there is only one important variety in the Provisional issue of Straits Settlements on Labuan of January, 1907, viz. the "no stop" variety of the 4 c. on 18 c., omitting to mention the double surcharge in black and red on the 4 c. on 16 c., which certainly seems a more important variety, and is listed in S.G. Catalogue, 1908, No. 143. I have a copy of the stamp (No. 137), in which there is a

distinct double surcharge, but both in *black*. The words STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, of course, only are doubly surcharged. The 8 c. shade variety seems badly described, as the original colour is *vermilion* and black. In describing the rare shade he mentions "brown," and then says it is "bright buff instead of yellow." Does this refer to the 8 c. or 12 c.? My copies of the latter vary in shade.

Yours truly,
FRED. W. ABBOTT.

Philatelic Societies

Junior Philatelic Society Brighton Branch

Hon. Sec. and Treas.: J. Ireland, 103 Western Road, Hove.

MEETINGS held at the Royal Hotel, Queen's Road, Brighton, from 7 till 10 p.m. Displays and Papers at 8. Second and fourth Thursdays.

1908

- Oct. 8. Display: San Marino, Fred. J. Melville. Paper: "A Few Stray Notes on Philatelic Values," W. Mead.
- Oct. 22. Display: Greece, Mexico, Uruguay, A. H. L. Giles, R.N.
- Nov. 10. Display: St. Vincent and Bahamas, M. P. Castle.
- Nov. 26. Ten Minute Papers, by Members.
- Dec. 10. Display: Line-engraved Great Britain, W. Cyril Owen.
- Dec. 31. Philatelic Reading and Discussion: "When is a Variety not a Variety?" from *Even's Weekly Stamp News*, 1905/822. Read by the Secretary.

1909

- Jan. 14. Paper and Display: "A New System of Collecting," J. Ireland.
- Jan. 28. Questions and Answers, by Members.
- Feb. 11. Paper and Display: "The English Essays for Stamps and Envelopes," Herbert Clark.
- Feb. 18, 19, 20. Manchester Stamp Exhibition, Hulme Town Hall.
- Feb. 25. Display: The Cent Issues of Ceylon, Baron Anthony de Worms.
- Mar. 11. Debate: "Is a classified Catalogue desirable?"
- Mar. 25. Display: Imperforate European Stamps, S. R. Turner. Paper and Display: "Local Stamps," H. Lee.
- April 15. Paper and Display: "The Pony Express of America," Herbert Clark.
- April 22. Display: King's Heads, G. H. Type.
- May 13. Beginners' Night.
- May 27. Annual Business Meeting.

Philatelic Society of Victoria

Secretary: W. Brettschneider.

Meetings: 128 Russell Street, Melbourne.

THE annual meeting of the above Society was held on 23 July, at 128, Russell Street, at 8 p.m.

Mr. Chester, the President, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members.

The minutes of last annual meeting were read and confirmed.

The retiring President addressed the meeting at some length, and Mr. Kelson read the annual report. It was proposed and seconded that the same be received, and after some discussion the report was adopted.

It was also proposed, seconded, and carried, that the balance sheet be adopted.

The next business, the election of officers for the ensuing year, being proceeded with, resulted as follows:—President, Mr. A. G. Kelson; Vice-President, Mr. C. H. Edmondson; Hon. Secretary, Treasurer, and Exchange Superintendent, Mr. W. Brettschneider; Librarian, Mr. S. O. Smith; Committee, Messrs. Williamson, Glazbrook, Longmore, and the Rev. — Lane.

After a vote of thanks to the retiring officers, the meeting closed, and the ordinary general meeting for July was held.

Annual Report of the Philatelic Society of Victoria

Your Committee, in following the established practice, has much pleasure in presenting to you the sixteenth Annual Report and Balance Sheet.

During the year eight new members were elected, seven resigned, and one we lost through death. The number on the roll is now seventy—thirty-six ordinary, thirty-three corresponding, and one honorary.

The Junior Branch, which started so satisfactorily, has not kept up the promise it gave at first, and has now practically ceased to exist, the few remaining members joining the Senior Society.

The credit balance of the Society now stands at £25 9s. 11d.

The compilation of the Society's Catalogue of the stamps of Victoria has been unavoidably postponed through the departure of Mr. Rundell and Mr. Jackson, and the untimely death of Mr. Horwood, the Society losing thereby a very conscientious and painstaking member.

A list of the numbers of Victorian stamps still required to complete the reference collection will be sent to each member, and your Committee trusts that required contributions will be forthcoming.

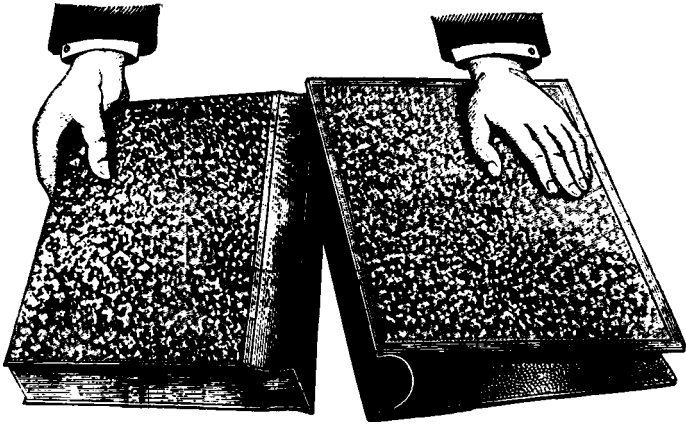
In conclusion, your Committee trusts that the Society will prosper in the future as it has done in the past.

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THIS NEW ALBUM IS FULLY DESCRIBED IN A PAMPHLET
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WEST INDIES.

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		s. d.
2. ANTIGUA	4	0 3
3. BAHAMAS	8	0 4
4. BARBADOS	12	0 6
5. BERMUDA	6	0 4
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4	0 3
7. DOMINICA	10	0 6
8. GRENADA	12	0 6
9. JAMAICA	12	0 6
10. LEEWARD ISLANDS	6	0 4
11. MONTSERRAT	4	0 3
12. NEVIS	10	0 6
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER	10	0 6
14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS	4	0 3
15. ST. LUCIA	12	0 6
16. ST. VINCENT	8	0 4
17. TOBAGO	6	0 4
18. TRINIDAD	22	1 0
19. TURKS ISLANDS	8	0 4
20. TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS	4	0 3
21. VIRGIN ISLANDS	8	0 4

AFRICAN COLONIES.

Section	Pages.	Price.
		s. d.
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32. " CENTRAL AFRICA	8	0 4
33. " EAST AFRICA	12	0 6
34. " SOMALILAND	10	0 6
35. " SOUTH AFRICA	10	0 6
36. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE	18	0 10
37. EAST AFRICA & UGANDA	6	0 4
38. GAMBIA	6	0 4
39. GOLD COAST	6	0 4
40. GRIQUALAND WEST	10	0 6
41. LAGOS	8	0 4
42. MADAGASCAR	22	1 0
43. MAURITIUS	24	1 0
44. NATAL	20	0 10
45. NEW SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC	22	1 0
46. NIGER COAST	8	0 4
47. NORTHERN NIGERIA	4	0 3
48. ORANGE RIVER COLONY	26	1 2
49. ST. HELENA	8	0 4
50. SEYCHELLES	8	0 4
51. SIERRA LEONE	10	0 6
52. SOUTHERN NIGERIA	4	0 3
53. STELLALAND	4	0 4
54. SUDAN . . . . .	...	0 8
55. SWAZIELAND . . . . .	...	0 3
56. TRANSVAAL . . . . .	...	...
57. UGANDA PROTECTORATE . . . . .	...	...

AMERICAN COLONIES.

22. BRITISH COLUMBIA	4	0 3
23. CANADA	22	1 0
24. NEW BRUNSWICK	4	0 3
25. NEWFOUNDLAND	12	0 6
26. NOVA SCOTIA	4	0 3
27. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	4	0 3
28. BRITISH GUIANA	22	1 0
29. " HONDURAS	8	0 4
30. FALKLAND ISLANDS	6	0 4

POSTAGE.

In remitting postage for the above, the correct amount may be calculated in the following way:—

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Above 600 pages reckon 1d. more for each additional 100 pages or portion thereof.

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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*" the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our paper we also issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send it to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to "*G.S.W.*"

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.
- 10th.—Collectors are advised to fix the very lowest price they will accept, in the first instance, as this will ensure a quicker sale and save correspondence.
- 11th.—It will greatly facilitate a sale if the owner will calculate the current catalogue price of his stamps.

No. 44.

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GIBBONS STAMP

WEEKLY



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STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

(Opposite The Hotel Cecil)

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Gibbons Stamp Weekly

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Contents.

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The other numbers are edited by CHAS. J. PHILLIPS, and contain amongst other subjects:—

The Countries of the World. By W. P. Barnsdall.

Topical Notes. By Chas. J. Phillips.

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Twentieth Century Colonials. By D. B. Armstrong.

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Notes from the World's Press.

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Philatelic Societies' Reports.

Answers to Correspondents.

About every other number contains an offer of a SPECIAL BARGAIN to Subscribers.

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NOTICE.—Publishers of Magazines, &c., who exchange with "G. S. W." are requested to be so kind as, in future, to send one copy of their publications direct to Major EVANS, Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, and a second to Messrs. STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

EDITORIAL COMMUNICATIONS.—All communications intended for the Editors should be addressed to The Editors, *G. S. W.*, 391 Strand, London, W.C.

CORRESPONDENCE.—The Editors regret that they have no time for direct correspondence. All letters requiring a reply will be dealt with under the head of "Answers to Correspondents."

COVERS FOR BINDING VOLUMES.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VII of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d. post-free.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

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5	Jan. to June, 1907	4	9
6	July to Dec., 1907	4	9
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" 11	"	5	0
" 12	"	4	0
" 13	"	4	0
" 14	"	4	0
" 15	"	4	0
" 16	"	4	0
" 17	"	4	0
" 18	"	4	0

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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.

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.

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1,350†	1898-1900.	Various issues, including rare 20 c. and provisional	8	2 6
1,351*	1899-1900.	Various types	6	0 8
1,352†	1900-7.	Pictorial, 5 m., 1 c., 2 c., 5 c. (2), 7 c., and 10 c.	7	1 9
1,353*	1900-1.	" 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 25 c., 50 c., and 1 p.	7	3 6
1,354*	1904-7.	" 5 m., 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c. (3)	6	0 6
1,355*	1904.	Paz. 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c.	3	2 0
1,356†	Official. 1899-1901.	Various types	3	2 0

VENEZUELA.

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1,362*	1880.	" Perf., 5 c., 10 c., 25 c., 50 c., 1 b., and 2 b.	6	1 0
1,363†	1880.	" 5 c., 25 c., and 50 c.	3	0 9
1,364†	1882.	" 5 c. to 20 b.	8	0 10
1,365*	1882-7.	Various types, including 25 c. rouletted	9	1 0
1,366†	1893.	Overprinted Arms, 5 c. (2), 10 c. (2), 25 c. (2), and 50 c. (2)	8	0 9
1,367*	1893.	Columbus Commemorative and portrait of Bolivar	7	0 6
1,368†	1893-6.	" and Map	6	1 0
1,369†	1893.	Bolivar, 5 c. to 3 b.	6	0 9
1,370†	"	" 5 c. to 20 b.	8	7 6
1,371†	"	" Foreign Postage, 5 c. to 1 b.	5	0 6
1,372†	1899.	" 5 c. to 50 c.	4	0 6
1,373*	1899-1902.	Various types overprinted	12	1 0
1,374†	1900.	Overprinted " Resellada," 5 c. to 3 b.	6	0 9
1,375†	"	" " 5 c. to 10 b.	7	1 3
1,376†	"	" " 5 c. to 20 b.	8	3 0
1,377†	"	" " " Resellada, 1900," 5 c., 10 c., and 25 c.	3	0 6
1,378*	1904.	General Sucre, 5 c. to 50 c. Castro, 25 c.	5	0 6
1,379†	Registration. 1899.	Bolivar, 25 c.	2	0 8

VICTORIA.

1,385*	1876-1901.	Various issues and types	20	1 3
1,387†	1901.	First issue, ½d. to 6d.	8	4 6
1,388†	"	Second issue, ½d. to 4d.	5	2 0
1,389†	"	6d., 1s., and 2s.	2	4 6
1,390†	1905-7.	Wmk. Crown and A, 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 9d., and 1s.	6	3 6
1,391†	Postage Due. 1891-9.	½d., 1d. (2), 2d., and 6d.	5	1 9

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

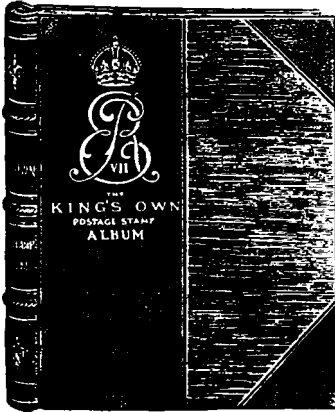
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Speculation in the Levant

IT will be remembered that a few notes appeared in *G.S.W.*, No. 184, relative to the above, and that the New Issue columns have contained further references since. By all account the speculators are still having their own way, unrestrained by any interference from headquarters. In *G.S.W.*, No. 192, a 30 c. was listed, and quantities given of other values that were to appear of what we style the "third overprinting." As a matter of fact, this is really the fourth lot, but as the first was not properly issued we have ignored it. Adopting for the time the continental nomenclature, Signor Glavany tells us that the 4 piastres and 20 piastres of the above-mentioned fourth printing were ostensibly put on sale on 12 August, but that the quantities printed were all snapped up by the same ring that manipulated the first lot, and in consequence 4000 of 4 piastres and 2000 of 20 piastres of a fifth overprinting were to be put on sale 31 August. These again, he tells us, were all dealt with in the same way, and so the game will go merrily on till the authorities step in and put a stop to such a scandal.

It will be noticed that the quantities of these higher values are kept small on purpose, and so far no mention has been made of the issue of the 10 pa., 20 pa., 1 pi. and 2 pi. of the fourth printing. Probably if issued the quantities are too big to manipulate successfully. We have asked our correspondent to give us more information on this point, and detailed particulars as to how the overprints vary for each printing.

Another correspondent has sent us particulars of the first issue detailing the numerous errors and varieties, and asking most inflated prices for some of them, ranging from 5 francs to 350 francs per stamp. The harsh criticism already expressed concerning the speculation seems justified, for *Le Collectionneur de Timbre-poste* mentions an offer in much the same terms. As some of the issues—if made at all for postal purposes—are frankly speculative, the better plan seems to omit them altogether from the Catalogue. In any case, at present matters are too hazy to permit of a proper sorting "of the sheep from the goats."

That there is need for reform in Turkish postal matters is well illustrated from the following anecdote which is going the round of the foreign papers: "An Italian merchant, established at Salonika, recently posted a batch of letters in one of the post boxes near to the head office in this town. After some days, having received no replies, he called

on the postmaster to complain about the matter. The latter, with charming courtesy, offered the merchant a seat, and producing coffee and cigars sent a messenger to clear the contents of the said box, which were only collected at infrequent periods." The messenger returned in a short time with an armful of correspondence, amongst which the Italian had no difficulty in finding his letters. He was pouring out the vials of his wrath concerning what he termed gross negligence, when, to his stupefaction, he saw the postmaster with the greatest coolness gather up the remaining missives and throw them *en bloc* into his stove, with the remark "that in any case the letters were now too old to be of any use."

The story may be exaggerated, but in any case it is no excuse for the jiggery-pokery now going on in the Levant. As an example of what can be done here, an offer made by the same correspondent who was anxious to deal in the first issue mentioned above is interesting. It seems a new set for Turkey is imminent, probably with some overprint commemorating the new Constitution. Our friend suggests that we should, through his good offices, corner some of the values on an engagement being given by the authorities that no more stamps with like overprints should be issued, but that the same values should be replaced by entirely changing the setting. The gentleman believes that he could bring about this transaction, and is ready to congratulate us on the prices we could extract from collectors. Our publishers, needless to say, have not availed themselves of the offer.

