

## INDEX KN゚ロ REFERENCE LI\&T

OF

## Hew $\mathfrak{F s s u e s , 1 8 9 7 = 1 8 9 8 .}$



INDEX-Continued.



| NEW LISTS <br> of Novolties, Neve Issues, Cheap Packets, gece. Ribu a and Philateltc Novelties. <br> Gratis and Post Free. <br> F. EDWARDS EING, 11, Siev nson Rd., IPSWICH, England. <br> Shects of Stamps sent on approvat. |
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## THIS SPACE

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8c. orange, CA....
Cyprus, 1882,12 piastres. Die II. ..
-Heligoland, is. rouletted, no gum
Japan, War Stamps, 4 varicties
${ }^{4}$ Natal, provisional $\frac{1}{2} d$ on $6 d$.
Oil Riyers, 2hd. rare used
${ }^{5 d}$ d.
Orañge Free State, $2 \frac{\mathrm{~d} \text { d. on } 3 \mathrm{~d} . \text { (nod.) }}{}$
Portugal, 1866, imperf., 25 reis
1867, perf., 10 reis
Seychelles, provisional, 12 on ifc.
Spain, Official, $\frac{1}{2}$ and I onya

- Transvaal, 1885 , 2d, brown

5t-slate blue
United States, goc. orange
Western Australia, I.R., 2d. litac provisional, $\frac{4}{} \mathrm{~d}$. on 3 di .

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## - OF THE -

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The general system of arrangement of the various varieties in the 1895 Edition has been maintained, and an index added. Special attention has been paid to shades of colour, especially of the id. red series.

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Full List of Plate Numbers now priced of the ous. and Firms' Names Varieties.
Full Priced List of Inverted Watermarks.
New system of Pricing English with Foreign Postmarks.
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Important new information added to the Lists of Fiscals and Deed Stamps.
English Stamps surcharged for use abroad (Cyprus, Bechuanaland, \&ce)
\&c.. \&cc., \&c.

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 andiall! homh Mr. li. Holowh, Mr. (i.

 wive us the athalle rombto of their experience at limes an Patore. In adlition. the laditerial stali has ser ured several toreign - mespondx.m- wh. will hep wewell up-to. date wh new issue and tamp domes athrant, and spectal attention will be deroted (") plating prominently hefor. ont readers danserons philatelic frands hoth ammate and mamimate one of which in pilloried in the presem number. Fo dn all we wish neces. -itates comaideralbe support from the plilatelic puldic. We have a very large list of sulno cibers compiled daring sis yeats-while

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All communications for the next issue should reach us by the Tenth of the Monthat latest. We cannot guarantee insertion if received after that date.

October $23 \mathrm{rd}, 1897$.
CONTENTS.

|  |  |  |  |  | Page. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Editorlal | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | ... | ... | 1 |
| Chronicle | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| The Poatman's Knock | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | ... | ... | 3 |
| Notes on English Stamps | $\cdots$ | ... | ... | -. | ... | 4 |
| Annual Meoting of the B.P.S. |  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Soclety Heports |  | ... | ... | ... |  | 5 |
| Members of the B.P.S. |  |  | ... | ... |  | 6 |
| Forgod Zululand and Bachuan | ala |  | ... | ... | $\ldots$ | $7$ |

HE: Philatelic Chronicle begins its seventh volume with this issue. The success which has attended it during six years encourages the hope that the new volume will eclipse its predecegsors in every particular, and we shall spare no effort which tends towards the accomplishment of this end. We shatl maintain all the best features of the past and endeavour to add new ones of interest. We have arranged with Mr. W. S . Weibls to continue bis valuable notes on linglish Stamps, The lostman will give his knock monthly and leave his budget of odds and ends, Nox-les has promised contributions whenever possible, while the writers to whom we have been indebted for special articles in the past, among whom we have to cordiatly thank Mr. R. Holliek, Mr. G. Johsson, Mr I'. T. Deakis, Mr. Walter Montery, and others, will no cloubt be able to give us the valualle results of their experience at times as before. In addition, the Editorial staff has secured several foreign correspondents who will keep us well up-todate with new issues and stamp doings alroad, and special attention will be devoted to placing prominently before our readers dangerous philatelic frauds both animate and inanimate-one of which is pilloried in the present number. To do all we wish necessitates considerable support from the philatelic public. We have a very large list of subscribers compiled during six years -while the Biemingham Philatelic Society and the Midland Counties Stamp Exchanoe alone, all of whose members receive the Chronicle. provide us with over 400 , but we would like to make our hundreds into thousands for every collector should have the only paper published which is independent of any special control and is published for all philatelists
alike. One thing our advertising supporters can be sure of obtaining is a very large genuine circulation - perhaps even the largest in England which is open to them-and at the very cheapest rates. A glance at the list of members of the Birminghan Philatelig Societr in this number will show the personnel of our constituents. There are the names of practically every prominent philalist at home and abroad, and all of them receive the Chronicle, as also do many hundreds of collectors of equal importance. Therefore we say again that dealers cannot do better than use our columns both on the grounds of cheapness and efficacy. The proof of the pudding is in the eating, but if the experience of others is of any use this is part of a letter received yesterday. "Since we have advertised in Chronicle and Advertiser our business has doubled. Yours faithfully, Reed and Co., 41, St Andrew's Hill, London, E.C.'" We've got lots of these sort of letters about the office. Verb. sap. Our circulation during the first seven months of 1897 averaged 4,217 per month.

The Birmingiam Philatelic Sochty has passed through another twelvemonths of prosperity, thanks to the energetic Executive Committee, but principally to the indefatig. able secretary, Mr. (i. Johnson, 3.A. Facts speak more strongly than words. The state of things disclosed at the annual business meeting on the 7 th instant was eminently satisfactory to all, and we would direct every reader's attention to the report of that meeting on another page. The Society starts this season with no less than 227 members, and the number will probably be 300 before another six montlis have expired. The total value of the stamps circulated in the
exchange packets was no less than $\notin 35,21816 \mathrm{~s} .5 \mathrm{~d}$., so that the Society seems in the very height of prosperity with every prospect of a continuance.

## CHRONICLE.

CANADA.-Mr. R. T. Mason, of Taronto, informs us that there will be an entirely new issue when the present stocks areexhausted. It is rumoured that the old and handsome bill stamp etyle will be adopted.

PERU. - Messrs. Williams and Co., Lima, have sent us a couple of new issues: the 5 centavos with head of Pi\%arro, green instead of bluc, and the se. Deficit surcharged obliquely in black witb the word DEFICIT.

> 5c. grern.
> 5c. "Deficit," black surcharge

UNITED STATES.-Mr. W. S. Webb has a variety of the 10c. (re-engraved die 1882) without crossed lines on the check. He has seen 3 specimens all very distinct but the variety is not at all common

Mr. Roger Wilson informs us that the 2c. and the 10 c . current stamps are to have their colours changed from motives of cconomy as the Post Office can save 10,000 dollars per year by the difference in cost between carmine, the present colour, and the green which is proposed. Later advices, however, say that this change is impossible as it would contravene tho regulations of the Postal Congress

QUEENSLAND. - It has beeu decided to alter the following, according to the Austrulian Philatelast:-

2 da, present issue $t$, be printed in violet-brown.
:d. same design as 1d. (1897), figures in each corner. colour medium brown.

4d. same as 3d., colour orange-yellow.
Gd. same as td., colour green, as used in last issue.
The $1 /$ - will also be issued shortly of the same design and in the same colour as at present.

It is $\mathbf{c}$ ntemplated to alter the colour of the $2 /$ redbrown, as it was often mistaken for the 3d. of the issue.

All stamps will have the white background.
HUNGARI:-A new issue will shortly he madr with currency in corona and filler ( 100 filler $=1$ corena)

ORANGE FREF: STATF:-The 1 - has ohanged colour and is now

1/- brown.

Postcards, \&c.
PERLC-Messrs. Williams and Co., Limb, send us lie 5 centavos card surcharged for use as 2 c . The surcharge is of a treble character and ombodies the Peruvian arms, the figure 2 anl the worls "Habili. ravo-por-2 cestavos,
['C. Ze. on je, blue on cream card.
FIRANCl:- We have received the phemmatic leter curd with the i:sseription Ropudiayu francaise.
S. C. 50 centimes, black on blue.

GilRMANY.-The Postal Union card has been surcharged Nur for Marine Schiffsposton in a curved line in black over the stamp for use on ships of the navy.

$$
10 \text { pfennig. black on rose on cream. }
$$

NEW SOUTH WULES.- One of our exchanges states that the stamp of the new adhesive type will be used on the cards as soon as the present supply is exhausted.

LNITED STATLS.-it is reported that the new curd, will bear the head of President John Quincy Adams. So says the Iergintic Philatelist.

STRAITS SETELEMENTS.-Vegri sembilan. The fullowitg cardiare mentioned by the D.I. $\%$ :

> PO. 1c. green.
> $i+1 \mathrm{c}$.
['RRAK. -The M.J. chronicles a copy of tho 1887 postered with a pale inverted impression of the surblarge "prrak" in addition to the ordinary one.
\%ANZIbAK.-The /II.J. announces the envalope in three si\%es.
E. Zya ultramarine on yel.owish-white laid sizes $120 \times 124,140 \times 79,245 \times 107 \mathrm{~mm}$.

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

WHat' a relief to get oace more back to my deat old scissors and paste after writing the tale of my blosd-curdling adventures at the Phitatelic 1ixhibition! Scissors and paste ! Myes! but the Boss says l've got to do sonething for the generous remuneration he allows me besides snipping things from other papers. Generous, forsooth! the paitry sum of-but no matter, a time will come! DJ without scissors and paste! Not for me, thanks! Still if you see a.iything herem that may possibly have appeard efsewhers you needn't trouble to write the J3 si ubuut it. Keep the penny it would cost you for postage and invest in a uewapaper or a shave or both or something and uarn a postman's gratitude and a father's blessing!

The Nortli $B$ jines and Labuan 18 and 24 cent atams shave been wiliderawn from circulation in con-
sequence of error in the inscription. Messrs. Whitiold King heve a supply of the errors which they are selling in sets of four : Labuan 18 and 24 c . and Borneo 18 and 24c.

Messrs. C. Forlues and 'io., have removed to 42 , Chester KJad, Eait Ham, E'ssex. Bless you, their old premises are not big enough to hold thom since they advertised in the Chonicle-and they doubled their space a month or so ago, and don't you forget it! Itessrs. Bright and Co. have issued another wholesale list-don't forget that either, and Mr. Ewen has started a sort of a kind of a price list which comes out week'y -every Saturday, to wit, although he only sent me the first issuc. Everybody can receive this, and the cost is little. Free, grati a and for nothingeven the postage is thrown in.

事
Un Saturday, the 18 ch of Sepleaber, was held the first stamp auction sale in Glasgow, in Waterioo Rooms, and it was of great interest to local enthusiasts, comprising, as it did, over 350 lots, some of the lats numbering thousunds of specimens. It is claimed that better prices can be had in Scotland for medium stamps than in London 'The auctioneer wes Mr. 12. S. Ciray, who is hinself a specialist in stamps. The prices oblained were eminently satisfactory and the sale totalled up to a goodly amount On October 16th was held the second sale, but accounts have not yet reached me. Announcement of Mr. Gray's next salo will be found on the first page of the Advertiser.
**
Did you hear about the big continental collection that has been bought and sold? Dr. Legrand is the seller -M. Th. Lemaire is the purchaser. Fancy: Post Office Mauritius: first issues of Moldavia : British Guiana and Hawaii ; Tuscany 3 lire ; Cantonals complete, including soventeen $\ddagger$ rappen Zurich ; Japan complete in sheets, Austrian Mercuries, Cape errors, Wurtemberg, 70 kreuzer in sheets, \&c. Read M. Lemaire's advertisement on another page and you will know more about it. We hear upon gond authority that $£ 12,000$ was the selling price, and Stanley Gibbons bought somewhere ne ar a couple of thousand pounds worth from Mr. Lemaire on the 10th inst. out of the collection.
${ }^{-4}$
It is said that the collection of Mr. W. B. Avery, Lon. president of the Birmingham Philatelic society. is worth from fifty to sixty thousend pounds. Mr. Avery bought the pair of unused Post Offlce Mauritius for som.s 5800 . Used and unused there aro only 17 of these stamps known-eight ld. and nine $2 d$.

A Bavarian daily paper speaks of tests with a new cancelling machine, in which a glowing platinum wire is to singe the stamp in such a way that it is impossible ever to use it again. The platinum wro canl be bent to represent any desired shape of tho
cancelling stamp, and the operation is to be performed by pressing a button, which completes the electric circuit, prasses the wire against the stamp and singes it in the fraction of a second too small to estimate. The prospect of stamps singed and partly turned to ashos is anything but pleasant to philatelists, and it is sincerely hoped that this invention will not be gonerally introduced.
The only Fronch stamps that have been re.printed aro:-Republic, 20 black, 1 frane carmine, 10 listre, 15 grean. 20 and 25 blue, 40 orange. Presidoncy, 10 bistre, 25 blue. All of them were sold at face value, and could in consequence be used for postage.
It is rumoured that Mr. F. W. Ayer has started another collectiou. Business is business.

A good story is to d in ${ }^{*}$ ** was returned to the general post-office "ith these words written by the postman on the envelope: "The addressee has hanged bimself ; present address unknown."

Yours, as usual,
The Postman.

## NOTES ON ENGLISH STAMPS.

## Br W. S. Webb.

A CORRI:CTION.

KSMALL bit of a jumble was made last month in the conclud ing lines of the paragraph on early penny envelopes: the corrected reading is:-"I do not remember over seeing any number above one and under 50 , on penny envelopes."
A MULREADY एUZたLE.

One of the main advantages just'y claimed for philately in general is,-that it affords special and efficient training to the eye for the observation of minute detail : and his, morcover, is quite as much the case with the collector of cutire envelopes, ©c., as with those who confine themselves to adiesive stamps. Now I have a case in point, and the subject is no less important a one than that of the famous "Mulready" design itself. I wonder to how many (or few) people it has occurred to nttempt to count the number of living beings depieted in that bistorical piece of engraving. I have been trying to fix this number, and am of opinion that the sum total of human and angelic forms in the picture amounts to just forty; if one more or less, I am open to correction. But as to how many quadrupeds the artist intended to set forth, $I$ an at a loss to decide. I have formed a private estimate but would like independent opinion, so I shall be glad to see lists of these animals from a few readers, which should nake some iuteresting reading for next month.

BEWARE OF THE FHENC:HMAS!
A most impudent attempt at fraud on the part of a French dealer has just cume under my notice: or, if he disclaims the impudence, he must then plead guilty to gross ignora ce of both English stamps and Einglish collectors. 'lhis caitiff has sent to me for sale, lorsooth, harf-a-dozen stamps, -of issucs as widely distinct as the Gd. of 1956 and 2!d. plate $22 .-$ with a false perforation gauging 12 , on one side, top or bottom of each stamp. The fratud is self-evident, as those stamps "faked" at the side are narrouter than they should be, whilst those maltreated at top or bottom are shorter than the normal. The vendor asks the modest sum of two shillings each for these treasures. Happily the ingenuity of the manufacturer is not likely to find much appreciation on this side of the channel, as any collectors advanced enough to note perforation ganges at all would detect the fraud unaided, but still possibly some schoolboy dealers might invest, thinking them a scarce and salcable variety; lience the warning

## ADMIRALTY PAPERS.

The supplies of furms for " Admiralty Peusioners' Life Certificates," bearing the $\frac{2}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. wrapper stamp on various coloared papers, are evidently stampe 1 a long lime in advance of the date of use, as I find on examining a number used during the present year, that all of the stamps are of type l., which has for nearly two yes's ceased to be impressed on other speries of wrapers. This same lot, morevver, shows in only a few instances the change of colour from pinkish to yellowish brown, which took place two or three years since on private wrappers. F'rom the collector's point of view, these gay and interesting papers eccupy the same statusas do Vaccioation certificates, on which 10 or 12 varjeties of stamps (exclusive of dates) are known-and the stanned forms sent out by the Board of 'Trade, sc. It looks as though the stamps of the Admiralty pipers will resolve themselve; into three sets, viz.: Type 1. in two shades, and tgpe IL, in the later shade. So they should be looked after, as probably but few more of the early priuting remain to come out, and type 11 . may soon appear. They are only used once ill three months.

## ANBWR:K TO QL゙FLS.

In reply to W.A.B. ('eckham), his 1d. envelope, size AZ $23 \times 4$ inn.) with straight upper Hap, and right end Hap pointed, is of the normal variety.
". Tar: Junior Culeectoh," published by Messrs. Margoschis Bros., Constitution Hill, is getting quite stout. Wherens it used to appear with 12 or 16 pages it now comes with some 30 or 32 . The paper is published in the interests of junior collectors, and all the matter it contains is for their benefit, and very useful it is to the beginner.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President:-W. B. Avehy, Esq. President:-W. T. Wilson, Esq.
l'iec-L'residents:-R. Hollick, Esq.; W. Pimm, Esq. Cummittec:-Mr. H. K. Bewlay; Mr. P. T. Deakis; Mr. V. Lendeblad; Mr. T. W. Peck; Mr. C. A. Stephenson; Mr. W. S. Yacghton.
Hon. Secrelary and Treasurer:-Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., olficial address, 208, Birchfield Rd., B'ham.

The annual meeting was held on October ith when the officers for the ensuing session were elected as above.

The accounts, showing a cash balance-in-hand of $\mathbf{L} 51 \mathrm{1s} .8 \mathrm{~d}$., were audited, found correct, and approved.
The election of the following nembers was confirmed :-Messrs. H. Fiacre (Bavaria), A. Buxton (Manchester), J. Steele-Higgins (Manchester), C. E. Osborn (U.S.A.), H. W. Plumridge (London), $\mathbf{G}$. liourke (N.S.W.).

The following were unanimously elected members: -Rev. W. Bell (Ireland), Messrs. C. L'Estrange Ewen (Dorset), J. B. Neyroud (London), H. C. Slade (N.S.W,), A. W. Hall, B.A. (Birmingham), A. Hill, (Grecee), Wilcoz, Smith and Co. (N.Z.).

The annual report showed that during the past session 89 members bave been elected, 18 have died, resigned, or been dropped, leaving a net increasc of 71 and making a total of 927 members on October 1st, 1897.

The total amount circulated in the exchange packets during the year ending June, 1897, was $\{35,21816 \mathrm{~s}$. 5 d ., of which $£ 5,401 \mathrm{ISs}$. 41 d . was sold.
It was decided to circulate 4,000 eopies of the roport instead of 2,000 , the number guarinteed.

The programme for next session was then settled as follows:-

Phogramine, 189t-98.
†Oct. 7-Aunual General Business Meeting.

* 1, 21—Presidential Address Mr. W. T, Wilson. + Nov. 4-Display. Ceylon. * ", 18-Display (with Notes). African Colonies. Mr. R. Hollick. +Dec. 2-Display. West Australia. - ," 16 -Display. Uruguay and Venezuela.

Jan. 6-Paper. Hungary. Mr. V. Lundeblad. * , 20 -Display (with Notes.) U.SA.

Mr. C. A. Stevenson. 1Fob, 3-l'aper. Mexico (with Notes). Mr. W. J• Wilson. - , 17 -Display. Belgiam. Mr. W. T. Wilson t.1ch. 3-Display Argentine and Brazil.

* , 17-Paper. Gueensland. Mr. W.Pimm.
*Ap. 21-Paper. Roumania. $\dagger$ May 5-Paper. Egypt.
... Mr. Johnson. n Paper Mor. ... M. Deakin.
Fach meeting commences at 8 p.m.
Members are specially requested to bring their collections of the countries under discussion.

1 Meetings to be held at 308, Birchfield Road.

- Great Weitern Hotel, Colmore Row, Birmiugham.


## SOCIETY REPORTS.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES STAMP EXCHANGE

(Established 1886).
Hon. Manayiny Secretary:-W. G. Waltox, Fentham Road, Biruningham.
Ei.celanue Sec. und Treasurer:-J. J. Harren, 95, Bowyer Road, Saltley, Birmingham.

THE October packets were of excellent quality and considerable value, aggregating upwards of $£ 500$. The following new metibers are proposed. T. Eaton_(Manchester), H. Drury (Birminghaili), H. J. Brown (Warwick), A. E. Moore (Nottingham). The secretaries will be glad to hear from any lady or gentleman desirous of joining. All new meinbers are required to furnish satisfactory references.

Kichnoxd Stamp Exchange Society.-The Uct. packet was made up on the 3th inst. and shows an improvement, more members sending in sheets as the winter season advances. 32 sheets, value $\mathfrak{E d} 40 / 9 / 9 \downarrow$, excellent Colonials and U. States amongst the varieties submitted. New members enrolled were Messrs. W. G. Bowden, A. J. Croker, J. I. Barratt, K. J. Bainbridge, and D. C. Lloyd. Special Notice. - The secretary wishes all members to note that his address after October 27th, 1897, will be "Melba," 14, Parisfal Itoad, West Hampstead, N.W. U'ntil Uct. 17th, 20, Lichfield koad, Kew Gardens Rules, \&c., post free on application.

The Subchbas Stamp Lxchange Club.-227 sheets, valued at $\pm 1,818 \pm \mathrm{s}$. 2 d ., were received by September 20th, and were duly made up into four packets and despatched on their rounds by the $25 t h$. Six applicatious for membership were entertained during the month, bringing the total number of members up to 309 . April accounts have been submitted and baianced, and the May packeta are expected back very shortily. The new rules havo been distributed and are generally approved. Collectors of every grade are welcomed on receipt of satisfactory references, and full information, with copy of rules, etc., is forwarded on application to the Secretary, H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Albans.

South-West Lancashibe Pachange Society.This sociuty, which wis established just 12 months ago is making splendid leadway, as will be scen from the following:-

| October (1896) | was | E15 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| November , | , | $\pm 20$ |
| December | " | £24 |
| January (1897) | " | $\pm 49$ |
| February , | ", | . ${ }^{\text {¢ }} \mathbf{4} 6$ |
| March | " | $\pm 74$ |
| April | , | $\pm 59$ |
| May | " | .. $£ 114$ |
| Junc | , | .. £2109 |
| July | " | £178 |
| August " | , | £l17 |
| September, | " | $£ 143$ |
| October |  |  |

Comment on the above would be superfluous. Intending members will please send relerences with their application, and thus facilitate olection if approved. As great care is esercised in the selection of members, timid applicants need now littis fear: of their contributions safety. There were cight applications received last month, three only of which were added to list. Particulars and new rules may be had from Secretary, Wm. Ditclffield, S.S.P.S., 194, Dorning Street, Wigan.

## LIST OF NEMBERS OF THE 

FOR THE PAST SESSION,

$$
\text { October Ist., } 1596 \text { to Octuber 1st, } 1 \delta 9 \% \text {. }
$$

rresident:-W. T. Wilson Ese.
Tici-Pesidents:-R. Hollick, Esid., W. Pimm, lisq. Comnittee: -Mr. H. R. Bewlay, Mr. P. T. Deakin,
Mr. H. E. Greaterex, Mr. V. Lundeblad, Mr. C.
A. Sthehesson, Mr. W. S. Vavghtos.

Hon. Sce. ani Treasurer:-Mr. G. Johnsos, B.A. Official Address :- 208 , Birchfeld Road, Birmingham.

## The numbers correspoud with thuse on their Membership Cards.

1, C. A Smith-Kyland; 2, G. Johnson; 3, C. A. Stephenson ; 4, G. Bridgman; 5, T. D. Dutton ; 6, F. F. Empson ; 7, D. Ostare; 8, W. J. Colleg ; 9. H. L.e Cronier; 10, R. T. Stevens; 11. S Lindé; 12. C. J. Phillips (Hon.) ; 13, J. Campbell : 14, R. Peake; 15. T. Birch: 16. W. T. Wilson ; 17, W. Pimm; 18, F. C. Cooke ; *19, F J. Buckler ; 20, D. Davis ; 21, H. R. Bewlay; 22, C. F. Tanner ; 23, J. E Sparrow; ${ }^{*} 24, \mathrm{~W} . \mathrm{M}$. Thompson; 25, Miss J. Weston; 26, W. F. Wadams; 27, R. Holick; 28, H. L. Ewen ; 29, H. Clark; 30, V. Lundeblad ; 31, T. Ridpath; 32, M. Z. Kuttner; 33, J. Winch; 34, A. Allen ; 35, H E. Greatorex: 36, W. S. King; 37. W. S Vaughton; 38, W. G. Walton ; 39, H. Loveridge ; 40, G. F. Jackson; "41, Miss A. Benson ; 42, W. Brown ; 43, W. A. S. Westoby ; 44, H. Weston ; 45, W. C. Tyrrell ; 46, J. H. Cooke ; 47, A. A. Bartlett ; 48, J. Tehakidji
*49, W. Salisbury ; *50, F. J. Cade ; 51, R. H. Hunter ; 52, P. Robertsoll ; 53, Dr. G. H. Hart ; 54, C. Manby ; *55, Mrs. Eaden; 56, W. G. Hawkins ; 57, F. A Wiokhart; 58, W. A. Woolley; 59. P.T. Deakin; 60, F. Seyde: *61, C. Whitfield King; 62, T. W. Ooonewardene; 6:3, I'. de la Tournière; 64, E. F. Broderip ; *65, T. 1H. R Crowle; 66, W. Morles; ${ }^{*} 67$, ML Giwelb; 68, F. J. Crick; *69, G. Hutson ; 70, E. Slinger ; 7I, W. Vibert; 72, W. G. Ward : TM, G. Rourke; 74, Saml. Epstein; 75, H. F. S. de Wilde ; 76, W. J. Martin ; ${ }^{*} 77$, J. R. Smeaton ; 78, T. D. Hume ; 79, W. IR. Joynt; 80, F. G. Bepler; 81, P. Fabri ; 82, A. Levy; 83, F. Hagen ; 84, P. Kiderlen ; 85, H. F. M. Rolsted ; 8G, Dr. R. H. Anachorota ; 87, W. W. Worthington; *88, 'T. Locker; 89, M. de Troostemburgh: 90, T. P. Dorman ; 91, C. G. Taylor ; 92, R. Sneath; 93, J. A. Galbraith; 94, W. E. Jeff ; *95, J. Bramah; 96, F. Sigerist-Moser: 97, R. S. Bhatavadeker; 98, J. G. Wilson: 99. Ts.mis; 100, E. F. Wuatele; 101, R. Reid; 102, H. B. Squire: 103, W. Hadlow ; $10 t$, H. W. Piumridge ; 105, G. C. Philippides ; 106, H. L. Hayman ; 107, H. Gremmel ; 108, K. F. Albrecht: ${ }^{*} 109$, C. E. Osborn; 110, C. Fendelow ; 111, C. Dascalakis ; $112, \mathrm{~J}$. A. Margoschis; 113, 13. Uxehnfvad: 114, C. H. Grell ; 115, A. K. Aftandiloff ; 116, Licut. T. E. Madden ; 117, H. C K. Bell ; 118, J. H. Parry ; 119, J. M. Mones ; 120, G. T. Macdougall; 121, A. Hogan; 122, Mrs. Simpson ; 123, Major G. S. Strode ; 124, Capt. C. L. Norris Nes man ; 125, H. Edelnuller ; 126, F. E. Wilson ; 127, A. F. Griffiths : 128, Sir E. Sullivan, Bart ; 129, A. Scheindling; 130, W. A. Riley : 131, Major W. F. Anstoy; 132, W. Leigh; 133, If. A. Young ; 134, A. Pulin ; 135, L. S. Charlick; 136, J. de Le Retord; 137, W. A. Walker: 138, J. P. Way; 189, T. Torrabadella; 140, W. B. Avery; 141, E. Shorthouse : 142, R. H. Ridout; 143, C. Forbes; 144, G. Samaration ; 145, H. N. F'lewter; 146, M. P. Castle; 147, J. Ferroui ; 148, K. Osborne; 149, I). Benjamin ; 150, E. G. Cullen; 151, H. Cunniugham: -152, J. S. Higgins; 153, C. McNaughtan ; 154, P. Kohl ; 155, Dr. C. S. Socolis, jun. ; 156, J. N. Coumenos; *157, W. Corfield; *158, J. H. Lewes; *159, I. Knaster; ${ }^{*} 160$, G. H. Callf; 161 , W. H. Maunder: 162 , V. F. Harvie; *163, T. W. Peek; *164, K. Krommann ; *165, C. F. Larmour ; '166, H. F. Lowe; "167, G. Gelli ; *168, H, Buckley; *169, W. J. ''attison; *170, T S. Parkinson; *171, P. C. Bishop ; ${ }^{172, ~ H . ~ T e b b i t t ~ ; ~ * 173, ~ O . ~ M a r a g o l d ~ ; ~}{ }^{*} 174$, W. J. Austin; *175, J. S. Noakes; '176, W. W. Blest; "177, L. S. Wells ; "178, C. M1. Forster; "179, G. H. Howe; *180, J. J. Darlow; "181, R. Painieri; *182, Lady B. Collen; 183 , N. H. Withoe ; ${ }^{184, ~ A}$ G. Serghiades; *185, H. Lindberg ; *186, C. A. Bornn: *187, J. Grabam-Taylor; "188, Sallo Epstein; ${ }^{*} 189$, C C. Morency; ${ }^{2} 190$, R. Dalton; *191, F. H. Atchloy; ' 192, W. A. Abraham : 193, P. de Smith *144, M. P. M. B. de Lima; 195, T. H. Nicolle; *196, J. H. Singth; "197, G. F. Hughes; *198, F. C. Krichsuff; ${ }^{2} 199$, J. Debray ; *200, E. Lintelo; *201, A. Mattans ; *202, H. W. U. Corbett ; *203, Liout-Col,
A. Ely; 204. Major G. H. W. Stockdale: 205, P. M. Bright; 206 J. R. Dammann: 207. J. J. Carroll ; *208, A. F. Cooke; *209, A W. Bat-helder; ${ }^{* 210}$, W W. Westwood; 211, W. M. Hodgson ; "212, Mrs. Mayers ; ${ }^{*} 213$, L. W. Grey ; ${ }^{214, ~ H . ~ A . ~}$ Pocklington ; 215, O. T. Hodges; 216, G. B. Bainbridge; 217, H. Andersen; 218, WV. R. Palmer: *219, J. Westhorp ; *220, F. Neck; 221, G. E. D. Morey; *222, J.E. y Carbonell ; *223, J. Siewert; ${ }^{*} 224$, W. T. Willett: *225, H. Hawkins; *22; H. Fiacre; *227, A. Buxton.
*Members elected during the past session.

## FORGED ZULULAND AND BECHUANALAND.

an enterphiging yankee swindlek.

KFEW days ago a subscriber, Mr. G. Owen White, sent us the letter which follows, and it came very apropos as we had serious doubts about a party who gives a similar name and address.

Hadlyme, Ct., U.S A., Scpt. 16th.
G. Owen White, Esq.