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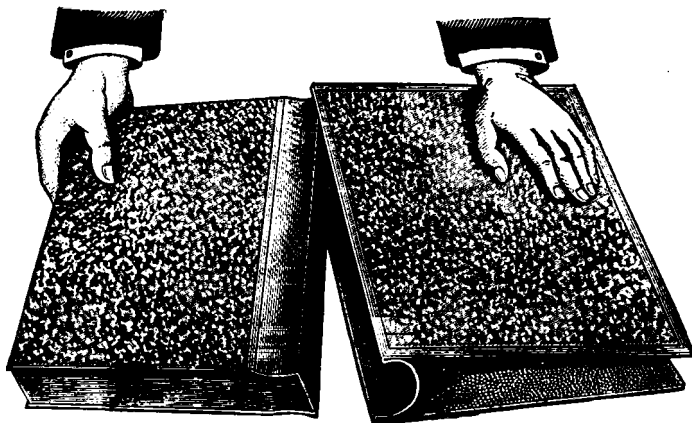
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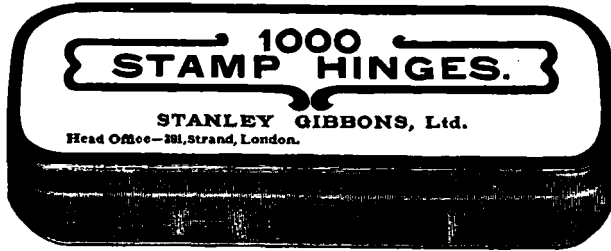
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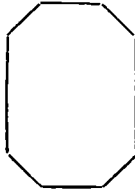
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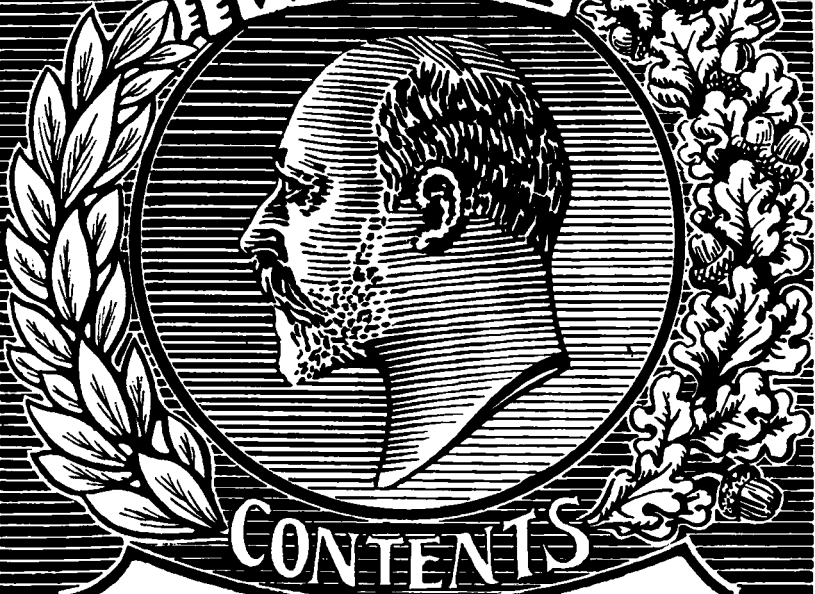
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1908.
Oct. 14th. President's Opening Address.
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Display, "Belgium and Congo," G. LOVERIUS
Dec. 9th. Display, with Notes: "Straits Settlements," J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, B.A.
Competitive Display, "West Coast of Africa, from Senegambia to the Equator."
1909.
Jan. 13th. Display, "Argentine," A. H. L. GILES, R.N.
Display, by Members, of their Favourite Country. Note: All Members are expected to contribute to this item.
Feb. 10th. Paper, "Monaco," A. H. HARRIS
Display, with Notes: "Ceylon," J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, B.A.
Mar. 10th. The "Simple Life in Stamps," ingeniously illustrated. J. READ-BURTON, F.R.P.S.L.
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Paper, South American Notables, with Specimens J. D. COOPER
May 12th. Annual General Meeting.

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1908.
Oct. 15th. Questions and Answers
Nov. 5th. Paper and Display, "New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia," by A. H. L. Giles, R.N.
Nov. 19th. Paper and Display, "West Indians, Part I, Antigua, Bahamas, and Bermudas," by E. Heginbottom.
Dec. 3rd. Competitive Display, "Stamps used in countries other than those of issue." Prize presented by C. J. Phillips.
Paper, "Should limited Specialism be advocated?" by C. M. C. Symes.
" 17th. Paper and Display, "West Indians, Part II, Barbados," by E. Heginbottom.
1909.
Jan. 7th. Debate, "What is the status of an Unused Postage Due Stamp?" by C. S. Muratori.
Jan. 21st. Paper and Display, "West Indians, Part III, Dominica and Grenada," by E. Heginbottom.
Paper, "Laxity in Exchange Clubs," by C. M. C. Symes.
Feb. 4th. Paper and Display, "Fiscals," by W. Schwabacher.
Paper and Display, "Cayman Islands," by C. J. Phillips.
" 18th. Paper and Display, "West Indians, Part IV, Jamaica, Grenada, and Nevis," by E. Heginbottom.
Paper, by A. B. Creeke, Jun.
Mar. 3rd. Display of Society's Collection of Forgeries, by P. W. Deverell.
" 17th. Display, by J. C. Sidebotham.
Paper and Display, "Philatelic Literature," by Herbert Clarke.
April 7th. Competitive Display, with Notes, of not more than 25 Stamps, showing objects of Natural History.
" 21st. Paper and Display, "Cashmere," by A. J. Sefi.
May 5th. Philatelic Sketch.
" 19th. Annual General Meeting.

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SESSION 1908-9.

1908.
Oct. 2. "New Issues" THE MEMBERS
16. Display, with Notes: "New South Wales," J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, B.A.
" 30. Public Evening: Lantern Exhibition of "The Stamps of Great Britain."
Nov. 13. Display: "South Africa" G. MARTIN
27. Display: "India" G. A. MACDOWELL
Dec. 11. Display, with Notes: "New Zealand," J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, B.A.
" 25. Display, with Notes: "Russia," G. H. WHITAKER
1909.
Jan. 8. Paper: "Items of Interest to Philatelists," P. M'INTOSH
" 22. Display, with Notes: "Queensland," J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, B.A.
Feb 5. Discussion: "Can a Dealer be a true Philatelist?" Messrs DAVID & MARSHALL
" 18. Paper: "The Originator of the Adhesive Postage Stamp" G. H. WHITAKER
Mar. 5. Paper (2nd), with Illustrations: "Great Britain" J. R. W. CLARK
" 19. Display, with Notes: "South Australia," J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, B.A.
April 2. Short Papers: "Method and Fancies," THE MEMBERS
" 16. —————

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THE annual general meeting of the Junior Philatelic Society, London branch, was held on Saturday, September 5th, at the new meeting-place, Prince Henry's Room, 17 Fleet Street, E.C. Reports were read by the various officials of the Society; the Treasurer in his report stating that there is a balance in hand of £49 16s. 8d., and £6 in the reserve fund.

The following are the officers appointed for next season: President, F. J. Melville; Vice-Presidents, W. Darwin and Douglas Ellis; Committee, P. Beaumont, H. H. Harland, S. C. F. Harris, E. A. Leigh, B. B. Kirby, E. A. Smart, G. T. Turner, S. R. Turner; Exchange Superintendent, D. S. Darkin; Superintendent of Beginners' Exchange, W. Darwin; Librarian, D. B. Armstrong; Assistant-Librarian, B. B. Kirby; Expert Committee, H. Lee (Secretary); Curator of Permanent Collection, R. Halliday; Auctioneer, E. M. Gilbert-Lodge, F.A.I.; Auditor, C. B. Bardon; Treasurer, H. F. Johnson; Assistant Secretaries, B. Grellier, H. Lee; General Secretary, A. Selinge.

One or two unimportant alterations were made in the rules.

Before the meeting closed, the President stated that promises of displays had been received from a number of prominent philatelists, and the season promises to be one of the best in the records of the Society.

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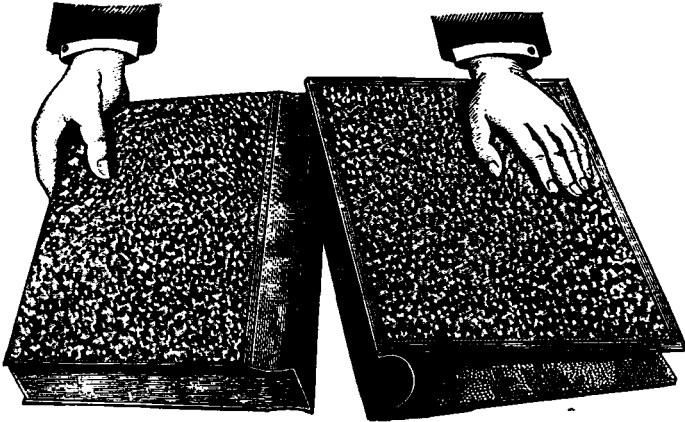
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Cat. No.	Description	Price	s.	d.
175.	2 p., violet	.	.	1 0
176.	3 p., deep blue	.	.	2 0
177.	4 p., dull pink	.	.	4 0

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Various issues. Revised prices.

56a.	½ on 5 c., vermilion	used	0	6
72.	½ on 5 c.	.	.	1 0
96.	30 c., brown	used	0	4
125.	1 c., "	.	.	0 1
126.	2 c., green	.	.	0 2
148.	30 c., orange	used	0	3

BAVARIA.

1870-3. *Type 3. Wmk. Lozenges. Revised price.*

60.	10 kr., ochre	used	0	6
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BELGIUM.

1902. *Parcel Post. Reduced price.*

443.	30 c., green and orange	used	0	1
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BERMUDA.

1902-4. *Dock type. Single watermark.*

32.	1d., brown and carmine	used	0	1
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BOSNIA.

1900. *Arms type. Reduced prices.*

116.	5 h., deep green	used	0	1
118.	10 h., red	"	"	0 1

BRAZIL.

Various issues. Revised prices.

85.	300 reis, bistre-brown	used	0	3
89.	50 reis, blue	"	"	0 6
91.	100 reis, olive-green (A)	"	"	0 8
93.	100 reis, " (C)	"	"	0 2
94.	200 reis, brown-rose (A)	"	"	4 0
94.	200 reis, " (A)	used	0	6
95.	200 reis, " (B)	"	"	3 0
409.	1000 reis, orange-yellow (Journal)	used	4	0
513.	200 reis, magenta (Unpaid)	"	"	0 2

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

1904-7. *Type 27. New value.*

322a.	10s., green	.	.	12 6
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SWITZERLAND.

1908. *New Helvetia Type.*

50 c.,	yellow-green and green	.	.	0 7
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Philatelic Societies

Junior Philatelic Society Manchester Branch

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer: Jno. S. Higgins, Jun., 7 Green Street, Manchester.

The opening meeting of the Society was held at the Deansgate Hotel on 17 September, about forty members being present.

The President, in his opening address, referred to the progress the Society was making, and to the forthcoming Philatelic Exhibition and Congress to be held at the Hulme Town Hall on 18, 19, and 20 February next.

The Congress, which will be the first of its kind to be held in Great Britain, promises to be a big success, many of the leading philatelists and Societies having promised their support.

After the Presidential address, a display of members' stamps proved of great interest, amongst the exhibits being those of Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht, whose collection of Essays and Proofs created much interest. Mr. S. C. Buckley showed his collection of Great Britain. Mr. J. J. Darlow displayed a few sheets of rare and interesting stamps, including the 6d. and 1s., 1851, Nova Scotia. Mr. J. G. Horner's collection of China included many uncommon varieties. Mr. K. H. Kricorissian's selection contained many rare British stamps used abroad.

SESSION 1908-9.

1908.			
Oct. 15,	6.0 p.m.	Bourse.	
	7.30 "	Paper: "Paper and Perforation of Stamps"	I. J. BERNSTEIN.
Nov. 5,	6.0 "	Bourse.	
	7.15 "	Display, with Notes: "St. Lucia."	J. J. DARLOW.
	7.45 "	Paper: "A Few Notes on Current Issues"	H. J. HORNER.
	19, 6.30 "	Auction.	
Dec. 3,		Social.	
	17, 6.0 "	Bourse.	
	7.15 "	Display, with Notes: "Niger Coast Protectorate."	J. S. HIGGINS, JUN.
	7.45 "	Paper: "Minor Varieties of Half-ghanistan"	W. WARD.
1909.			
Jan. 21,	6.0 p.m.	Bourse.	
	7.15 "	Display, with Notes: "South Australia"	W. W. MUNN.
	7.45 "	Paper: "How to run a School Philatelic Society"	F. W. ATTACK.
Feb. 4,	6.0 "	Bourse.	
	7.15 "	Discussion: "Should Damaged Stamps be Collected?"	Affirmative. W. H. HORROCKS.
	18, 19, & 20.	Stamp Exhibition in Hulme Town Hall. Full particulars will be announced in <i>The Philatelic Press</i> , etc. Offices of the Stamp Exhibition, 9 Albert Square, Manchester.	
Mar. 4,	6.30 p.m.	Auction.	
	18, 6.0 "	Bourse.	
	7.15 "	Display: "German Colonies."	P. S. BARTON.
	7.45 "	Paper: "What I Think Fit."	J. TAYLOR.
April 1,	6.0 "	Bourse.	
	7.15 "	Display, with Notes: "St. Christopher"	J. J. DARLOW.
	7.45 "	Paper: "Varieties of Type."	J. MALINGS.
	15, 6.0 "	Bourse.	
	7.30 "	Paper: "Stamps worth looking for."	I. J. BERNSTEIN.
May 7,	6.0 "	Bourse.	
	7.15 "	Annual Meeting.	
June.		Annual Picnic.	

North of England Philatelic Society

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

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

Meetings: Y.M.C.A., Newcastle-on-Tyne, first Thursday in each month, October to April, 7.30 p.m.
Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.

SESSION 1908-9.

1908.		
Oct. 1.	R. W. WILKINSON:	"Bulgaria. MEMBERS (each): Twenty Interesting Stamps and General Exchange.
Nov. 5.	E. HEGINBOTTOM, B.A.:	"Grenada, Montserrat, Nevis, and St. Kitts" (with notes).
Dec. 3.	E. HEGINBOTTOM, B.A.:	"St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Turks Islands." S. C. GRAHAM: "Seychelles."
1909.		
Jan. 7.	G. B. BAINBRIDGE, J.P.:	"African Colonies (selected).
Feb. 4.	W. W. SANDERSON:	"Egypt" (with notes and lantern illustrations).
	18.	Sal.
Mar. 4.	M. H. HORSLEY, J.P.:	"Great Britain" (used).
April 1.	R. W. WILKINSON:	"Greece" (with notes).

REPORT FOR SESSION 1907-8.

GENTLEMEN,

It is with great pleasure I am able to report that our Society is still prospering.

The membership at the end of our Fifth Session is sixty-eight, an increase of four. Thirteen members have been elected since last annual meeting, eight have resigned, and one, Mr. Brown, of York, has died. The average attendance at the monthly meetings being 17.5, or a slight improvement upon previous years. We have, during the past Session, elected our first lady member, and have also reached the record attendance at one meeting of thirty, this being the occasion of Mr. Horsley's fine display of New South Wales and Gambia on 2 April.

The Auction Sale in February was well attended, and Mr. Jas. V. Anderson, who again officiated, sold some two hundred lots at fair prices, though as the Society suffered a loss of over 30s., some rearrangement may possibly be introduced.

We have to record our thanks to Mr. Hume, our Vice-President, for his gift to the Library of *India and Ceylon*, and shall be glad to receive further contributions from any of the members. The books in the Library may be had on loan by any member making application to the Secretary.

The books in Library now are *South Australia, St. Vincent*, first volume *Album Weeds, Reprints, India and Ceylon*, and some Catalogues and Magazines.

Our forgery collection is making somewhat slow progress, and Mr. Wilkinson will be pleased to receive copies of any good "bad uns" that members may have to spare.

If sufficient funds are guaranteed, we purpose holding an Exhibition in Newcastle early next year, all entries to be confined to members, with the exception of a suggested class for schoolboys and girls under sixteen years of age, and the Committee ask for the support of all the members in this undertaking, as it will entail a lot of extra work. Messrs. Wilkinson and Bagnall have kindly offered their hearty assistance in the enterprise.

Most of the monthly meetings have been held in the Drawing-room at the Y.M.C.A., and the increased comfort amply compensates for the added cost of rent. Arrangements have been made for the same meeting place this Session.

Our cordial thanks are given to Messrs. G. B. Bainbridge, S. C. Graham, R. W. Wilkinson, M. H. Horsley, and E. Heginbottom, B.A., for the interesting displays they gave during the Session. The programme for the next seven months is of an instructive nature, and should prove of equal value from a philatelic point of view.

The officers retire according to rule, and are eligible for re-election.

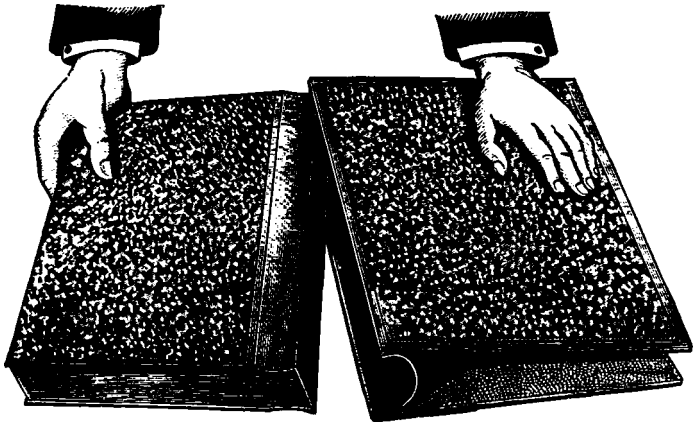
I am, Gentlemen,
Yours faithfully,
MARK EASTON, Hon. Sec.