Dear Sir, -I enclose you as a sample a Zululand 6d. and British Bechuanaland 4d. Do you care to secure some for exchange any value from $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to $1 /$ ? If you do, I can produce them, including proper postmark, and 1 will give you one half the stamps properly surcharged and cancelled with proper post-marks, if you will furnish tho unnsed stamps for me. lou can figure what the profit is by comparing the following table of cost, as Scott's 57th catalogue prices.-Yours truly,

Mrs. C. Fi. Willey.
Hadlyme, Corn., U.S.
\%ulcland.

| nused stamps cost you. |  |  |  | Profit |  | Scott's 57 th Cat. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| . | d. |  | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. |  | s. d. |
| 0 | 0.2 | red | 01 | - 04 | 0 6\% | *0 5 | 076 |
| 0 | 1 | , | 02 | 051 |  | 0 71 | 076 |
| 0 | 2 | " | 0 | 011 | 011 | 13 | 3 |
| 0 | 3 | " | 06 | 16 | 1 6 | 2 | 21 |
| 0 | 4 | " | 08 | 110 | 110 | 26 | 26 |
| 0 | 24 | " | 05 | .- | 18 | - | 2 |
| 0 | 5 | " | 010 | 9 7 | 97 | 105 | 10 |
| 0 | 6 |  | 0 | 32 | 32 | 42 | 2 |
| 0 | 9 |  | 16 | 100 | 100 | 126 | 126 |
| 1 | 0 |  | 20 | 106 |  | 12 ¢ |  |
| $5$ | 0 | ," | $10 \quad 0$ | $\$ 17 \cdot 60$ | \$20.10 | 220. | \$22.50 |

*As you get but half. double your cost of unnsed stamps to represent your actual outlay.

BRITISH BRCILCASAIANH.
linused stamps cost 50 O .


| Profit |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| s. | d. | s | d. |
| 0 | 2 | 0 | $j$ |
| 0 | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 6 | 4 | 0 | 4 |

Attachod to this frecious confession of rascality were a 6d. \%ululand and a 4d. British Bechuanaland stamp, with forged surchargs and post-marks of exc llent quality as far as olose imitation goes Only a practised eye would be able to tell the forgerg from the original. As far as height and width of surcharge are concerned the furgeries are exact. The type used $i s$ identical with the real, and the only difference is in the face of the type which is a trifle broader and thus gives the surcharge a more crowded appearance than it should naturally have.

In number 70 of the Adrertiser appeared the following advertisement:-

* ExCHANGE OFFER. Fine stamps sent. Fine ones

 and one gt-, mostly used, some on parts of cover. I want West Indies and good British Colonies, basis, Scott's 57. h, Will not send first, Foreign replies for rchange over 201 - sent in entire valued so cents. A. Willey, Hadlyme, Conn, U.S.
Needless to say we did not allow it to be repeated in the next issue of our paper, and are hardly likely to insert any from the same party again even if he or she have the hardihood to send to us. There is one peculiar point about the adverticement above. In it are mentioned 41 d. stimps and no $4 d$. ones. If Mr. Willey produces $4 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. Zolulands and Bechuanas we can recommend them as a very scarce variety, but we expect lie has made a migtake in the value when writing bis advertisement, as he had 4d. correctly enough in his schedule of prices.

We add an extract from a letter sent to Fingland some time back which throws additional light upon the doings of Willey:-
"Allan Willey (alias John C. New, alias Ed. O'Warneri. I expect soon to give you some important information in legard to Mr. Willey who is now advertising under the above two assumed names as he is not the man who adds honour to the ranks of philately. I may say confidently that you may look for logus surcharges goon that will puzzle, if not defy, experts." Probably Mr. Willey will find some now names under which to disguise himself after this.

We are expecting further information in this matter which we hope to lay before the philatelic public and, in the meantime, sliall be glad to see any surcharged stamps received by subscribers from the party in question.
A. Bastonic, 277. Chaussie de Tournhout, Antuerp. Pending enduiries we request our readers to refrain from sending stamps to this party.

Edgar Kuight, formerly of Leeds, and late of 34, Great Ancoat Street, Manchester. Information and prosent address wanted, as letters are returned from both nddresses.

#  La Seconde Edition de notre Catalogue 

 Complètement revu, corrigé augmenté, mis à jour jusqu'à fin Octobre 1897 ct Illustré de plus de 2000 ClichesNotre stock considérable et les nombreuses transactions que nous avons opérées dans le courant de l'année.

## pres de UN MILLION

nous mettent à méme de pouvoir fixer d'une manière aussi exacte que possible, la cote de tous les timbres, raves ou ovdinaires, nenfs comme usés.

Cet ouvrage auquel nous avons consacré tous nos soins deviendra rapidement le guide de tous les collectionnears, et sera certainement adopté par tous les échangistes, car i] pourra servir de base réelle à tous.

Malgré tous les sacrifices imposés pour le rendre aussi élégant qu'utile, papier fort, tirage soigni, converture artistique.

## PUBLISHED 15TH NOVEMBER NEXT. the second edition of our catalogue.

Completely revised, corrected, and augmented right up to the end of October, 1897, and illustrated with more than 2000 blocks.

Our large stock, and the numerous transactions during the course of a year,

## NEAREI, A MIILIMON,

enables us to fix most exactly the prices of all stamps, rave or common, used as well as unused.
This work to which we have devoted every care will rapidly become the guide of all collectors and will certainly be adopted by all, for it serves as a real basis for all exchange.

Every effort has been imposed to make the work as elegant as it is useful, hy means of stout paper, careful editing and artistic binding.

The price is as usual-2 Francs, Post Free.
12 Copies, 18 Francs, Post Free.

## TH月. LIEMMEXIRE, PARIS. 30, Rue de Provence, 30. PARIS.

In answering Advertisements please mention "Philatelic Chronicle and Adyerlis?r."

# TH. LEMAIRE, <br> 30, Rue de Provence, 30 , <br> PARIS-FRANCE. 

SILVER MEDALS-Paris 1894, The Hadue 1896, Geneva 1896. BRONZE MEDALS-The Hadue 1896, Geneva 1896.

Begs to announce that he has acquired the
of the eminent and well-known Philatelic Writer

## DR. LEGGRAND.

This splendid-collaction, one of the best in the world, splendidly arranged and classed, commenced about 1860, and of which almost all the stamps are unused, with original gum, contsins sill the varieties of watermarks, papers, perforations, shades, plate aumbers, \&c., \&c. Among other special rarities are the Peat Office Mauritiun, one unused and the reconstructed platea, the Moldo-M allachian first issue, the first issues of Bandyriot Islands and British Guiana, Tusoany 3 lire, Switzerland, complete, including 17 copies of the Zurich, Japan complate in unused entire sheets; the Auatrian Merompies, the reconstructed plates of Bydney Yigwa, the Cape of Good Hope wood-block errors and the penny triangular watermark C C., the 1 - vermilion unused Neyrfoundland, Wurtemburg 70.tr. in sheets a splendid collection of Afthanietan, a remarkable collection of Ruetian Rural stamps, the departmental stamps of the United Etatea.

Also a collection of Rnvelopes, Cards, and Wrappers, said to be unique, requiring 40 volumes to mount the whole and all their varieties of shape, gum, make, shade, tc.

Monsieur Th. Lemare will be pleased to show the collection in Paris to any collector who will favour him with a visit ( 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.) Lots on approval or from. want:lists will be sent to collectors who apply with good references.


## Editor of " Philateliste Francaise,"

Twenty Pages of Reading.
Specimen post free.
M. TH, LBNAIRE is almay a buyer for canh of good coliections.
in answering Adyertisements please mention "Pbilatelic Chronicle and Advertiser.".

# PaRATtra le is novembre prochan La Seconde Edition de notre Catalogue 

 -t lllustré de plus de 2000 Cliches

Notre stork considerable et les nombrenses transations pue mous anos operier dans le comman de lannee.

## pres de UN MILLION

nous mettent a meme de pousoir lixer dome maniete anssi exate que possible, lat come de tous les timbres, rates ou ordinair... hatfs comme asis.
 guide de lows les colletionmears, et sera cortanement adopti par ous les echangistes, car il pourta servir de base réelle a tous.

Malgre tous les sacrifices imposes pour lo rendre aussi écesam pu'utie, papier fort, tirise soisnc, comertlue artistigue.

## PUBLISHED 15Th NOVEMBER NEXT. THE SECOND EDITION OF OUR CATALOGUE.




Our latise stock, and the mumerous transactions daring the course of at yat,

## 


This work to which we have denoted every rare will rapidy become the aude of ah onllectors and will certainly be adopted by all, for it serves as a real liasis for all exchatme.

Every effor has heen imposed to make the work a elesant as it is recful, he means. of sont paper, carelial editing ind artistir hinding.

The price is as usual-2 Francs, Post Free. 12 Copies, 18 Francs, Post Free.

## Fin. HEEMMETIRE, PARIS. 30, Rue de Provence, 30. PARIS.

In answering Advertigements please mention "Philatelic Chronicle and Adyertise"

## TH. LEMAIRE,

## 30, Ruse de Provence, 330, <br> PARIS-FRANCE.

SILVER MEDALS-Paris 1894, The Had̃ue 1896, Ceneva 1896. BRONZE MEDALS-The Haque 1896, Geneva 1896.

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of the eminent and well-known Philatelic W'riter

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## Editor of ${ }^{6}$ Philateliste Francaise,"

Twenty Pages of Reading.
Specimen post free.
M. TH. LEMAIRE is always a buybr for cash of good collections.

In answering Advertisements please mention " Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser,"

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CONTENTS.


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Halfpenny Stamps should always be sent in preference to those of any other value. Money from abroad must be remitted by Postal Order or Notes. Amounts under 2:- may be sent by unused stamps, higher values, at current rate of exchange. Unused U.S. and Canadian high values accepted at face value. Postal and Monoy Orders payable at Witton Road, Astons.
Liberal discount for a series of Advertisements.
VoL. I., II., III.\& IV. bnd. eloth gilt, Post-free, each 6/Vol. I., II., III.\& IV. may be obtained Unbound ,, $5 /-$ Vol. V., Bound, 3/-: Unbound, .. , $2 /$ -

Communications must be addressed to
"The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser," Fentham Road, Handsworth, Birmingham. All Articles are Copyright.
Agents wanted in every Town. Terms on application.
New Subscriptions to the "Advertiser" are entitled to one short Advertisement. Subscription 6d. for 12 issues, post-free.

All communications for the next issue should reach us by the Tenth ofthe Monthat latest. We cannot guarantee insertion if received after that date.

## November 20Th, 1897.

## contents.



MANY dealers have special announcements to make for Christmastide so a special extra issue of The Advertiser is published on December 4 th, and the Christmas issue of the Philatelic Chronicle and The Advertiser on December 18 th. These dates are just suitable. We shall post the December 18 th issue on Friday, December 17 th, to give a clear week to Christmas Day, and the issue of both papers on this date will be augnented according to the support obtained. A good investment for every dealer and collector will be an advertisement in the three issues, December $4^{t h}$, December i8th and January isth, at the price of two. Don't forget, December $4^{\text {th }}$ and 18 th. Prices will be as usual but circulation will be doubled.

So the S.S.S.S. was not dead after all-or is the new one its spectre? This question will be answered in various manners by various people. For our own part we prefer to think of the old S.S.S.S. as dead, and the new one as being its successor-risen Phanix-like from the ashes of its former self. Le Roi est mort-vive le Roi! Like everybody else we got disgusted with the old body towards the close. We believe it tried to do its duty but the difficulties in the way were too great. It tried to satisfy too many and succeeded with none The new committee will not be trammelled as was the old one, and will command respect for its decisions all over the philatelic world. There is a successful future for it if courage, tempered with discretion, be the moving principle, and we have every confidence that Messrs. M. P. Castle, Ehrenbach, Nankivell, Gordon Smith, Oldfield, and Major Evans will do their duty. If they do it to their own satisfaction they will certainly satisfy everyone else.

The annual report of the birmingham Philatelic Society has now been issued and can be obtained upon application to Mr G . Johnson. The membership up to October Ist was 227, consisting of 134 in the British Isles and 93 abroad. This number is augmented by later elections, and there are many names yet for consideration. The programme for the season is an attractive one, and the officials will undoubtedly do their best to make this an even more success ful season than last. Mr. W. B. Avery is the honorary president this ycar.

To facilitate sales and purchases between strangers who are advertisers or readers of the papers and books published by the Philatelic Publishing Company, goods may be ordered through the office Orders accompanied by payment must be sent to us, and we will then order the goods, the receipt of which must be acknowledged to us, when we shall pay the vendor. Threepence extra must be sent for necessary expenses on $5 s$. and under (abroad 6d.), and a further sum of $3^{\text {d. for every }} 5 \mathrm{~s}$. after the first. Money must be sent in convenient form for transmission Readers who answer any advertisers will confer a very great favour by mentioning the Philatelc Chronicle or Adveriser.

Persons who have supplied us with substantial references and are entitled to the use of the asterisk (*) for their advertisements in The Advertiser can be supplied with the Adverti:er reference postcasds with name, address, and reference number, for use as postcards or for sending in ordinary letters The cost is $2 / 9$ post free for 200 , and $\mathrm{x} /$ - for each further 100 ordered at the same time.

## CHRONICLE:

CANADA.-Mr. A. M. Jenkins informs us that Canada is to have an entirely new issue in the course of a month.

CHINA. -The new set was issued on October 1st and all provisionals and surcharges were withdrawn from sale on that date. There are three new designs used represented by a peculiar but no doubt eminently respectable worm painfully wriggling on the values $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{c}$. to 10 c ., a turbot, suffering soverely with the stomach. ache, for the 20 c . to 50 c .; and an alarmed hen-fowl, of the barn-door persuasion, hastening from some unseen danger for the dollar valucs.
fc. brown violet
1c. yellow
2c. orange red
4c. yellow brown
5c. rose
10c. dark green

20c. violet brown
30c. carmine rose
50 c . yellow green
$\$ 1$ carmine and rose
$\$ 2$ orange and yellow
$\$ 5$ yellow green \& pink

GRANDE COMORE.--This spot, a neighbouring island to Mayotte, has now an issue of stamps same type as the other French colonies.
NEWFOUNDLAND.-Mr. H. B. Backhouse, of Hollinwood, Oldham, has sent us a new provisional 1c. on 3c., which bas been issued to mect an insufficiency of the Cabot Ic. A new and permanent issue is almost daily expected. The surcharge is the firat ever used on an adhesive stamp in Newfoundland.

1c. on 3c. black on manve.
SARAWAK - New values of 50c. and 1 dollar have been issued in type of 1889, perf. 14.

> 50 cents grey-green
> 1 dollar grey-green and black

URUGUAY.-Having run the gamut of colebration and war stamps this Republic now has gone to the other side and issued a peace stamp. The stamps are made by surcharging various issues with the word PAX (peace), 1897, and an emblematic olive branch. The stamps were in use for three days from the 26th to the 28th September. They are:-

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 1 \text { centesimo, slate, red surcharge } \\
& 2 \text { centesimos, violet, blue surcharge } \\
& 5 \text { green, " } \quad \text { ". vermilion, } \\
& \text { 10 " }
\end{aligned}
$$

After the three days sacred to holy peace had expired the old stamps in their now colours were issued, including the brand-new 10c., as followe, perf. 14 :-

7c. orange
10c. red
20c. br-violet \& black
25c. pink and blue

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 50c. green and brown } \\
& \text { 1p. yellow, brown \& blue } \\
& \text { 2p bistre and carmine } \\
& \text { 3p. lilac and carmine }
\end{aligned}
$$

ZULULAND.-The latest official news from Zululand, received from the Postmaster-Gencral, is that negotiations were pending for Zuiuland to be taken into Natal, and that the postage stamps of the latter country would probably be used for postage; and he also stated that the 3d. Zulutand is obsolete.

Postcards, \&c.
AUSTRIA.-The Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal announces a new card with inscriptions in German, Pol sh and Ruthenian. The beading Korrespoutenz Karte is also in the three languages.

## 2 kreuzers, brown.

BAVARIA.-Mr. Lohnoyer has received the following cards, all with vertical watermark.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
3 & \text { pfennig, brown. } \\
3 \times 37 . " \\
10 " \text { " carmine. " } 96 . "
\end{array}
$$

The celebration of the XII. German National Shooting Festival at Nuremburg, July 4.11 , was the excuse for a privately issued card with the usual chromo on the reverse.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.-Der Philatelist has roceived the $1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. card surcherged ONE PENNY in block type, in two lines across.

1d. on 1fd., black on groy.
EGYPTIAN SOUDAN.-The current Egyptian cards have been surcharged SOUDAN with Arabic inseription above.

3 miliemes, black on brown violet.
5 " " on carmine.
$5 \times 5$ " $\quad$,
E. I. 5 milliemes, black on carmine on blue.

1 piaster, black on blue on pale blue.
GRANDE COMOLLE.-The postal stationery, lettercards, post-cards and envelopes have been supplied in the usual sizes.

MENICO. -Two telegraph cards are illustrated in Lee Timbre Poste for Sopternber. They are similar in form but bear different stamps. The inscription in the ukper half of the card is Tarjeta TelegramiaRejublica Mexicana-Telegrafo Federal in thres lines with numerous fancy ornaments interspersed. The sccond line of the inscription is wayp. Below the above are seven lines of instructions in fine typo, while across the right ond is Valor diez centavos. The stamps at the left are of two different types. one bearing a head of Liberty in circle, and the other a Mexican eagle, \&c. The first stamp is of the ty ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{e}$ of the 1896-7 and the other of the 1897-8 issues of l'ocumentos y Libros stamps.

> 1 centavo, browa on bluc.
> $1 \quad$ orange on blue.

The above value is on the stamps aithough the card itself is inscr.bed "Value ten centavos." Probably the 1 cent is of the nature of a fiscal tax.

NEWFOUNDLIND.-The Inland Cards are again printed on buff, although of a lighter shade than the 1880 issue, so that it may be termed cream.
The colour of impression leans towards a yellow green, while the first printing has a blueish cust.

Another distinguishing feature is the ground work and the address lines which are less distinot, probably due to the wearing of the plate, than on the cards of 1880.

1c., yellow green on cream.
UNITED STATES.-Mr. Bartels states in one of his recent letters to the Eira that it is John Adams who is to adorn the new card.

URUGUAY. - Simultaneously with the now adhesives were issued postcards, \&c.

Wrapper, 1c. blue, $125 \times 300 \mathrm{~mm}$.
Envelope, 5c, rose carmine, $152 \times 88 \mathrm{~mm}$.
Postcards, 2c. brown on chamois (interior).
$2+2 \mathrm{c}$.
2 c. blue" ros blue (Postal Union).
$2+2 c$. ", orange "
3c. violet on blue green," $3+3 \mathrm{c}$. brown on chamois ",
Letter Cards, 3c. green on straw, $3+3 \mathrm{c}$. rose on chamois.

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

WHAT a world this is! Scarce hat one month gone than another comes-you may have noticed this yourselves, but I call attention to it in case it has not previously struck you-and work is still with us! I often wish I had been brought up an engineer, so that I could go on strike for a fow monthis when my employers refused to let me run their works in my own why -and I may yet blossom into a trades-union agitator and get my rows of houses together and my little bo!dings in bicycle shares and gold-mining stock.
**

But, rias 1 At prosent I have to do honest work for a living! Not much, truly, but enongh to swear by. Even now I am cutting up, with praiseworthy ardour and a pair of large scissors, some letters that I have filched from the Boss's desk. Here's a bit of one: "Oct 14th . . . I cannot see how any devotee of our hobby cau fail to recognize the value of The Adertiser. In its columus one can find exchange notices from evory part of the world, \&o., \&e. . .

Very truly yours, Joel H. de Bose." Thanks, awfully, Mr. du Bose, but nobody does "fail to recognise, \&c,"--except some fers short-sighted mortals, who have not yet tried it.
***

Mr. F. G. Mayhew would now address a few words to you : Dear Sir,-With regard to the important subject of the substitution of stamps in Ex. Clubs, I venture to offer sou the following suggestions for helping to check these paltry thieving scoundrels :-
1.-Secretary of the club to make a few copies of the best shects or stamps likely to get exchanged.
2.-To forward these copies to a fow members in whom the Secretary knows he can place strict confidence.
3.-If the club consists of, say, 30 members, 5 members (as mentioned in No. 2) to be divided so that the packet will be examined by about every sixth member.
4.-If the substituting is done, the culprit must be in one of these sixes.
5.-Then, the following month, place the members (of No. 2) so as to exaninc pacset aiter cach of the suspected five havo seen it-then, if the substituting is still continued, the culprit is certain to be discovered.

> Yours truly, F. G. Mayhew.
> "

1 can't help it; the Boss may be ratty, but it's easier to cut out bits of other people's letters than to puzzle out ideas for oneself, so here goes: "Oct. $29 t h, 1897$. . . I have had a large number of replies to my last advortisements, which shows your paper is well read.-Yours very faithfully, A. Lindsay." Thanks, Mr. Lindsary, that's what they all write?

Another of them's "been and gone and done it." All our advertising patrons are moving to larger and more extensive premises, and the latest is that old established firm-Fisher, Titley \& Co., who have now removed to 107, London Street, Reading. While on the subject of premises, I cannot do better than quote a paragraph from Mr. A. M. Jenkins' letter, dated Nov. 1st, 1897: "Please send Advertiser for twelve issues; it is one of the best papers I have yet tried." Exactly so, Mr. Jenkins!
**

There is a lot of talk going on about the Big Issue of The Advertiser on December 4tb and the bigger one of The Chronicle on December 18th, but don't you believe a word of it! You stand on me! (The Boss will probably do it, hinself, if he seas this - but I don't care I) The Big Issue is an out-and-out fraud-
that is to say, as far as the rumours are concerned. Of course all the issues of The Advertiser are big-you know that-but when the Boss, as I have reason to believe, causes it to be rumoured about that forty thoussand copies are to be distributed, it is nothing less than wilfully doluding the public. Forty thousand, indeed! It's right enough that a couple of extra assistants are engaged for December and that the printers have laid duwn another machine - but forty thousand! Pooh, pooh! Two pooh-poohs, if necessary! Call it ten thousand and you will be nearer.

I've had enough of these Big Issues myself-I remember last season with painful distinctness I am expecting to hear of the demise of a much respected groat-aunt of mine on December 1st, and I may have to travel north to the funeral. In that oase I shall, reluctantly, be obliged to withdraw my valuable aid from the big number. Talking about great-aunts how's this: "Nov 11th, 1897

I was satisfied with the success of my advertisement in your journal . . . Now I send you another, \&c., \&e., Yours very faithfully,-J. Oberlaender."


If there was a lot more room I'd give you some real goms in letters from advertisors : The party who grumbles because he only got twenty answers to a 6 d . ad.; the other party who sent used stamps in payment and thon kicked because his ad. wasn't in-and lots of others. I'll let you have them some day, but now, as the French say, "Olive Oil," which means in English "So long"

> Yours,

THE POSTMAN.

## NOTES ON ENGLISH STAMPS.

## By W. S. Werb.

## POBTAGE STAMPG PAY CUSTOMS DUTY.

$C$OLLECTORS of English Fiscals should know that it is possible that even a postmarked postage-stamp may have been used for a purpose other than prepayment of postage. A considerable trade in foreign cigars is done through the post from the Channel Islands; and the duty payable on parcels sent thence to the United Kingdom, or elsewhere, is colleoted by means of postage stamps, which are cancelled by the usual parcel-post obliteration. A complete label from such a parcel posted in Jersey or

Guernsey will show both the postal and fiscal charges thereon. The $2 / 6,5 /-10 /$, and $20 /$ values are occasionally so employed, the higher values the more soldom, of course.

## ANOTHER HALFHENNY WIGAPPER.

Mis. Walter Morley has shown me an unchronicted size of the $1 / 10.70$ wrapper, which he has recently discovered. It is on a thin groyish-white wove paper, measuring $10 \times 7 \frac{1}{2}$ in. It is ungummed, and the stamp is in the usual wrapper position, but a bad impression, owing to the poor quality of paper. What its purpose may have been is not known, possibly a trial printing. Only about a dozen copies are known.

## zoolgay of the mulready.

The following seven animals were purposely depicted by the artist as part of his allegorical design, viz. : - One lion, two elephants, two came's, one dog. and one reindeer : but whers the puzzle comes in is,why should such an unmistakeable rabbit be ca'miy crouching beneath the sugar-hogshead, on which mighty blows are being dealt b : the big hammer of the negro? It is meant probably to represent a stone, or nerely a bit of shading, but is it not passing strange that a "fortuitous concourse" of lines should so plainly suggest to the observer the outline of the quadruped above-mentioned? Every person to whom I have pointed it out, without exception has pronounced it to be a rabbit, whether they had previously seen a "Mulready" or not.

## QUESTIONS.

Mr. G. Fox inquirs thusly :-

1. Why is plate 9 of the small halipenuy so scarce?
2. What is the standard rule as to flaps of envelopes? Is the envelope to be examined with the stamp upwards, or should it be opened and reversed?

ANBWERS.
I have never hesrd a definite reason why so few stamps were printed from 9. Several plates would sometimes be employed at one time in the production of the necessary supplies,- Nos. 1 to 9 , being all printed from during the first year of issue, 1870 ; (except, of course, 2 and 7 , which were never used) it can only be conjectured that some accident befel the plate numbered 0 , when it had been butlittle used, as plates 10 and 11 were not approved until Oct. 1872. Plates 5 and 6 are very common, so probably they made up for number nine's disabilities.
2. A short answer to this would be-" none" There is at present no standard rule: my ideas on this subject appeared in our September issue, but I may add to what I then said, that the stamp should be kept in view and that the lower flap need not necessarily be turned down, as I know of no variations in it. There should be little difficulty in collecting the first issues of our 1d. and 2 d . stamped envelopes on this system, as most of the varieties can be easily obtained, and it is easy to open out the flaps, which are but lightly fastencd. As far as 1 am avare, the catalogues of Gibbons and Morley respectively are the only ones which recognise varieties of tiap; it is to be hoped, therefore, that before new editions of these works appear, a practical basis can be agreed upon. The end flaps of the envelopes with seal derice never need be opened out, though, of course, the upper onc alwaye should.

## SOCIETY REPORTS.

## BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Ilonorary President:-W. B. Avery, Esiq. President:-W. T. Wilson, Esz.
Vice-Presidents :-M. Hollick, Esq.; W. Pima, Esq. Committec:-Mr. H. R. Bewlay; Mr. P. T. Deayin;

Mr. V. Lunderlad; Mr. T. W. Peck; Mr. C. A.
Stephenson; Mr. W. S. Valohton.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:-Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

October 21st. The following were unanimously elected members:- Messrs. E L Legendre (F'rance), F. S. Carter (Derby), E. H. Eglinton (Staffs.)

Mr. W. T. Wilson then gave his presidential address, dealing mainly with the London Exhibition and comparing it with the previous one, and advocating the holding of an Exhibition in Birming. ham.

November 4th. Rev. P. E. Kaynor (Ipswich), Messrs. G. Mackey (Birmingham), and W. Marchbank (Newcastle-on-Tyne), were unanimously elected members.

- Then followed the display of Ceylon Messrs. Wilson, Pimm, and Major Stockdale showed fine collections.

Sublrbax Stamp Exchange: Club. - The holidays being over the October packets showed an improvement on previous ones, their aggregate valus amounting to upwards of $£ 1,000$. Some very good sheets were included, and some good specimens of obsolete and rare varieties were offered at reasonable prices.

Very little demand for common stamps. West Indisns were well represented, and Africans scem still favourites. May packets have returued from supplementary round, and accounts for tiat month have been settled. As no packets werv made up iu June the next sottlement will be the July one. Nine new members joined last month, three resiguntions were accepted, and eleven applications wre cithor decli ed or held over Collectors, wishing to join are invited to apply to the secretary. H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Albans.

Nortif-Western: Stamp Exchange: Not having sufficient time to give to this exchange Mr. Leresche has handed over the management to Mr. A. W. Tyrrell, 35, Barrington Road, Brixton, Landon, S. W., who will continue same as the Brixton Stamp Fxchange.

The Belgraye Stamp Exceange.-Established, January, 1896. The October packet was despatched promptly on the 2 nd , and consisted of $2,540 \mathrm{good}$ varities which were priced frum $50 \%$, to $75 \%$ off catalogue. Total value was $£ 60$ uett. Only collectors that can supply good references necd apply (no dealers). Particulars and rules from secretary, Firudk. Mayhew, Brower Street, Belgravia, London, s.W.
S.W. Lamcashtre Exchange Socemty. - All accounts have been balancell to ond of September. Though November packat shows a slight docrease in value the quality of stamps sent maintain their excellence. There were further additions to list of members. Rules and particulars may ine had from secretary, Wm. Ditchfield, S.E.P.S., 194, Dorning Street, Wigan.

## MIDLAND COUNTEASSTAMP EXCHANGE

## (Established 188G).

Hon. Managing Secretary:-W. (i. Walton, Fentham Road, Birmingham.
Exchanlec Sec. ani Treasurer: -J. J. Hanper, 95, Bowjer Road, Saltley, Birmingham.

The November packets were strong and well supported: July and August sheets have returned and cash has been paid out to all credit members, but some few debit ones have not yet remitted. Will they kindly do so as it is impossible to carry on the Exchange satisfactorily without prompt payments. New member proposed this month are 11. C. Spain (Wragby), and W. Hesth (Wellington) Mombers are requested to give good rufercnces, and there are vacancies for one or two yet.

## NOTICES.

The Auhesive Postage Stamis of Eunope.This valuable book is being issued in parts by the Bazaar poople, and l'arts I. and II. are airendy out, price $1 /$ each. The general information in Part I. is most valuable, and the whole work is produced and illustrated in that style whicit Mr. L. Upcotitill's name ensures, while the name of the author, Mr. W. A. S. Westoby, is sufficient guarantee of the excelience of the subject. ( I. . Upeote Gill, 170, Strand, W.C.

The Queen Postaqe Stami Album.-This is the latest of Mr. Hinton's series of albums, and is s really fine book for the beginuer. The price is $3 / 6$, and space is provided for over 7,000 varieties of stamps. Valuable hints of a general charanter appear in the introduction, and notes on every country as it occurs throughout the book. It is strongly and handsomely bound and contains a map of the British Empire. It would be difficult to recommend any more acceptable Christmas present that this for the junior collector. (1. H. Hint m, 5. Paulton's Sgaare, London, S.W.

Monteith's approval Books and Shelets - A new edition of these useful accessorics has been made by Messes. Arthur M nteith and Co. the approval book, werl-made and ruled, neat and conveniently shaped for inclusion iu envelopes are the best that ever have come under our notice at anything like the muderate charge made for them (see advertisement) while the approval sheeta are just as excellent value. (A. Monteith and Co., Philatelic Publishers, Derby).
C. J. Smith's New Price List.-Mr. Smith, evidently seizes time by the forelock for his 1898 price list is already out and at the service of anyone who may apply for it. It is very similar to that of last year, ouly more so, and it can truthfully be said that Mr. Smith's price list is one of the vorv few that have a real interest of their own-as a rule these lists have so painful a similarity. (C. J. Smith, Upper Park Road, Kingston Hill, Surrey).
R. S. Gray's Acction Sale.-Mr. Gray has one sale to-day and another in December. We have rcceived his catalogue for to-day, and an excellent lot he has got together. The first three sales were most successful, and good prices were freely paid for the nice specimens offered. (R. S. Gray, 213, West Campbeil Street, Glasgow).

## SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPRESSION

## of SPECULATIVE STAMLS

7 GENPRRAL meeting of the members of this Society was held at tho rooms of the London Philatelic Society, on October 15th, Mr. M. 1. Castle in the chair. A policy of inaction, as it was
aptly described by Mr. Gordon Smith, lins lately been forced upon the Society, owing to circumstanens beyond control, and it was decided that a committee composed of collectors only should undertake the work of the Association and, further, that the special committee of the Philatelic Society of London, for the time being appointed, be requested to undertake the consideration of all speculative and unnecessary stamps, and to announce their decision from time to timo in the London Pluilatelist and other philatelic journals.

These matters having been settled satisfactorily the members present elocted the following officers to carry on the work:-President, Mr. M. P. Castle; VicePresident, Major Evans; Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. R. Oldfield; Comnittee, Mesirs. R. Ehrenbach, L. J. Nankivell Gordon Smith and J. A. Tilleard

It was decided to hand over future decisions to the L.P.S. Committee, and, in the meantime, the following stamps were condemned as unnecessary :-

> Canadian Jubilee Stamps.
> Newfoundland Cabot issue
> New South Wales Hospital Stamps.
> Victoria Hospital Stamps.
> Leeward Islands Jubilee surcharges.

The Committee of the I.P.S. referred to above is identical with the executive body elected as above, with the exception of Mr. Tilleard.

## ENQUIRY DEPARTMENT.

MR. Geo. H. Coleby has heen for some years an advertiser in our papers. A month ago we eaw an announcement in a contempornry to the effect that he bad handed over his assets for the benefit of his creditors. This information was not altogether surprising to us although, for our own part, we have nothing whatever to say against Mr. Coleby on the score of money matters inasmuch as his advertising account was faid some months ago up to October. We wrote Mr. Coleby and he immediately acknowledged the truth of the statement referred to. He stated in his letter that he had been unfortunste during the last two years, having lost 24,000 francs by
dislonoured bills arone. Hence he handed orer his stock and other assets for the benefit of his creditors, and the same wil he sold by public tender. Catalogues will be supplied to applicants for the same.

## Tribunal de Commerce d'Ostende, Belgium. Notice.

The stock of George H. Coleby, wholesale dealer in rostage stamps, will be offered for sale by public tender in December, 1897. Catalogues of ihe stock can be had on r ceip,t of stamp, 1d., or reply posteard. The goods offered to the public will be by tonder, the highest offer given by letter will be accepted, and all offers should be made before the date given in the catalogue, and no letter will be opened till such date at 2 p.m. All goods can be inapected before the date fixed for salc. Address for all information,

Mous Vay de Male, Advocate, Ostende.
The above stamps are being sold for the benefit of the creditors of the said George H. Coleby.
R. T. Parker - In the sume issue of our contemporary we saw a notice affocting Mr. F. T. Parker, Bethlehem. We do uit khow what special information our contenporary has of this gentleman, and we sincerely trust and, indeed, believe, that statements to his disadvantage are mistaken. Mr. F. T. Parker has advertised all over the word for many years and we have not heard any complaints about him. He has made his aunouncements in our papers, we believe, from the first issue, and his account, so far as we are concerned, is paid up to last half-year, June, 1897. Possibly Mr. Parker will have some explanation of his own to offer if he sees the paper we refer to.
A. Bastenie.-We received complaints from two of our subseribers about thia gentleman and published a warning last isstie. From his reply to us it would seem a case of disentisfucion with the exchange on either side. We sce, in we ver, a complaint elsewhere about the same farty and therefore give this notice for what it is worth.

Frank Cormbs.-Mr. Jules de la Retord and Mr. S. Schachne are not satisfied with Ur. Coombs. We have written him and shall, no doukt, have a good explanation.

Allan Willey.-We have no further information get of this party.

## CAMPERDOWN STAMP EXCHANGE.

7 CNIOR Collectors and Beginners (only) wanted tc join as Members, no Subscription, no Fines incurred. References required, good opportunity for beginners, apply at once to John Gow, Newport-on-Tay.
ADVERTISEMENT.
Letter of Advice for FREE Advertisementtis res
International ..... Directory for ..... Philatelis.
Full name.Residence, full address
Collector of postage stamps of all countrie:, especially
Stamped envejopes of all conntries, especiallywill answer to postcards with
views, addressed, unused only, other objects: Pictures of theLiebig Company," coinages a s. v.
Remarks respecting exchange a s.
$\qquad$
Please send me
$\qquad$
$\qquad$copies of the Directory nt 2,50
each. When roc pies at least are ordered the price will be mk.2 each, to be delivered trimediately after puhlishing. Pleaseprint the advertisement enclosed in the Directory, and use for iti page, price mk. 20; \& page, mk. ıo : $\ddagger$ page, mk. 5 ; 1-8th page.mk. 3. The amount for the advertisement has theell sent off bypost office order. Please strike out what you do not wish. Thework will be published in short time in the sice of $6 \times 21$ centi-meters. After having filled up the tetter ot advice please forwardit postpaid to
W. GIESSMANN,Assistant to the Magistrate of Saalfeld, Thuringio, Germany.
Also Dealers in Postage Stamps are requestod kindly tosend their addresses.

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Tine l'hilatic Chronicle is sent to all the members of the Birmingham Philatelic Society and Midland Counties Sta $p$ Exchange, being the Official Journal of these Socielies.

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XCE more, and for the seventh time, we have a pleasant task to perform. There is no need for many words in doing it, athe so with all out heart we wish our subscribers, advertisers and the philatelic worjel generally a MerR Curnstans añ a Mapp New Year.

Latst year, hy way of a Christmas present. we gave our subscribers and friends the Stamp Collector's Almamac. Times are hated now, and we can only give the same offering in a modified form. ' 1 he almanac costs double this year, and the weight would add another halfpenny to the postage of the Chronicle and Adrertispr, lesides, all of our friends do not want it, hence we shall send ouly (1) those who forward us the postage necessary -one halfpenny. 'This for present subscribers Now subscribers for ases. or volume - , are entitled to the same privilege, and can forward the extra bawhee with their suliscriptions. Those who subscribe for the Adertiser alone-sixpence for twelve issuesmust, of course, paty the full price, $2 \frac{1}{2}$ d., as they really only provide their own postage.

A contemporary who shall tre nameless, feels hurt that we showld blow our own trumpet, as we have done ere this in a mild mamer. Our friend gives his reasons most ingenuously and honestly thus: "We feel that it is calculated to do us harm." We hasten to assure our worthy contemporary that we have no such desire, but. on the contrary, wish to do good-to our suppotiters and ourselves. If the paper we refer to will

## NOW READY, 1897 EDITION.

E1

## To <br> Фєк Britisf Stamp Bireetory. .-

GTHE PHILATELIC PUBLISHING COD. have published an optirely Now Edition of this Directory (last issued in 1881), which will supply a long-felt want in British philately. As publishers of The Philatelic Chronicle and The Advertiser, they have enjoyed for years exceptional opportunities for procuring the names and addresses of British Collectors, and these are now collated and published for the first time in book form.

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DRCEMBER $18 \mathrm{Th}, 1897$.
CONTENTS.
Editorial ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 17
Chronicle ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 18
The Postman's Knock ... ... ... ... ... ... 19
Notes on English 8tamps $. . . \quad . . \quad . . . \quad .$.
$\begin{array}{llllllll}\text { Very New Ibsues } & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots \\ \text { Soctety Reports } 20 & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots .22 \\ 28\end{array}$
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The Philatelic Chroniele is sont to all the members of the Eirmingham Philatellc soclety and Midand Countles Bta $p$ Exchange, being the Official Journal of these Socleties.

0NCE more, and for the seventh time, we have a pleasant task to perform. There is no need for many words in doing it, and so with all our heart we wish our subscribers, advertisers and the philatelic world generally a Merry Curistmas and a Happy New Year.

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                                    *% %%
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Last year, by way of a Christmas present, we gave our subscribers and friends the Stamp Collector's Almanac. Times are hard now, and we can only give the same offering in a modified form. The almanac costs double this year, and the weight would add another halfpenny to the postage of the Chvonicle and Advertiser, besides, all of our friends do not want it, hence we shall send only to those who forward us the postage necessary -one halfpenny. This for present subscribers. New subscribers for 1898 , or volume 7 , are entitled to the same privilege, and can forward the extra bawbee with their subscriptions. Those who subscribe for the Advertiser alone-sixpence for twelve issuesmust, of course, pay the full price, $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$., as they really only provide their own postage.

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only take into its own hands the task of pushing forward the Chronicle and the Advertiser we shall he able to desist to some extent, but when it is twelve months older (should it survive to complete its second year) it will perceive the necessity for singing one's own praises if it is to he done at all-hesides, where is the advantage of hiding your light uncier a bushel in these mercenary times.

## CHRONICLE.

BARBADOS.-Messrs. Turner and Co., Haddington, have tindly sent us the dd. Jubilee stamp. This is the largest stamp at the price ever issued in a British Colony, being $29 \times 34 \mathrm{~mm}$. or 1 3-20th $\times 1$ 7.20th inches. It is a grey colour, with Neptune and his chariot within a diamond placed corner-wise to a rectangular frame, inscribed victoria rit-barbados-1837-1897-onis farthing.
fid. grey, value in red.
CANADA. -Several correspondents have sent us tho new fc. Canadian stamp. Early information was afforded us by Meesrs. R. S. Mason and J. B. Spurr, the latter of whom sent us the following cutting from a Toronto paper:-
"The new issue of postage stamps to take the place of the issue which has been in use since 1868 was first sold over the counter at the Toronto General Post Office sesterday (November 9th). A portrait of Her Majesty, many ycars older than the one which adorncd the late issue, appears in an oval. It is engraved from a likeness taken during the Jubilee ceremonies, on which was the Queen's autograph. The engraving represents the Queen as having lost a good deal of that facial rotundity and expression which is noticeable in the Jubilee stamps, the nose and chin inclining to be pointed, and the eye hardly discernible. The crown is absent altogether and in its place is a tiara, which has the seeming appearance of sliding off the far side of ber head. In the four corners are maple leaves taken from specimens gathered on Parliament Hill at Ottarwa and surrounding the stamp is a border. The engraving is coarser then that found in previous issues, and the lettering is very commonplace. In accordance with the regulation of the Universal Postal Union requiring uniformity of colour in regard to certain stainps, the 1 cent stamp is printed in green and the 5 cont stamp in deep blue. Those posted in the General Post Office
yesterday were from a sheet marked 'Ottawa No. 1;' and are probebly the first in Canada to go through the mails."

Only the $t$ cent has reached us so far.
PERU.-Mcssrs. Williams and Co., of Lima. inform us of some further postal changes in the Land of the Sun. The 20c. unpaid stamps of 1874 issue are in use (November 1st) surcharged deficit as on the 5c. and 10c. issued in August. The 1c. unpaid 1879 type are also being used surcharged franeveo diagonally. Less than 30,000 of these were put on sale November 6tb for use during the month, the supply of the 1c. 1896 issue being exhausted. Messrs. Williams have also seen the heautiful new 1,2 , and 5c. which will be placed on sale from December 1st. Thoy are also informed officially that these are not intended as a commemorative issue.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 20c. unpaid, surcharged deficir } \\
& \text { 1c. " } " \quad \text { Franqueo }
\end{aligned}
$$

SPANISH COLONIES.-A new type has at last been adopted for the Island of Cuba and the other Spanish dependencies. King Alfonso is no longer depicted as a baby but with a handsome boyish face turned to the lefit. The stamps will be used for postage and telegraph purposes, and the values range from 1 mil-de-peso to 2 pesos.

ST. VINCENT.-The 1d. stamp has been surcharged three pence in block letters.

## 3d. in black on 1d. pale mauve.

SOMALI COAST.-The French possessions of Obock and Djibonti have been united under the name Cite francaise des Somalis, and a set of stamps of the usual type issued with that inscription.

Postcards, \&c.
AUSTRLA.-The 2 kr . cards with long " S " in "Correspondenz" have been issued for all provinces. except that the double cards have been printed in German, Bohemian and Polish only. We therefore chronicle:-

| 2 kr . brown on buff. |  |  |  | German. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2 \times 2$ " | , | " | T. 3 |  |
| 2 " | $\because$ | " |  | Bobemian. |
| $2 \times 2$ | " | " | T. 3 |  |
| 2 | " | " |  | Pulish. |
| $2 \times 2$ | " | ," | T. 3 |  |
| 2 | , | " |  | Illyrian. |
| 2 | ", | " |  | Italian. |
| 2 | " | " |  | Roumanian. |
| $2 "$ | ", | ", |  | Ruthenian. Slovenian |

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. It seems that the card mentioncd last month exists in two varieties according to the London Plitatelist. The one has
smail surcharge with two lines erasing old value while the other has large surcharge with three lines over the original value.

DUTTIA.-A few months ago we listed a card for this new native Indian state and now advices in Le Timbre Poste indicate that there are several varieties of the same. There being evidently some doubt in the printer's mind as to the proper spelling of the name of the state, he has compromised the matter by spelling it both ways, and letting the public use whichever they prefer (or can get).


FlRANCE.-The reply card now comes with the huadline "Republique Francaise."
$10 \times 10$ contimes black on blue.
GRAND COMORO.-Two cards of the French colonial tppe have been issued for this dependency.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 10 \text { centimes black on green. } \\
& 10 \times 10, \% \text { blue. }
\end{aligned}
$$

HaWALI.-The Virginiu Philutelistannomees that a new card is soon to appear which will excell in beatity of design any card extant.

NEGRI SEMBILAN.-According to the Australian Plilatelist a couple of cards of the tiger type have been issued.

1 cent green on buff.
$1 \times 1$
NEW SOLTH WALES.-Mr. Lohmeyer sends su a ld. card with the "record reign" stamp.

1d., carmine on buff.

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

O OOD old Christmas with its pleasant accessories has come once more. The annual crop of bills, presents and cards with the other little surprises incidental to the season comes with it. Is it not very touching to see the way fricuds remember us at this festal time? Even the merest acquaintances vie with one another in showing attentions. Kour Postman's tailor - a man he has not seen or spoken to for a couple of years has sent a summons to cheer him up and the poor rate people followed suit with another this morning I Ah, Happy Christmas! Still, I have something to be thankful for even yet. This Christimas I have not got the bailiffe in for rent. No, they went
out yesterday with most of the furniture. A washing copper makes a fair substitute for the table wheroon I am used to write these little notes but I cannot speak very fervently of the adaptability of the sink for sitting purposes. Never mind, let us all be happy this joyous Christmas!
**
Oh, the gem that sometimes get into the philistine press in connection with our hobby! Read! This is cuiled from a daily paper-not of recent date truly, but still a daily paper. . . . "A celebrated collector had travelled ali the way from Munich to exhibit his stock of stamps to a rich purchaser in our metropolis. One of these in particular, supposed by the owner to be unique, became the subject of a furious contest in the back drawing-room of the hotel in Albemarle Street where the lover of curios resided. The postage stamp is of such small dimensions in general that it has more than once disappeared in the struggle for possession, and in this case the fight became so hot and furious, the buyer insistiug on aceeptance of his offer, the possessor resisting all tenders below a certain sum, that the attendants belonging to the hotel becane alarmed and burst into the room juit in time to save the owner of the stamp from strangulation at the hands of the covetous amateur standing in blind fury over him. The stamp had been fixed into a littlo parchment envelope about an inch square, and was exhibited with the utmost precaution by the possessor, who imagined, as usual, that the whole world was in league to deprive him of his treasure. The friend and rival to whom it was shown was watched with the utmost vigilanca, every movement carrying suspicion to the heart of the exlibitor. But in an uugarded moment, just as the owner of the stamp was about to roplace it in its usual hiding place, the visitor soized it from his hand, and, after rolling it between his finger and thumb, popped it into his mouth, leaving the rightful possessor "all tears" as he watched the progress of deglutition, then rushing on the despoiler, prepared to tear open his collar provious to tearing open his throat to rescuc the gem from perishing by the atrocious deed. So may the most innocent pursuit be lurned into the channel of absolute murder by that fury of possession which sometimes fills the mind of the covetous collector."

The puper from which the above is taken is not a comic one. Shades of Ananias and Munchausenl Is it not enough to make them turn in their graves with envy?

Without identifging myself with the opinions expressed I give the following excerpt from the Monthly Journal because I think it is worth preserving for its antithetical logic. . . . "The philatelists of the future are amongst the collectors of
to day, and if our boys cannot find the beginning of their collections in the waste-paper basset, then adieu to our hobby," says our friend the Editor of The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain. We fully agree with bim, and it is just because we wish our boys' collections to begin in the waste-paper basket, and not to end there, that we counsel them to avoid the issues made solely to draw money from collectors. Such labels as these, which are serambled for by speculators at the Post Office windows, do not find their way into the waste-paper baskets of ordinary business houses. The stamps to be found in such receptacles will very seldom indced be thase condemued by the S.S.S.S.

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* *
$$

The question of prices for stamps is one that is now engaging the attention of collectors. That good stamps can be and are sold considerably under their catalogue quotations is an undoubted fact. If tho compilers of the catalogues get the prices they ask-then good luck to them. I give Mr Howe's letter for what it is worth without expressing any opinion further than saying that very few dealers at all could supply some of the most expensive stamps they quote, save only Stanley Gib: ous themselves-either at their price or at any other.

## Dear Sir,

After careful consideration, I havo come to the conclusion that the prices quoted in our Eaglish Standard Catalogue - that of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Co, Limited,-are in ninty-five cases out of a hundred a great deal higher than there is warranty for

In order to substantiate my own opinion, ilam reducing my own prices all round. I have decided to sell (with a very few exceptions), stamps catalogued under $£ 1$ oach at half the prices quoted in Messrs Stanley Gibbous' Cáálogue. Stamps catalogued at more than $£ 1$ cach I shall price as low as I possibly can; but in no case will it equal the quotations given in the above-mentioned Catalogue.

I am. Sir, yours truly, G. H. Howe.

## NOTES ON ENGLISH STAMPS.

By W. S. Webb.

THE ENGLIBH STANP EXCHANGE.

$\tau^{\mathrm{m}}$HE packets of this club started for the season with October ; both q antity and quality of stamps are on the increase, as is also the society's membership. I have just scen the December packet,
and the immence variety on its many sheets is a sight to do a connoiseur good. I be!ieve a ferw morc members can be admitted, on application to the Hon. Sec., Mr. G. A. Foster, 130, West Green Road, Tottenham. N.

## farly 4d. on white paper.

1 still believe that genuine copies of the 4 d . small garter exist on white paper, but it is more than probable that this scarce stamp has been imitated by chemically removing the blue tinge from the paper of ordidary copies : but a certain difference then remains, sufficient to spot the fraud. 1 have also lately se n a "medium garter," on the thich surfaced paper, but with no trace of blue in it. I believe this to be a doctored variety.

## 1d. entelope on bice laid.

Both Gibbon's and Fwon's catalogues assert that this papar only bears the pennystamp dated 10-1.f0:-

> "But John P.
> Robinsoul he

Says this sort of thing is an exploded idec!"
-and I agrec with him. for I have found them of vartioun dates 1857 to 1860 , (dies 99 to 101) on deep blue laid: these are a private issuc; but I have also a cut specimen which from its tint and paper, I judge to have some from the official envelope. It is die No. 100 , and dated 10.3.60.

## house of cummons envelopes.

It may not be generally known that a special envelope, embossed with penny stamp, is issued by H.M. Stationery office for sale at the House of Commons post office. It is of very thick wove paper, and bears emiossed on the flap the device of the shield and garter crowned, surmounted with the words "house of comsons," all in an oval frame. This envelope is, of course, collectable as an official issue. Morley gives the size as $5 \times 4$ inch, but certainly $5 \times 3 \mathrm{Z}$ in. also exists, and possibly there may ba other sizes. The stamp stands out we!l on this high class paper, the Queen's lead being sharp and clear as a cameo.

## SEW CATALOLUE OF JNGLISH.

Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen's 6th edition is promised fur this month.

## VERY NEW ISSUES.

By Percy C. Bishor, in Stamps.
[Three Australasian Colonies are issuing special stamps to pay for the erection of Consumptive Homes. Pera bas given us a litite series of threc by way of
celebrating the opening of a new Post Office at Lima. What neat, Meesicurs les Ministres des Postes?Philatelic Paper.]

MBYSSINIA becomes more enligtened day by day. Postage stamps bearilig the Emperor's head, were issued some time ago, and our youngest boy, who is a humorist, has said that Menelit has many lickers. Those lickers, if rumour speaks truly, are likely to grow in number, for, at a recent pow-wow with his chiefs, the Emperor decided to divide his territory into provinces with separato stamps for each. To obviate any monotony of design the Ethiopian monarch has hit upon the ingenious plan of dividing his august person into as many portions as there are provinces. Thus the stamps of one province will show his feet, another his hands. "Tis a pretty notion, and the profits will help Menelik to lick Italy again if she comes any of her old tricks.

Andohra, it is whispered, will shortly enter the postago-stamp industry. It will avert needless controversy if we state, right now, and on the authority of the best gazetteers, that Andorra is a smail republic in the Pyrenees. Its area is something less than ten acres, but in all probability this will not affect the superficies of the stamps Andorra proposes to issue. The postal needs of the place are at present supplied by the stamps of France and Spain, but Andorra requires a good hospital, and it gaol, moreover, has been certified as a place unfit for the accommodation of self-respecting er minals.
Belgium, one would think, already possesses about as many different kinds of postage stamps as it is good for one country to have. But great are the needs of civilised life, and great the perspicacity of Postmaster-General Vanderpearboanl Belgium has ordinary postage stamps, unpaid letter stamps, special "Exhibition" stamps, postage stamps for packages sent by railway, and special postcarns for aeknowledgments of the receipt of such packages; but to all these, it is rumoured, a new series of labels will be added. People occasionally change their addresses in Belgium as elsewhere, and for mail natter forwarded from place to place in their wake, there is a small extra fee. What more natural than the issue of a special series of stamps representing this fee, and to be fixed to the forwarded letters and packages by the letter-carrier? The stamps will essentially be of an official character, and not for sale to the public. Stamp dealers' orders which must be prepaid, should be direeted to
at
Greece, owing to recent pressing engagements, has had littie leisure to devote to the pestal needs of her great people It is good to know, however, that as soon as the terms of peace are signed, the Greek Postal Department will come out with something that will simply pulverise all previous efforts. It is whispered that the proceeds of this contemplated issue will be
devoted to equipping tha Greek arny with athletic outfits and good running shoes, in rder that they may more readily "xetire to stronger positions" in the next great war.

Hawair: The special stamps for "the Department of Foreign Aflairs" having gone of well-ive mean to say, "having proved of grath vilue in facilitatitot the keeping of departinental accounts," it is now suggested that the Home Department, the War Office, and the Treasury, should be similarly equipped. Dealers are invited to submit tencers for posmarised copies in not less th 41281 b . arcels.

Italy, it is admitted, has no use for Eritrea: but there is a decent reve ue from the Italian stamps surcharged for use in the colony, and unless Great Britain or Belgium or somebody stumps up handsome for the goodwill of the busincss, Eritrea will remain an Italian colony.

New South Wales: We clip the following from our esteemed contemporary, the Pickaluchoo l'iper, of Pickaluchoo, New South Wales:-
"We are moved to set the public right as to certain facts connected with the issue of the special postiage stamps brought out in commemoration of the op :aing of Mr. O'Donovan Casey's new pawnshop in this township. It is a libel on our estoemed frien land subscriber, Mr. Casey, to insinuate, as a cartain scurrilous journal that shall be narueless has insinuated, that these stamps were issued for the special and particular benefit of Mr. Casey ant for the purpose of boosting the postal revenue of tice colony. We have had the official facts before us from the first, but did not consider that the actions of a man of such notorious probity as Mr. O'Donovan Casey would be doubted for moment. From start to finish Mre. Casey has acted the part of an honourable, upright ctizen. He is a pattern to Pickaluchoo. The Government, recognising the great public service rendered by Mr. Casey in filling, at Pickaluchoo, the long-felt want of a clean. respectable, well-appointed Mont de Piete, permitted Mr. Gasey to issue certain commemorative postage stamps for sale to the public-on conditions that restricted Mr. Casey to certain limits and reflected great credit upon a business.like and fairdealing Government. What those conditions were we are bound in honour not to state, but we have inside knowledge of the fact that the protits of the issue, when all the stamps are sold and the plates destroyed, will be 'cut up,' fair and square, by MIr. Cascy and the Government.
"Thus is the voice of calumuy hushed, and the good name of our esteemed subscriber whitened to the world !"

To the above extract it is only necessary to add a brief description of these most interesting stamps. The set comprises three labels, of the fice value of

Is. 6d, 5s., and $10_{i}$. The design is chaste, characteristic, emblematic -in its war pertectly unifue. It consists simply of the obrazen alobes radant, sarmounte i by the legend: "Iawn with O'Donovall Lasey, oi Pickaluchoo"

Sas lanivo: A certain depression bas marked the postit: stamp industr: in this republic, owing to the pro:ungedabsine in luat :acgeo of the Government's chief philatelic adviser. signs are not wanting, however, that a new and ornate issue of San Marino stamps will make its ap, wara tee in the neat future. Tine chief Inspector of Samisation has made urgent representations that the drains of the liepublic mast really be seen to.
solth african Repeblic: Philatelists will tead with interest the report of a recent meeting of the Boor Esecutive at Pretoria:-
" In the chair, President fruger. Present, I'resident liruger. The subject of the dynamite monopoly gave rise to a protracted discujsion between President Kruger and himself. If the dynamite monopoly were abolished, what should take its place? was the question agitating the President's mind.
"lt was finally proposed by President Kruger, seconded by President Kruger, and carried by President Kruger with boti hands that the dymanite monopoly be abolished, and that in its stead a postage stamp monopoly be created and bystowed (for a heatthy consideration) on some eminent Boer who would have full power to issue as many commemora. tive stamps as he jolly well liked. The meeting then dissolved."

It will, w; feel sure, be a matter of keen gratification to all our readers that philatelists have thus been made the means of securing the abolition of a hateful and iniquitous monopols.

## SOCIETY REPORTS.

 BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.Honorary President:-W. B. Aveay, Ese. President:-W. T. Wilson, Es々. Vice-Presidents:-R. Hollick, Esq.; W. Pimm, Esq. Committee:-Mr. H. R. Bewlay ; Mr. P. T. Deakin; Mr. V. Levdeblad; Mr. T. W. Peck; Mr. C. A. Stephenson; Mr. W. S. Vaughton.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:-Mr. G. Johnson,
B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

Nov. 18th. Display with Notes by R. Ho lick.
Dr. R Lyon, Messrs. E. Christiansen, E. S. Auscher, and F. Margot were elected members.

Mr. K. Hollick then gave an interesting display of the stamps of the African colonies, including fine copies of nearly all the rarities, used and unused,
with blocke and complete panos of the medium varictles. Tho minor varieties of die, plate, and sh ude were carafully pointed out.

## Dee zul. Display. West Anstrdlia.

Lady Gly; Messrs. S. II Castle and A. Passer were elected members.

Mr. C. J. Phillips exhibited his private collection of unused Wost Australia. includiug almost every variety in mint condition and in a fine renge of shade; the page of (6a golden and black bronzo being specially tine : also a nice page of 2 d . brown black on red, and some 2d. (crror) lilar. He also showed the following rarities used:-4d. biac, centre inverted, a very fine copy; two 2d. browir-black on indian rell; 2d. black on red, rouletted and peinted oa both sides; 2d. black on red, strip of three ou original showing differences of type: early issucs on original showing dates; a very fine 6.l. golden bronze on original; very fi e pairs of Gd. bronze, 1s. brown, 1d. black, 4d bluc, all rouletted and on originals; a 2d. (errur) lilac, and other rarivics.

Mr. W. T. Wilson exhibited nearly all varicties, used acd unused, in full range of shade, including large unused blocks of tha first issue $4 d$. bluc, showing the arrdigement of the setting and the varicties of tjpe; ulso many of the early issues in mint condition.

## The Thingetlar Shilisg Cape.

At the mecting of the Birmingham Philatelic Society on November 18th, Dr. Lyon exhibited a complete uncut sheet of 18 . medium green triangulur Capes in mint condition. This valuable and interesting exinibit a lowed the members an opportunity of noting the arrangement of the stamps, the spacings and the watermarks. The whole sheet, allowing an average for the deckle edges, is $21 \frac{1}{\mathrm{in}}$. by 11 in . the space occupied by the stamps- 240 in number in 15 rows of 16 -is $19{ }^{3} \times 103$-10thin. The space between the stamps making a pair is fairly even all over the sheet, and is about 14 mm The space between pairs in the same row is much more irregular and varics from $1 \frac{1}{4}$ to 2 mm . The spaces between the rows are nearly twice as great as between the stamps on cach row and vary from $2 \frac{1}{2}$ to 3 mm . The anchor watermark is very evenly placed in the centre of each stamp while the whole shoet is surrounded by a watermark of five parallel lines, the total width of which is 7.20 th of an inch. The outer four lines are interrupted in six places, once at the top, onco at the bottom, aud twice at each side by the word POSTAGE 2 7-16th by 3-10th inches in open Romau capitals.

Strange to say, Mr. Phillips in the Monthly Journal speaks of another sheet that has come to light. Ho says:-The $\mathbf{1 E}$. triangular emerald-green of the Cape of Good Hope has always boen a rather scarce stamp. Unused in mint condition, especially in unsevered pairs or blocks, they are deoidedly difficult stamps to find; and this will be casily understood, when we
remember that the stamps in this colour belong to the comparatively emall supply of that value printed by Messrs. De Ja Rue and Co., and sent out in 186\%, not ong before the triangular stamps were superseded by the less striking but far nore convenient roctangular. To this fact, and alsu no doubt to the fact that in those days the great majority of collectors were content with a single copy, and preierred that copy oblileraled, we owe it that the cmurald-grecn shilling, in fine unused condition, has not come down to us in such abundance as we could wish.

Ono hundred and fifty-eight sheets is the total number stated in the london society's Africa book to have been despatehed to the Colony in January, 1863 ; this was the last lot of triangular shillings that was supplied, and the only lot printed in emerald-green. It was, therefore, rather a shock to me when, a few days ago, a friend who had asked me to meel him, as he had something curious to show me, pulled a modest-looking roll out of his pocket, and carefnlly unwrapped one of these very 155 sheets, almost entire, lacking only two specinens out of the 240 ! It was a real find, having turned up in a mass of old papers, supposed to be of very little value, but containing a certain number of curiosities, amongst which ihis will certainly take the highest place.

The sheet is in excellent comdition, perfectly clean. with original gum, and margins, except where a single pair has been cut out, ruite complete ; and one can only wonder wbat led its original owner to stow away nearly 512 worth of stamps (face value) in this manoer, for there can be little doubt that it has never before been in the hands of a stamp collector, and it would appear to have been accidentally preserved, as no other stamps of so early a date have yet been found in the pile.
The impression is not even in tint throughout, and it seems evident that cither one end of the plate was somewhat worn, or that end was not so heavily insed as the other when this impression was printed, one end of the sheet being distinctly paler in shade, and showing a slight want of ink at some of the points where the corners of four stamps meet. The olber part of the sheet is of a beautiful deep colour.