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9. JAMAICA	12	0	6	38. GAMBIA	6	0	4
10. LEEWARD ISLANDS	6	0	4	39. GOLD COAST	6	0	4
11. MONTserrat	4	0	3	40. GRIQUALAND WEST	10	0	6
12. NEVIS	10	0	6	41. LAGOS	8	0	4
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER	10	0	6	42. MADAGASCAR	22	1	0
14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS	4	0	3	43. MAURITIUS	24	1	0
15. ST. LUCIA	12	0	6	44. NATAL	20	0	10
16. ST. VINCENT	8	0	4	45. NEW SOUTH AFRICAN			
17. TOBAGO	6	0	4	REPUBLIC	22	1	0
18. TRINIDAD	22	1	0	46. NIGER COAST	8	0	4
19. TURKS ISLANDS	8	0	4	47. NORTHERN NIGERIA	4	0	3
20. TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS	4	0	3	48. ORANGE RIVER COLONY	26	1	2
21. VIRGIN ISLANDS	8	0	4	49. ST. HELENA	8	0	4
				50. SEYCHELLES	8	0	4
				51. SIERRA LEONE	10	0	6
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				53. STELLALAND	4	0	4
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GIBBONS STAMP

WEEKLY



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Hon. Secretary: H. A. Glade, Esq., Ninefields, St. Albans.
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1908.
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 Nov. 17. Display of St. Vincent and Bahamas, with notes, by Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P.
 Dec. 15. Display of Europeans (unused), with notes, by Mr. Robt. Reid.
 1909.
 Jan. 19. Display of Great Britain, with notes, by Baron Anthony de Worms.
 Feb. 16. Display of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons Limited's Collection of Forgeries of Italian States, etc., with notes, by Mr. Charles J. Phillips. Paper on the Italian States, by Mr. Percy Ashley, M.A.
 Mar. 16. Display of Holland and Colonies, by Mr. A. J. Warren.
 April 20. "The Purchasing Power of the Penny from a Philatelic and a non-Philatelic point of view," with display, by the Vice-President (Mr. H. L. Hayman) and Mr. Percy Ashley, M.A.
 May 18. Annual Meeting.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.
Meetings: Tuesdays (7.15 p.m.), Room B3, Leeds Institute, Ooakridge Street.
Hon. Secretary: T. S. Fraser, 22 Oriental Terrace, Armley, Leeds.
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1908.
 Oct. 20. Display of European Stamps, old issues, by the Members.
 Nov. 3. Display of the Stamps of Hong Kong and Straits Settlements, with notes, by E. Heginbottom, Esq., B.A.
 Nov. 5. Visit to the Bradford Society.
 Nov. 17. Display of Stamps of the South American Republics, by the Members, and Stamp Auction.
 Dec. 1. Visit of the Bradford Society. Display of the Pictorial issues of New Zealand, by A. H. Stamford, Esq.
 Dec. 3. Visit to the Huddersfield Society.
 Dec. 15. Display, by H. Wade, Esq.
 1909.
 Jan. 5. Paper, "History and the Postage Stamp," and Display, by W. E. Lincoln, Esq.
 Jan. 19. Display of the Stamps of Malta, Gibraltar, and Cyprus, with notes, by E. Heginbottom, Esq., B.A.
 Feb. 2. Display of the Stamps of Egypt, with notes, by J. W. Duffield, Esq.
 Feb. 18. Visit to the Bradford Society.
 Feb. 20. Visit to the Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition.
 Mar. 2. Display of the British Bechuanaland Stamps, with notes, by T. K. Skipwith, Esq., and Stamp Auction.
 Mar. 16. Visit of the Bradford Society. Display of the Surface-printed Stamps of Great Britain issued up to 1884, with notes, by W. M. Gray, Esq., F.R.P.S.L.
 Mar. 30. Visit of the Huddersfield Society.
 April 6. Paper and Display, by Fred. A. Padgett, Esq.
 April 20. Display of "Some Recent Issues," with notes, by G. Davis, Esq. Stamp Auction.
 May 4. Display of British West Indian (including Turks Islands) Stamps, with notes, by the President.
 May 18. Annual Meeting.

Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society

President: A. S. Allender.
Hon. Sec.: J. H. St. Savage, 58 Babinpton Road, Birkenhead.
Meetings held at 8 Colquitt Street, Liverpool.

The first ordinary meeting of the above Society for the 1908-9 session, held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday evening, 21 September, at 6 Colquitt Street, Liverpool, was attended by about twenty members, including three ladies.

Mr. Rockliff took the chair in the absence of the

President, Mr. A. S. Allender, and Miss Lyster and Messrs. Savage, Bate, Fletcher, Archer, and Edmondson represented the Committee. The Hon. Sec., Mr. Savage, read the minutes of the last ordinary meeting, held on 21 April, 1908, which were duly passed. The Secretary reported two or three resignations, which were more than balanced by the election of two candidates and the proposing of three more for membership.

Mr. Bate, the Hon. Exchange Secretary, then read a most interesting and well-written paper on the "Stamps of Jamaica," describing carefully the different issues from the first to the present stamps.

Mr. Savage, in proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer, made several very interesting remarks about the early Jamaican Post Office and its postal service. Mr. Fletcher seconded, and Messrs. Clissold and Webster supported the motion. Mr. Bate was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, to which he suitably responded.

Fine exhibitions of Jamaican stamps were shown by Messrs. Rockliff, Savage, Bate, and Clissold.

In the competition two prizes awarded for the best exhibits of the stamps of certain countries throughout the season, out of a maximum of ten, the following points were awarded:—S. Evans, 9; Mrs. Burton, 8; and M. T. Samson, 3.

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.

IMPORTANT.

The annual subscription does not admit of the posting of regular notices of every meeting. Members are therefore urgently requested to keep the full programme handy for frequent reference, and to remember that the meetings take place on the First and Third Thursdays of each month.

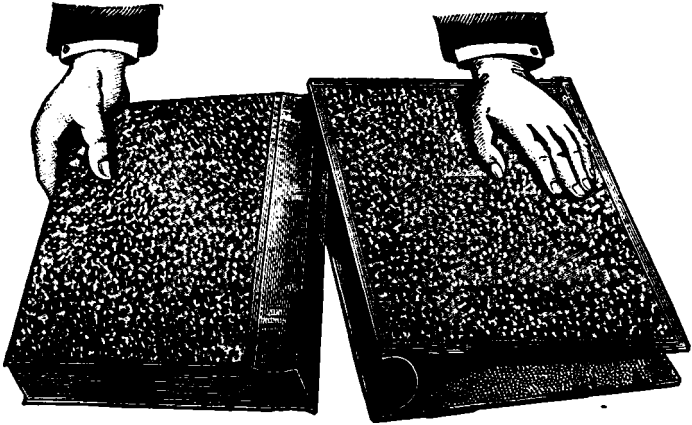
1908.
 Sept. 3. Conversazione, Display of Rarities and Novelties. Public Evening.
 Sept. 17. Paper and Display, "Chili," by J. R. Burton, F.R.P.S.L.
 Oct. 1. Debate, "Merits of Catalogues."
 Oct. 15. Questions and Answers.
 Nov. 5. Paper and Display, "New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia," by A. H. L. Giles, R.N.
 Nov. 19. Paper and Display, "West Indians, Part I, Antigua, Bahamas, and Bermudas," by E. Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.
 Dec. 3. Competitive Display, "Stamps used in countries other than those of issue." Prize presented by C. J. Phillips. Paper, "Should limited Specialism be advocated?" by C. M. C. Symes.
 Dec. 17. Paper and Display, "West Indians, Part II, Barbados," by E. Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.
 1909.
 Jan. 7. Debate, "What is the status of an Unused Postage Due Stamp?" by C. S. Muratori.
 Jan. 21. Paper and Display, "West Indians, Part III, Dominica and Grenada," by E. Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.
 Paper, "Laxity in Exchange Clubs," by C. M. C. Symes.
 Feb. 4. Paper and Display, "Fiscals," by W. Schwabacher, F.R.P.S.L.
 Paper and Display, "Cayman Islands," by C. J. Phillips.
 Feb. 18. Paper and Display, "West Indians, Part IV, Jamaica, Grenada, and Nevis," by E. Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S.L.
 Paper by A. B. Creeke, jun.
 Mar. 3. Display of Society's Collection of Forgeries, by P. J. W. Deverell.
 Mar. 17. Display by J. C. Sidebotham, F.R.P.S.L.
 Paper and Display, "Philatelic Literature," by Herbert Clarke.
 April 7. Competitive Display, with notes, of not more than twenty-five stamps, showing objects of Natural History.
 Paper and Display, "Cashmere," by A. J. Sefti. Philatelic Sketch.
 May 5. Annual General Meeting.

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5. BERMUDA	6	0	4	34. " SOMALILAND	10	0	6
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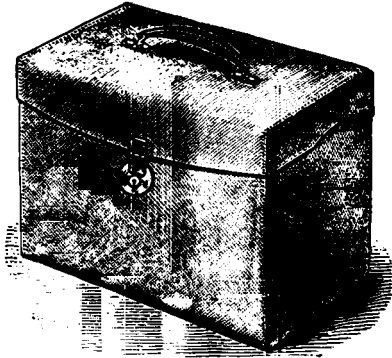
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1903-5. *King's Head. Revised prices.*

41.	½ a., pea-green	used	0 1
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183a.	3 p., blue-grey (Service)	"	0 1
185.	1 a., carmine (")	"	0 3
190.	2 a., purple (")	"	0 4

COLOMBIA.

1883-91. *Various types. Reduced prices.*

189.	50 c., brown on buff		1 6
190a.	1 p., lake on yellowish		2 0
240.	5 c., deep blue on azure		0 2

DANISH WEST INDIES.

1908. *New type. Portrait of King Frederick VIII.*

70.	5 bit, green		0 1
71.	10 bit, brick-red		0 2
72.	20 bit, deep blue and yellow-green		0 4
73.	25 bit, blue		0 5

ECUADOR.

1908. *New types. Handsome stamps.*

331.	1 c., red-brown (Locomotive)		0 1
332.	2 c., dull blue (triangular)		0 7
334.	10 c., ochre (")		0 3
335.	20 c., green (")		0 10
336.	50 c., grey-black (")		2 0
337.	1 sucre, black (View)		4 0

GERMAN LEVANT.

1900. *Stamp of German Empire, surcharged.*

T20.	1 pi. on 20 pf., ultramarine	used	0 2
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GERMAN MOROCCO.

1905. *Stamp of German Empire, surcharged.*

M21.	5 c. on 5 pf., green	used	0 2
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HOLKAR.

1904-7. *Type 4. Portrait.*

0.	½ a., orange	used	0 1
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JOHOR.

1898-4. *Provisional. Reduced price.*

30.	3 c. on 4 c., purple and black		0 6
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MEXICO.

Various issues. Revised prices.

37.	13 c., blue		5 0
42.	13 c., "		1 3
48.	25 c., brown-orange		1 0
91.	12 c., blue	used	0 3
129.	5 c., orange (Overprint omitted)		0 2
135.	10 c., brown (Imperf.)		0 6

1899-1903. *Official stamps.*

652.	3 c., brown	used	0 4
655.	15 c., lilac and lavender		1 0
662.	5 c., orange		0 4
604.	10 c., orange and blue		0 6

SAMOA.

1887-94. *Type 2. Perf. 11. Reduced prices.*

41.	1s., rose		1 6
42.	2s. 6d., violet		2 0

SERVIA.

1903-4. *Type 12, overprinted with Arms.*

169.	5 p., pale green		0 1
170.	10 p., rose		0 2
171.	15 p., drab		0 3
172.	20 p., orange		0 4
173.	25 p., blue		0 4
174.	50 p., grey		1 0

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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:* 6s.

October 1. Annual General Business Meeting.

The following programme was approved;—

- 1908
 Oct. 22. Display: Victoria, 1868-85, Messrs. R. HOLLICK and C. A. STEPHENSON.
 Nov. 5. Paper: "St. Vincent, 1861-77," Mr. W. PIMM.
 " 26. Paper: "Barbados, 1852-70," Mr. C. A. STEPHENSON.
 Dec. 3. Auction.
 " 17. Display for forthcoming Exhibition.
1909.
 Jan. 7. Lantern Display, Mr. J. A. MARGOSCHIS.
 " 12 to 15. Exhibition at Midland Institute.
 Feb. 11. Display: St. Helena and other African Colonies, Dr. T. GROOM.
 " 25. Display: British Guiana, Mr. B. B. TILLEY.
 Mar. 4. Auction.
 " 18. Notes on "Sunday Label Stamps of Belgium," with Display, Mr. F. E. WILSON.
 April 1. Paper: "Cashmere," Mr. Alex. J. SEPI.
 " 29. Annual Dinner.

£5 was granted towards the Permanent Collection.

The report and balance-sheet, showing a balance in hand of £89 1s. 6d., were approved.

The Officers and Committee were elected as above.

The rules of the auctions were revised in favour of the members who wish to sell at the same.

Messrs. P. Langon, F. Brocchi, J. M. Molesworth, W. Silk, Alex. J. Seif, V. F. James, and S. C. L. Wade were elected members.

Votes of thanks were entered on the minutes to all those who had sent periodicals during the past session; also to Messrs. F. C. Henderson, F. Brocchi, Mrs. Lake, Messrs. H. Barnwell, and P. T. Deakin for recent additions to the Permanent Collection, and to Mr. H. S. Hodson for catalogues.

It was decided, as usual, to enter the names of all those who had given donations to the Permanent Collection during the past year in the front of the albums in the order of the value of the gifts.

A vote of sympathy with the Hon. President in his illness was unanimously passed, as was the decision to supply every member with the *Philatelic World* for the next twelve months who sends 6d. for the postage on same to the Hon. Secretary.

The total value of stamps circulated during the past year was £28,963 2s. 11d., and the total sold £2874 11s. 9d. The total membership on 30 September was 255, but we still welcome philatelists of good standing, whether collectors or dealers, and should be glad of more colonial and foreign members who could send sheets regularly.

Any one who has not received a copy of the annual report may have one on application to the Hon. Secretary.

Huddersfield and District Philatelic Society

President: Rev. G. C. B. Madden.
Hon. Secretary: C. H. Greenwood, 49 Perseverance Street, Huddersfield.
Meetings: Y.M.C.A. Rooms, alternate Thursdays.

1908.
 Oct. 22. Display: Great Britain.
 Nov. 5. Display: Ceylon, E. Heginbottom.
 " 19. Visit and Display by the Bradford Philatelic Society.
 Dec. 3. Visit of the Leeds Philatelic Society. Display by the Huddersfield members.
 " 17. Display: France and Colonies, W. D. Haigh.

1909.
 Jan. 14. Display: Hong Kong, India, E. Heginbottom.
 " 28. Paper and Display, W. K. Skipwith, Leeds.
 Feb. 11. Paper and Display, Geo. Reynolds.
 " 18-20. Stamp Exhibition and Congress, Manchester.
 " 25. Display, Straits Settlements, E. Heginbottom.
 Mar. 11. Visit to the Bradford Philatelic Society, with Display.
 " 30 (Tuesday). Visit to the Leeds Philatelic Society.
 April 8. Display by Dr. Robinson and E. Hardcastle, Halifax.
 " 22. Annual General Meeting.

Northampton Philatelic Society

President: H. E. Archer.
Hon. Secretary: W. Nichols, 70 Stimpson Avenue, Northampton.
Meeting Place: The Divan Caf , Northampton.
Meetings: Wednesdays at 8.30 p.m., fortnightly.
Subscription: 2s. 6d.

The above Society commenced their second season on Wednesday, 16 September. Several new members were admitted at this meeting, and the following officers were elected for the season:—President, Mr. H. E. Archer; Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. Nichols.

The programme for the season is as follows:—

- SESSION 1908-9.
 1908.
 Oct. 14. Display, with Notes: Great Britain, Messrs. BROWN and NICHOLS.
 " 28. Debate: "Should damaged stamps be collected?"
 Nov. 11. Display and Paper: United States, Mr. J. JELLEYMAN.
 " 25. Display: Great Britain and Colonials, Mr. H. E. ARCHER.
 Dec. 16. Display: Sarawak, Mr. H. BENNETT.
 " 30. General Display: Mr. F. G. V. BROWN.
1909.
 Jan. 13. Competitive Display of Stamps issued during 1903, limited to twenty-five Stamps. All Members are requested to compete. A Prize will be given for the most representative lot.
 " 27. Display and Paper: Egypt, Mr. E. A. SWIFT.
 Feb. 10. "The Printing of Postage Stamps," Mr. T. B. WIDDOWSON, of Leicester.
 " 24. Display and Notes: Malta, Mr. W. NICHOLS.
 Mar. 10. General Display: Mr. H. McLELLAN.
 " 24. Display: Foreign Countries, Mr. H. E. ARCHER.
 Apr. 14.
 " 28.