The information he gives as to watermarks, arrangement of stamps, size of sheet, \&c., is identical with that given in connection with the first-mentioned sheet, and the information aflorded by these simultancous finds is of the utmost value to philately.

## MIDLAND COUNTIESSTAMP EXCHANGE

(Established 18\$6).
Hon. Managirg Secretary:-W. G. Walton, Fentham Road, Birmingham.
Exchange Sec. and Trcasurer: -J. J. Harper, 95, Bowyer Road, Saltley, Birmingham.

The December sheets are of excellent quality, and an improvement even upon the good selections of the
last few packets. Good buycrs at $50 \%$, and those who have good stamps to sell should take advantage of the present time to join the Eschange. Rules on application. Good references indispensable.

British African Stamp Exchange. - The first General Packet (1)ecember) was despatched on the Grd of December, and contained stamps to the value
 ing many very desirable stamps, African and otherwise, at low prices. Features of this Club are: Immediate settlements, nett prices, and Secretary does not take "first pick" from packet, each member in turn thus getting first sight of complete packet. Oroly thoronghly trustworthy members are admitted. Rules sent on application to C. J. Endle, Secretar:, Kinge. burgh $C$ ttage, Loscombe, Hants.

The Scblibban Fixchange Cicb.- 181 sheets valued at $£ 2,0871411 d$ were received for circulation by Nov. 23rd- These were made up into four packets and despatched on their rounds on Nov. 25th. Many good stamps were offered at reasonable prices, Europeans and Colonials being very strong. Five new members have joincd since last mouth, and threc applications were declined. Mr-mbers are requested to *send their Iecember cuntributions not later than the 18th, so that the packets way be sent off before Christmas. Any collectors (buyers or sellers) wishing to join the Club are insited to apply for copy of rules to the Secretary, H. A. Slade. Ingleside, St. Alban's.
The Belgrate: Stimp Exchavize. - The December packet was despatched promptls on the 2nd. and contained 2,500 good varieties value $£ 65$ nett. The October was returned on the $18 \mathrm{t} \mathrm{l}_{1}$ Nov. and all accounts were settled by the 26 th Collectors wisbing to buy stamps at $50 \%$ to 75 , off catalogue prices are advised to join the "Belgrave," particulars, from Secretary, Fredk. Mayher, (iember of Stamp Exchauge Protection Soctety, Brewer Street, Belgravia, Lonnon, S.iV.

The S.W. Lascashire Exchange Socifty:-Eight new members were this month added to the Jist amongst whom may be found several prominent collectors and specialists. The December facket reached £217 09 . Great Britain und B. Colonials were present in great numbers and of very good quality. Foreign were also well represented and the sales are expected to be good if previous sales be considered. New and medium coliectoris will also find the above society most useful. Particulars \&ic. from Secretary, Win. Ditehfeld, S,F.P.S.. 191, Dorning St., Wigan.

Richmond Stamp Exceange Society.-The November packet was made up on the 10th inst and showed a decided improvement the total value submitted being $£ 00215 \mathrm{~s}$. $0 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. Some excellent Colonials being amongst the selection. Nerr members enrolied were Messrs. H. W. Major, K. G. Rolfe, D. G. Finlaison, A. R Munday, Geo. Adams, and D. Rolberg. Rules de., post free from the sec., R. Reid, junr., 14, Parsifal Road, West Hampstead, N. W.

## NOTICES.

Nunn's Directorx.-The tenth edition of this excellent directory of stamp dealers is to hand and its 80 pages contain the usual mass of useful information. The names and addresses of dealers are up to date and arranged in alphabetical order-a ery great boon to those wishing to find a name The price is as usual, 5d., post free.

Arthler Monteith \& Co.-This firm has issued a neat 16 page retail price list, which they will send, post free, on application. A cursory glance through gives a good impression of the prices which are a lot below those of ordinary catalogues.
E. T. Pareer.-The 93rd issuc of E. T. Parker's priced list is tohand. We recommend readers to send for this-it contains a list of uncommen stamps at reasonable prices.

Riley and Nissen.-Mr. Charles Nissen, the wellknown dealer in English, has entered partnership with Messrs. Riley and Co. under the title Riley and Nissen, 105, High Holborn, London, W.C.

Stamps.-Mr. Heggate's paper gets more useful every issue and, with the new year, we are promised an increase of size Some remarks on Furopean by Mr. A. B. Hanel, and "How to run a Stamp Exchange Club" are two very useful articles in the last issue. The paper deserves to do well.

Wile iants and Co., Perd - This firm are making one or two advantageous offers in the Chronicle and the Advertiser. Messrs. Williams and Co. have a wonderfully fine stock of South American stamps and are quite safe. We understand that Mr. Brown, of Salisbury, holds several hundred pounds worth of their stamps as British agent.

## SCOTT'S 58th CATALOGUE.

$G$HE catalogue for 1898 is an improvement even upon that of 1897, and this is the very best praise that can be given to it-for anything which is better than the 57th edition must be indeed exceilent. All the usual tables and information of the first 36 pages is repeated, and is supplemented by a reproduction of the two dies of British Colonial stamps. A list of speculative stampz has been compiled-of course in the light of the publishers' opinion-and this cannot fail to be useful, although not being comprehensive or accurate according to our ideas.

The printing is above reproach, and the illustrations
are improved in many instances, and illustrations of surcharges and types of watermarks are very much augmented. As a philatelic work, apart from a mere priced catalogue, its value is greatly increased by the large amount of information on minute details of type, \&c., which is afforded. That it is even better than last edition, however, will be sufficient recommendation to our readers and we recommend them to get a copy for themselves. (To be obtained from the Scott Co., Mr. W. T. Wilson, Birminghem, or tha Philatelic Publishing Co., price $2 / 6$ post free.

## LEEWARD ISLAND <br> POSTAL FISCAIS.

左BOUT a year ago the remainders of the Revenue stamps of these islands were offered for sale They were purchased in one lot by Messrs. Stanley (ribbons, Limited., and resold to Mr. Thomas Birch, of the Midland Stamp Company, 11, Northampton Strcet, Birmingham. Many o? liese stamps were once usuable for postage and are listed in the various standard catilogues - in fact all except the Antigua long rectangular stamps were so usable, although not all have been catalogited at any one time.
Mr. Birch sold a proportion of these stamps to Mr . Calman, of New York and another, and larger, lot to Mr. Empson, of Birmingham, hence they aro practically held by these three gentlemen, By the courtesy of Mr. Birch we are allowed to produco the list of slamps together with the quantity of each in the parcel-by which the relative value can easily be discerned.
*Dominica :-perf. 14, overprinted " Revenue," 1d., violet, 10,511; *6d., green, 9,786; *1s., lake, 1,402. *Montserrat:-Revenue, 1d., violet, 56; "1d., large size carmine, 596. *Nevis, 1d., lilac, surcharged " resvende" in black, and St. Christopher in mauve, 16 ; *4d., I'thograph, "revexue" in black, 364 ; 4d., blue, "revenue" only, 1,256; 4d., blue, with St Christopher printed in black, 656; 1s., mauve, 471; "Gd., green, "revenue" only 2,036; *as last, with St. Christoper in mauve, 23i. *St. Kitt's, Revenue, 3d, purple, 3,774; *1s., olive.green 14,188; *6d., redbrown, 4,406; *ld., carinine, 27,383; 5s. yellowochre, 1,892. Antigua, long rectangular, 2d.. blue, 16,85: ; 3d., blue, 2,898; 4d., hlue, 16,137; Gd., blue, 4,197; 1s., red and blue, long rectangular, 2,580; 2s, ditto, ditto, 7,522 ; 38., ditto, ditto, 5,000 ; 4s., ditto, ditto, 3,892 ; 5 s ., ditto, ditto, 43 ; 10s. ditto. ditto, 1,48 .

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| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
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2c...

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| " | 1894 | 1 | cen |  |  |  |
| " | " | 2 | " |  |  |  |
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|  | 1897 | 5 | " |  |  | . |
|  |  | 2 | ", |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Luxemburg, 1892. 1 franc. <br> *Newfoundland, Jubilee, 3 cents |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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Tin rimatheriunticil is sent to all the members of the Blrmingiam Philatelic Society and midand Countics Stamp Exohange, being the Ufficial Journal of these sociptics.

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## Jantary 318t, 1898.

CONTENTS.


The Philatelic Chronicle is sent to all the members of the Blrmingham Philatelic society and midiand Counties Stamp Exohange, being the Offlcial Journal of these Societles.

$\square 1$HE question of illustrating postage stamps is one of considerable importance to all collectors, but of vital interest to dealers and makers or sellers of stamp albums. The authorities took a somewhat arbitrary view of the matter and, it will be in the recollection of our readers, Mr. I. Upcott Gini., of The Bazaar, was fined for using certain illustrations. Since that time agitation has gone on in the public press, and the real facts of the case put before Somerset House. Messis. Stanley Gibbons have heen chief movers in the agitation, and to them is clue the thanks of the trade that the matter is now settled on a more reasonable basis, as see the circular on another page which has been sent round to all the best linown dealers and philatelic publishers.

Two hundred thousand is a big figure, but it represents the number of circulars, price lists, clul) rules, and handbills circulated by means of The Advertiser during the last twelve months at $10 /$ per thousand. The postage on 1,000 circulars at $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. each is $£_{2}^{2} 15.8 \mathrm{~d}$. If they are sent out with The Advertiser $£^{1}$ ins. 8 d . is saved, or $75 \%$ of the postage. It may be argued that circulars distributed in this way are not so efficacious as those sent singly, but this is open to question--at any rate the difference is not represented by $75 \%$. To print circulars about note-paper size runs from $7 /$ - to 12 - per page for a thousand, according to the work on a page-at these prices they are done well, and the Philatelic Publisiming Company are prepared to print and advantageously circulate to any extent.

That the system pays is proved by the fact that the same people send circulars for distribution again and again.

## CHRONICLE.

kRGENTINE.-The 24c. has appeared with a true wmk., and a 30c. and 60c. will probably be issued shortly.
BARBADOS.-The size of the Jubilee stamps is the same as that of the Great Britain 5/-, and in the centre is the device on the ordinary stamps in a diamond, all in a rectangular frame inscribed with name at top "VICTORIA : R : I" at left and " 1837 $-1897^{\prime \prime}$ at right, and value at bottom. In the corners between the diamond and the frame are the quarterings of the Rosal Arms. Wmk Cr. C.C., perf. 14.

> 1d. grey, value carmine. id. green. did 1d. rose. 2d. ultramarine. 5d. olive brown. Gd. mauve, value carmine. 8d. orange, ultramarine. 10d. blue green, value carmine. 2/6 black, value orange.

BECHUANALAND. - There are current British stamps surcharged in block capitals, "BECBUANA. LAND"-"PROTECTORATE" in two lines.
fd. black and vermilion. $\quad$ 4d. black, brown \& green.
id.

2d. " green \& red.
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.-The current high values have been increased in size by the addition of an ornamental frame, and are now watermarked Cr. C.C., perforated 14

1r. ultramarine 5r. black brown.
2r. red brown. 10 r , yellow brown.
3r. deep violet. 20 r . yellow green.
4r. carmine.
50 r . lilao.
CANADA.-We have seen the following of the new type:-

2c. violet. 5 c. blue. $\quad 6 \mathrm{c}$. brown.
CHINA.-The following have been seen of the current stamps. It is asid only 240 of the 50 c . Were thus printed by mistake in the shade of the 10 c .

4c. pale brown.
50 c . deep greon.
GREECE.-According to the Collectionneur a new issue is in preparation for use here. The type up to 2dr. has the head of Mercury, while the two highest values bave a winged figure of Mercury.

| 11. brown. | 401. orange. |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2. green. | 601. red brown. |
| 5. bistre. | 1dr. grey. |
| 101. blue. | 2dr. rose. |
| 201. brown violet. | 3dr. rose. |
| 201. carmine. | 5dr. sellow. |

NEWFOUNDLAND.-We have received copies of the first values issued of the new set. The design of the 1 c . consists of the portrait of the Queen, somewhat similar to that on the Jubilee set, while the 2c. has a portrait of the Prince of Wales. The stamps are printed on wove paper and are perforated 12.

1c. carmine.
2c. orange yellow.
PERSIA.-Of the new issue the Shahi values have lion in centre similar to the 1894 issue, while the Kran is larger and has a portrait of the new Shah.

| 1/-grey. | $8 /$ - orange. |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2/-brown. | 10/- dlue. |
| 3/-purple. | $12 /-$ carmine. |
| 4/- vermilion. | $16 /$ green. |
| 5/- yellow. | 1 k. blue. |

The 2 to 50 k . will not be issued until Feb. 1st.
QUEENSLAND. - We have seen a used copy of the 1d. with figure of value in all four corners.

1d. red, figure of value in four corners.
Postcards, \&c.
ARGENTINE.-From an official decree published in the Revista de la Sociedad Filatelica Argentira we learn that the government desires to show the outside world what a glorious country they have and what fine public buildings, statues, etc., they erect, and, as the easiest way of so doing, have decided to print on the postal and letter cards phototype views of Argentine scenery, eto. Some ten views have thus far appeared we beliove.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.-A double card with parforations between the two parts is reported by the Deutsche Briefmarken Journal.
$\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$ anna, yellow and green.
GERMAN EMPIRE.-A letter card was issued Nov. 1st with stamp of current type at right and inscribed Deutsche Reichpost Kartenbrief in Gothic type in the upper centre and four lines for the address with the usual inscriptions. The interior is covered with a blue groundwork. Size $140 \times 316 \mathrm{~mm}$.

10 pfennig, carmine on white.
GRAND COMORO.-We omitted last month to say that we were indebted to A. Schoeller for specimens of the new cards and also omitted to list the two letter cards which we had also received from him.

15 centimes, black on grey.
25 ", black on rose.
HUNGARY.-From the Monthly Journal we learn of the issue of a set of cards for the purpose of
keeping the police informed of the movements of citizens and strangers. Each card is folded in three and has some six pages of forms, ctc., in Hungarian. They measure $305 \times 72 \mathrm{~mm}$. when open, and are as follows:-

Notification for settled inhabitants and their ser. vants.
$2 \times 2$ kreuzer, blue on buff.
Notice of departure of the above.
$2 \times 2$ kreuzer, blue on bluc.
For use of non-residents, journeying throught the town, and staying only a short time in hotels, etc.
$2 \times 2$ kreuzer, brown on bulf.
Notice of departure for use of non-residents, etc.
$2 \times 2$ kreuzer, brown ou blue.
SARAWAK.-Having entered the Postal Lion July 1st, a postal card was deemed necessary, and wo suppose is of the usual British colonial type with stamp like the current issue of adhesives.

3 cents, carmine on buff.
SWEDEN.- M. Moens reports the siagle 5 ore with frame of post horns like the double card.

5 ore, green on white
SOLTTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.-The single card with bi-coloured stamp is now in use.

1 penny, carmine and green.
URUGUAY.-A voluminous issue of stationery is announced from this country. The stamps on the cards are all of the same type, arms in oval between branches, Republica del above, Uruguay and va'ue bolow with numerals in circles at sides. The inscriptions on the cards are too complicated to be described here.

For Interior service.
2 centesimos, brown on buff.
$2 \times 2 \quad " \quad$ on rose.
For the Postal Union.
2 centesimos, blue on blue.

| 3 | $"$ | violat on blue green. |
| ---: | :--- | :--- |
| $2 \times 2$ | $"$ | blue on orange. |
| $3 \times 3$ | $"$ | brown on buff. |

Letter cards.
3 centesimos, green on amber.
$3 \times 3 \quad$ " red on buff.
This latter bears a stamp somewhat different from the rest of the cards. When we say that the cards are from the ateliers of Waterlow \& Son we need siy no more to assure our readers of the character of the work.

WURTEMBURG.-Der Philatelist announces a letter card quite similar to the one issued by the German Empire.

10 pfenrig, carmine on white.

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

MR. D. C. LLOYD, of Lichfield, has sent me a most ingenious sheet designed for the protection of good stamps. As far as I can judge it would prove a perfect safeguard against substitution. That such an invention is needed is undeniable more the pity -and 1 hope MIr. Lloyd will perfect his notion and make it public. It would not be fair to Mr. Lioyd to attempt a description of it, but, doubt. less, we slaall hear more before long.

Mr. W. S. Webb informs me that he has taken over the secretaryship of the British Specialists' Stamp Exchange, and hopes to place it among the most active and reliable sociaties of the kind. Through the late secretary's lack of time the membership had much decreased so that there are several vacancies for collectors of British and Colonial stamps. The new secretary intends to include United States also in the future packets, which will start on the 12th of each month There is one thing to be said, and that is. that Mr. Webb is the right man in the right p'ace where Engl sh specialists are concerned; and he is also a business man, in whom all confidence can be placed.

Mr. Brown, of Salisbury, is coming out strong in the packet line. He advertises packets wherein are neither fiscals, reprints, cut cards, or envelopes, and the pricos he asks are ridiculously low. He sent one packet of 300 stamps, and it is a fair surpriser. The catalogue value is over 25/- in nice clean stamps, and Mr. Brown's price is $1 / 9$-one shilling and ninepence. Where does the catalogue price come in here? I know that Mr. Brown comes by his stamps honestly, but ho must be wooing the bankruptcy court when he sells stamps at over 90 per cent. under catalogue-or is it because ho wants to give collectors a treat at his own expense?

The Junior Stanp Collector completod its first year with the December issue. The evolution of this useful magazine has been most rapid. From being merely a pamphlet twelve months ago the December number comes with no less than thirty-six pages and pages crowded with items of interest and information. As its name implies the pap r is devoted to the service of beginners, and therein lies its great value The man who adds one new collector, in however small a way, to the ranks is more useful to philately than half-a-dozen of the modern-day speculators, whose only aim is to make a bit out of the unwary.

The J. S. C. is the official journal of the Birming. ham Youths' Stamp Socicty and is sent frec to nil
members of that body. Notwithstanding the name this saciety is not confined to Birmingham, but has a membership reaching all over the country, und ceen abruad - and its one aim is to encourage the begimer. For this reason both paper and sociely are teserving of every cacouragenent, and may they both go on and prosper. The publishers of The if. S. C. are Messrs. Margoschis Bros , Constitution Mill, E゙ham.
*
Messrs. Reed \& Co. have migrated to 48. Finsbury Circus, London, E.G. Will all concerned please take note of the alteration. The Co-operative Stamp Co. have taken over the stock (valued at $£ 10,000$ ) and goodwill of the old established business of Mr. Chas. Postlethwaite.

The St. Helena remaiuders to the value of 86,447 are being ofiered for sale by the Crown ligents for the Colonics. The Ausirulian Hospital Stanps ure lianging tire a bit.-There are to icheints of the 185 S (Confederation) Argentinc stamps.- Bikanir has 100 genuine prostage stamps, those listed are discals of cssays. - All dd., 1d. and $2 \frac{1}{2}$ t. stamps will hove to be universally green, red and blue after this yatr-liondyke stamps are threatened in the uear future. -There are three types of surcharge on the Newfoundiand le. provisional.

## "TME . CD ERTISER.

ๆHE: last issue of The Advertiser wa. sent to all the old subscribers who have dropped out in addition to the usual quantity of specimen numbers. This meant ati increase of a thcusand at least on the normal circuintion, bui the suceess of the Clitistmas Adveriser encouraged us to fresh enterprise The p:ura names were all over the would, but principally in Great Britain. On February $13 \mathrm{~h}_{1}$ comes the next big issue, and this will be of ceven larger proportions. If these two come up to expectation we shall still further increase the normal circulation. We may say, for the benefic of all concerned, that we have registered nearly wo hundred new subseribers to the Adecriser and Chronide within the last six months, and this is where the big issucs pay us.

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { NOTES ON ENGLISH STAMPS. } \\
\text { BY W. S. WELB. } \\
\text { I, OF 18GL, "K" vinety. }
\end{gathered}
$$

ๆHE one shilling stann of this issue shows a curious freak on the stamp lettored $K-$ (V) in the lower corners; the $\mathfrak{k}$ being enclosed within
a circular white line, which is perfectly formed, and nearly touches cach side of the square letter-block. It appears most anlikely that this cun be parely aceidental, but whether there was any authority for, or menaing in, its appatance, is not known. Ta this: issuc the shilling stamps were printed in sheets of 210 (lettered $\mathrm{A}-A$ to I-' L). Thins, taken as a dislinct varicty the " $k$ in circle" is 300 times as scarce as a normal specimen. To those collectors who go in for "re-con-tructing" entire sheets, it is of no more importance than any other one stamp in the shect. liat thic majority of collectors, not haviug either the means, roum, or taste for this sorl of fancy work, will want the" $K$ " variety because it differs from all other stamps in the sheet, apart from its lettering.
cospition ob "ocragusidis."

Endoubtedy tho $1 / ., 10 d$, and 6d. stanps of 1817. sh are much to be preforred cut syane, -at ollece things being erpal: and the "cut square" mania, withone the atuove fualification, secms to have: become a strong and general projudice agrainst all specinens, whatever uther no tits they may pusesom, which do not shew syunre comers. Bun. I himbit unly ramomable to poinh out that surdy the design and colour of the impression itself is of far more importance than any extent of blank paper that may surround it: and, for my part, I greatly prefor specimens which chearly show all the design and lettering, even if "cat be shape" rather than dirty or indistinct copies laving full corners. I have often seen specimens olifered at fall prices becatuse hes: happened to be spliave, which wera yoor in qualits. and perhaps closciy cut at che sides, white olten gov! clean stampa with a fair all round margin mag to a begoing for a puechasier. Of couse, ali good atid trice philatelists act "ou the sthare," iut at tele salite time thoy shond be "good all-round "peoplc, tou.

## 

Various advertisers are just now oiferin's useal scis of 1 d . plate numbers, " 71 to 324 ," for a very small sum, but whell "2.5" is to be ineluded the price of the set is generally trebied. This tells a taie,-that wes is becoming very scarce itaded ; in fact, I belicue that fine used copies of it with soon be not far behind whised in point of rarity and value. While on this subject, I may uwn to the old-fastrioned opinion that to buy a complete series of plate numbers, or anything in fact which lias enst time aind pritience to hunt up, is anerely paying other people to collect stamps for yo:. Tou might as well bay your a llection ready inade, and so miss the best charms of the pursuit; thorc is nolling to beat the wholesome o!d way of finding, bogging, exchanging, or buying the stamps in one's and two's, and then arranging aud sorting them for oneself. More truc philately can be learned so than in beconing suddenly possessed of a s100 collection in a cut-and-dricd album.

THE SEALS OF lo. ENVELOPJS.
The scal or "tress" which appears on the hap of the ollicially-issued Id. envelope from about 1850 to 1577 presents several varietics, and forms an interest. ing study, The seal on the snallest size, $4 \times 2$ inn. (sizo .11 ) is a design by itself, the rose, shamrock, nad thistle being engraved on a smaller seabe tiog on the seal used for the larger sites. I have not noticed any minor varicties of this small type. The design for the larger sues consists of the same emblems, surrounded by a thick whito circle, which is again edged by a iroad outer iracce of colour. This type remained in use utitil about 1857 , when the die was either re-ergraved or replaced by a new one, the point of differonce being that the outer frane is made sharper and narrower, giving the scal a much neater appenrance; this die remained in use until the ormament was abolished in 1877.8 . About $1851-2$ the curulopes appeared for a short time with the seals cmbossed without colour : this was probably an esperiment, nud the design, io meopinion, lost nothing by its appeurance in albino, but for some resson colour was reverted io. The seals appored in varions shades of pink anch rose, varyiug as much as did the tints of the 10 . embossed stnmp in the earlier issties, but not necessarily being of the sune shade as the stamp on the same cavelope.
wantibl, so hNOw,

What is the status of ha. envelopes, of various si\%cs, conforming in all respects with the oflicial issines of about 1850 , except that the tress is abscat? These may br: in some cases ertors, but as they are to be found licaring pritate crests or seals cmbossed on Liu: Itap, I think it possible that even al that early perioil, there may bave been a system of supplyino the envelopes "to order," and that the oftie:th seal was not placed on cnvelopes so isstied. I should nituch like to know the rights of this matter, as I thins in arranging a collection of envelopes, all those which have been sod in the ordinary way through the post-office should be kept guite distinet from those issued in any other nomucr. Can anyoue illuminate this rather obscure but interesting point?

## IRANSMISSISSIPPI STAMPS.



W
ASHINGTON, Junuary 12th, - The authorities of the Pos's Offico Department have determined upon the subjects which shall bo illustrated upon the new series of postage stames to be issued by the department in commemoration of the Transmississippi and Internaticnal bxposition to be opened on the 1 th of next June at Omaha. They are illustrative of the enditions, progress and aceom-
plishments of the great West from its discovery to our own day.
The series comprises nine denominations of stamps as follows:-

Oue cent-The discovery of the Mississippi River by Marguette.
Two cent-In Indian chicf.
Four cent-A buffalo hunting scene.
Five cent-The pathfinuer, being a picture of Fremont raising the lag on the simmit of the Rockics.

Eight cent-A train of emigrants crossing the plains.

Ten cent-A mining scene.
Fifty cent - A cowboy and cattle.
Dollar-A harvesting seeve or a great flouring mill.
Two dollar-The lhock Island bridge, showing part of the city of Omaha.

## GOVERNMENT CIRCULAR TO <br> STAMP DEALERS, de.

Inland lievenuc, Somerset House, London, W.C., 2 lst Jan., 1898.
Sir, -Referring to tho printed notice gent to you on the 2nd Junc last, 1 am dirceted by the Board of Inland Kevenue to inform you that they have recently considered, in conjunction with the l'ostmaster General, the subject of the ollustration of postago stamps by stamp dealors and otiacrs

All suct illustrations are, as the Board are advisad, an infringement of the law.

It is, however, recognised that the object in view in those cases where the illustrations are inteaded for the use of stamp collectors, \&e., is an innocent one, and that a considerable industry has of late years sprung up in connection with their production.

In theso circumajauces neither the Postmaster Gieneral nor the Buard of Inland Reveuuc desire that the practice should be prohibited so loug as no danger to the Revenuc arises from its continuance.

They pro ose, therefore, in future to abstain from interfering in all cases in which the following regulations are complied with:-
1.-Illustrations must be in black clonc. The Board wiil not abstain from interfering where they are in colour, no matter what may be the size of the illustration.

2 -The Loard of Inland Revenue must be con. sulted before any black illustrations are made, and, if they decido not to interfere, it will be on condition that they are satisfied as to the proper custody of the die, blocks, plates, \&ic., and that their officers are to be always free to visit the premises where the same are kept.
3.-This concession will be limited to certain special classes of publications, such as Stamp Dealers'

Catalogues, Books on Stamps, Stamp Albums, Articles in Newspapers, Periodicals, \&cc. Permission will not be giren, in any circumstances, for ordinary advertisement purposes.

I am at the same time to state that it must be understood that the Board reserve to themselves the full right to withdraw this concession in any case in which they may deem it necessary to do so.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant, T. N. CRAFER, Secretary.

## JAMAICA OFFICIAL.

The Old "Ffanking" Sybtem to be Restored.

BI- the kinduess of Messers. Turner and Co. we are enabled to inform our readers that the days of the stamps marked official are numbered.
The system of official stamps has been put to the test and found unsatisfactorg-it has been "weighed in the balance and found wanting." So it is to be nbolished.

Certain revelations have recently been made in connection with one of the public oftices in Kingston which proved that the existence of official stamps was a temptation to dishonesty on the part of the Civil servants of the colong. In fact, if rumour is to be believed, the system not only put temptation in the way of some young mon, but was the direct cause of the fall and ruin of ons in particular. And what is possible in one office is possible in all offices.

The result has been that the Government have reconsidered the question of postages, and they have decided to revert to the old system "franking" the letters, packages, de., which have to pass through the post office.

The new arrangcments came into force on the 1st of January, 1898, and the heads of the public departments have been advised accordingly.

Stamp collecters should, therefore, be on the qui vive. They should not allow a single stamp marked official to escape them. For after the 31st December no more of these stamps were used, and they will very speedily become rare and valuable.

## SOCIETY REPORTS.

## birmingham philatelic society.

Honorary President:-W. B. Averx, Ese. President:-W. T. Wrlson, Esq.
Vice-Presidents:-R. Hollick, Esq.; W. Pimm, Esq. Committee:-Mr. H. R. Bewlay; Mr. P. T. Dearin;

Mr. V. Lundeblad; Mr. T. W. Pece; Mr. C. A. Stepaenson; Mr. W. S. Vaughton.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:-Mr. G. Johnson. B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, BirmingLam.

December 16ih. Display. Linguay and Venezuela.
Messrs. H. Ferrior-Kerr, R. Dworzak, E. F. Marx, B. V. Jenkins, G. B. Seignoret, P. J. Painter, Dr. G. Braine-Hartnell, and Miss Lange were unanimously elected members.

Messrs. Wilsou and Johnson then showed the stamps of Uruguay and Venezucla.

Jantuary 6th, 1898. Paper. Hungary. Mr. G. Johinson.

The following were unanimously clected members:Messrs. J. N. Marsden, A. C. Pinto-Bastos, H. Beramendi, E. Stachle, Count A I. de Tscherniadieff, Major C. H. Johnson.

After tracing the history of Austria and Hungary down to 1871 he gave a short account of the stamps of the latter country, including a description of the various printings, papers, perfs., \&c

Perhaps the most interesting point touched upon was the watermark of the 1878 to 1897 issucs, on which all the chief authoritits differ. Scott's Advanced Catalogue saps it is KP in interlaced circle; 39 mm . in diameter, evidently following the carly editions of Moen's, but the latter has now altered it to KL. This is improved on by Kohl and by Messrs. Gibbons who say it is Kr . in interlaced circles, but this is scarcely correct, the watermark being kr. (both Jower case, sanserif) in interinced ellipses, the minor axes of which are 33 mm . and the major axes 39 mm . Resume.
Issue i., May 1, 1871.-Lithographed from transfers copied from dies prepared for second issue, plain white paper, perf. $9 \frac{1}{2}$, head of Emperor Francis Joseph to right on uncoloured circular ground under which is the crown of St. Stephen over the national arms. Six values, $2,3,5,10,15,25 \mathrm{kr}$. Engraved in recess, printed from steel

Issue ii., Aug. 1871, 2, 3, 5, 10
Aug. $181,2,3,15$
Oct. 15
Jan. 1872, 25 plates, plain wove paper, perf. 91. Reprints are on water. marked paper and pert
114 . (112.

Issue iii., Oct. 1, 1874, on unwatermarked paper.
April, 1878, "watermarked
An envelope with crown of Hungary above, post-horn below, laurel branches at sides, in a curve below Magyar Kir Posta.
Printed from steel plates, engraved in recess, perforated by a single line machine, the guage varies from $11 \frac{1}{2}$ to $13 \frac{1}{2}$ single and compound, 13 being commonest in the no watermark, and 11t in the watermarked.