North of England Philatelic Society

President: G. B. Bainbridge, J.P.
Hon. Sec.: Mark Easton, 48 Sidney Cross, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Meetings: Y.M.C.A., Newcastle-on-Tyne, first Thursday in each month, October to April, 7.30 p.m.
Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.

The first meeting of the new session was held on 1 October at the Y.M.C.A., Newcastle-on-Tyne, at 7.30 p.m.

The Vice-President, Mr. T. D. Hume, was in the chair, and there were seventeen members and one visitor present. After formal business, Messrs. Thos. Wilkinsons, Lionel E. Buckell, and J. Foster Stackhouse were elected members.

Mr. R. W. Wilkinson then showed his Bulgaria, mounted on cards, fully annotated on left side, with dates of issue, etc. The country is practically complete (except the error 5 stot., rose), and contains many fine copies, both used and unused, of the early issues; also provisionals, with pairs and blocks. There is a complete lot of the Unpaid, including the 1901 provisionals surcharged "T." Mr. Wilkinson also showed two entirely new varieties of the 1896 Boris issue.

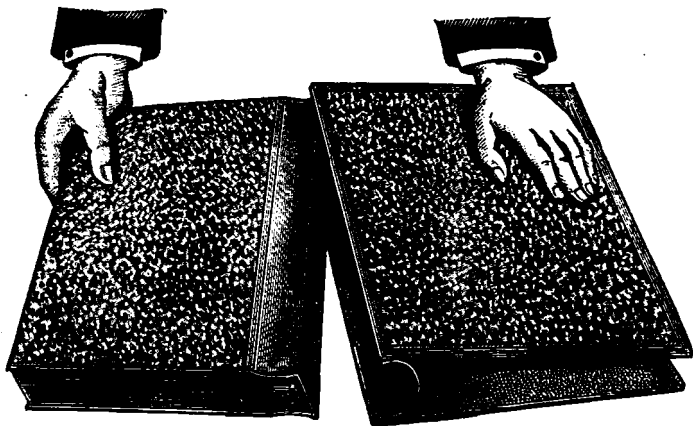
At the close of the display, Mr. Wilkinson was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, on the motion of Mr. W. J. Cochrane, seconded by Mr. Whillis, and replied thereto.

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4. BARBADOS	12	0 6
5. BERMUDA	6	0 0 4
6. CAYMAN ISLANDS	4	0 0 3
7. DOMINICA	10	0 0 6
8. GRENADA	12	0 0 6
9. JAMAICA	12	0 0 6
10. LEEWARD ISLANDS	6	0 0 4
11. MONTserrat	4	0 0 3
12. NEVIS	10	0 0 6
13. ST. CHRISTOPHER	10	0 0 6
14. ST. KITTS-NEVIS	4	0 0 3
15. ST. LUCIA	12	0 0 6
16. ST. VINCENT	8	0 0 4
17. TOBAGO	6	0 0 4
18. TRINIDAD	22	1 0
19. TURKS ISLANDS	8	0 0 4
20. TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS	4	0 0 3
21. VIRGIN ISLANDS	8	0 0 4

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35. " SOUTH AFRICA	10	0 6
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37. EAST AFRICA & UGANDA	6	0 4
38. GAMBIA	6	0 4
39. GOLD COAST	6	0 4
40. GRIQUALAND WEST	10	0 6
41. LAGOS	8	0 4
42. MADAGASCAR	22	1 0
43. MAURITIUS	24	1 0
44. NATAL	20	0 10
45. NEW SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC	22	1 0
46. NIGER COAST	8	0 4
47. NORTHERN NIGERIA	4	0 3
48. ORANGE RIVER COLONY	26	1 2
49. ST. HELENA	8	0 4
50. SEYCHELLES	8	0 4
51. SIERRA LEONE	10	0 6
52. SOUTHERN NIGERIA	4	0 3
53. STELLALAND	4	0 3
54. SUDAN	14	0 8
55. SWAZIELAND	4	0 3
56. TRANSVAAL	66	2 9
57. UGANDA PROTECTORATE	10	0 6
58. ZANZIBAR	16	0 9
59. ZULULAND	4	0 3

AMERICAN COLONIES.

22. BRITISH COLUMBIA	4	0 3
23. CANADA	22	1 0
24. NEW BRUNSWICK	4	0 3
25. NEWFOUNDLAND	12	0 6
26. NOVA SCOTIA	4	0 3
27. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	4	0 3
28. BRITISH GUIANA	22	1 0
29. " HONDURAS	8	0 4
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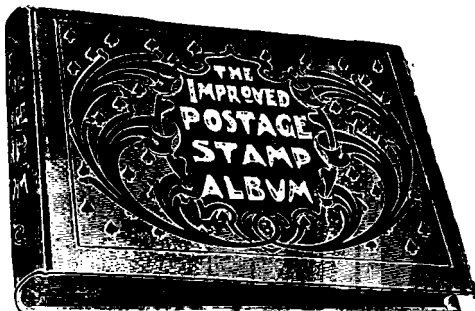
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		COREA.		
Cat. No.	1900. Type 6, surcharged with Type 7.	s.	d.	
28.	1 on 25 p, lake			1 0
		CRETE.		
		1905. <i>Revolutionary Government. Map stamps.</i>		
121.	5 l., green			1 0
122.	10 l., red			1 0
123.	20 l., blue			1 6
		DENMARK.		
		1907. <i>King Frederick VIII.</i>		
146.	25 öre, sepia	used		0 1
147.	50 öre, purple	„		0 3
148.	100 öre, orange-buff	„		0 4
		DUTCH INDIES.		
		1899. <i>Large stamp of Holland, surcharged.</i>		
94a.	2½ g. on 2½ g., dull lilac (p. 11)	used		2 0
		HOLLAND.		
		1867-71. <i>Type 4, Die II. Reduced prices.</i>		
25.	10 c., carmine (perf. 10½ x 10)	used		1 0
51.	20 c., deep green (perf. 13, 13½)	„		1 0
		MADAGASCAR AND DEPENDENCIES.		
		1905. <i>Type 1, surcharged. Reduced price.</i>		
23.	05 on 50 c., carmine on rose			0 3
		MAURITIUS.		
		1885-91. <i>Type 30. Revised price.</i>		
113.	16 c., chestnut	used		0 3
		NEWFOUNDLAND.		
		1887. <i>Type 15. Reduced price.</i>		
49a.	1 c., green			0 2
		NEW SOUTH WALES.		
		1891. <i>Type 30, surcharged. Revised prices.</i>		
366	7½d. on 6d., brown (perf. 11)	used		1 6
371.	7½d. on 6d., „ (perf. comp. 11½, 12 & 11)	„		1 0
		NOSSI-BÉ.		
		1893. <i>Commerce Type, surcharged Nossi Be.</i>		
25.	10 c., black on lilac	used		2 0
27.	15 c., blue	„		2 0
28.	20 c., red on green	„		2 6
		PERAK.		
		1895. <i>Type 1, Tiger, surcharged.</i>		
61.	3 c. on 5 c., rose			0 3
		PERSIA.		
		1898. <i>Lion and Shah Types. Revised prices.</i>		
175.	3 ch., red-lilac	used		0 2
176.	4 ch., vermilion	„		0 2
178.	8 ch., orange	„		0 2
180	12 ch., carmine	„		0 1
181.	16 ch., green	„		0 6
188.	2 kr., rose	„		0 3
184.	3 kr., yellow	„		0 6
185.	4 kr., grey	„		0 6
187.	10 kr., orange	„		0 8
188.	50 kr., mauve	„		2 6
178-188.	1 ch. to 50 kr., complete set	„		5 6
		VENEZUELA.		
		1893. <i>Various Types. Overprinted Arms. Red overprint, inverted.</i>		
191a.	5 c., green			3 0
191b.	10 c., brown			3 6
193.	50 c., deep blue			4 0
196.	50 c., green			4 0
		<i>Red overprint, double.</i>		
197a.	3 b., violet-blue			4 0
197b.	5 c., blue			2 0
197c.	95 c., brown			2 6
197d.	50 c., green			2 6
		<i>Black overprint, normal.</i>		
200.	20 b., purple			1 0
		<i>Black overprint, double.</i>		
204a.	20 b., purple			5 0
204b.	10 c., red-brown			2 6

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NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INCORPORATED, 198 BROADWAY.

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= FIJI = ISLANDS

By CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

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Used by the Turkish Army
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10 par., green.	2 pias, orange.
20 ,, rose.	5 ,, violet.

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MADAGASCAR AND DEPENDENCIES.			
1902. <i>Type 1, surcharged. Reduced price.</i>			
23.	05 on 50 c., carmine on rose	"	0 3
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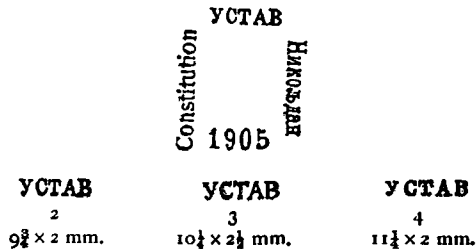
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MONTENEGRO



ISSUE DEC. 1905.

**In commemoration of the granting of
a Constitutional Assembly.**

POSTAGE STAMPS. 1 heller, ultramarine and red.
2 „ mauve and black.
5 „ green and red.
10 „ rosine and black.
25 „ blue and red.
50 „ grey-green and red.
1 krona, purple-brown and red.
2 „ bistre and red.
5 „ orange and black.

POSTAGE DUE. 10 heller, sage-green and red.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT. 25 heller, orange, rosine, and black.

*Sets of the above Eleven Stamps can now be supplied with
any one or all of the types of YCTAB.*

Set of Eleven. Type 2, £1 0s. per set.
„ „ „ 3, £2 0s. „
„ „ „ 4, £1 10s. „

All the Stamps are mint, and we have only a few of the rarer sets.

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

**Junior Philatelic Society
Manchester Branch**

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer: Jno. S. Higgins, Jun., 7 Green Street, Manchester.

THE thirty-eighth meeting was held at the Deansgate Hotel on Thursday, 1 October. Dr. Floyd gave a very instructive paper on the printing of stamps. He showed lithographic stones, copper plates, etc., as used in the various processes of printing. He described very fully the nine or ten methods of production, and illustrated his remarks with a display of stamps printed by the various methods.

The type-set, where ordinary printer's type is employed, as in the early British Guiana and New Zealand Railway Newspaper stamps.

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The line-engraved: the first postage stamp ever issued, id. black, 1840, was produced by this process.

The surface-printed, as used for the stamps of Great Britain and Colonies.

The electrotyped, illustrated in the so-called woodblocks of the Cape of Good Hope.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: C. W. Harding.

Meetings: Tuesdays (7.15 p.m.), Room B3, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.

Hon. Secretary: T. S. Fraser, 22 Oriental Terrace, Armley, Leeds.

Annual Subscription: 5s.

THE opening meeting of the twentieth session was held on Tuesday, 6 October, in the Leeds Institute.

The President, Mr. C. W. Harding, extended a cordial greeting to the members and visitors who were present.

Mr. Egly gave a display of European stamps, none of these being of a later period than 1890. Many of the greatest rarities in mint and superb used condition were shown.

The following new issues and novelties were shown by Mr. Egly: 1 and 2½ piastres, Turkey; 50 bani, Roumania; 10 paras on 5 centesimi, 30 paras on 15 centesimi, and 40 paras on 25 centesimi, Italian Levant; and an Official post card issued to commemorate the opening of the Italian post offices in the Levant on 1 June. By Mr. Duffield: 10, 20, 30, and 60 paras, 1 and 2½ piastres, Austrian Levant; 1, 2, 5, and 6 heller, Austria. By Mr. W. De mission Roebuck: an Official Australian Commonwealth post card, issued to commemorate the visit of the American fleet to Melbourne.

Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society

President: A. S. Allender.

Hon. Sec.: J. H. M. Savage, 66 Beblington Road, Birkenhead. Meetings held at 8 Colquitt Street, Liverpool.

THE second open meeting of the above Society was held on Monday, 5 October, at 7.30 p.m., at 6 Colquitt Street, Liverpool, when Mr. A. S. Allender was in the chair.

There were about twenty-four members present, including four ladies.

Four candidates were elected, and four more proposed for membership.

A very instructive paper on the "Stamps of U.S.A.," Part IV," was read by Mr. A. S. Walford in the absence of Mr. A. W. Brown, the writer. With this paper Mr. Brown brings to a close a short series of addresses, which give ample evidence of the trouble he has taken in preparing them. This last paper dealt with the issues from 1890-1908, the stamps being well detailed for the information of juniors. The paper was illustrated by a splendid collection of U.S.A. stamps of the period under discussion shown by Mr. J. H. M. Savage.

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Fine exhibitions of the stamps of German Empire were shown by Messrs. Clissold, Archer, and Fletcher.

In the competition, prizes for the best exhibits of certain countries throughout the season by juniors, the following marks out of a maximum of ten were awarded: S. Evans, 10; Mrs. Burton, 6; and M. T. Samson, 2. Total marks to date: S. Evans, 10; Mrs. Burton, 14; and M. T. Samson, 5.

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 of the above Society took place on Thursday, 1 October, the chair being taken by the President, Mr. C. M. C. Symes.

The programme for the evening consisted of a display and paper on the "Stamps of Jammu and Cashmere" by Mr. A. J. Sefi.

After the Chairman's opening remarks, Mr. Sefi proceeded to show his marvellous collection, and gave explanatory notes of each sheet as it was passed round. It would be impossible to give a list of the various rarities contained in the four volumes shown, but mention must be made of a large number of stamps on original envelopes, all of which were arranged in order of date, which Mr. Sefi had ascertained by translating the addresses on them, as the date of writing was always included in the address. Although the majority of collectors generally take very little interest in the stamps of these countries, it must be through ignorance of the stamps, as after Mr. Sefi's explanations of the issues, they were after all not very difficult to understand, and after the unusual interest shown by the members, no doubt many will be adding Cashmere to their list of desirable countries. Mention must also be made of a set of prints from the destroyed plates of the first issue, of which only four copies were made, after which the plates were sealed up in a case at the museum in India.

At the conclusion of the display Mr. C. M. C. Symes proposed, and Mr. Cartwright seconded, a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Sefi, which was heartily accorded, and several members stated their intention of availing themselves of Mr. Sefi's offer of another view for reference. Mr. Cartwright then made the proposition, "That, as this is the day of inauguration of the Penny Post to America, Mr. Buxton be written to, and offered the Society's congratulations and thanks for bringing to a conclusion the arrangements for this boon to all American correspondents." This was carried with acclamation.

Swadlincote

Establishment of a Stamp Society

THE Swadlincote Stamp (Philatelic) Society is now *ad fait accompli*, and it held its first meeting on Friday evening, at the offices of Mr. Hilton, Midland Road, Swadlincote. Councillor W. Oakley (Chairman of the Library Committee of the District Council) was elected President, and a Secretary was then elected in the person of Mr. F. W. Edwards. Councillor Oakley gave an interesting paper on "The Stamps of France," illustrated by his magnificent and valuable collection of the stamps of that Republic. Councillor Oakley showed how the history of France during the last half-century was clearly portrayed on the French stamps. His valuable collection includes nearly every stamp that France has issued, including a scarce pair of the 15 cent. blue stamps, valued at about £35, and many valuable stamps issued during the Franco-German War. Mr. Oakley exhibited several scarce stamps on letters sent from the besieged garrison in Paris by balloon over the German lines, and his collection also includes many rare freaks and errors in French stamps. It is interesting to note that although Mr. Oakley has been a stamp collector for only about four years, he has accumulated an immense and valuable collection, of which his French stamps, although valued at about £150, are only a small part. His expert knowledge of Philately has on many occasions proved highly remunerative, for among his French collection are five rare stamps, which, by a curious printer's error, were printed on a rose-coloured paper intended for a different stamp altogether. These rare "errors" are valued at about £10 each, but Mr. Oakley secured them all much under face value, and one of them was included in a collection he bought for a few shillings. The speaker dealt with the political troubles and changes during the Republic, Presidency, and the re-establishment of the Republic, which all caused changes in the stamps of France, which he pointed out. At the next monthly meeting of the Stamp Society Mr. Oakley will bring his collection of British stamps, which is even better than his French collection. Mr. J. Cheney voiced the great appreciation of the members present for Mr. Oakley's interesting and instructive paper and display, which Mr. Cheney described as a "great treat."

Burton Evening Gazette, 17.10.98.

Extra Special Bargain

MONTENEGRO

YCTAB
Constitution
1905
HEROJAN

YCTAB
2
9½ × 2 mm.

YCTAB
3
10½ × 2½ mm.

YCTAB
4
11½ × 2 mm.