On June 1st, 1887, the following values were added : $8,12,15,24,30,50 \mathrm{kr}$., and 1, 2, fl. Surface printed on
watermarked paper, with vortical coloured lines printod on it. Envelope smaller, inscription larger, namerals in different colour from rest of stamps

Newspaper Stamps, May 1st, 1871, mouth of posthorn to left ( 1 kr .) 1872, mouth of posthom to right ( 1 kr .)

June 1st, 1887, 1 kr. black, watermarked paper, has no vertical lines.

Newspaper Tax Stamps, Aug. 1st, 1868, 1 kr . blue, 2 kr . brown.

Suriace printed on paper, watermarked "Zeitungs Marken " in the shect, 1890 watermark " Kr "

Jan. 20th, 1898. Paper. United States. Mr. C. A. Stephenson.
Mr. R. R. Bogers was unanimously elected a member.

The whole of the evening was occupied in examining Mr. S. M. Castle's magnificent collection of unused U.S.A. in five large volumes, Messrs. Castle and Stephenson giving notes and commentaries on the various issues as the pages were turned over, instend of taking up time in reading the paper. A bearty vote of thanks was given Mr. Castle for the trouble be had taken in bringing his collection specially from London to show the members.

It was decided to purchase 25 of the cases used at the London Philatelic Exhibition to be used for exhibits bere.

Exchinge Packets. Another Record.
The packets in December were of very fine quality, although they only totalled to $£ 3,4392 \mathrm{~s}$. 8 hd . but they were largely comprised of fine sheets belonging to English, Colonial and Foreign members who are giving up certain countries in order to specialise in others. The same style of thing was continued in the January packets, which establish another record for Exchange Societies.

|  |  |  | 8 | s. d. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The A | ct was | ... | 1,543 | 9 12 |
| " ${ }^{\text {B }}$ |  | . | 1,816 | 23 |
| , C | " | . | 1,055 | 411 |
|  |  |  | 4,414 | 16 31 |

This is not only the highest amount ever circulated in any Society in exchange in England but it is by far the best value, and the splendid purchases made by the members who have already seen the packets fully testify to their appreciation of having such fine sbeets to select from. Very few of the stamps are at more than half catalogue (except the current unused) and many are below that; while the unused Colonials in A and B amount to more than half those packets, while C contains som 3 £600 worth of unused Europeans in mint condition.

The S. W. Lancashirn Exchange Society.This Saciety is slowly, but certainly, becoming the first of its kind in the North of England, embracing. as it does, every class of collector from the humble beginuer to the advanced specialist. The November packet was returned on December 29th and at once dissolved, each member being in possession of his sheet the next day. The sales were very considerably above the average, being about $20 \%$ on total amount. Tbe December packet, despite Christmas holidays, is well on its way, and from reports received also shows good sales. The January packet which went on circuit on January lat amounted to $£ 245$ ( 54 sheets), a furthor increase. There were twelve applicants for membership five of whom were accepted, two declined, the rest are still under consideration. All classes invited, beginuer, medium or advanced. Keferences, indispensable. Particulars, \&c., from secretary, Wm. Ditchficld, S E.P.S., 194, Dorning Street, Wigan

Subtrban Stamp Exchange Club.-July packets came back from their supplementary rounds on December 20th, and accounts were submitted for settlement with the least possible delay. The percentago of sales was above the average. December packets were made up and despatched on the 27th inst., the aggregate value of the sheets being £1,972 14s. 10d. Many rare stamps in good condition were priced reasonably, and will be snapped up; very common stamps are in little demand, and damaged varieties are worthless. Six new members have joined this month, and two resignations have been accepted. Non-contributors can see packets, but are always placed last on lists. Secretary, H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Albans, December 31st, 1897.

Bhitish African Stamp Exchange.-The January packet was despatched on 4 th in-t., and contained stamps to the value of just over £43 nett (not $50 \%$ discount), being an increase on the December packet of more than $£ 6$ nett. Credit balances for December were settled the day following return of packet, remittance being enclosed when members' shects were returned. This Club being aftiliated to the Stamp Exchange Protection Society only thoroughly reliable members are admitted. Rules, \&c., may be had on application to C. J. Endle, secretary, Kingsburgh Cottago, Boscombe, Hants.

Richmond Stamp Exchange Society. - With this month, January, 1898, this society starts the third year of its existence. The packet was made up on the 10th instant and contained the best contributions on record, being 52 sheets, value 8717 10s. Gd. Several rarities were shown; some good English, United States, and Colonials being amongst the number. The following have joined the society since the last report:-Messrs. R. C. West, R. C. F. Schomberg, Dr. Thos. W. N. Greene, F. O. Henderson, P. J. W.

Deverell, W. Snith (Nem Zealand), J. S. Lowden 3 F Easton, Griffiths \& Co, and Miss F. E Smith. lules post freo from R. Reid, Jun., 14, Parisfal Road, West Hampstead.

Brixton Stamp Exchange.-The Jamuary packet has been promptly despatchect. It amounted to $£ 83$, and consisted of 32 sheets. Several fresh names have been added during the past month, but there is still room for a few more reliable collectos. All desirous of joining are kindly requested to communicate as early as convenient to the Secretary-A. W. Tyrrell, 36, Barrington Road, Brizton, Londou.

The Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Socieity. The Aunual Gencral Meeting of this society was held oul Thursday evening, January Gth iust., when the following members were elected to be offieers for the present year:-President, MIr. J. P. Lloyd; VicePresident, Mr. F. E. Filison; Committec, Messrs. Bush, Broderip, Cartwright, Reynolds, Bird, and Heaven. Rule 2 was altered so that in future al members shall be annual subseribers of $5 /-$. but their subscription shall commence irom the first meeting in January, April. July or October, nearest to their election iustead of half-jearly as before. The subject chosen for the meeting on Jan. 20th was the "Stamps of the West Indies,' when also a programue of subjects for display and discussion during the year was submitted by the committec. The accounts for the past year were read and passod, and a vote of thanks was unanimously given for his past serviees to the re-clected Hou. Sec., Mr. R Delton, Mansloe, Carnarvon Road, Rediand, who will be happy to send copy oi rules, de., on application.

## NOTICES.

Stamp Exchange Shefts- -I're Philatelic Pub. lishing Co. have now a large stock of exchange sheets for stamp clubs. The new sheets are, like the old, on paper of the best and most suitable kind, and will undoubtedly maintain the deserved popularity which these sheets have enjoyed for so many years. Exchange secretaries can buy 500 and larger quantities at a reduced rate. For smaller supplies the prices are $2 /$-per $100,1 /$-per 50 , 7 d. per 25 , all post free from the Philatelic Publishing Co., Fentham Road, Mandswo:th, Birmingham.

Hinton's Hints on Stamp Collecting.-Over twelve months ago Mr. Linton published his "Lints on Stamp Collecting " - a useful A.B.C. of philately. The book bound in cluth costs $1 /-$, but Mr. Hinton has now issued a cheaper edition in stiff paper covers at $G$. The book is worthy of the attention of all for
its hints are of a most valualle character. (T. H. IInton, 5, Paulton's Square, Chelsca, or Lhilatelic Publishing Co. Clath $1 / \cdot$, l'uper Cd.)

Fisifer Titlen's Price List, - This firm has issued a new wholesale price list, which wilt bo sent free to all dealers.

Lemame's Caralogue. -The second edition of M. Semaire's catalogue is to hand-s book of nearly 700 pages. It is well illastrated and up-to-date, and lists all stamps issued betreen the jear 1840 and Jicember 30th, 1897. Tho price is 2 franes, post free (18), and it is we? worth the mones. ('Th. Jemaire, 30, Rue de Provence, Paris, Ftance.)

The Mefita P'blatelic Cinonicte and Advertiser has done us the honour of using our own tithe. The first number is of good quality and every promise of improvement is held out. A specimen copy wili be sent upon application to A. Muscal, 270, Strada licale, Mata.

PIHA.ATEIAC FR.MCDS.

CNITLOS STATES.-10c. Newspaper Stamp of 1865. - Wibhin the last fers days a fiuely centred copy of the above-named stamp has come to hand.

The only thing that aturacted attention to the stamp and showed lint something was noi right was it b!urred and indistinct appearance.

The main features are correct. The fine lacework surrounding the central medallion is poor; the lines are b'otehy and seem to bo full of knots, quite different from the fine sharp lines shown by the originals. The details of the head in the medalion, so clearly brought out in the originals, are almost entirely lost; there are a number of white spots specially at the top of the head that do not appear in thic original.

The lines of the background of the medallion, as well as those of the panel containing the words "newspaners" and "perio icals,", are rough and blurred, while in the genuine they are clear and sharp,

The inscription below, "Scc. 38. Act of Congress," etc., mad also the imprint, are from three-fourths to one mm . too short.

This led to measuring the entire stamp at the fine hair line forming the outer border; the counterfeit proved to be one and one-half mm. shorter and one mm . narrower than the gennine.

The colour approaches that of the pelure paper 10e, but is a lititle more yellowish green.

Altogether it is a dangerous countericit and will readily puss muster among collectors in general that are not fortudaty erough to possess a genuine copy for comparision.

DEALERS! You Should Use the "nomirivir" Appoual hetels.
Ruled to hold 60 Stamps, with full instructions on Front page. Printed on good strong paper. They are the first, best, and cheapest sheets on the market. Many thousands sold. Repeat orders the rule. Give every sat staction. Sample Sheet Post Free. 7th Edition now Ready. 25 for 6A. ; 50 for 11d.; 100 for $1 / 6 ; 250$ for $3 / 6$. The "Monteifh" Approval Book is ruled to hold 120 Stamps bound in coloured cover, with full instractions 12 for 8d.; 25 $13 ; 50,2 / 9 ; 100,4 /$. Ssmple Book for 1d. stamp. Both Sheets and Books carriage paid.
E. MONTEITH \& Co. Philatelic Publishers, Forester Street, Derby.

M
We PRINT and ClRCULATE Price-Lists, etc., for Dealers, and Save 75\% of Postage. The Publishers of the P.C. \& A, and Advertiser will sond out 1,000 oirculars to Philatelists with The Advertiser for 10/- To post 1,000 oirculars costs \&2 18. 8d. We save you

> El 11: 8d.

ALL KINDE OF PRINTING EXECUTED.
E8TINATEE F袢ER.

## W.George's Bargains.

TASMANIR, 1858, 1d., fine .. .. .. 65/" $\quad$ 4d. yellow, cut on orig... $5 /-$
 $\because \quad$ " $"$ 2d., fine .. .. 10 :" $\quad$ " 2d., $v$ fair .. .. 7/6 " $\quad$ " 4d... .. .. $1 / 6$ " $\quad$ 8888. no wmk., 1d. ... .. $85^{\prime}$ " $\quad$. $\quad$ 2d. .. .. 25/" $\quad$ " $\quad$ " $4 d . \quad . \quad . \quad 2 / 3$ " 1858, imp., 1 - pair..$\quad \cdots$ 6/-

 $" \quad$ 1891, $\frac{\text { d }}{2} \alpha$. orange, pair $\quad . . \quad 40 \%$ -
All Coode semt on approval againet Cash enify.
Send Want Lists in Tasmania. New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, de., and I will price it for the Stamps I can supply.
W. CEORGE,

Roland Road, Fandsporth, Bipmingham.

## TO DEALERS AMD OTHERS.

We oan eell good stamps when prices are right. We received an approval book from Mr. W. Becktold (St Louis), valued at $\$ 100 \cdot 38$ with $75 \%$ discount and sold all immediataly. We could bave sold 100 times the amount to the same customes if we had had them. We are making satisfactory sales for several large dealers, and as we can handle a much greater number we invite dealers, who ean supply desirable stamps at laast $50 \%$ below catalogue, to send us selections on approval. If you cannot allow at least $60 \%$ discount it would auit us better to first have a list with prices. We prefer that no name appears on the selections as we wish to circulate them. Common or undesirable stamps not wanted at any p:ice. We have a good sale for novelties and high values, especially in seta. If ex, change will be accepted we will send wholesale parcels at LOXI prices upon receipt of your stamps. We can supply the 1c Unpaid surcharged "Franqueo" (Deo. 1897) at $\$ 1.50$ per 100. We are seeking direct supplies from stemp-issuing countries, and offer several times face value for limited provisionals, \&o. Consignments so'icited from parties in such countries, especially the British Colonies. Canh by peturn rithout fail.
FILLIAms at CO., Casilla 989, Lima, Peru.

is nothing to the Bargains yon will find in our New Price List. It contains quotations of Thousands of Stamps for Sale by us, each priced separately, and may prove a little Gold Mine to you. No Pancy Pricet. A comparison with any Catalogue will show you. A copy sent Free with pleasure.

ARTHUR MONTEITH \& CO., Esfablished 1885.

Foremter B'reet, Dens.

## NOTICE TO DEALERS \& COLLECTORS !

THE

## International $\operatorname{stamp}$ Excbange

affords a splendid means for selling and exchanging better class stamp on the most adrantageous terms. Write for partioulars. We want the name of overy active collector and dealer, to place on our mailing list.. Offers and Price Liste of Rare and Modium Stamps requested.

## YILLIAMS © O.,

Publiahers of the Peruvian Specialiats' Album ac Catalogue,


In answaring Adrertisements please mention " Philatalic Chronicle and Advertiser.*

Deverell, W. Sunith (New Zonland), J. S. Lowhen MWiaston, Guiliths © Co. and Nise F , \& Smilh. Rules post freo from R. Jeiri, Jun., i1, Parisfal lioad, West Hampstend.

Roxtos Stimp Fichantid:-The famary packet has been promptly despatcien. It amoment to eses, and consisted of $3 \pm$ sheets, Several fuesh names have beenadded during the mast momil, but thene is still room for a few more reliable collectos. All desirous of joining are bindtreduested to commanicate as enrly as conveniont to the Secmetary A. W. Tyrell, An, Parrington liond, Briston, London.
 The Ammal Genemb Heeting of this society was hed on "hansday evening, dannary fith inst. When the following members were elected to bo of"wers for the present year:-President. Mr. J. L. Lhoyd: Vis:President, Mr. F. F. Jeilison: Committere, Messrs. Buah, Broderip, Gartweight, Jeynohls. Bivd, and Heaven. Rule 2 was altered so that in futame al mombers shall lec armual audseribers of aj- ibut their subacription shath commence from the fist henting in Jamuary, April. July or tetoher, nearest to their clection itastead of linlf.genely as before. The subject chosen for the mocting on Jan. Quth wns the " Stamps of the West indies, when alas, a prosemmat: of subjects for disptay and dischasion daring the year was subisitted by the committec. The aceounts for the past year were rad and passed, and a vote of thanks wat umpinously given for his past scruices to the se-tected Hon. Sec., Mr. IS Delton, Samalee, Camarron Road, Rediand, who wili ba happy to send copy of rules, de., on application.

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its hinds are of most valuable character, if. H. LLintor, 5 , l'anton's Square, Chelsca, or Dhitutelie Publishing (6. Cloth 1/- Laper Gd.)

Fisurn Theme's Emai Jhot. - This limm has iesacd a hew wheisale price bet, which will be seat free to mil dealers.
 Temaire's catalcste is to hamb-u book of weary Fo0 rages it is wel! abstrited and up-to-date, and lists ati stmus inobed betwon the yoar 18 an and
 free (18), and it is wei worth the mones. iTh


 The diat atmber is of good pratily and ever promato of imporement is hes whe a fpormen rop wili
 livele, Mata.
 3whe- Withit: the last few days a hacly contred cope: of the abovemamed stmon ins come to hath.
 abd liawe that something was no risht was a blures and indistine: apy:atance.

The main jeabures are corred. Thir fine lacework sumrounding the central medalion is poor: the lines are botehy and secm to be fall of knots, guite differe:t from the tine shatp lines shown oy the arigimat. The detnils of the lead in the mednilion, so elearly hrought cut in lie orisimals, are almost cntirely lost: thereare a mable of white spots specially at the top of the herd that do not apere in the original.

The line: of the backeround of the medation, a: well as those of the pund eontaining the word, "newspapers" pud " E rio iets," aro ratgh nad thurred, white in the grname they are clentand sharp.

The insription belon. "Sec. 33. Aet of Congress," etre, nati aiso the imprint, ate from tarec-fourths in one nme. two short.

This !ed :o measuring the entire stanup it the fine hair line farming the water horder: the counterfeit
 man. natrower that the wembe.

The colour appecthes, that of the pelure phere 10: bat is a liftie more yellowjol steen.

Altogether it is is ditagerens comatericit and will readily pass buster abiong colle etors in general that are not forturate elongh to presess a gemuine ropy for comparision.

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## February 26 the, 1898.

## CONTENTS.



The Philatelic Chronicle is sent to all the members of the Birmingham Philatellc gociety and midland Counties Stamp Exohange, being the Official Journal of thesa Soclaties.

T"IE question of prices seems to he the paramount matter for consideration among collectors at this moment. Beforetime we have expressed our own opinion upon the untrustworthiness of catalogue figutes-yet collectors place confidence in them-with reservations-and there is reason for doing so In the stamp world the real value of the item is not a consideration at all-in fact stamps have absolutely no intrinsic value whatever singly-by the ton they may have worth as waste paper. What makes the prices of stamps is the relative desire of people to possess them coupled with the actual supply available to meet this demand. No matter how rare a stamp is, if there is no demand for it then it is worth. less. For this reason anction prices are worse than useless. . I stamp is put up for sale before a few people, not one of whom, perhaps, feels any interest in the stamp, and the apparent demand is mil. If one can secure it at a bargain price le will have it, if not he will let it go to anyone who bids a shilling higher.

Then, again, we have it on the statement of a leading London dealer that some of the principal buyers have an understanding among themselves in which they accommodate one another by not competing in the bidding-another proof that auction prices are no criterion -at any rate where this state of things holds good. Provincial auctions may be fairer to the seller. As a case in point we would say on our own knowledge that stamps to the catalogue value of, roughly, a hundred pounds were put up for auction in

London within the last six weeks and brought some $\notin$ I 5 gross, or under $£ 13$ when commission was deducted. True, several of the stamps were not first-class, but half-a-dozen unused and rare mint condition stamps among them alone were worth $£ 20$ of anyone's money.

Auction prices are of no value ; catalogue prices are reliable to a certain extent, for the men who make catalogues are practical men. They do not pretend to put the value of their goods but they give the prices at which they are willing to sell them They are quite justified in doing this and, if they get the prices they ask, are doing perfectly legitimate business. Yet it does not follow that everyone is compelled to buy from them and at these prices. Suppose one man offers a set of English plate numbers at some $£ 3$. Another man offers the same article neatly mounted at $2 / 6$ Both are acting quite fairly in the matter. The one man cannot afford to sell at less than $\mathscr{L}_{3}$ and he gets the profit necessary to him. Possibly he has to keep up a big office, pay a lot of assistants, publish a journal devoted to his own particular trade, and have other big expenses which do do not affect the other man in the leastbesides he has to keep up a position both socially and in business, and must get a bigger profit-and yet he benefits no more, actually, by selling his $£ 3$ article than the other man does by selling his $2 / 6$ one-still it means $\mathscr{E}^{1}$ 17s. 6d. to the purchaser.

It is like the bicycle trade. The best bicycle possible to be made, if one does without jewelled bearings and gold plate, does not contain five pounds' worth of material, and yet the purchaser is asked to pay $f 20$ or more if he wants a well-known name upon it. Half this sum represents adver-
tising and extra expenses which are unknown to the man who sells the same machine, aye, and makes a good profit, at $E_{8}^{8}$ or $\notin$ io. But to return to stamps We speak only for the collectors' benefit. To put the matter in a nutshell, he must buy his stamps from the people who have not these big extras to meet, but he must use the catalogues as a guide. To what extent he may trust their accuracy in valuing is a matter for his own considera. tion Suppose he considers half the catalogue quotations as fair prices for high-priced stamps and one-third or one-quarter for lower priced articles then he is not a long way out.

One advertiser in the Chronicle offers all his stamps at half catalogue or less, and the pages of the Advertiser reveal numbers of men who make huge reductions from cata. logue prices. They can well afford to do so, for their expenses are nothing compared with those of the large firms, that have to maintain a big office and carry on a journal for the advertisement of their own wares at a cost of hundreds of pounds a year. When every. thing has been said, the most advantageous way of buying stamps is through exchange clubs. You see the article before you for your approval, and you get it at a price with which dealers could hardly compete for, as a rule, 50 per cent is taken off in these societies, and even then very many stamps are offered at prices far below catalogue.

It is necessary to get a reliable club and an old-established one offers the most possibilities in this direction. The P.C. \& $A$. is official journal for two of the best and most flourishing exchanges in the country-Tris Birmingham Philatelic Society and the Midland Counties Stamp Exchange, and these two are a type of the societies which the collector must join if he desires to save
a large proportion of his expenditure on stamps. In clubs of this nature many dealers send stamps of a high class for the choice of the members, and several hundred pounds worth is sometimes placed before a member at one time-an assortment which few dealers would be able to send out on approval in a single lot.

To conclude: the question of prices is of little importance to the collector for he has the opportunity of buying his stamps at a reasonable figure if he goes the right way about it. To purchase from the largest dealers is a ruinous method. Auctions are practically barred to the collector-at any rate metropolitan ones, for they are so controlled, as a rule, that the bargains go to the people on the spot, while the man outside has to pay full price for a good article. There remains the less expensive class of dealersthese are the ones to support--the men who publish a price list once a year, circulate it economically, and are satisfied with a reason able expenditure in advertising. Failiag these, join an exchange club for this has every advantage-but join a good one.

## CHRONICLE.

R ORNEO.-The following values of the new issues have been surcharged " postage dez."
P.D. 1c. black, bistro and black

2c. ", carmine.
3c. ", mave and olive.
$5 \mathrm{c} . \quad$, vermilion and black.
6c. $"$ olivo-brown.
8c. ", mauve
12c. " blue.
CANADA.-The following of the new issues bave, or will, shortly appear:-
ic. bluish-green.
8c. orange.
COLUMBIA.- Panama. The M.J. notes the 10c. surcharged in three lines, "A.K."-_" COLON ""COLUMBIA," and the Collectionnear the same stamp surcharge " $R$ "-" COLON " in a circle. The
first as a Return Receipt Stamp, the second presumably as a Registration Stamp.
R. 10c. black and orange.
R.R. 10c. black and orange.

DENMARK.-Icelend. The 5a. was issued on November 1st last, surcharge "prit" in black and " 3 " in red. 86 sheete of 100 were surcharged thus, and on November 3 rd 60 more sheets were surcharged without the figure 3. There are two varieties of the word "prir" on each sheet, there being 60 stamps with the word larger than on the other 40.
$3 \ddot{a}$ in black and red on $5 \ddot{\text { ä green, } 2} 2$ varieties
3 ia in black on 5ii green, 2 varieties.
ECUADOR.-According to Der Philatelist the 1896 issue were surcharged " $1897-98$ " in the province of Chimborazo.

> 2c. red, surcharge in black. 20 c . orange.

FRINCE.-Dahomey ei Dépendances. A sct of stamps, onvelopes, \&c., of the usual Colonial type is to be issued here.

HOLLAND.-Suriname. Two more values of we Postage Due have appeared. The shaets contain 14 stamps of type i., 1 of type ii., and 85 of type iii.
P.I). elac. lilac and black, 3 types.
$25 c$. "
MAURITIUS. -The lc. has apperred of the uen type, and the M.J. notes the following varieties in the colour of the stamp of the Registration linvelopes. 1c. lilac and blue.
NEW SOCTH WALES.-We have seen copies of the nowly-issued $2 d$. it ultramarine, and are informed that the change is due to the postmark not showing well on the dark blue.

2d. ultramaribe.
SALVADOK.-The current stamps have been sur. charged for Official use as former i,sue with illustration No. 82 in Gibbuns.


SARAWAK. - We have received two more values of the curreut type.

> 16c. green; value orange
> 32c. ", $\quad$ black.

SIERRA LEONE. - The liecord notes of the new design.

4d. lilac, name and value carmine.
VICTOIAIA.-The following is from the M.J.:-
1857. 1d. grsev, emblems, wmk. star imperf., im. pression on botlo sides.

Mr. Ditchfield has eent us the $1 \frac{1}{2}$ d. green, latoly issued. We are informed that the stamp was only in use a couple of months in this colour and is now changed.

$$
1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d} \text {. green. }
$$

[JITED STATES.- Mr. Roger Wilson informs us that the postage due stamp is likely to become a reminiscence. The bill requiring full payment ou all first-class matter will probably become a law by the end of the present fiscal year.

We have received several lots of the new one cent. stamp in bright green.

1c. green, same trpe.
Postcards, \&c.
ALSTRIA.-The postcards have been modified, the word "Correspondenz" having a longs instead of the usual English shorts.
P.C. 2k. brown on buff, for Austrian, Bohemian

Polish, Illyrian, Italian, Roumanian, Ruthebian, and Slavonic offices.
$2+2 k$. brown on buff, for Austrian, Bohemian and Polish offices.
BAVARIA. - A letter card has been issued of a similar type to the German with a stamp like that on the postal cards.
L. C. 10 pfennig, carmine on grey.

CHINA.-A postal card was issued at the same time as the netw set of stamps. It resembles somewhat the current Japanese 1 sen, and like it, bears an oval stamp in the upper left corner and has just below, an inscription composed of five characters in a single column. In the lower left-hand corner are two columns of characters.

1 cent, carmine on light buff.
FRdNCE.-The 25 centimes letter card now has the additional inseription Republique lirancaise.
L. C. 25 centimes, black on rose.
(iREECE-The inland card is now printed in bright Prussian blue on highly glazed thin manilla cord.

10 lepta, bright Prussian blue on manilla.
ITALY, - M. Noens has received the double $7 \frac{1}{2}$ cent card with the oval stamp.
$7 \frac{1}{2} \times 7 \mathrm{l}$ c carmine.
NEW SOITH WALES. -The reply card is now in use with the new type of stamp.
$1 \times 1$ penny, carmine.
ORANGE FREE STATE. - It is reported that reply cards are soon to be issued.

PERC.-Messrs. Williams and Co., Casilla 989, Lima, Peru, have sent us varieties of the new cards issued on December 31st, 1897. There are mine varieties surcharged on the old 5 c . with the exception of the 3 and 4 c . cards, and the stamp on the right
hand upper corner shows a view of the new post office. Of the $1 \mathrm{c} ., 2 \mathrm{c}$., and $5 \mathrm{c} .1,000,000$ each were issued, and thoy are a regular issue.

| 1c. green | 3c. red-brown |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1c. red | $3+3 \mathrm{c}$. red-brown |
| 2c. orange | 4 c. black |
| 2c. blue | $4+4 \mathrm{c}$. black |
| 2+2c. blue |  |

SAMOA.-In the fresh printing that has taken place lately, 24 d . is again rose, and the 6d. is more of a maroon shade.

SWRVIn.-Mr. Lolimeyer has discovered that there are two distinct varieties of the inland cards of 1893 (Scott 189).
The first printing of them is in geliow green, $143 \times 93 \mathrm{~mm}$., inscription $65 \frac{\mathrm{t}}{\mathrm{m} m \text {., instruction at }}$ left 23 mm . and ending below first address line.

The other is in cmerald green $140 \frac{1}{2} \times 90 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}$. The measurements are respectively 67 mm . and 24 mm , and the instructions end a little above the first address line.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.-A correspondent of the Australian Philatelist reports the fact that there are two varietics of $O$. S. card of 1883. The first has the surcharge in ordinary block type white the latter has it in a very large heavy type.

1 penny, reddish lilac on buff.
1 penus, decp purple on cream.
TASMANIA.-Mr. Basset Hull says that the Government have prepared some very handsome envelopes of the value of 2 d , and 2 2d The stamps are of the current adhesive type. There are on the address side views of Tasmanian scenery, from drawings by Mr. D. Warry. Six designs appear on the $2 d$. and six outhers on the 2ld. The views are in bleck.
E. 2d. green, on white laid, size $142 \times 80 \mathrm{~mm}$.

2dd. magentak
UNITED STATES. - Mr. Roger Wilson has received through the mail the 1 c . envelope, current type, white paper with stamp in very dark blue-, exact colour of 5 c . cuvelope - apparently an " error."

Mr. Herm. Gremmell has sent us a new type of le. card.

WURTEMBLRG.-The official card now appears without the inscription Wohnung (Strasse and Hausnummer.)

5 pteunig, green.
ZANZIBAR.-( Firench Offices) Some of the French cards now bear a three tine surcharge of //anzibar and the value in Indian currency in blue. The double I card is without the Republique Francaise heading.

1 amna on 10 c . black on greenish.
$1 \times 1$ amna on $10 \times 10 \mathrm{c}$. black on blue (T. 3.)
L.C. 4 annas on 25 c. black on rose.

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

ITOLD you about one gentleman a month ago who was celling at about 150 per cent. under catalogue or less ( $N . B$ the above is a joke), and this week I have come across another of these philanthropic philatelists (copyright) in Mr. J. Parker, of 32, Breckfield Road, N., Liverpcol. He sent me a nicelymounted sheet of plate numbers, 150 in all, good clean copies and he offers them for $2 / 6$--two shillings and sixpence, post free- 150 English penny red plate numbers-the complete series bar No. 225 . I natice that Stanley Gibbons catalogue No. 132 at $3 / 6$ and No. 153 at $3 /$ - with several at $1 /$ - or thereabouts. Mr. Parker's announcement says that the chance may never occur again. I'hat's very likely-so buy a set now everyone-but what price "catalogue prices" now?

$$
* *
$$

1 cannot say whether the following is a joke, but ${ }^{1}$ quote it intact from an Americ.n contemporary-likely enough it is serious:-
"Dr. Potts, who recently started for the Klondike, writes that he will shortly issue a set of Alaskan locals face value, $\frac{1}{2} c$. to $\$ 100$. They will be sold only in complete sets, total value of a set $\$ 479 \cdot 83$ less $2 \%$ for cash on order of 10 sets.
"He continues: "The designs havo not yet been decided, but will be chaste and striklog [especially striking, I should say!. The $\$ 100$ value will represent your humble servant throwing nuggets to tho birds, and all values will portray scenes characteristic of Alaska, such as grizzly hears, icicles, baked beans, \&c.
"In vien of the fact that the first issue will be limited, and surcharges and changes of colour probably necessary I would advise all desiring cets to order at once.'"


The " Irish Philatelist" which was announced from Dublin will not beissued, owing to several unexpected checks which have been received by the promoters.

We are distributing with the Chronicle and Adeortiser 3,000 of Messrs. Errington and Martin's abridged wholesale and retail price list- the 1898 edition. This is the neatest and most interesting list I have seen this year, bir none. It is most tastefully arranged and everything is at a moderate price. For sets of stamps the E. and M. cheap sets will take a lot of beating, for Messrs. Errington and Martin do not spond huge sums in useless expenses and can therofore do justice to their customers, and all who receive the abridged list should send for the larger one and see what further bargain lines are offered. We cannot send a copy to all our supporters, but Messrs. E. and M. will forward one on application with the utmost pleasure.