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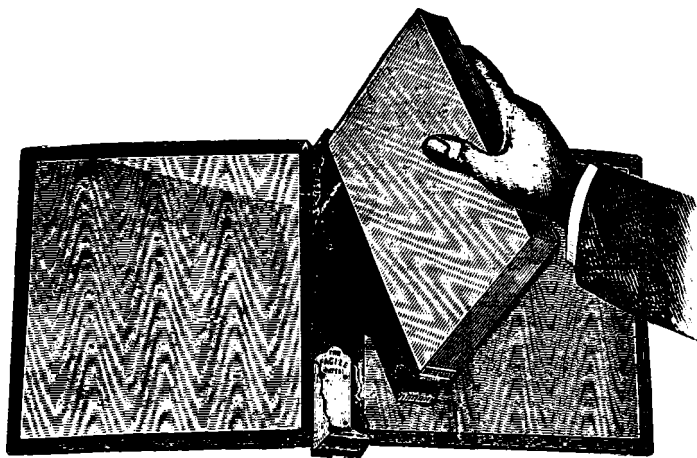
Establishment of a Stamp Society

The Swadlincote Stamp (Philatelic) Society is now *au fait accompli*, and it held its first meeting on Friday evening, at the offices of Mr. Hilton, Midland Road, Swadlincote. Councillor W. Oakley (Chairman of the Library Committee of the District Council) was elected President, and a Secretary was then elected in the person of Mr. F. W. Edwards. Councillor Oakley gave an interesting paper on "The Stamps of France," illustrated by his magnificent and valuable collection of the stamps of that Republic. Councillor Oakley showed how the history of France during the last half-century was clearly portrayed on the French stamps. His valuable collection includes nearly every stamp that France has issued, including a scarce pair of the 15 cent. blue stamps, valued at about £35, and many valuable stamps issued during the Franco-German War. Mr. Oakley exhibited several scarce stamps on letters sent from the besieged garrison in Paris by balloon over the German lines, and his collection also includes many rare freaks and errors in French stamps. It is interesting to note that although Mr. Oakley has been a stamp collector for only about four years, he has accumulated an immense and valuable collection, of which his French stamps, although valued at about £150, are only a small part. His expert knowledge of Philately has on many occasions proved highly remunerative, for among his French collection are five rare stamps, which, by a curious printer's error, were printed on a rose-coloured paper intended for a different stamp altogether. These rare "errors" are valued at about £10 each, but Mr. Oakley secured them all much under face value, and one of them was included in a collection he bought for a few shillings. The speaker dealt with the political troubles and changes during the Republic, Presidency, and the re-establishment of the Republic, which all caused changes in the stamps of France, which he pointed out. At the next monthly meeting of the Stamp Society Mr. Oakley will bring his collection of British stamps, which is even better than his French collection. Mr. J. Cheney voiced the great appreciation of the members present for Mr. Oakley's interesting and instructive paper and display, which Mr. Cheney described as a "great treat."

Burton Evening Gazette, 17.10.08.

The "FACILE" Postage Stamp Albums.

(PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.)



A—SHOWING LEAVES RELEASED.

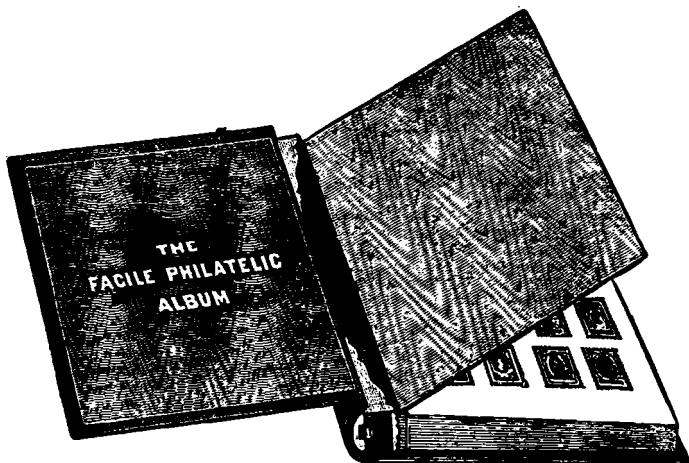
THESE Albums present externally the same appearance as our well-known

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5. The action of the patent binder is automatic, and can be perfectly understood the moment it is seen.

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" "	J . . .	0 6	½d. yellow-green	" D 4 . . .	0 3
" "	K . . .	0 9	" "	" D 5 . . .	0 4
" "	L . . .	1 0	" "	" E 5 . . .	0 3
" "	M . . .	1 6	" "	" E 6 . . .	0 3
" "	N . . .	0 6	" "	" F 6 . . .	0 3
" "	O . . .	0 4	" "	" G 7 . . .	0 3
" "	P . . .	0 4	1d. scarlet	" A . . .	0 8
" "	Q . . .	0 3	" "	" B . . .	0 9
½d. blue-green	R . . .	0 6	" "	" C . . .	1 0
1d. purple	" S . . .	1 6	" "	" C 4 . . .	0 8
" "	" T . . .	1 3	" "	" D 4 . . .	0 6
" "	" U . . .	0 6	" "	" D 5 . . .	0 6
" "	" V . . .	0 6	" "	" E 5 . . .	0 4
" "	" W . . .	0 4	" "	" E 6 . . .	0 3
" "	" X . . .	0 5	" "	" F 6 . . .	0 3
			" "	" G 7 . . .	0 3

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GIBBONS STAMP

WEEKLY

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391 Strand, London, W.C.

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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.

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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.

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Philatelic Societies

Bath Philatelic Society

President: B. D. Pope.

Hon. Secretary: C. J. Preater.

THE fortnightly meeting of this Society was held on 21 October at their rooms (Bath Church Institute), the President (Mr. B. D. Pope) in the chair. Among those present were Messrs. F. G. Warwick, W. G. Olds, F. Haigh, Goodman, Annabeim, Nokes, and C. J. Preater (Hon. Sec.). Letters of apology were received from Major Simpson, Dr. Fuller, Mr. J. W. Sampson, and Mr. Norman Horley. Major Simpson, in his letter, stated that he still took an interest in Philately, and that he was very glad indeed such a society had been formed, and he was sure it would prove very beneficial to all who had a proper appreciation for an engrossing study—such as Philately must be to true lovers of it. The minutes having been read and passed, Mr. F. G. Warwick gave his promised paper (with display) on the "Line-Engraved Stamps"—taking the rd., black, as his subject, this being the first stamp ever issued. Mr. Warwick showed the different printings, the various defects in the plates, secret marks, and different cancellations and colours, etc. His collection of blacks is very fine and was much appreciated by those present. It may be mentioned that he has a magnificent reconstructed plate of these (240 in number), mounted on a large frame, which he kindly brought for inspection. Various questions having been answered by the lecturer, a very interesting and profitable evening, after votes of thanks to Mr. Warwick and the President had been passed, was brought to a close.

Bath Herald (22.10.08).

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, 17 October, the Society held the second meeting of the season at Prince Henry's Room, 17 Fleet Street, E.C. The President stated that, owing to the arbitrary action taken by the officials of the Manchester Branch, the General Committee of the J.P.S. had been compelled to dissolve the branch. Letters congratulating the Society on the production of the Commemorative envelope, and acknowledging receipt of same were read from His Majesty the King, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and Mr. Whitelaw Reid, American Ambassador.

In the absence of Mr. Dalwidge, Mr. Harte Lovelace kindly read his paper on the "Stamps of the Cayman Islands," in which the writer pointed out one or two interesting things that are to be found in these much-discussed stamps. Numerous shades are to be found in the King's Head stamps and in the Queen's Heads; two shades of the jd. and three shades of the rd. are noted. Varieties exist in the shading on the forehead in the King's Head series; in the first the shading continues right across to the outer line, and in the second it stops abruptly near the hair. At the close, Mr. Dalwidge's collection was handed round for the inspection of the members. Among the most interesting things represented, one noticed a strip of three of the jd. on gs. provisional and a large number of proofs. Mr. Adutt's collection of Ceymans was also handed round, as it contained several varieties lacking in Mr. Dalwidge's collection, notably the double surcharge 2gd. provisional. Mr. Melville proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Dalwidge for his paper and display, and to Mr. Lovelace for reading the paper, and also to Mr. Adutt for his contribution to the display. Mr. Crouch seconded, and it was carried. Mr. Adutt responded on behalf of Mr. Dalwidge and himself.

A poem by Mr. W. E. Ineson, entitled "A Study in Chalk," was read by Mr. Melville, and caused a good deal of amusement.

Mr. T. B. Widdowson, of Leicester, next gave a paper and demonstration, "Lithography as a Method of Stamp Printing." Forgers usually adopt lithography for producing their imitations, so it becomes necessary for a philatelist to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the various differences between lithography and other methods of printing. Mr. Widdowson explained

fully the component parts of lithographic inks and illustrated by numerous experiments the results on Solenhofen stone. Whereas engraving stands up from the paper to a certain extent, lithography is perfectly flat, owing to the fact that an engraving is from a cut plate and lithography is flat on the stone. At the close of his most interesting lecture a large number of questions were asked by members seeking enlightenment on certain points, all of which Mr. Widdowson kindly answered to their satisfaction. Mr. Melville proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Widdowson for his very instructive address. Mr. Adutt seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Leicester Philatelic Society

President: Dr. R. Milbourn West.

Hon. Sec.: P. V. Sansome, Tennyson Street, St. James' Road, Leicester.

Meetings: Winchester House, Welford Place, Leicester.

THE opening meeting of the session was held on 6 October at Winchester House, Welford Place. The President, Dr. West, occupied the chair, and was supported by a good muster of members.

The Hon. Sec., Mr. P. V. Sansome, was called upon to read his report for the last session, which proved very satisfactory, as did the Hon. Treasurer's, both reports being duly passed.

The following lady and gentlemen were duly elected members of the Society: Miss Bradley, Dr. Bradlev, Mr. B. W. N. Russell, Mr. H. Ardron, Mr. K. Elliott, Mr. A. Tann, Mr. Philip Wykes, and Mr. H. Collin.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and passed, the chairman called upon Mr. P. V. Sansome to show his collection of Great Britain and Gambia. This collection was mounted on upwards of forty sheets, and included the early issues of Great Britain, the Envelope stamp, Officials, etc. Gambia was also well represented, both early and current issues being shown.

A paper by Mr. T. B. Widdowson, on "Printing of Postage Stamps," was briefly gone into, it being arranged to carry that on at the next meeting. A vote of thanks to Messrs. T. B. Widdowson and P. V. Sansome for their respective items was carried unanimously.

Sheffield Philatelic Society

President: F. Atkin.

Hon. Sec.: H. E. Standfield, 22 Parker's Road, Sheffield.

THE opening meeting of the session was held on Tuesday evening, in the rooms of this Society, at the King's Head Hotel, the President (Mr. F. Atkin) in the chair.

The report and balance-sheet for the past session, showing the Society to be in a flourishing condition, were read and adopted. An interesting programme for the present session was drawn up. It includes various exhibitions of stamps, and discussions and papers on matters pertaining to Philately.

The following officers were elected: Hon. Presidents, Mr. Charles Clifton and Councillor Kelley; President, Mr. W. C. Fox; Vice-President, Dr. C. W. Mays; Secretary, Mr. H. E. Standfield; Treasurer, Mr. J. H. Chapman; Librarian, Mr. J. F. Peace; Exchange Secretary, Mr. R. Sneath; Committee, Messrs. F. Atkin, J. E. Bartlett, and G. H. Hunt.

Sheffield Daily Telegraph (22.10.08).

South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society

President: Col. G. E. Petty.

Hon. Secs.: Messrs. T. Edwards and Gwilym R. Lougher.

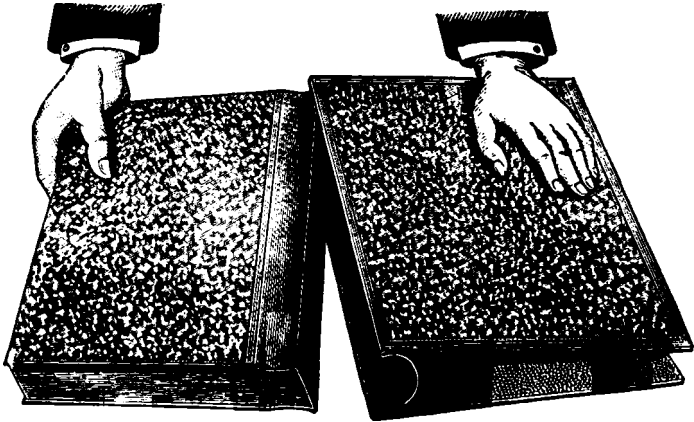
A MEETING was held on Wednesday at the Y.M.C.A. Building, Cardiff. Colonel G. E. Petty was elected President, and Messrs. V. E. Brukewick and Dr. de Vere Hunt Vice-Presidents. Mr. C. M. Berkeley was appointed Hon. Treasurer, and Messrs. T. Edwards and Gwilym R. Lougher joint Hon. Secs. Dr. A. E. Fiddian and Messrs. Page, Huss, and Birkenhead were elected to the Committee. It was reported that a fine series of papers and displays of rare stamps will be given during the coming season.—*S. W. Daily News* (17.10.08).

The Sectional Imperial Album

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23. CANADA	22	1 0	54. SUDAN	14	0 8
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The Editors, *G. S. W.*,
391 Strand, London, W.C.

CORRESPONDENCE.—The Editors regret that they have no time for direct correspondence. All letters requiring a reply will be dealt with under the head of "Answers to Correspondents."

COVERS FOR BINDING VOLUMES.—Our publishers are now prepared to supply special covers for binding the numbers of Vol. VII of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in art cloth, lettered front and back, at 1s. 6d. post-free.

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Philatelic Societies

Glasgow and West of Scotland Philatelic Society

Hon. President: Edwin Temple, B. A., Cam.
President: W. A. R. Jex Long, F.R.P.S.L., 58 Renfield Street.
Hon. Secretary: Thomas N. Wallace, 27 Oswald Street.
Meetings: Religious Institution Rooms, 200 Buchanan Street, at 7.45 p.m.

THE second ordinary meeting for this session of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Philatelic Society was held in the Religious Institution Rooms, 200 Buchanan Street. The President, Wm. A. R. Jex Long, Esq., F.R.P.S.L., occupied the chair. There was a good turn-out of members and several guests.

A display was given of the stamps of Australia by the members, which proved entertaining and instructive, the collections being very comprehensive and tastefully arranged. A pleasant discussion followed, and votes of thanks to the members who brought their collections and to the Chairman closed an enjoyable and profitable evening.

The Secretary, Thos. N. Wallace, Esq., 27 Oswald Street, reported the enrolment of several new members.

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 first general meeting of the session 1908-9 was held (by kind invitation of the Earl of Crawford), at No. 2 Cavendish Square, London, W., on Tuesday, 20 October, 1908, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Franz Reichenheim (President), H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), L. E. Bradbury, R. Frenzel, A. H. L. Giles, C. R. Sutherland, W. G. Cool, W. T. Standen, J. R. Laing, W. C. Gunner, M. Simons, Lieut.-Col. H. Barclay, Messrs. J. E. Lincoln, W. van Oppen, A. G. Wane, B. W. H. Poole, J. Campion, F. Read, W. Batty-Mapplebeck, J. A. Leon, C. Nissen, D. Thomson, Fred J. Melville, D. Field, M. Weinberg, P. Ashley, E. D. Bacon, the Earl of Crawford, Messrs. J. C. Sidebotham (Hon. Librarian), H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and six visitors.

The President took the chair. The minutes of the meeting held on 14 April, 1908, were read and signed as correct.

The election of Mrs. H. R. Baird (life member), and Messrs. J. L. Corser, C. E. Macnaughtan and J. W. Campion as ordinary members of the Society was duly confirmed. The resignations of Messrs. M. Z. Kutner and E. W. Wetherill were received and accepted with regret.

Donations of envelopes from Mr. C. C. Tait, of stamps from the President and Mr. R. Frenzel, and of books, etc. from different members and Societies, were acknowledged with thanks.

The meeting was informed that the President and the Hon. Secretary had accepted the nominations on the Committee of Honour of the International Philatelic Exhibition, Amsterdam, 1909, for themselves and the Society. Promises of support to the Manchester Philatelic Exhibition were confirmed.

The Hon. Secretary was requested to forward the condolences of the Society to the Swedish Philatelic Society on the occasion of the death of their lamented member, Mr. Rudolf Krasemann.

Lord Crawford then exhibited his famous collection of the stamps of Italy and the old Italian States, which comprises no less than twenty volumes, and is practically complete in every respect.

A hearty vote of thanks to Lord Crawford for his courtesy was proposed by the President, seconded by the Vice-President, and carried unanimously.

A most enjoyable and instructive evening was brought to a close at 8.10 p.m.

Junior Philatelic Society Brighton Branch

Hon. Sec.: J. Ireland, 103 Western Road, Hove.
Meeting-place: Royal Hotel, Queen's Road.
Meetings: Second and fourth Thursdays, 7 till 10 p.m.

THE second meeting of the season was held on 22 October, Mr. Mead being in the chair.

Mr. Douglas Charles Smith was elected a member.

A very interesting display of the stamps of Greece, Mexico, and Uruguay was given by Mr. A. H. L. Giles, F.N.S., the various printings of Greece being a strong feature. Several of the town-names of Mexico were also shown. At the conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Giles, moved by the chairman, seconded by Miss K. Foster, and carried with acclamation.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: C. W. Harding.
Meetings: Tuesdays (7.15 p.m.), Room B3, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.
Hon. Secretary: T. S. Fraser, 22 Oriental Terrace, Armley, Leeds.
Annual Subscription: 6s.

THE second meeting of the session was held in the Leeds Institute, on Tuesday, 20 October, when there was a display by the members of the old issues of European stamps. Mr. C. W. Harding, the President, occupied the chair.

Mr. F. Padgett gave a fine display of the early issues of Switzerland, Belgium, France, Papal States, etc., many of the stamps being on the original covers. Mr. Thackrah's stamps were in several blank albums, and were very complete in the first issues of Spain and Papal States. Mr. C. W. Harding's general collection in an Imperial Album was also shown.

Rev. C. Naters and Mr. A. F. Hess were unanimously elected members of the Society.

Novelties were shown by Mr. W. V. Morten: a coloured plate of the Scarborough Post Office in 1813; a 6d. stamp with an account of the trial of Huffam White, Robert Kendall, and Mary Howe, for robbing the Leeds mail coach on 26 October, 1812; and an advertisement of the Leeds and London mail coach "guarded all the way" in 1788. By Mr. Eagly: 10 paras, green on yellow paper, new issue Austrian Levant stamp.

Manchester Philatelic Society

President: W. Dornig Beckett.
Hon. Sec.: G. Fred. H. Gibson, Fairfield, Crumpsall Manchester.
Meetings: Grand Hotel, Manchester, Weekly: Fridays at 7 p.m.

At the meeting on 19 October, Mr. J. C. North gave a display of his collection of stamps of Bavaria, with notes, especially illustrating the numerous minor varieties of the 1876 and subsequent issues. Last Saturday a party of the members visited the Manchester School of Technology. Going first to the laboratory, Mr. J. Hubner explained very lucidly and concisely the materials used in, and the process of, paper-making, giving a practical demonstration by preparing a sheet of hand-made paper. Very beautiful specimens of watermarked paper were shown by Mr. Hubner, made in Russia and Japan, the latter, a design showing two fishes, an exquisite work of art. The party then inspected the process of making a web of paper, technically known as half-stuff, by the paper-making plant. Afterwards a visit was made to the printing and lithographic departments.—*Manchester Guardian*, 27.10.08.

Sind Philatelic Society

President: Framroze E. Panthakey.
Hon. Secretary: B. J. H. Somake.
Meetings: First Tuesday in each month.
Annual Subscription, 4s.

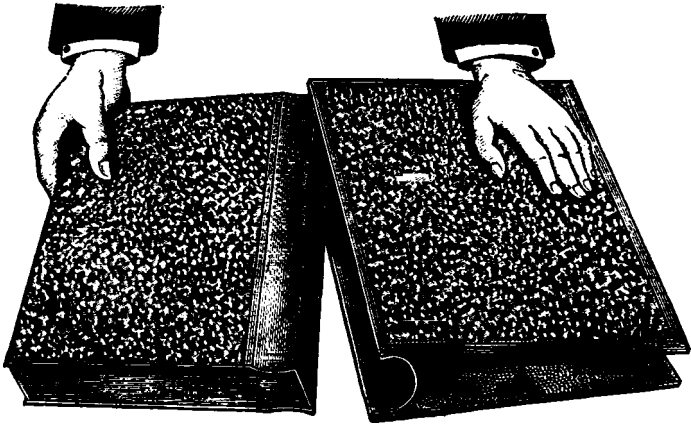
THE inauguration meeting of the Sind Philatelic Society took place at Karachi, on Tuesday, 13 October, 1908, at the V.M.C.A. Rooms, there being present: Messrs. E. A. Pearson, D. L. McIver, E. L. Rogers, Jehangir F. Panthakey and B. J. H. Somake. Mr. Somake was voted to the chair. It was resolved to start a Philatelic Society, to be called the Sind Philatelic Society, having as its object the cultivation of general knowledge on all philatelic questions among members. Framroze E. Panthakey was elected President, and B. J. H. Somake Honorary Secretary. Rules were duly drawn up, and it was resolved that meetings be held on first Tuesday in each month. Subscription for corresponding members was fixed at four shillings per annum, payable half-yearly in advance.

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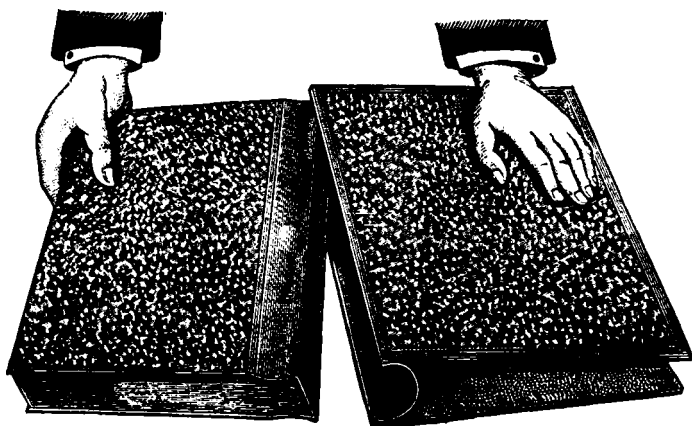
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47.	½d., black and dull green (Arms)	„	0 1

NORTH BORNEO.

Postage Due Stamps.

1894.	Error. Overprint horizontal (one sheet only found).		
312a.	2 c., black and rose-lake		5 0
1901.	Error. Overprint horizontal (one sheet only found).		
323a.	2 c., black and green		5 0
1904.	No. 92, overprinted POSTAGE DUE in black and BRITISH PROTECTORATE in red.		
326.	1 c., black, brown, and red		5 0

PORTUGAL.

Various issues. Revised prices.

179.	5 r., black (Type 2)		0 2
184.	50 r., blue (perf. 12½)	used	1 0
185.	5 r., black (Type 1)		0 3
186.	5 r., „ („ 2)		0 3
191.	50 r., blue (perf. 13½)	used	2 6
207/209.	5 r., grey („ 12½)	„	0 1
218/220.	5 r., „ („ 13½)	„	0 2
235.	25 r., lilac-rose (perf. 11½)		0 4
290.	15 r., fawn (Provisorio. Perf. 12½)	used	1 0
297.	15 r., „ (Provisorio. Perf. 13½)	used	2 0
661.	— carmine and blue-green (Rifle Clubs)	used	0 3

SWITZERLAND.

1908. New Helvetia type.

20 c.,	yellow and carmine		0 3
30 c.,	sage-green and brown		0 5
35 c.,	yellow and emerald		0 5
40 c.,	orange-brown and purple		0 6
50 c.,	yellow-green and green		0 8
70 c.,	ochre and chocolate		0 10
3 frs.,	yellow and bistre		3 3

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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.*

At the meeting of the above Society held on Saturday, 7 November, Mr. C. H. Purdom read a paper entitled "The Simple Life in Philately." He pointed out that to live the simple life it is necessary to have a good income, for simple living does not mean doing without meal times, meat, hats, socks, or the many other fads some people indulge in, but it means doing without the unnecessary things that make life a burden and a nuisance, and place men out of harmony with the better things. There are classes of men that would shuffle out of life at once if they had any decency. As it is with men, so it is with stamps! In the first place, to collect stamps thoroughly it is necessary to have a good income, and secondly, the wise philatelist will ignore all unnecessary stamps and collect only straightforward issues. Mr. Lodge proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Purdom. Mr. Leigh seconded, and it was carried. Mr. Purdom responded, and Mr. Melville spoke briefly on the subject of the paper.

Mr. Douglas Ellis, Vice-President of the Society, followed with a paper and display of the stamps of Cyprus. Before the issue of the first postage stamps in Cyprus, the mail service was in the hands of Bell's Asia Minor Company, which ran a boat weekly between Larnaca and Alexandria in connection with the Indian mails, the time occupied between London and Larnaca being eight days. Mr. Ellis also gave full particulars of the stamps and their varieties, and the collection which was displayed after the paper had been read proved most interesting to all. Mr. Selinger proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Ellis. Mr. Harland seconded, and it was carried.

Manchester Junior Philatelic Society

Hon. Sec.: Jno. S. Higgins, Jun., 7 Green Street, Manchester.

At an extraordinary general meeting held on the 22nd October, the dissolution of the branch from the Junior Philatelic Society, London, was unanimously agreed upon, and a new Society formed, called the MANCHESTER JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

As the Executive Committee and Exhibition Committee of the late branch were all re-elected to office and the

Syllabus for the ensuing season adopted, the change was practically one in name only.

At the meeting held 5 November the Vice-President, Mr. J. J. Darlow, read a paper on the stamps of St. Lucia. He showed a practically complete collection of these stamps, and informed the members that the first postage stamps used in St. Lucia were the contemporary issues of Great Britain, and those so used can only be distinguished by the postmark A 11. Another interesting feature of the stamps of St. Lucia was that the value of the stamp could be distinguished by the colour only, no value being described on the stamps.

Mr. H. S. Horner read a paper entitled "A few notes on Current Issues." His paper was accompanied by a display of stamps in which the various plates and differences were set forth, the countries dealt with being: New Zealand, France, Chili, Russia, Finland, and finally Colombia. Of the latter country Mr. Horner gave a short account of his discoveries of the various plates.

North of England Philatelic Society

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

*Meetings: Y.M.C.A., Newcastle-on-Tyne, first Thursday in each month, October to April, 7.30 p.m.
Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.*

THE usual monthly meeting was held at the Y.M.C.A., Newcastle, on Thursday, 5 November, at 7.30 p.m. The President, Mr. T. D. Hume, was in the chair, and there were twenty-one members present.

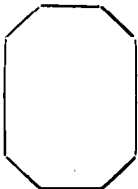
After formal business, Messrs. Denton, Hepworth, E. M. Gallway, and Colin A. Arrol were elected to the membership.

The Secretary reported that the members had promised £28 10s. 6d. towards the proposed Exhibition, and it was hoped that in two or three weeks final arrangements might be made for the successful carrying out of the undertaking.

Mr. G. Heginbottom's fine collection of Grenada, Nevis, Montserrat, and St. Kitts was then passed round for inspection, and much admired. At the close of the display, Mr. Coltman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Heginbottom for his kindness in sending his stamps. Mr. Buckland seconded, and the motion was carried with acclamation.

THE "S. G." STAMP HINGES.

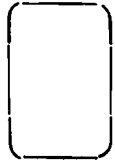
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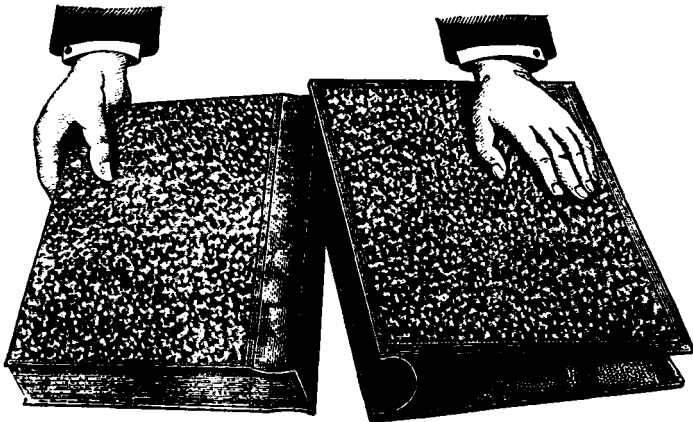
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85.	20 r., rosine (p. 12½)	" "	1 6
88.	40 r., yellow-buff (p. 12½)	" "	1 0
1902-3. Type 4. King Carlos.			
181.	25 r., blue-green (Provisorio)	used	0 2
185.	25 r., carmine	" "	0 2

CRETE.

1908. New type. Head of Hermes.			
Overprinted EAAAZ, in black.			
70	lepta, dull carmine	" "	0 2

FUNCHAL.

1897-9. Type 2. King Carlos.			
28.	10 r., green	" "	0 2
82.	25 r., blue-green	" "	0 5

INHAMBANE.

1895. Centenary overprint on stamp of Mozambique.			
4.	40 r., chocolate	used	7 6
1903. Type 2. King Carlos.			
22.	20 r., lilac	used	0 3

JOHOR.

1896. Commemorative overprint.			
Error, KETAHKOTAAN.			
44.	4 c., purple and black	" "	0 6

LOURENZO MARQUES.

1894. Type 1. Perf. 13½.			
17.	75 r., rose	used	1 6
1898-1902. Type 6. King Carlos.			
41.	50 r., blue	used	0 2
76.	25 r., blue-green (Provisorio)	" "	0 4
77.	50 r., blue (")	" "	0 6
78.	75 r., rose	used	0 9

PARAGUAY.

1908. Type 39 surcharged with Type 44.			
5 c.	on 2 c., carmine	" "	0 3

VENEZUELA.

1896. Type 35. Map stamps.			
221.	5 c., yellow-green	used	0 1
222.	10 c., pale blue	" "	0 1
224.	25 c., yellow	" "	0 1
225.	50 c., rose-red	" "	0 2

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Philatelic Societies

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President: R. Hollick, Esq.

Hon. Secretary: G. Johnson, B.A., 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

Meetings: Thursdays, at 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

Annual Subscription: 5s. Entrance Fee: 5s.

Oct. 22. Display: Victoria, 1868-85, by Messrs. R. Hollick and C. A. Stephenson.

BESIDES the notes contributed by both, Mr. Stephenson read a short paper on these issues. Nearly every variety and shade were exhibited in mint and fine used condition. The minor details of the designs and some of the shades evoked considerable discussion.

Nov. 5. Display: St. Vincent, by Mr. W. Pimm.

The Hon. Secretary presented a report on the death of our esteemed Hon. President (Sir W. B. Avery). After the cremation at Perry Barr on 2 November, the funeral took place at Witton Cemetery on 3 November, over 400 being present, including his son, Sir William Eric Avery. The Hon. Secretary officially represented the Society. It was decided to send letters of condolence to Lady Avery and to Sir Eric.

Messrs. H. L. Hayman, F. C. Henderson, and H. Brice were thanked for contributions to the permanent collection.

Mr. C. Habel was elected a member.

Mr. W. Pimm then gave his display of the stamps of St. Vincent, with notes on the same.

The next auction is on 3 December, when some 280 lots will be sold. Any one who has not already received a catalogue may have one on application to the Hon. Secretary.

The following addition to the programme has been made:—

Jan. 28. Paper: "Argentine, 1877-1908." Mr. F. T. Collier.

Arrangements for our Exhibition of Stamps on 11 to 15 January are fast approaching completion, and we expect that every colony will be shown.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Philatelic Society

Hon. President: Edwin Temple, B.A., Cam.

President: W. A. R. Jex Long, F.R.P.S.L., 58 Renfield Street.

Hon. Secretary: Thomas N. Wallace, 27 Oswald Street.

Meetings: Religious Institution Rooms, 200 Buchanan Street, at 7.45 p.m.

THE third ordinary general meeting of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Philatelic Society was held in the Religious Institution Rooms, 200 Buchanan Street, on Tuesday evening, the President, Mr. William A. R. Jex Long, F.R.P.S.L., in the chair. Before proceeding with the business of the meeting the President referred to the honour conferred on Mr. Archibald M'Innes Shaw, honorary Vice-President of the Society, by his election to the civic chair, and on his motion, seconded by Mr. Guthrie, it was agreed that reference should be recorded in the minutes. A paper on "Free Thoughts on Stamp Collecting by a Junior" was read by Mr. James K. Riddoch. A debate, "New Issues," was opened by Mr. P. Durand. Mr. James K. Riddoch took the negative. After criticism by the members, a verdict in favour of "New Issues" (legitimate) was returned.—*Glasgow News*, 14.11.08.

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 second meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall, on Thursday, 12 November. Present: W. Schwarte (in the chair), L. W. Fulcher, A. B. Kay, W. S. King, P. L. Pemberton, Miss Cassels, W. E. Lincoln, A. H. L. Giles, F. F. Lamb, A. J. Sefi, the Hon. Secretary; and visitors, J. A. Leon and L. W. Jackson. Mr. J. A. Leon gave a display with explanatory notes of his fine collection of the Pictorial Stamps of New Zealand, including the many varieties of paper, watermark, and perforation, in mint condition. Hearty votes of thanks to Mr. Leon and the Chairman concluded a pleasant evening.

Junior Philatelic Society Brighton Branch

Hon. Sec.: J. Ireland, 103 Western Road, Hoex.

Meeting-place: Royal Hotel, Queen's Road.

Meetings: Second and fourth Thursdays, 7 till 10 p.m.