Tottenham, which was once looked upon as London's most philatelic suburb, is losing its stamp dealers one by one. The next one to go will be Mr. Walter Morley, who, on after March 20th, will bo found at 15, Brownhill Gardens, Hither Green, S.E. Mr. Morley is now going in for telegraphs and fiscals, bot and strong, and believes that there is a big future for them.

The Sub-Committee of the I'hilatelic Society, London, have specially considered the question of the proposed issue of stamps in connection with the Jubilee Free Public Library at Otago, New Zealand, and are of opinion that these stamps are undoubtedly of a speculative nature and they would advise all amateurs to have nothing whatever to do with them.
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I am sorry to hear that the Philatelic Society of Victoria has had the misfortune to lose their valuable library of Philatelic works in the recent fire in Melbourne.

## NEWFOCNDLAND'S FIRST <br> PROMISIONAL.

FOR the first time in the forty scars of its existence Newfoundland's post-oftice had occasion to surcharge stamps. The cause of this was the exlaustion of the le. stamps of the Cabot issue in October last, and although a new set had been ordered from the Americas Bank-Note Company some time ago, no supply of this value could be obtsined to obviate the deficiency.

Recourse was therefore had to surcharging another value, and the one chosen was the 3 c . talue of 1890 (head of Queen Victoria to left). Some 400 shects of 100 stampe were accordingly surcharged with the words "ONE CENT" in one line between two horizontal bars. The bars are 18 mm . apart and 2 mm . wide, crossing the figures of the o!d value. The letters of the surcharge are to be found in three positions: -

Elaborate preparations had been taken by the Postmaster to avoid a great rush by speculators, the principal being that no more than five specimens could be sold to any applicant, but in spite of this so many buyers appeared that it was feared the whole provisional issue of 40,000 would be exhausted before a supply of new le. stamps could arrive. The sale was therefore peremptorily stopped, and only circulars and newspapers for abroad were accepted and had to be paid for in cash, the officials affixing the stamps.

Thanks to these measures no other values had to bo surcharged.

As we have said before, 400 sheets only are said to bave been surcharged. Each sheet containing 100 stamps in 10 rows of 10 was cut into two horizontally, it is said, to facilitate the printing.

The relative value of each variely cau easily be seen from the following diagram:-

| I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| II. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. |
| I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. | I. |
| II. | II. | II. | II. | II. | II. | II. | II. | III. III. |  |

Of the III Type, therefore, only 1,600 specimens exist, and of the II. only 6,400 , the rest being 32,000 .

In addition to this, two distinct shades exist in the surcharged stamps, one more greyish, the other more lilac. -P.J.G.B.

## NOTES ON ENGLISH STAMPS.

By W. S. Wrub.

ONE PENNY BLACK.

OUR uldest philatelic acquaintance is still fairly pleutiful, and is now, as always, a highly collectable starnp. There is au appreciable upward tendency in value, especially of fine specinens, due, no doubt, to modern specialism requiring quantities for the reconstruction of sheets. ithe shade hunter cau here exercise his highly-developed perceptions, for some copies may be found of a decidedly " lighter black " than others. Thase collectors, too, who study postmarks find that more than oue type of the "Maltese ctoss" cancellation exists, und it may certainly be had in a nice range of colouring. I have lataly seen an accidenta: variety in the printing of the stamp itself, in which the upper portion of the foremost cross of the diadem is a pparently broken off; any way only the stump of it is there.

> "I.R. OFFICIAL."

Recenty-used penny stamps with this surcherge show that the overprint is considerably thicker than formerly was the case, it being now almost as heavy as that on the 2\%d. "Army Official." Two previous stages have been noted, so there are now three grades of thiekness to be found.

## EARLY THREE-HALFPENAS ENYELOPES.

Various catalogues have given the information that the 1 d. lilec-rose adhesive was propared for uso in 1860 , and that a large aupply was printed and distributed to post offices but never issued to tho public, and subsequently nearly all destroyed. It appears that in the same year the die for an embossed postage stamp of the same value was prepared, and that impressions
were taken from it Two copies have come to hand, both dated 2-4-60 (Die No. 1, w.w.) on white laid paper, and overprinted specimes. The colour is rose-pink, of a somewhat fuller shade than the one penny of about same dato, and decidediy darker than any of the pink $1 \frac{1}{2} d$. envelopes of 10 or 12 years later. I have somewhero heard a rumour that an ofticial issue of this value was proposed to be sold through the post office, and having the pink seal on the flap after the style of the penny. If this was so, very probably the cut specimens I have found came from the advance specimens of these onvelopes, which were evidently never issued, for the same reason that the $1 \frac{1}{d}$ adbesive was abandoned at that time, viz.:-a postponement of contemplated alterations in postal rates. I should like to hear from anyone who possesses or may have seen an entire $1 \frac{1}{2} d$. envelope dated 1860.

## envelopes with firms' inmes.

The stamps surrounded by a ring of colour bearing the name and address of the firm to whom they were supplied have some philatelic interest as varieties, 45 these additions,--serving the double purpo:e of advertisement and the prevention of theit-were printed with the stamps at Somersct House. But care should be exercised not to admit to your collections those home-made frames which any colour printer can add riter the stamps are in the liands of the public. The governmeut-printed rings wore necessarily of the same colours as the various values of stamps, and were of uniform and neat design, whereas the privatelyexecuted embellisbments oiten arc fanciful in design, and exhibit striking contrasts in oolour. I believe this system is now obsolete as regards official productions, though Messrs. W. H. Smith \& Son have had the riugs on their wrappers since the 1d. stamp has been undated. This firm was ainong the first to avail themsel ecs of the arraggement, which originated about 1857. The very carliest goverument-printed rings bore the iuseriftions in a smaller type than was afterwards permauently adopted.

> the "k" variety.

Mr. Joynt, of Dublin, kindly writes explaining the reason fur the circle round K on the $1 /$ - of 1862. He says:-" When striking in the letter the circular edge of the punch used touched the plate and left its mark upon it"

## NEIV U.SA. ISSUE.

THE first shipment of green 1c. stamps was made on Thursday, January 20th, of which New York City received a large share. The supply of blues was exhausted sooner than expected, owing to the extraordinary large requisitions from various sections of the country. This has been unequalled in any previous jear, which should surely be a sign of in-
creased prosperity. The colour is lighter than that of the 10c., however, not sufficiently distinct for both shades to remain current, and the department is now contemplating a change of colour with the latter. What this will be is not yet known.

The new 5c. has finaily been decided upon, and is simply a change in colour from brown to blue. The shade of this is slightly Jighter than tho current issue of 1 c . At the beginning of the year the supply on hand was $5,000,000$, but the unexpectedly large requisitions reduced the supply to $1,000,000$ during the last week, which necessitated an additional printing on Friday. The samo old plates were used, which will give us ono or two sety in brown as well as blue.

## NEW ISSUES AND ERRORS OF QUEENSLAND STAMPS

THOROUGH collectors of the above will no doubt agree with me that they are in a certain measure the most vexatious to collect, owing to the perplexing varieties in shades, printing, and papers. Doubts confront one at the verg beginaing, for it has not yet been definitely settled that the $1 /$-imperforate of 1860 does not exist. However, apart from this, the issues printed in the colony have led to such vagaries on the part of the official in charge of the engraving department and the one in charge of the friating inks, that the collector often feels inclined to use words not used in the dictionary, and occasionally wish to bave these officials' heads within comfortable punching distance.
To describe the variuus shades used in all values up to $1_{i}$ - would maise the catalogues not only too lengthy but bewildering to the collector; but there are one or two decided ones that have not yet been catalogued. I refer to the "truncated star" series of 1868 . The 1 - was issued in greyish-green and a kind of soiled light green, whist there is a decided shade of olivegreen 3d., same series. I have also discovered a rosy red 1d. of that series.

In Stanley Gibbons \& Co.'s Catalogue (1897) of British Colonial stamps they quote a 1!- (No 82) bright velvet, "no watermark"; also a $1 /$ - (No. 83) red violet, "no watermark, burele band at back in lilac." These stamps are identical, as in most cases the burele has almost entirely disappeared, and in the best is not so clear as that on the fd and 2d. of 1879 . Again, the shades used for the latter two are very distinct, and not seen in other issues of the same stamp. As regards the error 1d. yellow - I have never seen a satisfactors specimen of the 1879 issuc, but a fure error was perpetrated with the 1d., 1882 type; but without "stop" on the thick unwatermarised paper (no buréle). A sheet printed in a dull dark gellow escaped the not-very-lynx-eyed official, and went into cjrculation. Cnly a few are known. The
next error was the same 1d. on crown and $Q$ paper ; colour reddish-brown. This, as I was informed by the official best informed on the subjact pas due to a new mixture of scarlet, which on exposure to the air after being printed turned that colour. Only a few copies of this are in existence.

A more recent error is the 1d. 1895. printed in orange-yellow on unwatermarked paper. This curious error, of which I have a postmarked pair, was due to a proof sheet having got mixed with the lot and sent away in the interior, where the error was discovored. Having been puzzled for some time by these conundrums in shades, and well aware what alterations in shades could be made from aniline inks by speculating collectors, I interviewed the head of the Postal Department, and learned that the mixer of colours had a peculiar tendency to experimenting in shades, and his manipulations did not always result in the desired effect. Another official, who was a wee bit inconsistent, was the engraver of stamps. But in every case where the colour of the vermilion or redshaded 1d. was sought to be altered, it tinged the paper, and this collectrers will duly note.

Another crror that cropt in some jears ago was when, amongst a supply of id envelopes printed especially for the Mount Morgan Gold Mining Company, a few packets were found with the 1d. printed in orange-yellow and a fow in ross-pink. How these errors crept in no one has yet found out. It may not bo generally known that the Governmert does not issue stamped envelopes, and only by special request printed some for B. D. Morehead \& Co., Brisbane, and the above-mentioned company.

The Department has decided ou, and approved of, the following alterations of stamps :-

2 id., present issue to be printed in violet-brown.
3d, same design as 1d. (1897), with figures in cach corner, colour medium brown.
4d., same as $8 d$, co'our orange-yellow.
Cd., same as $4 d$., colour green, as used in last issue.

I ho $1 /$ - will also he issuad shortly of the same design and in eame colour as at present.
It is contemplated to alter the colour of the 2 ;-red-brown, as it was often mistaken for the 3d. of the same issue. All etamps will have the white background.

## SOCIETY REPORTS.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES STAMP EXCHANGE

(Established 1886).
Hon. Secretary:-W. G. Walton, Fentham Road, Birmingham.

CTHE February packets aro a valuable lot, each branch boing well supported. The following new mombers are proposed :-Mrs. Hodges
(Newark), A. F. Gabeldu (Jersey), W. Gilbert (St Leonard's), W. J. Pcith (Penzance), C. S. Turner (Salterton), Mrs. Nitchell (Pitlochry), J. Reay (Belfast), G N. Thorp (Cardif). The October sheets have been returaed, all accounts due to members paid and most of those due from members have been received. The November sleets, accounts and payments will be sent out in a day or two. Members who wish to propose friends are requested to send in names, and all good collectors are invited to join. By the rules there is no subscription due until July, and any lady or gentleman joining now has this time in which to judge the suitability of the club. Good references are indispensable. The subseription is $2 /$ per annum, but as the Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser is sent free to all members whose subscriptions are not in arrear it is practically reduced to $6 \bar{d}$ per annum. There are vacancies for one or two good sellers. Prompt monthly settlements both sides. kules, \&c., from the Secretary.

British African Stanp Exchange, - The February packet was despatched on the 2nd inst. nnd contained stamps (African and otherwise) to the value of $£ 3219 \mathrm{~s}, 4$ d. nett. The Janun:y packet returned January 20th, and cash due to members was paid out by the 21 st, when shects were raturned to owners. (There is no waiting in this club.) Although barely in its third montl of operntion stamps to the value of more than \& 112 nell (NOT $50 \%$ discount) have already been circulated, and the membership has doubled within the last four weeks. Only absolutely reliabic members are admitted. Rules and particulars sent on rece int of postage by the secretary, Chas. J. Endle. S. E P.S., Kingsburgh Cottage, Boscombe, Hants.

Sublrban Stamp Exchange Ciub.-Two "a" and two " $B$ " packets were made up and despatched on the January eiresit; the sheets, which were valued in the aggregate at $£ 1,021.12 \mathrm{~s}$. 4 d ., contained many rare and perfect specimens at reasonable prices. English and Scandinavians were specially well represcoted. August packets duly came back from their supplementary rounds, and accounts for that month were promptly settled. As the Secretary has resolved not to avail Limself of the privilege of first pick, for the future members at the top of the list will be more favourably situated. During the past month seven applications for membership have been accepted, and six declined from various causes. For copie; oi rules and full information as to working of the Club apply to the secretary, H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Albans.

The S.W. Lancashire Stanp Exchange Society. The Febraary packet again shews a further increase, both in members and value. There has leen four names added to the list, thus bringing the total of members to 57 ; and as there are several applications
in, the three-score will be passed by the time the March packet goes on circuit. There are now several foreign contributing members, thus inereasing the variety of stamps sent, as was the case last month, Europeans, South Africaus, British and British Colonials being in abundance and cheap, as is evidenced by the greatly increased sales. Intending members should apply to the Secretary-Wm. Ditch. ficld, S.E.P.S., 194, Doruing Street, Wigan.

MR. ROBT. S. GRAY sent us an advertisement to replace the one on the front page of Aductisey but it arrived too late for inclusion in that paper and only just in time to be reproduced here.

## GLASGOW STAMP AUCTION SALES.

$\varnothing$INCE my Auction Sales were started in Glasgow nbout five months ago the success attending them has been most pronounced, and the palronage of nearly every collector of stauding in Scotland has been secured. It was originally intended to hold one sale per month, but on account of the li eral support afforded it has been found necessary to have them at more frequent intervals. At the present good prices are being secured for rare and medium stamps, in fine condition, and if gou have a collection or surplus duplicates to dispose of you cannot do better than sell at Glasgow. The circulation of the catalognes is very extensive, and the attendance at the sales is good, a rare exception when it falls below 50 . Arrangements have just been completed at the request of the Edinburgh collectors to have the lots on view there, as well as at (ilasgow, and it is hoped that this will materially help to still further increase the popularity of the sales. The commission charges are extremely moderate and will be furnished on application, with any other particulars that may be required.

- NEXT SALE -


## SATIIRDAY, 26th MAROH.

Lots to be in time for inclusion should be sent in not later than 12 th March.


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## March 28th, 1898.

CONTENTE.


The Philatelic Chronicle is sent to all the members of the Birmingham Philatalic Soclety and Midland Countles Stamp Exohange, being the Offial Journal of these 8ociaties.

T"HE question of prices which we discussed in the February Chronicle has roused interest in several directions, and our deductions are generally acknowledged to be correct. Mr. G. H. Howe, for instance, informs us that he is selling stamps priced under $£$ I at half catalogue rates-with very few exceptions. He pertinently points out that it would not do for a dealer to sell all stamps at half-price as there are some for which collectors ought to pay and are willing to pay considerably more, and this is undoubtedly the truth. Says Mr. Howe in conclusion: "Where the English collectors are, who will pay full catalogue price or anywhere near it for stamps all round, I think is somewhat a mystery!"

Undoubtedly there are these but they are, generally speaking, the élite of the cult. They require everything in the pink of perfection without spot or blemish. Even if the stamp world has to be ransacked they must have what they require and it is only just that they should pay well-for they get the best article. Then comes the collector who is not so exacting as this. A perfect specimen in the ordinary sense of the word satisfies him. Now the first type of collector has had the pick of the market and paid top price-the next comer, who belongs to the second class, takes the rejected article, and it is only just that he should have some allowance from the price paid by the first. After this comes the average collector who will purchase a stamp which is not damaged. The gum may not be perfect, or half a perforation may be gone, yet it is a good copy and he takes it-but the
stamp would be passed over by both the previously quoted classes-so why should number three pay full price for an inferior article. The fourth class of collector is happy-go-lucky, common or garden collector -the Peter Bell of philately :
"An old Mauritius, worn and dim, An old Mauritius is to him, And he wants nothing more."
So long as all, or practically all, the stamp is there he is just as satisfied as is the party who demands perfection in his specimen. An absence of gum, or slightly faded culour, or unevenly centred position, or a perforation gone is an immaterial defect-yet no one has the moral right to ask full price for this specimen, nor should he value it as such if in his collection. These remarks, of course, apply to rare stamps-say those catalogued $f I$ and upwards. The moral of all this is that collectors must train themselves to judge the quality of the stamps they buy and pay in proportion. Do not let the desire to posses a stamp outweigh discretion in purchasing. A good class dealer would naturally charge in proportion to the quality of the goods, but the danger is that when the tip top article is purchased at the tip-top price then article number two takes its place at the same or an enhanced price. It is manifestly disin-genuous-yet it has been the policy of catalogue makers for many years! This is really the crux of the whole matter :-When a pound has been obtained for a stamp the next one offered is held back for 25 s . When that price has been obtained avarice or some kindred feeling demands 30 s. for the next, and so, step by step, the price is forced to an abnormal and dishonest height-yet everyone of these stamps cost the dealer the same in the first instance-say 15 s. This is why many
stamps are catalogued two or three times their actual worth, and those who purchase at these prices are encouraging the system to their own further despoilment-better go without the article altogether than pay the exorbitant rates sometimes demanded. Of course there are many stamps that are not over-pricedgenerally speaking the stamps of countries not much in demand-and collectors would be wise to confine themselves to such ones until the more fashionable stamps are to be obtained at a price somewhat approximate to their value.

Above we referred to the dealer who arranged his prices honestly according to the quality of his goods. There are many such we are glad to say-indeed it is more than probable that every dealer would do so if asked by his clients. But there are not many who, at present, publish their price list with the distinctions marked. Those who have purchased Mr. Walter Morley's excellent catalogue will notice that he therein sets the example. He prices four classes of really fine stamps-two classes for used and two for unused. The difference in the used stamp is marked by the words " fair" and "fine." and the difference in the price is from 25 to 75 per cent. Let us take one, hap-hazard! The 2 d. blue, top of page 8 , is priced at 5 s. for a fine copy and 25 . for a fair copy. This is a reduction on catalogue with a vengeance. Both these stamps would be really good copies, but if one wanted a cheaper variety no doubt Mr. Mortey could supply but, of course, not in the same state of perfectionif required he would probably be able to sell copies of a sort at 2d. each. This is straightforward business. To be sure of getting what you want it is always best to go to a
man who has a big stock-that goes without saying-but you want to be sure that the party will treat you fairly.

## CHRONICLE.

CANADA.-The following of the new type have been issued.

> 3c. red.
> 10c. puce.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.-The $L P$. notes that the colour of the 2 d . has been changed from ochre to 2d. chocolate-brown.
GUATEMALA.-The Exhibition stamp of 2c. has been surcharged "UN CENTAVO"--" 1898 " in two lines, the 1 c . on 12 c . having been sold out

1c. in black on 2 c . black on greenish.
HAITI.-The 7c. has appeared in new colour. It is rumoured that the $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{c}$. already chro:icled will not appear, but a new set is being propared in Parts.

7c. grey-black.
HUNGARY.-The following have appeared with figure of vadue in black.

| 2 k. | black and mauve. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 3 k. | " | green. |
| 10k. | blue. | black. |
| 20 k. | $"$ | grey-black. |

NEW SOUTH WALES.-According to a correspondent in the $L . I^{2}$. the three new stamps have been slightly altered. The dies were in the first instance of wood, they are now of steel. The 1d. and $2 \frac{1}{2} d$. have appeared, and the 2d. will appoar soon. The differences most apparent are in the ld.
Die $i$. The first part of the crown on left is imperfect.
The Nialtese cross at left of crown is badly formed.
The lines of shading of figures are thick and irregular.
Die ii. The first pearl is a complete circle.
The Maltese cross is more distinct.
The lines of shading of the figures are thin and regular.

## The 2!d.

Die i. The Star on the Queen's breast has 12 lines of shading.
'The nostril has a downward droop and the pupil of the eye is unshaded

Die ii. The Star has 16 lines of shading.
The nostril is almost level, and the pupil is shaded.
NICARAGUA.--This Republic has joined Honduras and Salvador to form the Central American Republic, retaining like them freedom in interaal matters. This being so, (Vol. Seebeck (or as he says the Government) was not satisfied with the current stamps with the
date 1897, so has supplied an entirely new sot with new designs dated 1898. The design has the arms in centre and is inscribed "REPUBI,ICA MAYOR DE CENTRO AMERICA" "ESTADO DE NICARA. GUA." The stamps are perforated 12, and watermarked with the cap of liberty. The Unpaids have a figure of value in centre, and the envelopes and wrappers have stamps like the adhesives.

| 1c. bistre. | 25c. blue. |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2c. slate. | 50c. yellow. |
| 4c. red-brown. | 1p. violet. |
| 5c. olive-brown. | 2p. bistre. |
| 10c. desp violet. | 5p. orange. |
| 15c. ultramarinc. |  |

Off. 1, $2,4,5,10,15,25,50 \mathrm{c} ., 1,2,5 \mathrm{p}$. carmine, surcharged in blue.
SOUDAN.-The new issue of the Soudan came into use on March 1st. The design is an Arab mounted on a camel within a coloured border. The value appears along the top of the frame in Romen characters and at the bottom in Arabic. The lettering "SUDAN POSTAGE" is arched above the rider's head, and its Arabic equivalent is found beneath the camel's feet. Messrs. Meleka Co, Cairo, have sent us a set. Tho values run from 1 millieme to 10 piastres.

1 m . rose and brown. 1p. red-brown and blue.
2m. brown ard green 2p. blue and grey.
3 m . green and violet. $\quad 5 \mathrm{p}$. green and red. Lr own.
5 m . black and rose. 10 p . violet and black.
postcards, \&c.
CANADA - We have seen specimens of the new cards. The 1 cent is $140 \times 87 \mathrm{~mm}$. and beare simply the inscription Carada Post Card in block type with the usual instructions below. The 2 cent is the same as the 1896 issue, $130 \times 82 \mathrm{~mm}$., with the exception of the stamp. Both bear stamps of the type of the new adhesives, that on the 1 cent being considerably larger than the adhesive itself.

1 cent, green.
2 cents, orange vermilion.
CHINA.-German offices. The current German cards are reported to have been surcharged China for use in the recently-acquired territory.

5 pfennig, green.
$5 \times 5$ pfennig, green.
10 pfennig, rose.
$10 \times 10$ ptennig, rose.
DAHOMEI. - Some of the French colonies change their names about as often as the ministries of the mother country succeed each other. First wo had Golfe de Benin, then Benin, and now we are in receipt of a 10 centime card of the usual type inscribed Dalomey which we are told is the proper name for the territory. The rest of the stationery will probably follow later Our specimen came from the purchasing department.

10 centimes, black on greenish.

SAMOA.-Mr. Lohmeyer has somo cards which differ from the 1896 printing in being on thicker and more highly.glazed cardboard. The colour is also a paler greenish tint.

> ld. blue on green.
> 1dd.

The latter value is formed by "adding a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. adhesive stamp to the 1d. card.

UNITED STATES.-The new I aud 2 cent cards. The 2 cent is from the old plate but measures $140 \times 88$ mm. and is on cream coloured card.

2 cents, blue on cream.
The 1 cent is of a new design and scems rather cheap Iooking.

$$
1 \text { cent b ack. }
$$

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

$G$HE words "Stamp Exchange" will soon be having another meaning-one more in accordance with the commercial interpretation of "Exchange" if many more firms follow the example of Stanley Gibbons and Hilckes, Ltd. in floating tbeir concerns as public companies. When the grave and reverend seigneurs of the City quote philatelic stocks and shares on 'Change, and when the Barney Barnato of philately gets to work, stamp matters will, indeed, get a little complicated.

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$$

Chacun à son goit -I shall not dabble in shares Firstly, because I don't have not no truck with such things, and secoudly, because I've got no surplus cash to invest-or chuck away. I notice by Stanley Gibbons' prospectus that Messrs. Castle and Ehrenbach are among the directors of the new company. Will they be included in Mr. Nunn's next edition of "The Stimp Dealers of Gieat Britain"?

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Mr. Webb is offering to the English specialist a book of British stamps (vide advertisement) full of striking shades, varicties, \&c., but the rara avis of the lot is the 10d. bluc envelope stamp. How many of us have picked this up for twopence?

This month we are publishing some of the prices realised at Mr. Gray's sale in Glasgow-the most successful centre of philatelic auctions in the provinces. Messrs. Plumridge and Co., 65 and 66, Chancery Lane, are the newest London auctioneers-there will be enough there soon!

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Talking about stamp auctions, the Stamp Auction Reporter is really a most usoful paper. He who runs may read, as the athletic Oxford undergraduate asid to the Don, and be who reads the prices at auction
sales may run-a long way from a benevolent appre. ciation of catalogue pricos.
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Railway letter feo stamps are the latest boom. Straws shows us which wry the wind is blowing, and the numerous articles that have appeared on the subject of these stamps are a sufficient indication that the "knowing ones" of the philatelic community, are at work. There is no doubt whatever that the railway letter fee stamps have a postal character, although, on the other hand, their area of availability is undoubtedly restricted.


Mr G. H. Howe has chenged his address from Lyndhurst, Buckhurst Hill, Essex, to Melrose Villa, High Road, Buekhurst Hill, Essex.

The late Duke of Leinster has done a deed which it would be well for other philatelic notabilities to follow. He has left his valuable collection of stamps to the nation, and the hearts of all Irishmen-let alone those who are philatelists-should throb with joy, for under the terms of His Grace's will, the collection is left to the City of Dublin, and will soon be on view in one of the public buildings of that city.

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Mr. Rushden's paper, Stamps, has vastly improved in appearance since its increase in size, while the subject matter has not deteriorated in the least but, rather, has improved. Two extremely valuable new features have been introduced, the first a series of notes for junior collectors, and the second a continued article on Revenue stamps, contributed by a wellversed fiscal-stamp collector.

The new postal treaty requiring the 1,2 , and 5 c. stamps of all Postal Union countries to be the same colour will cause a great many changes in catalogues and added space to albums. January ist, 1899 is the latest date the old stamps can be used on, but most countries will change between now and then, in fact whenever the present supplies run short.
***

This touching " pome" is from Pick-Mc-Up:-
You asked me if I'd write to you
From distant lands, sweetheart,
And at the thought of it I grew
Half reconciled to part.
I saw myself inditing reams
Of fond and touching prose,
While here and thore would wander streams Of verse that I'd compose.

But with your brother's call to-day, All sentiment decamps;
Ile said-the wreteh-it was your wey Of getting Foreign Stamps i

In order to raise money to pay cost of Cuban War, Spain once more has imposed a war tax of bc. on every letter mailed and a stamp has been prepared for the purpose, printed in blue.

## AUCTION REPORT:

ๆHE Glaggow Auction Mart.-The following are some prices realised at Robert S. Gray's sale on Saturday, 12th March:-
Argentine, imperf., 1c. on 5c. on part original 1226 Bavaris, 12kr., pin perl., unused, no gum.. 1220 British Bechuanaland, $£ 5$ Revenue, used postally

1100
Dutch Indies, unpaid 5c. .. ... 110 0
Gibraltar, 1st issue, complete, unused, miat 400
Great Britain, Army Tolegraph set, td., Id., 2d. and Gd., unused, mint .. ..
Ditto, 5/-Maltese Cross, unused, no gum, (rubbed)
Ditto, $10 /$ ditto, fine, badly contred $\quad . . \quad 0150$
Ditto, £1 ditto, fiue.. .. .. 155
Ditto, £1, I.R., very fine .. .. 350
Hamburg, 9 sch., yellow .. .. 1100
Heligoland, 1879, 1 mark .. .. 1500
Nevis, 1/-green, litho .. .. 1176
Newfoundland, $6 \frac{2}{2} d$ lake, poor colour .. 1126
N.S.W., 8 d . orange, imperf., 2 copies, $£ 22 \mathrm{~s}$. \& 260

Nova Scotia, 1d. red brown .. .. 130
Schleswig-Holstein, 2 sch., unused, no gum 1110
St. Cluristopher, CA., Gd., unused, mint .. 1100
St. Vincent, star, 1/- claret, fair, unused, part gum
$\begin{array}{llllll}\text { Ditto, CA., } 6 d . \text { green } & \because . & . . & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ & . & 2 & 0\end{array}$
Ditto, CA., 1 -orange $\quad . \quad$.. 1100
Switzerland, 5r., cross with border, unused, no gum
Trinidad, 1st issue (1d.) purple brown .. 0160
Ditto ditto (1d.) light blue .. 0150
Ditto ditto (1d.) grey brown .. 1000
Ditto ditto on white paper (1d.) threc shades, 18/-, 18/- and

100
Ditto, lithographs, early state of plate (1d.)
fair margins
550
Ditto, ditto, ditto (1d.) cut close one side 3150
Ditto, ditto, blue paper (1d.) good margins
Ditto, ditto, ditto (1d.) fair margins
Ditto, ditto, ditto (1d.) cut close one side
Ditto, ditto of plate, medium state (1d.) good margins
Ditto, ditto, ditto (1d.) sood marging

Ditto, ditto, ditto (1d.) fair marging .. 440
Ditto, ditto, ditto (1d.) fine marging and lined at back

376
Ditto, imperf., 6d. green on small, part original

2170
Ditto, pin perfs. 14, 6d. green on ditto .. 1220
Tuscany, 9cr. on white, cut close .. 1176
Victoria, 1st issue, 3d. blue, unused . . 0150
Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, coloured margins .. .. .. $\quad$.. 10 0
Ditto, similar lot, unused .. ... 1000
Wurtemburg, 1st issue, 18kr., superb .. 1000
This is the most successful sale that has been held in Scotland, most of the prominent collectors being present. Total amount realized, $£ 330$.

## NOTES FROM PERU.

促LTHOUGH opened for business on the first of January, 1898, the new Post Office building is far from completion, and at least six months more will be required before it will be ready for occupation in all parts. It is very handsome and commodious, solidly built of granite and marble, designed by native architects, and built by native artisans, and has cost up to date-approximately250,000 sol. The view on the new two cent stamp and the nine postcards gives but a poor idea of the building as it is quite 80 metres deep and has a side extension facing qnother street.

Peru, as are several South American countries, is exceptionally liberal in the matter of stamped stationery as only the face value of the stamp is charged for. This, in the case of the large 50c. linenlined cover, means a saving of 20 centavos (5d.) which is the price charged at the local stationers for such. It is only too true, however, that the charge for foreign letter postage is moro than double that of any other country, and is quite a burden for commercial houses doing a large correspondence.

Several oddities among the new postcards have come to light. The le. green with inscription omitted on the reverse; the 2 c . orange with inscription in vary deep blue black; the 4c. reply card on reddish tinted paper ; and, last and most important, the 5 c . card overprinted by mistase with the post office view. Only one cops of the latter variety has been found, and it is probably unique as the 5 c . cards were not supposed to bo included in this series.

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1 cent back.

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Dutch Indies, unpaid 5c.
Gibraltar, lst issue, complete, unused, mint 400
Greai Britain, Army Tolegraph set, $\frac{t}{2} \mathrm{~d} ., 1 d .$, 2d. and Gd., unused, mint ..