THE most successful meeting of the Branch yet held took place on 10 November, Mr. M. ad being in the chair. The occasion was a display of the stamps of St. Vincent and the Bahamas by Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., Hon. Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society. Before giving the display, Mr. Castle remarked that he hoped that no member would go away discouraged because his collection might happen to be a small one. A short time ago he (Mr. Castle) had come across a memorandum of his showing that in 1873 he possessed 240 stamps! And although he now possessed more than that number, on being shown a collection of the stamps of a country of which he considered that he had at least a good number, he afterwards read his own out a little more in order to make a better show! He specially advised his hearers to pay attention to condition, and to insist on having well-centred copies, and also not to pay too much attention to minor varieties of perforation, which in many cases are caused by the irregularity in the machine used. The display then followed, first St. Vincent and afterwards Bahamas.

The splendid show of these beautiful stamps was greatly admired, and at the conclusion the Chairman expressed the thanks of the members in a brief speech. In replying, Mr. Castle expressed the pleasure it had given him to give the display, and expressed his willingness to give another on a future occasion, which promise was greeted with applause. At the conclusion of the meeting, Mr. Bertie Morley, a visitor, was unanimously elected a member.

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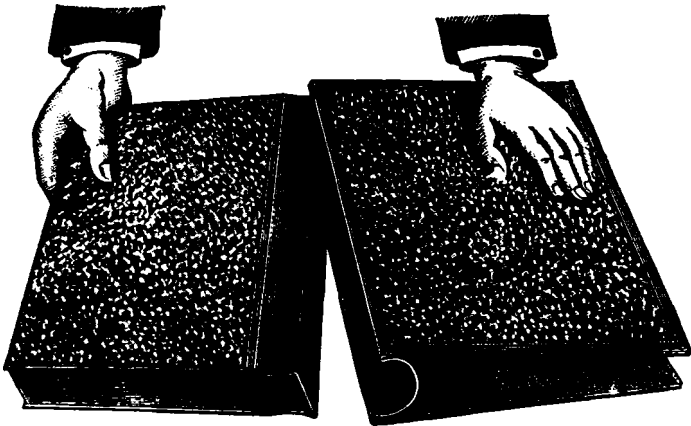
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	½ a.	blue-green		used 0 1

MACAO.

Various issues. Revised prices.

25.	200 r., red-orange (perf. 13½)	used	2 6
58.	5 on 25 r., rose	"	0 9
73.	5 r. on 10 r., green and buff (on fiscal)	"	1 6
76.	10 r. on 10 r.	"	1 6
101.	30 on 200 r., lilac (perf. 12½)	used	1 0
105.	30 on 200 r., " (perf. 13½)	"	2 0
129.	1 a. on 5 r., black	"	0 2
140.	24 a., ochre (Commemorative)	"	2 0

NYASSA.

1897-1903. Various types. Reduced prices.

13.	300 r., blue on bright buff		1 6
42.	130 r. on 300 r., green (Camels)	used	0 8

ST. THOMAS AND PRINCE ISLANDS.

1870-1902. Crown type. Revised prices.

29	25 r., rose (perf. 13½)		0 2
30.	25 r., pale rose (perf. 13½)		0 2
41.	50 r., pale blue (perf. 12½, pl. 1)	used	0 2
45.	50 r., deep blue (perf. 12½, pl. 1)	"	1 0
113.	115 r. on 50 r., green	"	4 6

1902-3. Type 7. King Carlos.

182.	25 r., blue-green (Provisorio)	used	0 3
136.	25 r., carmine	"	0 2

SAN MARINO.

1894. Commemorative Issue. Handsome stamps.

29.	25 c., marone and blue		0 3
30.	50 c. " red		0 6
81.	1 l. " green		0 9
20/81.	Set of three, mint		1 3

TIMOR.

1885. Crown type of Macao, overprinted.

5.	25 r., violet (perf. 12½)	used	1 0
7.	50 r., deep blue (perf. 12½)	"	1 6
9.	100 r., dull lilac (perf. 12½)	"	1 6
11.	300 r., yellow-brown (perf. 12½)	"	2 6
22.	200 r., orange (perf. 13½)	"	2 0

1895-1902. Various Provisionals.

49.	30 on 300 r., orange (perf. 12½)	used	3 0
67.	5 a. on 30 on 300 r., orange (perf. 12½)	"	2 0
62a.	5 a. on 30 on 300 r. " (perf. 13½)	"	5 0
89.	5 a. on 25 r., purple	"	2 0
92.	5 a. on 25 r., green	"	0 6
97.	6 a. on 2½ r., brown	"	0 9
101.	9 a. on 75 r., rose	"	0 9
102.	15 a. on 20 r., rosine	"	5 0
107.	22 a. on 80 r., grey	"	8 0

1903. Type 7. King Carlos.

114.	5 avos, carmine	used	0 3
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TOBAGO.

1891-2. Type 2, surcharged. Reduced prices.

36.	½d. on 4d., grey		7 6
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Afghanistan

The Editor of "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"

DEAR SIR,—In reference to Mr. Barnsdall's notes on "Afghanistan" in your issue of 10 October, the head on the circular early issues is meant to represent a *lion*, and was intended as a reference to the Amir's name, *Sher Ali*. This word is pronounced *shayr*, and in Arabic signifies either a lion or a tiger. Perhaps the artist who perpetrated the design was, like Mr. Frank Richardson, an enemy to "whiskers," and took them off his *lion*; or perhaps exigencies of space compelled him to leave them out. I think an attempt was made in the 1289 issue to produce the *lion* more correctly, but a disreputable poodle was the result, and so the good old "pussy cat" à la Louis Wain was reverted to. We must be charitable to this Afghan Landseer, and accept his *lion* on trust.

By the way, as Mr. Barnsdall mentions some of the inscriptions, it may interest your readers to know the history of the one used on the 1295 issue. The correct reading of the latter portion

much puzzled Sir David Masson and me, as the only sound we could evolve from the last stroke was R S L (something like *parcel*, but with the first consonant omitted), and the preceding sound was either a B, an F, or a P. Anyway, we could not get any further, as the calligraphy was so wretched. Ultimately, I got a correct statement from His Majesty the Amir himself, who was then in Calcutta. The character was *Bársdl*, but it was shortened from *Báras* (year or era) *Seedl* (leopard). I can assure you that puzzling out sense from illiterate, smudged Arabic inscriptions is more difficult than missing-word Limerick competitions. *Seedl*, again, like *sher*, is a generic term, and may mean either a leopard, a panther, or a jackal.

All through the handbook we have tried to give the correct pronunciations of the various Arabic words in the inscriptions, but in many we have, I fear, failed to convey the correct sounds. Some of these words defy being accented into English.

Yours truly, B. GORDON JONES.

Philatelic Societies

Glasgow and West of Scotland Philatelic Society

Hon. President: Edwin Temple, B.A., Cam.
President: W. A. R. Jex Long, F.R.P.S.L., 58 Renfield Street.
Hon. Secretary: Thomas H. Wallace, 27 Oswald Street.
Meetings: Religious Institution Rooms, 200 Buchanan Street, at 7.45 p.m.

THE third ordinary general meeting of the Society was held in the Religious Institution Rooms, 200 Buchanan Street, on Tuesday, 10 November, 1908.

The President, Mr. William A. R. Jex Long, F.R.P.S.L., in the chair. Before proceeding with the business of the meeting, the President referred to the honour conferred on Archibald McInnes Shaw, Esq., Hon. Vice-President of the Society, by his election to the civic chair, and on his motion, seconded by Mr. Guthrie, this was recorded in the minutes.

An excellent paper, entitled "Free Thoughts on Stamp Collecting by a Junior," was read by Mr. James K. Riddoch, and proved most interesting and instructive, containing many invaluable hints to beginners.

A debate, "New Issues," was opened by Mr. P. Durand, who humorously addressed the President as "Your Lordship," and the members as "gentlemen of the jury." Mr. James K. Riddoch took the negative. Both gentlemen eloquently stated their case, and after criticism by the members, a verdict in favour of "New Issues" (legitimate) was returned. The Hon. Secretary again reported the enrolment of several new members. Votes of thanks to the Chairman and to the essayists closed the 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 November meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday at Winchester House, when there was a good gathering of members. In the absence of the President, the chair was taken by Dr. Musson. An excellent paper was read by Mr. J. W. F. Goddard on "The Desirability of a National Society," and this important matter that concerns all true philatelists was lucidly explained by the speaker. Mr. Charles A. Stephenson, of Birmingham, was then called upon to show his collection of Barbados with notes. These were much admired, the stamps all being superb copies, and many in mint condition. Several members spoke very highly of the arrangement and mounting of the stamps. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Stephenson at the end, and suitably acknowledged.—*Leicester Post*, 6.11.08.

Manchester Philatelic Society

President: W. Dorsing Beakton.
Hon. Sec.: G. Fred. H. Gibson, Fairfield, Crumpeall, Manchester.
Meetings: Grand Hotel, Manchester, Weekly: Fridays at 7 p.m.

AT the meeting of the Manchester Philatelic Society yesternight week Mr. A. P. Walker, of Birmingham, showed his collection of the stamps of the Italian States used on entire envelopes, previous to the unification of Italy under Victor Emmanuel. The stamps were in very fine condition, and comprised almost all the stamps issued by the following States: Sardinia, Modena, Tuscany, Parma, Roman States, Romagna, Naples, and Sicily. Many rare postmarks were shown, including Sardinian stamps used in other States during the transition period.—*Manchester City News*, 7.11.08.

South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society

President: Col. G. E. Petty.
Hon. Secs.: Messrs. T. Edwards and Gwilym R. Lougher.

THE third meeting of the season was held at the Y.M.C.A. Buildings, Cardiff, on Wednesday, 11 November, 1908.

An exhaustive and instructive paper on the "Line-engraved Stamps of Great Britain" was given by C. E. Page, Esq., Newport, Mon., together with a display of his magnificent collection of these stamps.

Amongst many good things shown were superb strips and blocks of the rd. and sd. 1840, also a stamp which is probably unique—the rd. error, lettered O P—P C, with overprint at back, "Copestake, Moore, & Co., London."

Mr. Page's paper was so appreciated that it was decided to print it for circulation amongst the members of the Society.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Page, proposed by the President, Colonel Petty, seconded by Alderman Troughton, and supported by Mr. V. E. Brukewich, brought a most interesting meeting to a close.

Swadlincote Stamp Society

AT a meeting of this Society, held on 17 November last at Mr. W. W. Hilton's office, Midland Road, Councillor W. Oakley, the President, gave a display of his magnificent collection of the stamps of Great Britain.

Mr. Oakley related the interesting story of the great postal reform of 1839 and 1840, and showed letters which had been sent by coach before stamps were issued, also a number of caricatures of the Mulready envelopes and a good lot of stamps, including the unused £5 Telegraph.

Mr. W. W. Hilton and Mr. R. B. Hall were elected Vice-Presidents of the Society.

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" 15	"	4	0
" 16	"	4	0
" 17	"	4	0
" 18	"	4	0

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.

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.

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a really cheap, specialized or general collection? If so, CONSULT OUR

STAMP COLLECTIONS REGISTER.

Do you want to SELL

your collection, or any part of it, at the small commission of Ten per cent? If so, ENTER IT IN OUR

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and the announcement will be seen by more than Twenty Thousand Collectors, a greater publicity than you can obtain by any other means.

Full conditions, and List of Thirty-nine Collections entered on the Register, sent post-free on demand.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., 391 Strand (Opposite Hotel Cecil), London, W.C.

Philatelic Hampers for Xmas Gifts.

At XMAS time people send their friends hampers full of good things to eat, so why should not YOU send your Philatelic FRIENDS Philatelic Hampers full of acceptable gifts? We have prepared a series of Eight Hampers, varying in price from 2s. 6d. to £3, and each is the best possible value for the money.

CONTENTS OF PHILATELIC HAMPERS.

In addition to the articles enumerated below, each Hamper contains a copy of Mr. C. J. Phillips' interesting book "FIFTY YEARS OF PHILATELY," a specimen copy of "GIBBONS STAMP WEEKLY," a list of cheap SETS AND PACKETS OF STAMPS, and a list of ALBUMS AND PHILATELIC ACCESSORIES, etc.

The price of all Hampers includes free delivery to any address in Great Britain.

No. 1. Price 2s. 6d.

	List Price.
	s. d.
1 Improved Album. No. O	1 0
1 Box 1000 Stamp Hinges	0 6
1 Ideal Perforation Gauge	0 6
1 Watermark Detector	1 0
No. 2 Packet (50 different Stamps)	0 6
	<hr/>
	3 6

No. 2. Price 5s.

1 Improved Album. No. O	1 0
1 Box 1000 Stamp Hinges	0 6
1 Ideal Perforation Gauge	0 6
1 Watermark Detector	1 0
1 Pair of Small Tweezers	1 0
100 Transparent Envelopes. Size A	0 5
No. 65 Packet (250 different Stamps)	2 0
	<hr/>
	6 5

No. 3. Price 7s. 6d.

1 Strand Album. No. 14	2 6
2 Boxes of 1000 Stamp Hinges	1 0
1 Ideal Perforation Gauge	0 6
1 Watermark Detector	1 0
1 Pair of No. 3 Tweezers	2 0
1 copy of <i>My Duplicates</i>	1 0
No. 65 Packet (250 different Stamps)	2 0
	<hr/>
	10 0

No. 4. Price 10s.

1 Strand Album. No. 15	}	5 0
or 1 Improved Album. No. 3		
2 Boxes of 1000 Stamp Hinges		1 0
1 Ideal Perforation Gauge		0 6
1 Watermark Detector		1 0
1 Pair of No. 3 Tweezers		2 0
1 copy of <i>My Duplicates</i>		1 0
No. 66 Packet (500 different Stamps)		4 0
		<hr/>
		14 6

No. 5. Price 15s.

1 Strand Album. No. 17	}	7 6
or 1 Improved Album. No. 4		
2 Boxes of 1000 Stamp Hinges		1 0
1 Ideal Perforation Gauge		0 6
1 Watermark Detector		1 0
1 Vade Mecum	}	2 6
or 1 Pair of No. 1 Tweezers		
1 copy of <i>Stamps and Stamp Collecting</i>		1 0

No. 5. Price 15s.—Continued.

	List Price.
	s. d.
1 No. 13 Collecting Book	1 6
100 Transparent Envelopes. B	0 6
No. 66 Packet (500 different Stamps)	4 0
No. 6 Packet (100 different Stamps)	1 6
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	21 0

No. 6. Price £1.

1 Ideal Album. No. 1	10 0
1 copy Catalogue. Part I	2 6
1 " " " " Part II	2 6
2 Boxes of 1000 Stamp Hinges	1 0
1 Ideal Perforation Gauge	0 6
1 Watermark Detector	1 0
1 Magnifying Glass	5 0
1 Pair of No. 3 Tweezers	2 0
1 copy of <i>My Duplicates</i>	1 0
No. 66 Packet (500 different Stamps)	4 0
	<hr/>
	29 6

No. 7. Price £1 10s.

1 Ideal Album. No. 1	10 0
1 Set of Catalogues	5 0
3 Boxes of 1000 Stamp Hinges	1 6
1 Ideal Perforation Gauge	0 6
1 Watermark Detector	1 0
1 Pair of No. 3 Tweezers	2 0
1 Magnifying Glass	5 0
1 No. 13 Collecting Book	1 6
200 Transparent Envelopes. B	1 0
No. 67 Packet (1000 varieties)	15 0
	<hr/>
	42 6

No. 8. Price £3.

1 Ideal Album. No. 3	25 0
1 Leather Case for above	17 6
1 Set of Catalogues	5 0
5 Boxes of 1000 Stamp Hinges	2 6
1 Ideal Perforation Gauge	0 6
1 Watermark Detector	1 0
1 Pair of No. 3 Tweezers	2 0
1 Magnifying Glass	5 0
1 No. 17 Collecting Book	2 6
200 Transparent Envelopes. B	1 0
1 No. 73 Leather Pocket Wallet	3 6
No. 67 Packet (1000 varieties)	15 0
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	80 6

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For G.S.W. Readers.

ABYSSINIA

Postage Due Stamps.

1896.

Type 1 overprinted with Type 21.

PORTRAIT OF THE
EMPEROR MENELIK.

4 guerche, lilac-brown.
8 ,, violet.
16 ,, black.

The Catalogue Price of
these Stamps is 2/9.

Special Bargain Price

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63. 1 fr., black and lake . . . used . 0 3

MOZAMBIQUE CO.

1894-7. Type 2. Arms.

33. 50 r., blue (perf. 12½) 0 9
34. 50 r., „ („ E) 1 0
42. 300 r., blue on pale brown (perf. 12½) used 1 0
43. 500 r., black (perf. 12½) . . . „ 2 0
49. 25 r., deep green (perf. 13½) . . „ 0 6
51. 50 r., blue (perf. 13½) 2 6
58. 500 r., black (perf. 13½) . . . used 2 0

1895. Provisionals on stamps of Mozambique.

60. 50 r., deep blue (perf. 12½) . . . used 1 6
61. 50 r., pale blue (perf. 13½) . . . „ 3 0

PORTUGUESE GUINEA.