250
Ditto, 5/- Maitese Cross, unused, no gum, (rubbed)
Ditto, $10 /$-ditto $\because \cdots \quad 1 \quad 0 \quad 0$

- $\quad 0150$

Ditto, $£ 1$ ditto, fipe .. .. .. 1
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Schleswig-Holstein, 2 sch., unused, no gum 1110
St. Christopher, CA., Gd., unused, mint .. 1100
St. Vincent, star, 1/- claret, fair, unused, part gum

- 200

Ditto, CA., $1 /$-orange .. .. 1100
Switzerland, 5 r., cross with border, unused, no gum

Ditto ditto (1d.) light blue $\quad . .0150$

Ditto ditto (1d.) grey brown .. 100
Ditto ditto on white paper (1d.) threc shades, $18 /-, 18 /-$ and
Ditto, lithographs, early state of plate (1d.) fair margins $\ddot{\sim}$. $\ddot{\square}$
Ditto, ditto, ditto (1d.) cut close one side
Ditto, ditto, blue paper (1d.) good margins
Ditto,
Ditto, ditto, ditto (1d.) cut close one side
Ditto, ditto of plate, medium state (1d.) good margins

100
$5 \quad 50$
3150
$510 \quad 0$
3100
326
500
Ditto, ditto, ditto (ld.) good marging .. 400

Ditto, ditto, ditto (1d.) fair margins $\quad . \quad 4 \quad 4 \quad 0$
Ditto, ditto, ditto (1d.) fine margins and
lined at back .. .. .. $3 \quad 7 \quad 6$
Ditto, imperf., 6d. green on small, part original
.. 2170
Ditto, pin perfs. 14, 6d. green on ditto $\quad . \quad 1820$
Tuscany, 9 cr . on white, cut close .. 1176
Victoria, 1st issue, 3d. blue, unused .. 0150
Virgin Islands, 1/. crimson, coloured mar-
gins .. .. .. $\quad . \quad 110 \quad 0$
Ditto, similar lot, unused .. $\quad$.. 1000
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On registering a protest, a long discussion of the chiefs resulted in a favourable decision of the majority; but as the case was to be referred to the Postmaster General, the writer decided it would be prudent to drop the matter, as the goodwill of the dissenting officials had to be considered; they maintained that those cards were only intended for use in the country and should therefore be prohibited from being sent to foreign countries in this manner. Quite an amusing argument-prosecuted on both sides with the utmost vigour.

On the head of the claim of several philatelic publishers that their respective journals are the oldest established, how much longer must we wait for some humorous would-be-publisher to claim his journal to be the goungest published, in his first issue? Also for some enterprising dealer to advertise Stamps bought, sold, and repaired.

A registered letter was recently received here from the United States, which was prepaid by a 3c. and a 10c. stamp of the 1861 issue; probsbly used because they were in poor condition.

Probably the greatest fascination in collecting aside from the pleasure of noting the admiring gaze of a brother collector, who has not those beauties that are in your collection -is the uncortainty as to what may turn up at any moment, in the way of a remarkable find. We somehow come to associate dusty attics, and old trunks and boxes of litter, with philatelic Klondykes. Situated as the writer is, in a field that has never been properly worked, seldom a weak passes by without some iucky strike is made. This is true, not only of Peruvian stamps, but also of the older foreign; as, this having been a good market in the days gone $b v$, much correspoudence was re. ceived from all paris.
[For the interesting notes above we are indebted to Messrs. Williams \& Co., Lima, Peru.]

## NOTES ON ENGLISH STAMPS.

By W. S. Webb.

## stanys by the ton!

$I$N the February number of Mr. Heygate's both good and bandsome paper, "Stamps," appears a curious advertisement: it offers English tad. and 1d. stamps at E 26 per tou, $27 /$ - per hundredweight, or 6d. per pound What might these be good for in such amplo doses-feeding pigs, manuring the gardon, or littering the stable? Oh, I have it : they will make miles and miles of "stamp suakes," to sell (retail) at a penny a jard!

SLXTH moItion of ewen's catalogite.
Externally, this volume is similar in appearance to the preceding edition, and contains about the same number of pages Most of the matter having been re-written, and all re-arranged, the less important information has been condensed, so that room is made for a most copious history of each postal issue, which is kept apart from the price lists of the respectiva sections. So thorough, in fact, is the detail of the work, that if each and every reader of the $P$. C. and A. provided himself with a copy the editor might find small use for my future services, as far as adhesives are concerned. The Catalogue is, as before, divided into two parts, treating of stamps and postmarks respectively. I may state that copies can be obtained from the publishers of the Philatelic Chronicle-price $2 / 6$, post free.

> ""entire" versus " cut squarr."

Mr. Ewen catalogues nothing in the first part of his work but stamps, and only as stamps. There is still a good sprinkling of philatelists, however, who prefer to study their postcards and officially-issued ouselopes-to say nothing of telegragh-forms-in the entire condition. I am of Mr. Ewen's opinion that stamped-to-order envelopes of all values are best collected eut square; but as to postcards, usually the stamp is accompanied by a design and lettering of as much importance as itself : so I maintain they must be, and always will be, collected entire. And as I have said before, official and private envelepes cannot be sati-factorily combined in arrangement: so, as all onvelopes sold through the post-office depend for variety and interest on several other points beside those of the stamp, of necessity the whole envelope must be preserved.

## REMAINDERS! A WARNING,

Remainders 1! What, Euglish? Yes, but not $2 /$. brown, nor $£ 1$ "anchor": we are thankful to say that our regular issues have digested and found their level among collectors, and that we need not fear the ramainder bogey if we keap to the highways of English philately: but for the benefit of those who indulge in such side-shows as the issucs of the shortlived private Tolegraph Companies, I will here relate what Mr. Ewen has just told me about the stamps of the first of them-"The Flectric Telegraph Company": These stamps appear in at least threa catalogues at fancy values from $\mathbf{2 1}$ upwards. But a buge remainder of them exists, and is about to be placed in the market, to the tune of eevoral thousands, which will have the effect of reducing their value from shillings to farthingi. Of course there may not bo remainders of all varieties, but mind what you buy in private telegraphs. Of one company's stamps, however, you need not fight shy, and that is Bonelii's: there never have been anything but remainders of their stamps, as the company was suppressed before it oould use any.

## GHADES OF QYD. BLUE.

There are some very distinct tints of blue to be found in these stamps with the orb watermark. Inks of quite different composition were apparently used, as the differences are not so much those of intensity as of tone. Some may be found which look almost greenish in contrast with the true ultramarine of the last three plabos. These minor occurrences in colour cannot all be catalogued, but the caroful collector will do well not to overlook them, as they will add to the intorest and completeness of his album.

## SOCIETY REPORTS. <br> BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President:-W. B. Avery, Esq.<br>President:-W. T. Wilson, Esq.

lice-Presidents:-R. Horlick, Esq.; W, Pimn, Egq.
Committee:-Mr. H. R. Bewlay; Mr. P. T. Dfakin ; Mr. V. Lendeblad ; Mr. T. W. Peck; Mr. C. A. Stephenson ; Mr. W. S. Vaughton.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:-Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

February 3 rd. Paper. Mexico. Mr. W. T. Wilson. W. R. Connolly, Esq., was unanimously elected a member.
Mr. Wilson then gave a most interesting and instructive display with notes of the early issues of Hexico, in particular having been able finally to elucidate the difficult question of sub-consignment numbers found on the 1864 - 66 issues.
February 1zth. Display (with notes) Belgium. Mr. F. E. Wilson.

Rev. W. N. Usher, Messrs. Crawford Capen, A Sugg, and E. H. A. Johnson were unanimously elected members.
Mr. F. E. Wilson then gave his display with very copious notes on all the issues with remarks on many minor varieties, catalogued and uncatalogued. Nearly every kind was shown, used and unused; singles, strips and blocks in a fine range of shade.
March 3rd. Display. Argentine and Brazit.
Messrs. E. Stock and F. C. Fisher wero unanimously elected members.
Messrs. W. T. Wilson, W. Pimm, and G. Johnson showed the stamps of Argentine and Brazil, all the rare varieties and shados being well represented.
Exchange Packets.-The packets for January were the finest and most valuable ever circulated in this or any other Society, but the February ones were still more valuable, and for the first time in the history of stamp exchanges tutal over 25,000.


This is very satisfactory, but what is much more so is the fact that sales are better than they have been for a long time past, almost all stamps, of whatever country, selling well if priced reasonably. Foreign and Colonial dealers and collectors are finding out that this is one of the best methods of obtaining prompt and certain returns for their stamps.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES STAMP EXCHANGE (Established 1886).

Hon. Secretary :-W. G. Walton, Fentham Road, Birmingham.

The March packats are a very good lot, and the April ones promise to be better. The following new members are proposed :-Mrs. Eaden (Yardley), W. M. Woodhouse (Wantage), H. Bax (Weybridge). Members who wish to propose friends are requested to send in names, and all good collectors are invited to join. By the rules there is no subscription due until July, and any lady or gentleman joining now has this time in which to judge the suitability of the club. Good references are indispensable. The subscription is 2/- per annum, but as the Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser is sent free to all members whose subscriptions are not in arrear it is practically reduced to $6 d$. per annum. There are vacancies for one or two good sellers. Prompt monthly settlements both sides. Rules, \&c., from the Secretary.
British and Colonial Stanp Exchange Club.Forty members. Packets monthly for British and British Colonial stamps only. Since November, 1895, the club has circulated $£ 4,31117 \mathrm{~s}$. 10 d ., and sales from same have been 19 per cent. off total amount circulated. The last aix packets have averaged $\mathbf{8 2 0 0}$, and good Colonials and English can always be obtained at low prices. Four new membirs have joined this month and one rejected. Sacretary, C. J. M. Lehner, Eaton Chambers, Buckingham Padace Road, London, S.W.
S.W. Lancagaire Exchange Society.-As predicted last month the three score was passed, five members being added to the list. The packet (March) was far and away the best the above society has yet sent out, British, British Colonials and Europeans being well represented, and as the prices were very fair good sales may be expected to result. This society now includes amongst its members many wellknown philatelists and specials, so that intending members may now make sure of securing almost any kind of stamp. Intending applicants, who must
furnish satisfactory references, may receive partioulars and rules from Secretary, Wm. Ditchfield (Member Stamp Exohenge Protection Society), 194, Dorning Street, Wigan.

Richmond Stamp Exchange Society. - The March packet was made up on the 10th inst. as usual. It shows an upward tendency still, as the total submitted was $£ 958$ 5s. 2d., nearly $£ 210$ increase on February packet. There was a fine display of Europeans, especially Greece, whilst British and Colonial were also numerous, and a fair quantity of rarities. The following have recently joined the society:-Messis. A. E. Fasnacht, R. Cutting, C. H. Clemson, J. F. Hall, G. R. Willan, F. H. Geitner, R. Palmieri (Naples), A. Ellis, H. S. Martin, Alex. Tillie, A. E. Moore, E. C. Hodgett, T. H. Thompson, Col. Hadaway, Dr. C S. Socolis (Greece), Miss C. A. Gore, and Mrs. A. C. Hino. Secretary, Robert Reid, jun., 14, Parsital Road, West Hampstead, N.W.

The Clifton and Bristol Philatelic Socirty. -A meeting of the above society was held on Thursday evening, the 3rd inst, at the society's room, 42, Cothem Hill, the president (Mr. J. P. Lloyd) being in the chair, and Mr. T. C. Cartwright acting on behalf of the hon. sec., Mr. R. Dalton, who was unavoidably absent. After the business of the meeting had been disposed of, the President exhibited a most interesting series of New South Wales, and especially about 30 varieties of the Sydney views, which he minutely explained and pointed out to the members present, to some of whom such a display was a now experience. The subject of the meeting on the 17th inst. was the stamps of the United States of America.

Suburban Stamp Exchange Club. - On the return of the September packets, sheets were returned and accounts were settled and submitted within seven days. Sales arcuunted to upwards of $£ 250$. October packets have been circulated among a supplementary list of buying members and are expected back within the next three weeks. On February 24th the 209 sheets valued at $£ 1,929 \mathrm{I1s}$. 11d. in the aggregate were made up into four packets and duly circulated. North Americans, West Africans, and Scandinavians were well represented, and perfect specimens were offered at much under catalogue prices. Very common atamps and damaged copies, however, are in little demand. Foreign philatelists are invited to send sheets, and arrangements will be mado for them to receive equivalents for stamps taken in cash or exchange as they may prefer. Packets are now sent out intact to efford a greater choice to mombers who are first on lists. Non-contributors who desire to see packets are requested to notify secretary who will see that their names are inserted on the lists. Responsible collectors, proposing to join the club, should apply for rules and send references to the secretary, H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Albans.

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## +もCONTENTS. 9t

BOOK I.-STAMPS.
Part I.-Adhesive Postage Stamps.

1. Synopsis and Price List
2. Descriptive Catalogue a-Line-Engraved Series b-Embossed Series... c-Surface.Printed Series d-De La Rue Series Page.


| $\ldots$ | 1 |
| :--- | ---: |
| $\cdots$ | 15 |
| $\ldots$ | 15 |
| $\ldots$ | 27 |
| $\ldots$ | 28 |
| $\ldots$ | 49 |

Part II.-Mulready Envelopes ang Letter Sheets and Jubllee Stationery
Part ill.-Stamps Impreased on Stationery.
I. Synopsis and Price List ... ... ... 8
2. Descriptive Catalogue
a-Envelope Series ...
$\cdots$
b-Registration Envelope Series $c$-Wrapper Series ... d-Newspaper Series $e$-Postcard Series
Part 1V.-Stamps of Resthicted Franking Power. a-Issues for he Levant b-l ssues for Government Depärtments ... c-Issues for Private Firms ... .... ... 92
Part V.-Post Office Telegrai h Stanfs ... ... gb
Part Vi-Ftscal Stamps ... ... ... 107
Part Vil.-Ggne al Remarks. a-Proofs and Essays ... ... ... 118 b-Watermarks, illustrated ... ... ...

$d$-Minor Varieties ... ... ... ... 125
Part Vili.-Stamps Issced Privately.
a-Oaford and Cambridge College Stamps ... 130
${ }^{6}$-Circular Delivery Companies' Stamps ... $130^{6}$
$c$-Railway Letter Fee Stamps
${ }^{\prime}$-Private Telegraph Companies' Stamps
... 140
BOOK 2.-POSTMARKS.
Part I.-List of Britigh Postmarks
LISI OF Posi Ofitest th The Unite
Part 1L-Catalogue of British Stayps used abroad 174

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BOOK 1.-STAMPS.
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|  | Page. |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 15 |
| $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 15 |
| $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 15 |
| $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 27 |
| $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 28 |
| $\ldots$ | $\ldots 9$ |  |

Part [I-Mmbeady Envelopes and Letter Sheets and Jubilee Stationery
Part ill.-Stamps Impregsed on Stationery.
t. Synopsis and Price List
2. Descriptive Catalogue

$$
a \text {-Envelope Series .. }
$$

$b$-Registration Envelope Series
c-Wrapper Series
d-Nicwspaper Series
$e$-Postcard Series .
...
...
Part IV.-Stamps of Resthicted Franing Powfr. $a$-Issues for he Levant
$b$-Issues for Government Departments ... ... 92
c-Issues for Private Firmas ... ... ... 95
Part V.-Post Office Telegrain Stamps ... ... g9
Part Vi.-Fiscal Stamps ... ... ... 107
Part Vil.-Gene at Remarks.
a-Proofs and Essays $\quad . . \quad$... ... 118
b-Waternarks, illustrated ... ... ... J2I
c-"Specimen" Stamps ... ... ... 125
d-Minor Varieties ... ... ... ... 125
Part Vill.-Stanps Issten Prifately.
a-Oxford and Cambridge College Stamps ... r30
${ }^{6}$-Circular Delivery Companies' Stamps ... $133^{6}$
$\boldsymbol{c}$-Railway Letter Fee Stamps ...
$d$-Private Telegraph Companies' Stamps
... 140
BOOK 2.-POSTMARKS.
Part I.-List of British Postmarks
List of Post Offices in the United Kingden 160
Part II-Catalogue of British Staups Usbd abroad i;f

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136
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April $2 \mathrm{CTH}, 1898$.

CONTENTS.


The Philatelic Chronicle is sent to all the members of the Birmingham Phliatelic Society and Midand Counties Stamp Exohange, being the Official Journal of these Societies.

TTIIE question of prices, like the poor, is always with us, and there is no one wise enough to advise a way out of the difficulty. Time is the best healer in all things and Time will undoubtedly work its own cure in this matter. There is only one thing wherein the philatelic public can help. Let there he no more of that huge jobbery where, by the aid of a representative society and an authoritative organ-a combination which could practically command philatelic thought, individuals have been enabled to amass fortunes by making certain stamps the pupular rage and forcing the price up to such an umhealthy and immoral height that they have been enabled to realise at thousands per cent. profit while the philatelic sheep, whom they have led as a llock into the slough of speculation, are left to extricate themselves as best they cam. Let coilectors guard agatinst the repetition of these things and prices will eventually conform to a proper and normal basis.

In delerence to wishes expressed to us that Group Collecting should be re-edited, with current market values as before, we have ashed Ma. Hollack to bring his former contribution up to date, and we publish the first instalment in this issue. The prices are genuine-being those at which Mr. Hollich sells and a comparison between them and catalogue will prove instructive.

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"Stamps" is a pugnacious young magazine. It is the Ishmael of English philatelic journalism and, from Rushden, R. S. O.,

## ES NOY READY, 1897 EDITION. EH कRe


#### Abstract

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## Afril 26th, 1898.

CONTENTS.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Editorial ... ... | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | +19 |
| Motes on Englioh stamps | ... | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | … | ${ }^{81}$ |
| The Postman's Knock | ... ... | ... | ... |  | 52 |
| Auction Report and society | Reports | ... | ... | ... | 53 |
| Group collecting ... | ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ${ }^{89}$ |
| Pbilatello Frands... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 58 |

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England (vide advertisements), its hand is directed against everyone. The usual context does not hold good in this case for everyone's hand is not against "Stamps"considerations for its youth and obscurity and for the inexperience of its proprietors having stayed the hand which should have adminstered a corrective spank on more than one occasion.

That the editor of "Stamps" is very young may be gathered from the chivalrous manner in which he takes up the quarrels of everyone and the unconsciousness with which he allows himself to be made the catspats of some impudent monkey who expects to gain advantage by damaging other exchange clubs, while, with that supreme contempt for the law of his country which is so strongly developed in the young amateur journalist whose paper has survived, by some strange dispensation, its first few issues, the editor of "Stamps" commits himself to at least three statements on a single page, either one of which might land him in an expensive libel suit.

The quixotic proprietor of "Stamps" feels that he is the heaven-born reformer and regenerator of philately, and the thought of Mr. F. L. Heygate sitting at the Hall of Justice, in the City of Rushden, R.S.O., England, makes an exquisite mental picture! Let us imagine the scene! On a huge brass throne -triply brazen to suit the purpose-sits the judge with fire flashing from his eagle eye, while the poor worms of exchange secretaries cower round the walls. Over the triply brazen judge-tut, tut,-judgment seat is the figure of Justice, blindfolded only in one eye and with her tongue stuffed into her cheek, and tehind all is a huge banner with the blazon of Heygate: A bantam cock, rampant, vert, on a very small dunghill, inscribed

STAMPS, gules. The whole surmounted by the motto, Fiat Justitia ruat coelum, and the modern, or Heygatian, translation, "Lel Heygate be satisfied or Stamps zeill fill (upon you)." 'Tis a wondrous scene, my masters. The glory and wisdom of Solomon would ill compare with those depicted here-but, alas, we must tear ourselves away from the alluring picture.

That the editor and proprietor of "Stamps" has got grit and brain power of more than average quality is witnessed by the audacity with which he hurls his shafts to right and left trusting assuredly to the fact that his own insignificance is a refuge if not a shield. He adopts the very best way to get his paper talked about and this is the big thing for which journals struggling to rise are anxious, and so he plays the winning game-as long as it lasts. We cannot approve of the un-sportsmanlike-not to say contemptiblemethod of procedure, but we admire the enterprise and dash. Still we have one word of warning-not addressed to any particular journalist but to all: Civil libel may be a nice thing to play with under some circum. stances, but criminal libel is a bird of quite another feather and one that has sharp and formidable talons.

## CHRONICLE:

$\beta$RITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.-We have seen copics of the $3 /$-surcharged one penny in two lines.

1d. in red on 3/- black and green.
BRITISH HONDURAS. -A new value has been issued of the ordinary type.

25 c . red brown and green.
BRITISH SOLTH AFRICA.-As mentioned some time ago the design of the current set did not give satisfaction, and a new set was prepared with the arms modified, the chiof difference being in the scroll bearing the motto which is now below the hind legs
of the supporters. These new types are now being jissued.
$\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. grey and mauve.
id. vermilion and light green.
2d. grey brown and lilac pink.
3d. red brown and pale blue.
4d. ultramarine and lilac mauve.
6d. purple and pink.
8d. green and mauve on baff.
ECLADOR.-The following are taken from various prepers:-
2c. red, fiscals used postally.
le. in black on 5 c . blue, fiscals used postally.
5/. dark blue (1895) surch. in black, ' 1897 y 1998. .
Oni. 20c. grey (1894) ", " '1897-1898,' large.

| 50 c. | " |  | " | " | " |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 c. | " | (1895) | " | " | " | smenl. |
| 10 c . | " | ," | $\because$ | " |  | large. |
| 2 c . | " | " | " | " | '1897 |  |
| 5 c . |  | , | " |  |  |  |

GAMBIA"-ihe new stamps are of the Seychelles type and are as follows:bd. green.
id. carmine.
2d. or brown, value lilec. 2dd. ultremarine.

3d. red lilac.
4d. brown.
6d. olive, value carmine.
1/- lilac " green.
HONG KONG.-The old 96 c , has been overprinted ' 1 DOLLAR' according to the D.B.Z. This stamp was already used for the same purpose in 1885 probably it has now Chinose characters at the left as well as the ' 1 DOLLAR.' 18 in black on 96c. grey.
MAURITIUS.-The Jubilee stamp has appeared. It is large oblong with arms of the Colony in centre and dates ' 1837-1897.' At top is 'MAURITIUS POSTAGE,' at left 'DIAMOND,' and at right 'JUBILEE' with value in words at bottom. The watermark and crown CA sideways and the perf. 14.

36c. yellow brown and blue.
NEW 7.EALAND.-The new set are certainly very handsome. They are engraved and printed by Messrs. Waterlow who, we believe, have sent the plates out to the Colony, so that wo shall probably liave in the future two sets, London and Colonial prints.
fad slate purple-Mount Cook.
1d. brown and blue-Vjews on Lake Taupo and Volcanic Mountains.
2d. lake-A Sound on the S. W. Const.
2Id. pale blue-Lake Wakatipu and Mount Earnshaw.
3d. bistre-Sacred Huir Birds.
4d. rose-Views of the Pink and White Terraces.
5d. red brow:-Otira Gorge and Volcano Ruapehu.
6d. green-Apteri Bird.
sd. deep blue-Maori War Canoo.
9d. purple-Pink and White Terraces.
$1_{i}$ - deep orange-Kakas (Wild Parrots).
2 2/- blue green-Entrance to Milford Sound.
5). vermilion-Mourt Cook.

PERSIA.-We have seen some of the high values of the new set which are similar to the 1k. with head of the new Shah.

$$
\begin{array}{lc}
2 \mathrm{k} . \text { rose. } & 5 \mathrm{k} . \text { green. } \\
3 \mathrm{k} \text { yellow. } & 10 \mathrm{k} \text { orange. } \\
\text { 4k. grey. } & 50 \mathrm{k} . \text { mauv. }
\end{array}
$$

PORTUGAL. - We have received sots of the Vasco da Gama stamps issued on April 4th. The stamps are very handsome and were apparently printed by Messrs. Waterlow. There are the fllowing sets with value in reis:-

Portugal, Africa, Azores, Madeira.
With value in Avos. ( 5 reis $=1 \mathrm{a}$.)
Macau and Timor.
With value in reis and tangas.
Portuguese Indies.
The set is as follows:-
24r. (\$a. or $1 \frac{1}{2}$ reis) green-Gama's Ship.
5r. (1a. or $4 \frac{2}{2}$ ris) red-Gama's fleet at Calicut.
10r. (2a. or 6 reis) violet-Fmbarkation at Luz.
25r. (5a. or 9 reis) green-Allegorical Figure.
50 r . 10 a . or 1 tanga) blue - Ship.
75r. ( 15 A . or 2 tangas) purple brown-St. Michael (?). 100 r . (20a. or 4 tangas) brown - Ship.
150 r . (30a. or 8 tangas) yellow brown-Gama in Asia.
STHAITS SETTLEMENTS.-Perak. The following has been issued of the current type:-

25 c . green and carmine.
TURKEY.-The Ottoman government are about to issuc a set of stamps for use in the parts of Thessaly occupied by its troops. The stamps will be actagonal with suitable inscriptions and five in number: 10 and 20 paras, 1, 2 and 5 piastres. The colours are not announced.

Postcards, \& C.
BRI'TISH HONDURAS.-A new posteard has been issued.

## 1c. green on salmon.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.-The new postoards have appeared. They have stamps of the 1596 type and are inscribed RHODESIA.

1d. blue on white, $122 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm}$.
$1+1$. red on white, $140 \times 88 \mathrm{~mm}$.
$1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$ brown yellow, $140 \times 88 \mathrm{~mm}$.
CANADA.-A new letter card is announced.
1c. black on blue, $140 \times 90 \mathrm{~mm}$.

## NOTES ON ENGLISH STAMPS.

By W. S. Webb.
EARLY HALFPRNNY WRAPPERS.
" $8{ }^{\text {HO }}$ shall decide when catalogues disagree ?" Well, when catalogues do so, it shows that one or both of them don't know: so the matter in diapute must be sifted by the collector for himself. I am now tryivg to sift whether the $1 / 10 ; 0$

Wrapper exists in more than one official size. Gibbons gives the size as $12 \times 5 i n$. Morley eays nothing about size for the dated wrapper, and does not describe any later ones as being longer than 12in.; but Gibbons again mentions an undsted, size $14 \times 5 i n$. issued in 1871. Now what has set me wondering is this,-that I have discovered that all the $1 / 10 / 70$ Wrappers in my possession measure $14 \times 5 i n$. I am therefore in doubt whether any dated ones were issued only 12 incbes in length.

On another point regarding the dated wrapper, the two lists do agree, and that is, that all the $1 / 10 / 70$ wrappers had the top or gummed end square. But it is doubtiul if even this united testimony is unquestionable, as I once found a dozen specimens with tapered ends, on similar paper to the usual dated wrappers, and also measuring $14 \times 5 \operatorname{in}$. These had a tress impressed in green a.t upper end, inscribed " S . Bewley and Co., Dame Street, Dublin," and the stamp was of a paler and more bluish tint than the full grass-green of the first issue. I think these were probably of a private nature, possibly issued some time after 1870, and that perhaps the dated stamp was therefore employed for them in distinction from the regular issue, which had ceased to bear the date. Can anyone help me decide as to the official sizes of the dated wrappers, and also to fix the status of the supposed private issue for Messrs. Bewloy?

## CCREENT EMBOBSED STAMPS.

All those stamps above 1d. Which formerly bore the dete of stsmping are now issued with the date-holes filled by florets of 9 dots,- except, of course, the 6d., the die for which has been re-ongraved withont the date-holes. The 1 dd. and $4 d$, are not known at all with 5 dot florets; the 2 d . was only issued with them to a very small extent, while the 2 d., 3d., and $1 /$. values, which had 5 dot florets during $1894-5$ printings, have invariably shown 9 dots since those years. The Gd. appears to the the first value in which florets were introduced, as telegraph forms bearing stamps with 9 dot florets were printed in October, 1893, whereas the other values bore dates until early part of 1894. There is, however, this possibility, that the date of printing of the forms may heve been some months in advance of that of stamping. What is the datest date linown on the 6d. stamp?

## FRAPS OF EARLY ID. ENVELORES.

In the curreat number of the Monthly Journal the first article under "Notes and Queries,"-presumably from the able pen of Major E. B. Evans-is entiticd "Stamped Envelopes," and refers to tho question raised in these columas in September and November last. I am very glad to find that the editor of the M.J., whom I know to be an expert in early postal stationery, fully concurs in my theory that the flaps should be opened out and viowed from the same side of the paper as the stamp. When Messrs. Gibbons
set to work to re-write Part III. for their 12th catalogue it is to be hoped that Major Evans may have a finger in the pie. His three following artioles under the same heading are also devoted to English subjects, treating respectively of silk-threads in early envelopes, registration envelope stamps, and railway letter-feo stamps.

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

WHat, ho! Messieurs of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society! got to your guns! Ie merry Exchange Club Secretaries, gird up your loins! Haygates step in where Wickharts fear to tread. What, hol the merry little libels and the fat in the fire generally 111 They are a bad lot these exchange secretaries. Almost as bad as philatelic journalists, but not such asses as the latter can prove themselves to be upon occasion. Give it them hot, Heygate, they deserve it all! Make the echoes of your fulminations ring around clessic Rushden and, for the sake of my encouragemont, drop me a postcard and say whero Rushden is and I will come and see you if not too far for a biegcle journey.

Oh, if we had but a man with some go about him upon the staff of this effete and out-of-date old rag! What fun we would havel Fancy the people who would be coming up with bricks and bludgeons thirat. ing for the boss's blood, and then the merry little days in the courts to see that respected old gentleman bweating under a cross-examination. Oh, if some such enterprisiog contributor could only be inducead to come over to us what a merry life we should lead! Heygate, old boy, here's good luck to you I Give it to them hot and receive as a recompense a poor Postman's blessing !

The Southport Guardian has a lengthy account of an interview with Mr. J. H. Johnson, the stamp dealer of that pleasant watering place, and among other things says Mr. Johnson: "I think the best lot I ever had was a consignment of about 3,000 Cape of Good Hopef, the old three-cornered stamps. In that lot there were 30 or 40 printed from the wood blocks and consequent! y rather scarce. I sold the "1d. red" for 8s. 6d., and the " 4 d . blue" for 7s. 6d. That was about twelve years ago, and now those stamps sell for $£ 4$ each and more." Mr. Johnson also commits himself to the statement that there aro twenty English journals and publications relating to stamps and in the Trited States at least three dozen. Ah, well, perhaps there are-perhaps one or two over.

The Publishers have been commissioned by Messrs. Butler Bros. to distribute two thousand circulars
re!ating to their well-known albums-the which has been done. There can be no doubt as to the deserved popularity of the "Excelsior" album, and everyone who uses it has borne testimony to its worth. For many years it has been before the philatelic public and has bein improved and added to until now it is suited to the requirements of every collector from the beginner who buys the 1 - album to the advanced collector who purchases the $70_{i}$ - "Excelsior" Interchangeable.