1881-5. Crown Type of Cape Verd,
overprinted GUINE.

17. 20 r., pale bistre . (perf. 12½) . used 0 9
23. 100 r., slate-lilac . („ 12½) . „ 0 9
24. 100 r., dull lilac . („ 12½) . „ 1 0
25/26. 200 r., orange . („ 12½) . „ 1 3
28. 300 r., yellow-brown („ 12½) . „ 1 6
33. 20 r., pale bistre . („ 13½) . „ 1 6
37. 100 r., lilac-grey . („ 13½) . „ 0 9
47. 20 r., rosine . („ 13½) . „ 1 0

SERVIA.

1905. Type 17. King Peter. High values.

207. 1 din., buff used 1 0
208. 3 ,, blue-green „ 1 6
209. 5 ,, violet „ 2 6

SIAM.

1907. Provisionals. Large fiscal stamps overprinted.

158. 10 t., olive-green used 7 6
159. 20 t., „ „ 25 0
160. 40 t., „ „ 40 0

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

1907. Labuan, Crown Type, overprinted.

132. 1 c., black and violet 6 0

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We have prepared a series of Eight Hampers, varying in price from 2s. 6d. to £3, and each is the best possible value for the money. In each case there are substantial reductions from our list price, and the price quoted includes free carriage to any address in Great Britain.

Each Hamper contains everything necessary to start a Stamp Collection, and the more expensive the Hamper, the more complete is the Outfit.

ORDER EARLY.

For full particulars see page 3.

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THE "IMPROVED" STAMP ALBUM, No. 0; 192 pages	1 3
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WATERMARK DETECTOR	1 2
"STAMP COLLECTING AS A PASTIME"	1 3
STOCK ALBUM, No. 13, pocket size	1 7
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"STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING," paper cover	2 3
PHILATELIST'S COLLECTING BOOK, No. 17	2 8
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"VADE MECUM," for mounting stamps	2 8
STAMP CATALOGUE, BRITISH EMPIRE	2 9
FOREIGN	2 10
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IVORY POCKET RULE, inches and mm.	3 7
MOROCCO LETTER CASE, with book, No. 74	4 1
GENT'S CARD CASE, No. 71	4 7
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"REPRINTS OF POSTAL ADHESIVES," paper cover	4 3
"THE STAMP COLLECTOR," in cloth	4 10
MAGNIFYING GLASS	5 1
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6	100 " " "	World	.	1 7
152	30 " " or unused	Australasia	.	1 7
7	100 " " "	World	.	2 1
14	25 " " "	French Colonial	.	2 1
65	250 " " "	World	.	2 1
112	25 " " "	Asia	.	2 1
142	20 " " "	West Indies	.	2 1
18	40 " unused	World	.	2 7
122	25 " used or unused	Africa	.	2 7
113	40 " " "	Asia	.	3 7
66	500 " " "	World	.	4 1
117	30 " " "	Asia	.	4 1
153	30 " " "	Australasia	.	4 7
8	100 " " "	obsolete	.	5 1
9	200 " " "	Foreign	.	5 1
20	60 " unused	World	.	5 1
114	40 " used or unused	Asia	.	6 7
70	500 " " "	Europe	.	7 8
71	125 " " "	Asia	.	7 7
72	125 " " "	Africa	.	7 7
73	105 " " "	Australasia	.	7 7
74	125 " " "	West Indies	.	7 7
75	125 " " "	South America	.	7 7
76	100 " " "	North America	.	7 7
77	100 " " "	Central America	.	7 7
<i>The last eight packets are all different, and if ordered at one time cost only</i>				55 0
10	100 varieties, used or unused,	World	.	10 1
116	45 " " "	Asia	.	12 1
67	1000 " " "	World	.	15 0
115	50 " " "	Asia	.	16 7
11	200 " " "	World	.	21 0
118	40 " " "	Asia	.	21 1
68	1500 " " "	World	.	35 0
69	2000 " " "	"	.	60 0
69A	3000 " " "	"	.	170 0
69B	4000 " " "	"	.	280 0

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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* the different properties that may be placed in our hands. In addition to publishing this *Register* in our paper we also issue the *Register* in pamphlet form and send it to a large number of good buyers who do not subscribe to *G.S.W.*

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.
- 10th.—Collectors are advised to fix the very lowest price they will accept, in the first instance, as this will ensure a quicker sale and save correspondence.
- 11th.—It will greatly facilitate a sale if the owner will calculate the current catalogue price of his stamps.

No. 38.

A SPECIALIZED COLLECTION OF POSTAGE & OFFICIAL

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Neatly arranged in a Blank Album.

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"	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.

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GIBBONS STAMP

WEEKLY



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TITLE AND CONTENTS TO VOL.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 391 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

(Opposite The Hotel Cecil)

NEW YORK: STANLEY GIBBONS, INC., 146 BROADWAY.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly

WITH WHICH IS AMALGAMATED

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" 9	"	5	0
" 10	"	5	0
" 12	"	4	0
" 14	"	4	0
" 15	"	4	0
" 16	"	4	0
" 17	"	4	0
" 18	"	4	0

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.

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The price of all Hampers includes free delivery to any address in Great Britain.

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1 Improved Album. No. 0	1	0	
1 Box 1000 Stamp Hinges	0	6	
1 Ideal Perforation Gauge	0	6	
1 Watermark Detector	1	0	
No. 2 Packet (50 different Stamps)	0	6	
	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	

No. 2. Price 5s.

1 Improved Album. No. 0	1	0
1 Box 1000 Stamp Hinges	0	6
1 Ideal Perforation Gauge	0	6
1 Watermark Detector	1	0
1 Pair of Small Tweezers	1	0
100 Transparent Envelopes. Size A	0	5
No. 65 Packet (250 different Stamps)	2	0
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2 Boxes of 1000 Stamp Hinges	1	0
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1 Watermark Detector	1	0
1 Pair of No. 3 Tweezers	2	0
1 copy of <i>My Duplicates</i>	1	0
No. 65 Packet (250 different Stamps)	2	0
	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>

No. 4. Price 10s.

1 Strand Album. No. 15	}	5	0
or 1 Improved Album. No. 3			
2 Boxes of 1000 Stamp Hinges	1	0	
1 Ideal Perforation Gauge	0	6	
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No. 66 Packet (500 different Stamps)	4	0	
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1 Strand Album. No. 17	}	7	6
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2 Boxes of 1000 Stamp Hinges	1	0	
1 Ideal Perforation Gauge	0	6	
1 Watermark Detector	1	0	
1 Vade Mecum	2	6	
or 1 Pair of No. 1 Tweezers	}	1	0
1 copy of <i>Stamps and Stamp Collecting</i>			

No. 5. Price 15s.—Continued.

	List Price.	s.	d.
1 No. 13 Collecting Book	1	6	
100 Transparent Envelopes. B	0	6	
No. 66 Packet (500 different Stamps)	4	0	
No. 6 Packet (100 different Stamps)	1	6	
	<u>21</u>	<u>0</u>	

No. 6. Price £1.

1 Ideal Album. No. 1	10	0
1 copy Catalogue. Part I	2	6
1 " " " II	2	6
2 Boxes of 1000 Stamp Hinges	1	0
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1 Watermark Detector	1	0
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1 Pair of No. 3 Tweezers	2	0
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No. 66 Packet (500 different Stamps)	4	0
	<u>29</u>	<u>6</u>

No. 7. Price £1 10s.

1 Ideal Album. No. 1	10	0
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1 Ideal Perforation Gauge	0	6
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1 Magnifying Glass	5	0
1 No. 13 Collecting Book	1	6
200 Transparent Envelopes. B	1	0
No. 67 Packet (1000 varieties)	15	0
	<u>42</u>	<u>6</u>

No. 8. Price £3.

1 Ideal Album. No. 3	25	0
1 Leather Case for above	17	6
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1 Ideal Perforation Gauge	0	6
1 Watermark Detector	1	0
1 Pair of No. 3 Tweezers	2	0
1 Magnifying Glass	5	0
1 No. 17 Collecting Book	2	6
200 Transparent Envelopes. B	1	0
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No. 67 Packet (1000 varieties)	15	0
	<u>80</u>	<u>6</u>

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1886-9.

Type 41. Arms.

5 pesos, black.

(Cat. No. 216.)

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23. 25 r., rose (perf. 13½) used 2 6
34. 10 r., blue-green (perf. 12½) ,, 0 9

PORTUGUESE INDIA.

1880-1. Crown Type. Perf. 13½. Thick paper.
104. 25 r., dull mauve used 7 6
1881. Early type, surcharged.
115. 5 on 15 r., rose used 1 3
1895-1900. Types 24 and 25. King Carlos.
292. 4 p., blue (perf. 12½) used 5 0
317. 2 rup., violet on yellow ,, 6 0
1902. Provisionals. Various types.
319. 1 r. on 2 t., blue (perf. 12½) 0 3
320. 1 r. on 2 t., blue (perf. 13½) 0 6
321. 1 r. on 6 r., green used 0 3
325. 2½ r. on 9 r., lilac 0 4
327. 3 r. on 4½ r., pale orange 1 3
327. 3 r. on 4½ r. ,, used 1 3

RIO DE ORO.

1908. Type 3 surcharged with Type 7, in black.
15 c. on 75 c., orange-brown 7 6
15 c. on 75 c. ,, used 7 6
1908. Type 3 surcharged with Type 6, in red.
10 c. on 50 c., dull purple 8 6

TOLIMA.

1903. Arms Types. Revised prices.
100/101. 10 c., blue (imperf.) 0 1
113. 1 p., brown (perf. 12) used 0 4
117. 10 p., black on pale blue (perf. 12) 2 0

UNITED STATES.

1908. New issue. Head of Washington.
2 c., carmine 0 2

VENEZUELA.

1902. Type 33. Error, overprint "1900" omitted.
277. 5 c., orange 0 3
277a. 10 c., vermilion 0 3
— 25 c., blue 0 4
278. 50 c., yellow-green 0 4
1905. National Congress. Commemorative Stamp.
404. 25 c., pale yellow 1 0

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Philatelic Societies

Bath Philatelic Society

President: B. D. Pope.
Hon. Secretary: C. J. Preator.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of this Society was held at the headquarters, Bath Church Institute, 18 November, the President, Mr. B. D. Pope, being in the chair. There was a good attendance considering the inclemency of the weather, those present including Messrs. H. Vandespar, F. J. Warwick, F. E. Haigh, W. G. Olds, Norman Horley, H. J. Norman, G. B. Caple, F. J. Nokes, and C. J. Preator (Hon. Secretary). Two new members were elected. The evening's programme consisted of "Five Minute Papers by Members." The first to be read was by Mr. W. J. Tittle (who was unavoidably absent through business), the paper being undertaken by one of the members, on the rare Moldavian (Roumania) stamp of 1858 (first issue). This is one of the very rare stamps of the European countries. The second paper was by Mr. Warwick, on the "Prince Consort Essay." Although not a stamp in the strict sense of the word, yet the engraving is one of the most beautiful pieces of the engraver's art. The specimen copy which Mr. Warwick brought was much admired. The third paper was by Mr. Haigh, on the "Mulready" envelopes, an enlarged drawing of the same being shown, and the fourth paper was by Mr. Olds on "The Stamps of Malta," and he exhibited a set, mounted in a frame. Votes of thanks having been passed to the various members for their papers, a very instructive evening was brought to a close.

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, 5 December, Major Evans gave a display, with notes, of Ocean Penny Postage Envelopes. These envelopes were first designed about sixty years ago in connection with the League of Universal Brotherhood. They were issued with the intention of stirring up public opinion to the numerous advantages that would accrue to commerce from a universal penny postage rate, and thus bringing about by popular feeling their much-desired reform. The majority of the envelopes were designed and printed by James Valentine of Dundee, and the designs are both ingenious and novel. Apparently the League of Universal Brotherhood had other interests besides those of postal reform, for a number of envelopes were shown in connection with the League, emblematic of Peace and Commerce, Anti-Slavery, Intemperance, and Sunday Labour in the Post Office. One of the Anti-Slavery envelopes bore designs from Uncle Tom's Cabin, while several of the Evils of Intemperance envelopes were illustrated with Hogarth designs. At the close, Mr. Douglas Ellis proposed, and Mr. Collins seconded, a very hearty vote of thanks to Major Evans for his very interesting display and notes, which was carried with acclamation.

Mr. S. R. Turner then gave a display of "Old Letter Sheets prior to 1840," among which were some very nice things; the very interesting London sd. post was very fully represented and there were also a number of Colonial, Italian, and French covers. Mr. Sherbourne supplemented Mr. Turner's display by showing a Dockwra cover. At the close of the display, Mr. F. J. Melville proposed, and Mr. Tims seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Turner, which was carried with enthusiasm.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: C. W. Harding.
Meetings: Tuesdays (7.15 p.m.), Room B3, Leeds Institute, Cowbridge Street.
Hon. Secretary: T. S. Fraser, 22 Oriental Terrace, Armsley, Leeds.
Annual Subscription: 5s.

AT the meeting of this Society held on 18 November Mr. A. H. Stamford, of the Bradford Society, gave a display, with notes, of the Pictorial Issues of New Zealand.

There was a good attendance, in spite of the dense fog which prevailed, although Mr. Stamford was the only member from the Bradford Society who was present.

The stamps were in two portions, the first arranged in singles and pairs according to Stanley Gibbons' catalogue, and the other one in blocks. The latter comprised numerous shades and perforations, many of them un-catalogued.

Three new members were elected.

Leicester Philatelic Society

President: Dr. R. Milbourn West.
Hon. Sec.: P. V. Sansome, Tennyson Street, St. James' Road, Leicester.
Meetings: Winchester House, Welford Place, Leicester.

THE members and friends of this Society met at the Memorial Hall, New Walk, on 19 November, for a small exhibition of postage stamps and lantern lecture. The exhibits were arranged in two classes, and a prize was offered for each section for the best exhibit. That in Class I for advanced collectors was awarded to Mr. Thos. B. Widdowson for a display of Seybells. In Class II, Dr. A. E. Payne was successful with a display of Great Britain. Other displays that were shown included Cyprus and Gibraltar, Dr. R. M. West; U.S.A. Proofs, Mr. A. H. Faulks; South Australia, Mr. C. A. Stephenson; Gambia, Mr. P. V. Sansome, etc. etc.

The President of the Society, Dr. R. M. West, then addressed the audience, and introduced Mr. Franz Reichenheim, President of the Herts Philatelic Society, who delivered his lecture "Stamps of France," Sower type, which was illustrated by lantern slides. The lecturer showed the various designs made, and the rapid changes that had taken place in the short time the stamps had been in existence. All the alterations and flaws in the engraving and printing were lucidly explained by Mr. Reichenheim, who possesses a knowledge of his subject, and is without doubt an authority on the stamps of France.

After the exhibition a private display before members of the Society was given of his collection. As it occupies over forty sheets, only part were shown. Practically all issues were shown unused in singles, pairs, and blocks.

The thanks of the Society are due to the following ladies and gentlemen for their assistance in making the evening a success: Dr. and Mrs. West, Mr. and Mrs. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Gadsby, and Messrs. Thos. B. Widdowson, J. W. A. Goddard, and P. V. Sansome, Hon. Sec.

Leicester Post, 21.11.08.

North of England Philatelic Society

Hon. Sec.: Mark Easton, 48 Sidney Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Meetings: Y.M.C.A., Newcastle-on-Tyne, first Thursday in each month, October to April, 7.30 p.m.
Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.

THE usual monthly meeting of this Society was held at the Y.M.C.A., Newcastle, on Thursday, 3 December, at 7.30 p.m.

The Vice-President, Mr. T. D. Hume, was in the chair, and there were twelve members and one visitor present, the very disagreeable night keeping many regular attenders away.

Messrs. Henry C. Holmes, Arthur R. Laws, and Percy C. Laws were elected members.

The Secretary reported that, after careful consideration, the Committee advised the Society to go on with the suggested Exhibition, and Friday and Saturday, 26 and 27 March, 1909, were fixed upon as the dates, and it was agreed to hold the Exhibition in the Academy of Arts, a very central and convenient hall.

Messrs. Bagnall, Eddy, Whillis, and Thos. Wilkinson were added to the Committee to assist in the extra work entailed by the undertaking.

Mr. E. Heginbottom's fine collection of St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and Turks Islands was then handed round, and the fine condition of most of the copies much admired.

Mr. T. C. Graham also showed his Seychelles, complete in all printings and plates, a very fine display. At the close of the meeting Mr. Graham moved a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Heginbottom for his kindness in sending stamps. Mr. Harrison moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Graham, and both were carried with acclamation.

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14	25 " " " "	2	1	75	125 " " " "	7	7
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117	30 " " " "	4	1	115	50 " " " "	15	0
153	30 " " " "	4	7	11	200 " " " "	16	7
8	100 " " " "	5	1	68	1500 " " " "	21	0
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