A well-known Birmingham dealer some ten days ago received a letter from a member of the L.P.S. in which the said gentleman remarked that he had already made upwards of $£ 3,500$ profit on his collection. The correspondence in question was about the purchase of some stamps which the amateur could not see his way to purchase unless, in his own words, he could see his way to making a good profit. Ah! these pure members of the London Philatelic Society who will not be contaminated by the companionship of a dealer and yet make their hundreds and thoir thousands a year by collecting for sale when the prices have been forced up sufficiently high !

Mr. Ewen is selling mint state blocks of 1d. red plate numbers at a trifie under catalogue price as behold :-LLot 356, cat. 22/6 for 7/6; lot 357, cat. 36/for 12/-; lot 359, cat. 72/- for 22/6; lot 360, cat. 12/for $5 /$, and so on. Catalogue prices, in the vulgar but expressive words of the poct, are "copping-out some."

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$$

Mr. Monteith has sent us specimens of the eighth edition of his excellent approval sheets-now universally adopted or else imitated by retail approval shect dealers-and also of the second edition of his less known but equally good approval books ruled and made a convenient size to go in an ordinary envelopo. The firm has been obliged to move to larger and more convenient offices, and the new address is 14, Chester Green Itond, Derby.

Messrs. Fisher, Titley and Co. have left Roading and once more returned to their old address, 6 , Syduey Buildings, Bath. . . . Edward Cooper and Co. have issued a wholesale and retail list of stamps at groatly reduced prices. It would not be a waste if one sent a posteard to the firm at 14. Archway Road, Highgate, London, N., and asked for one of these lists.

Of the Ieeland Provisional 3 Aur. on 5 Aur. 14,600 have been issued in two printings, 8,600 with red 3 and black prir (three) 6,000 with black prir only. On each sheet 60 stamps have the word prir in large type and 40 stamps in sim ull type.

## AUCTION REPORT.

THE Glasgow Auction Mart.-The following are some of the prices realised at Robert S. Gray's 10th and 11th Sale, Thursday and Friday, 14th and 15th April, 1898 :${ }_{5} \mathrm{~s}$. d.
Barbados, 5/-rose .. .. .. 1120
British Central Africa, no wmk., £1, superb 200
British East Africa, 1 anna on 2d. groen .. 2220
Ditto, surcharged on Coy's 4 rupees, used on piece

1100
Ditto ditto, 5 rupces green $\quad . \quad 210$
Ceylon, star, 2/-blue, very fine.. .. 230
Ditto, no wmk., perf. 13, 6d. brown, unused, mint

1176
Ditto, CC, 12 2 , 2d. emerald, unused, mint 150
Ditto, ditto, 5 d. yellow green, unused, mint, pair

1110
Ditto, ditto. 8d. brown, unused, mint, pair 1000 Cyprus, 6d. grey, plate 16

100
Great Britain, 1d. black, brilliant green postmark, used on piece ...
Ditto, 1d. black, greon Maltese cross, can-
cellation on piece .. $\quad . .140$
Ditto, 1841, 1d. red, ditho, ditto, ditto .. 140
Ditto, $2 /$ - brown. probably unused .. 1860
Ditto, 21 - red brown, very fine $\quad . \quad 250$
Ditto, 10/-groy, anchor on white $\quad$. 1176
Ditto, $£ 1$ brown, lilac cross .. .. 1176
Ditto, $£ 1$ ditto, lilac anchor on white $\quad . \quad 3000$
Ditto, f4 orange, very fine .. .. 240
Ditto, I.R. official, 5/- rose .. .. 1176
Ditto, ditto, 10/-blue .. .. 230
Ditto, ditto, $£ 1$ green $\quad . \quad 1 \quad . \quad 3 \quad 4 \quad 0$
Ditto, Army Telcgraphs, $\frac{1}{2 d ., ~ i d ., ~ 2 d, ~ o d ., ~}$ unused, mint .. ..
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { Hanover, } 10 \text { groshen, green, unusod } & \cdots & 2 & 7 & 6\end{array}$
Ionian Islands, 1d. blue, used on entire original
Wauritius, no wmk., 1/- buff, unused, mint 100
Montserrat, CA, 2dd. brown, unused, mint 1000
Scinde-Dawk, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, scarlet, on part orig. 1100
Trinidad, CC, $12 \frac{1}{2}, 1 /$ red lilac, unused, mint 160
Wurtemburg, 1st issue, 18 kr ., unused, with gum ..
$210 \quad 0$

## SOCIETY REPORTS.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES STAMP EXCHANGE

(Established 1886).
Hoa. Sccretary:-W. G. Wabion, Fentham Road, Dirmingham.

The April packets are very good. December a.ocounts are paid and sheets returned, and January ones will be sent out shortly. The following new
members are proposed: -H . Bax (Weybridge), W. A. Souter (Gateshead), S. J. Hopkins (Birmingham), R. J. Hassum (India).

Members who wish to propose friends are requested to send in names, and all good collectors are invited to join. By the rules there is no subscription due until July, and any lady or gentieman joining now has this time in which to judge the suitability of the club. Good references are indispensable. The sub. scription is $2 /$ - per annum, but as the Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser is sent free to all members whose subscriptions are not in arrear it is practically reduced to 6d. per annum. There are vacancies for one or two good sellers. Prompt monthly settlements both sides. Rules. \&c., from the Secretary.

Mr. Thomas Eaton, Manchester, writes me as follows:-"I notice some dirty remarks in Stamps about the Midland Counties Exchange Club. I beg to state that while I have been a memier, I have been treated in a very fair and straightforward manner and sll settlements have been paid to me in a very prompt manner." The "dirty remarks" referred to question the truth of the report published in February's Chronicle to the effect that the October accounts were paid out upon the date of publication, February 26th. For the benefit of all whom it may oonceruand Mr. Heygate is not one of these-I would repeat that the October accounts were all paid by February 19th and the November ones by March 30th. I am advised that the remarks constitute a libel in law, but as the party in question is not worth powder and shot I do not propose taking any legal action. One remark begins, "If the October credit accounts had been paid on February 26th, \&c." Mr. Heygate, of Rushden, must be careful in future and not rely upon "ifs." "If" someoneinformed me that Mr. Heygato was the silliest young ass in England it would not necessarily be correct-although, truth to tell, I should not feel jusufied in attempting to alter iny informant's opinion. I do not propose to pay any further attention to Mr. Heygate, but shall be glad to hear the opinion of any members. Also I should bo glad to know the name of the member who supplies Mr. Heygate with his information as Mr. Heygate bimself, does not scem anxious to give it.

Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society.-At a meeting held on the 7 th inst., the President being in the chair, the following resolution was passed unanimously, viz, "That the thanks of the Society be given to Messre. H. L'Estrange Ewen, Walter Morley, S. A. Wood, and Nunn, Graves and Co., for the publications sent by them for the use of the society's library." The Hon. Librarian will be glad to receive any additions from philatelic authors and publishers.

Subdrban Stamp Exchiange.-October packets ame baok from circulation on the 1 st inst., sheets
were returned and accounts were submitted with the least possible delay. Sales were as follows:-


Two of the best November packets are being circulated among a certain number of non-contributing buying members, and are expected back very shortly. On March 25 th, 213 sheets valued in the aggregate at $£ 2,399 \mathrm{is}$. 16 d . were made up into four packets and despatched on their rounds. Perfect specimens of rare and obsolete stamps (such as imperf. Gambias and pence Gibraltars) were obtainable at much (in many cases at $50 \%$ ) below catalogue prices, and good sales are expected. The very common varieties and defective copies are, however, in but little demand Non-contributors who desire to see packets are reminded to notify the secretary, who will see their names duly inserted on the lists. Packets are now sent out absolutely intact to ensure that all bargains will go to members. Foreign philatelists are invited to send sheets, and arrangements will be made for them to receive equivalents for stamps taben in cash or exchange as may bo preferred. Secretary, H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Albans.

Britesf African Stamp Exchange.-This club continues to $\xi$ ake good progress, but both as regards members and quality of packets. The April packet contained sheets, value 23513 s .4 d . nett (not $50 \%$ discount), including many fine stamps at low prices. Two members in South Airica contribute very good sheets. The February packet returned March 9th, and all accounts were settled by the 11th. The features of this club are: nott prices, prompt settlements, and Socretary does not take "first pick" From packets, gach member seeing them first in turn. Charles J. Endle, Secretary, Kingsburgh Cottage, Boscombe, Hants.
S.IV. Lancashire: Exchanger Society.-The increase this month is the greatest the above society has to record. Tho list numbers now nearly 100 members, the sheets sent are an increase of only seven, whilo the amount shews an increase of nearly £380. Some fine and rare stamps are offered, including old mint state Colonials. The British and Europeans were also in abundance, in fact the packet all through is the best yet circulated. The position of the above society, as "Cock 'o the North," is now assured. Collectors seeking a good and high-class medium for acquiring and exchanging all "sorts and conditions" of stamps are requested to apply for rules, \&c., to the Secrotary, Wm. Ditchfield, S.E.P.S., 194, Dorning Street, Wigan,

## GROUP COLLECTING.

AFRTCAS COHOETBS.
By R. Hollics, Vice-President of the Birmingham Philatelio Society.

1886 issue, being stamps of Cape Colony, overprinted " British Bechuanaland" in two lines.


NOTE.-Varietics of the above may be found with P. instead of B., and with one or more letters of overprint omitted, all due to defective printing. A specimen of the penny on Cr. C.A. paper exists in the collection of J. E. Sparrow, Esq.

1887 issue, the halfpenny on English, the others made by overprinting "British Bechuanaland Postage and Revenue" in black on the unappropriated die stamps.


NOTE. -The $3 d$. and $1 /$ - valucs were re-issued in 1896 in a deeper shade but only in limited quantities.
1888 issues, being similar stamps to the 1887 issue but additionsl overprint.
Orb., 2d. overprinted in green '2d.' $200 \quad 0 \quad 200 \quad 0$



NOTE. - The relative position of the $P$. to the rest of the word Protectorate differs in various specimens, broken letters are to be found also, stamps with portions of the overprint missing.

1889 Provisional issues.
Anchor, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. the blk., Cape stamp over.
printed in green " British-
Bechusnaland" in two lines $\begin{aligned} & 0 \\ & 3\end{aligned} 16$
$t{ }^{t}$. the blk., Cape stamp overprinted in green, "Bechu-analand-Protectorate" in two lines $\quad . . \quad$.. $0 \quad 3 \quad 1 \quad 6$
Crown, 4d. the 1888 Protectorate $\underset{2}{2}$ d. with additional black overprint "Fourpence" $\quad$. 10026
NOTE.-The halfpenny stamps are to be found with one word of overprint missing, also with double overprint. The fourpenny also yields ant abundant crop of tarities of setiing, and it has been found with inverted overprint.

1891 Provisional issue, being stamps of Cape Colony, overprinted in black, "British-Bechuanaland" in two lines.
Anchor, 1d. carmine. black overprint


1801-1894 issue, being English stamps overprinted in black capitals "British-Bechlanaland" in two lines.
Crown, 1d. lilac .. .. $0 \quad 2 \quad 0 \quad 3$

| $"$ | 2d. green and carmino |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $"$ | 4d. green and brown | $\cdots$ | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |

$"$, ed. brown and red $\quad \because$.
"1803 1/-green ... $\quad . \quad 2 \quad 9 \quad 3 \quad 6$
1893 Provisional issue, being Cape stamps overprinted as in the 1891 issue, except that the overprint reads downwards.
Anchor, 1d. carmine, black overprint $\begin{array}{lllll}0 & 8 & 1 & 9\end{array}$
NOTE.-In this and" ithe $1891_{1}^{\prime \prime}$ issue there is a variety
$\begin{array}{llll}0 & 6 & 1 & 9\end{array}$ without dots to the two " $i$ 's" of "British" on each of the values, the variety always occurs in the same position in the sheets, viz.: the next stamp to the one under the plate number (3).

1897 current green $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Cape of Good Hope overprinted "British-Bechuansland"in black.
Anchor, $\frac{1}{2} d$. green
. 02 -

NOTE. - There are two settings of the overprint.
1897, English stamps overprinted in black, "Bechuanaland-Protectorate.."

[The present marked values are not fictitious, but have been arrived at by comparing Auction Reports and dealers' stocks, and also taking into consideration the numbers issued A full stock of nearly every rarity is held, and will be supplied by the compiler on receipt of amount Letters to be addressed to Richard Hollick, Fillongley House, Boldmere Road, Erdington, near Birmingham].

## PHILATELIC FRAUCDS.

British Guiana 20. Oranoe, 1860,-This stamp is so well imitated, that the forgery can be found in the stocks of many a dealer and even in the collection of good and advanced collectors. When the stamps bave a good margin the forgeries can always be detected by the lines scparating the stamps, which do not exist in the originals. In the forgaries the ship appears to be larger, the smail sail on the right hand side has partly disappeared, the sea is too rough and the wind fills the sails too much. The letters in the inccriptions aro too thick, especially the $G$ in Guiana, and the letters of the value are too thin, also taller than in the originals. When ob. literated it generally is (A O 3), but the cancellation is too narrow. The perforation is smaller.

Uruaday.-Some very dangerous counterfeits of the values of 100,120 and 240 centesimos of the 1859 issue of Uruguay have recently been circulated. The principal distinguishing marks from the originals are the following:--100c.-The stroke after "CORREO" to the right is hardly visible, and the word "CORREO" is slightly larger than in the originals. The colour of the counterfeit is too brown, and there is a perceptible difference in the position of the rays. This is the most dangerous counterfeit of the three. 120 and 240 c -The colours of these counterfeits are quite different from the originals. The blue is too much of an ultramarine tint, and the red too mueh of an orange. The distance between the first " C " of the "CORREO" at the left and the outer line above the word Montevideo is fifteen millimeters on the counterfeits, while on the originals it never exceeds $14 \frac{3}{4}$, but is usually nearer $14 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}$. There is also a slight differense in measurement on the right side, but not so pronounced. In both those values the upper and lower lines of the " E " of "CORREO" are formed of two curved lines above and below, which in the original are perfectly straight.

## Neny Catalogue. <br> 

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Pabt 1.-Adhestive Postage Stanps. Page.

1. Synopsis and Price List ...
... ... ${ }^{\text {Page }}$
2. Descriptive Catalogue a-Line-Engraved Series b-Embossed Series ... c-Surface. Printed Series d-De La Rue Series
$\ldots$
$\cdots$
$\ldots$
$\ldots$
$\ldots$
$\ldots$
.
"-De La Rue Series ... ... ... ${ }^{49}$

Pakt Il.-Metrejdy Enyelopes and Letter Sheets and jubslef Stationery
Pakt ili.-Stanps Impressed on Stationery.

1. Synopsis and Price List ... ... ... \& 8
2. Descriptive Catalogue ... $\ldots$... ... $\begin{array}{cccc}a-E n v e l o p e ~ S e r i e s ~ \\ b-\text { Kegistration Envelope Series } & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots \\ n_{j}\end{array}$ $r-$ Wrapper Series ... ... ... ... os "-Newspaper Series $\quad . . \quad$... $\quad . .8_{5}$ c-Postcard Series ... ... ... ... 8,
Part IV.-Stamps of Restricted Franking Power.
c-l ssues for Private Firms ... ... ... 95
Part V.-Post Office Telegraph Stanps ... ... 98
Part Vi.-Fiscal Stamps ... ... . ... 107
Part Vil.-General Remarks. a-Proofs and Essays ... ... ... 118 b-Watermarks, illustrated … .... ... c-" Specimen "Stamps ... ... ... 125 d-Minor Varieties ... ... ... ... 125
Part vili--Stamps isseed Priyately.
a-Oxford and Cambridge College Stamps ... 130
u-Circular Delivery Companies' Stamps $\ldots . .136$
d-Private Telegraph Companies' Stamps ... 142
BOOK 2.-POSTMARKS.
Part 1.-List of British Postmafks ... ... 149
List of Post Offices in the Uniteo Kingdom 160
Part II-Catalogue of British Stamps used Abroad 1 g

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1897, English stamps overpinted in black, " Dechuamaland-Protectorate.

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1d. lilae |  | .. 0 - | - |
| Qd. green and red | - | .. 01 | - |
| 4 4. green and hrown |  | .. 07 |  |
| ca. purple on red |  |  |  |

[The present marked when are not fietitious, but have been arrived at by comparing Anction licports and denlers' stocks, and absotating into considenation the numbers issuod A fuli swots of nearly every rarity is hed, and will be supulied be the compiler on receipt of amount Letteis to be ahdressed $t$. Hichard Holiek, Filiongley House, Doldmore Rond. l:rdington, near Birminglann].

## PHILATELIC FRSUDS.

Britesi Guiara 2c. Omavel:, 1360.--This stamp is so well imitated, that the forgery wan be lound in the stoeks of many a dealer and even in the collection of good and adranced colloctors. Whous the stamps have a good mangin the forgeries can anmes be detected by the lines separating the stamps, which do not exist in the originath. ln the forgeries the ship appears to be larger, the anail sail on the right hand side has partly disappeared, the sea is too rough and the wind fills the sails too much The letters in the in eriptions ate too thick, especially the $G$ in Guiana, and the ieters of the value are too thin, also taller iban in the originals. When obliterated it genorally is $(A \cup 3)$, but the cancellation is too nerrow. The perforation is smaller.

Urcglay. - Some very dangerons combterleits of the values of 100,120 and 210 centesimos of the 1859 issue of Cruguay havs recently been circulated. The principal distinguiching marks from the originals are the following:- 100 c .- The stroke after "CURREO" to the right is liardly sisible, and the word "COURATO" is slightly larger than in the originals. The colour of the counterfeit is too brown, and there is a perceptible difierence in the positi $n$ of the rays. This is the most dangerous counterfeit of the three. 120 and 240 c - The colours of these comterfeits arc quite different from the originals. The blue is too much of an ultramarine lint, and the red too mueh of an orauge. The distance between the first " $C$ " of the "COIR1RE)" at the left and the outer line above the word Montevideo is fiftecn millimeters on the counterfeits, while on the originals it never exceeds $14{ }^{3}$ but is usually neurer 14 mm . There is also a slight differenee in measurement on the right side, but not so proncunced. In both these values the upper and lower lines of the " $E$ " of "CORIREO" are formed of two curved lines above and below, which in the original are perfectly straight.

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p-Wiatern:arks. illustrated ... .. ... 1.1

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... J $\boldsymbol{q}^{1}$

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All communications for the next issue should reach us by the Tenth of the Month at latest. We cannot gubrantee insertion if received after that date.

May 23nd, 1898.

CONTENTS.


The Philatelic Chronicle is sent to all the members of the Birmingham Philatelic Society and Midiand Countfes Stamp Exchange, being the Officlal Journal of these Societies.
$\square$ HE fashion of Philately is very mutable and the latest sign of change points to South America as the approaching object of consideration. To a large exchange club, a South American dealer sent a big sheet of stamps valued at but fifty or sixty pounds and, out of these, some ninety per cent. were taken. A nod is as good as a wink in a case like this. Almost every other portion of the globe has experienced its Philatelic boom-let us be wise in time and look up South America. Prices are fair and moderate now and there is so much yet to he found out in the stamps of these countries that the wide-awake collector has an excellent field wherefrom to dig Philatelic treasures.

The Philatelic Publishing Company have reduced the price of their excellent Exchange Sheets from 2 - to $1 / 6$ per 100 . The quality remains the same but, in order to compete with others, they have taken a very big stock, which naturally reduces the cost and have reduced to the lowest margin of cut prices. 50 will be supplied for rod., and 25 for 6 d , all post free.

## CHRONICLE.

cANADA.- We have been exceedingly fortunate in securing early information of changes in the stamps of this country. We were the first to illustrate the jubilee issue, and announced the current issue three months before any of our contemporaries. We are now enabled to describe another important change in Canadian postals. Much dissatisfaction is expressed by the French speaking inhabitants of the rural parts at the lack of figures of value on the stamps, the de-
nomination in all cases being printed in English which they are unable to understand. It has, therefore, been decided to alter the new stamps by removing the maple leaves from the lower corners and inserting large numerals of value in their place. The space occupied by the head will also be somewhat enlarged and the value will be placed on a straight band below. As soon as this information is out there will doubtless be a great rush to secure stocks before the current set becomes obsolete.-Metropolitan Philatelist.

CHINA.-Messrs. Turner \& Co., Haddington, have sent us the 10 c . of the new issue. The stamp is of $a$ deep green colour with the dragon in a circular frame.

$$
\text { 10c. dark green, perf. } 11 \frac{1}{2} \text {. }
$$

EGYPT.-Our Egyptian agents, Messrs. Meleka, of Cairo, send us the provisional unpaid stamp issued the 26th of April, to be used on unpaid letters despatched from the expedition now in the Soudan. The surcharge in Arabic and ordinary type is printed across the stamp in a slanting direction.

3 milliemes on 2 piastres, orange.
HONG KONG.-Messrs. Turner \& Co, have sent us the new provisional formed by surcharging the 30 cents current stamp with 10 cexis in two lines in black.

10c. on 30c. pale green.
JAPAN, - The colours of the 5 rin to 5 sen were to be changed this month in conformity with the Universal Postal Union scheme of colours.

UNITED STATES.-The new 5 c . has come to hand in a handsome blue shade.

URUGUAY.-Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., calls our attention to the changed colours of the Uruguay stamps. So far the following have come under Mr. Johnson's notice.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { 1c. deep blue. } & \text { 2c. marone. } \\
\text { 7c. orange vermilion } & \text { 20c. black. }
\end{array}
$$

Postcards, \&c.
JAPAN-Messrs. Turner \& Co., of Haddington, informs us that a new card was issued 1st March for use between Japan and Postal Union Countries.

$$
4+4 \quad " \quad " \quad \text { (reply). }
$$

CANADA.-The nev three cent. envelope has appeared, its colour being a dull red. The Queen's head is embossed in white with a red background,
above which is the legend "Canada Postage" and below the value "Three Cents." We are indebted to Mr. R. S. Mason for the above early information.

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

促NOTHER big issue in a month. Pity the troubles of yours truly. These big issues are a great nuisance, but the boss won't abandon them-lie does all right out of them and so do the advertisers, I expect, from the way they come up smiling every time. I come in for a lot of extra work and I do pot-mphatically no nor-like them. They are gradually but surely bringing my grey hairs to the usual method of quoting. Thank goodness, the one in a month's time is the last until October, and for this relief-much thanks!

$$
{ }^{*} *
$$

This reminds me that The Advertiser is only published once a month from-now till October. Last year a lot of people were worrying us because they did not receive their copy about the 5 th of the month. You can all sec the dates of publishing announced on the first. second and tenth pages of The Advertiser and you will find that the next four issues are June 18th (the big issue), July 16th, August 27 th and September 17 th Please take notice of these dates and save me, a poor overworked old postman, a bit of trouble.

Master and Miss Postman are very much obliged to Messrs. Alired Smith and Son for number 1 and 2 of their Mercury series packets. These packets are only 4/- each, and they contain 350 different stamps, all clean, perfect copies and all differont. As the packets are made up from a certain number of countries in alphabetical order it is obvious that they cannot be, as many packets are, the commonest stamps from all quarters of the globe. As a matter of fact they are excellent value, and No. 1 is a good nucleus for a collection ranging from Antigua to Guatemala, while No. 2 covers Honduras to Wurtemburg.

$$
\because *
$$

The Hon. Librarian of the Bristol and Clifton Pbilatelic Society wants me to beg some philatelic literature, old or current, for his young but rising soclety. I am not a good beggar, but there may be some of my readers who have, or can get, the articles in question, and I am sure Mr. T. C. Cartwright will be delighted to hear from them. His address is, 17 , York Cresrent Road, Clifton, Bristol.

The Post Office collection at Berlin has received lately a very valuable addition. Renewing an old
letter box at the Post Office of Oldenburg a large number of letters posted early in the fifties were found: these no doubt has slipped through owing to some deficiency in the construction and had lain there concealed ever since. Some of the senders as well as the addressees had since died, and such envelopes with nearly all the stamps in splendid preservation were handed over to the authorities in Berlin, and have found a resting place in the official collection there.

The last row on some sheets of the current 15 c . of France has been found not perforated.

Mr. Johnson, the energetic secretary of the Bir. mingham Society, tells me that some enterprising Heathen Chiuee or Japonce is putting upon the market sets of old Japanese stamps - 60 is the number I think-at a cheap rate. A lot have been sold in Eugland and the buyers have been endeavouring to re-sell. Cufortunately, three quarters or more are forgeries - out-and-out forgeries - so I warn my readers to fight shy of them at any price.

Fiscal stamps are looking up considerably. Some journals have taken them up quite seriously. For instance, Mr. Pearce has been, for some time, contributing valuable articles on these to the columns of Stamps. The latest information is from Mr. Walter Morley, who informs me that he is about to issue a series of albums for fiscal stamps. The first will be for British Colonies-Antigua to India-and this is in the printer's hands now. If any of the readers of the Philatelic Chronicle can supply the editor with useful notes on these interesting stamps he will, no doubt, be pleased to devote some space to their use.

The Weakly Philatelic Era is rapidy becoming one of the foremost American papers. The issue for April 16th is a large-sized 16 -page paper, full of interesting news, items and advertisements. ihe Era has undoubtedly the most advertising support of all the papers in the States, and it undoubtedly deserves the same.

## PHALATELIC FRACDS.

Iralias States. - One of our friends has shown us a letter from Bordighera, containing four original anvelopes with stamps of Parma and Sicity. The following passage occurs in the letter, sud is one of the conditions :-"I do not guarantee the authenticity of any stamp noi being ant expert," and woll ho might
not, as every one is a forgery, not one of the following 12 stamps being genuine :-

Parma: Bright No. 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 16.
Sicily: ", 18,25 and 27.
All are aicely cancelled and in our opinion the ob. literations are better executed than the stamps themselves. The only genuine thing about the lot is the letter paper (outside sheets of old letters) which is undoubtedly old and original. We warn all our readers to have any dealings with this philoutelist.

Britisif East Africa.-Provisional, 1891, surcharged in manuscript and initialed A.B. 1a. on 4a. brown. I have recently had offered me from Bombay several of these stamps, which are fraudulent. The surcharge is genuine, but the stamps have been used fiscally, in the usual manner. This has been partly cleaned, and they have been neatly obliterated with the proper postmark, Mombasa, 1891. We are indebted to Mr. W. T. Wilson for this warning.

Switzerland.-An enterprising firm of Geneva lithograplers who had done an excellent business in counterfeiting Cantonal postage stamps of Switzerland, had some time ago taken out a copyright for their imitations of these stamps. This was considered too audacious, even by the easy going Swiss philatelists, and steps were taken to prohibit this nefarious business. After long and weary debates, Swiss lawmakers have at last decided to withdraw the copyright from the said firm.

Spais, 1874. 1, 4 and 10 Pesetas.-Some very good forgeries of these three stamps have lately been offered, used as well as unused. One original seems to have been made, as the figures of values have been put in afterwards. The principal tests are as follows:The line over the N in Espana is too short. The figures of value are not even. The right foot shows all the toes. The back of the chair ends in two points, one lower than the other. The sword is too long. The 7 in 1874 is too large. The paper is much thicker, and the perforation irregular.

## NEIVFOUNDLAND REPRINTS AND FORGERIES.

$\mathrm{O}^{\mathrm{N}}$
N the subject of Newfoundland reprints and re-issues it may not be amiss to say a word concerving the ten cent stamp. The stamp of this type in the scts which the Government has placed on sale are of a dull shade different to the original, and there is also a difference in the gum.

The difference is much more marked than that botween the two half ceut blacks, and it is quite
possible that the stamp in yuestion is a later and distinct printing of the 10 c .

My readers must bear in mind that these notes are simply comments based on the information obtained from correspondents and study of the stamps themselves. We hope to secure before long some ofticial facts and figures concerning the stamps commented upon in these notes. Two statements we offer as being offlicially correct, viz., that the $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{c} ., 1 \mathrm{c}$. , and 2 c . and no others were reprinted last November: and that 1894 not 1896 is the date of issue of the set of five re-issues.

News comes from Newloundland of a quickly detected attempt to counterfeit the much-talked-of provisional and arrest of the counterieiters. Under date of March Znd, Mr. N. Ohman of St. Johns, says that the arrests were made upon his complaint to the Postmaster General. A St Johns paper says the attempted counterfeiting of the stamps and subsequent arrests have created great excitement in the city. The alleged counterfeiters are lour young men of good family and have retained counsel to defend them in the case which the Government is pressing.

The paper further states that two of the youths will probably make a confession. Mr. Jones, of the Excelsior Stamp Co., has received a letter from a correspondent in St. John who gives some additional information concerning the counterfeiting of the surcharges, all of which were of type III. A boy, he states, offered a dealer 13 (unlucky number, in this case as any other would have been) and told him he would got him 30 more. This was enough to arouse suspicion in itself, and as almost always proves the case there were decided differences between the counterfeits and the originals. In the first place, the writer states, that the brown shade of the 3 c . was used instead of the correct colour; and thore was a difference of two millimeters in the space between the lower bar and the line of type forming the new value. The ink used was also of a dull greyish black instead of a glossy black.

## THE GRECIAN STAMPS, IIRST TYPE.

> By w. J. W. Miller.
[Being a paper read beforc the Plymuth Pliilatelic Socicty by the Hon. Sec., Mr. W. J. IV. Miller, on October 2Ist, 1896.]

OTHE early or Fronch design of the Grecian stamps (i.e., up to the beginning of 1886) consisted of five generai issues and several minor ones. These five issues wers:-1st, the Paris issue; 2nd, the
first Athens issuc ; 3rd, the second Athens issue; 4th, the 1876 issue; and fifth the 1875 issue. The stamps of the two latter issues could always be easily distinguished from the others as they were printed on toned paper, whilst the stamps of the first three issues were printed on variously tinted papers. These latter could also be distinguished from one another partly by the colour, but chietly by the printing of the stamp and the shading on the cheek of Hermes, whose profile formed the centre of the design. The Paris prints could also be easily separated from the Athens prints in the $5,10,20,40$ and 80 lepta values as the latter prints, with the exception of the 1 lepton and 2 lepte, had numerals, 0it mm . high, on the back of each stamp, whilst, with the exception of the in lepta which had numerals 8 mm . high, the Paris prints had no figures on the back at all. In the same way the 1876 issue on toned paper might be distinguished from the 1879 issue, as the former (again excepting the 1 lepton) had figures of value on the back whilst the lattor had not. The Paris prints were first printed in Paris in October, 1861, from electrotypes taken from a die engraved by M. Barre. They consisted of the 1 lepton and $2,5,10,20,40$, and 30 lepta values, and the shading lines were very finely executed, giving the cheek of Hermes a beautifully rounded appearance. The shading lines on a level with the ear were composed of dots only, whilst those lower down end in dots. As regards the first Athens prints I have always seen it stated that they were printed from the same electrotypes as the Paris prints, retouched; but as the same writers afterwards chronicled the 20 iepta pale blue from the worn Paris plate, this seemed to me an absurdity. I am of opinion that there wero two sets of cliche's taken from the original die-one for the Paris and one for the first Athens prints. If such were the case it might then be asked how it was that the shading lines on the cheek of Hermes were drawn right through in the first Athens prints and consisted largely of dots in the Paris prints. This, I may say, might be explained in two ways. First, it was possible that the original die became worn after sevon electrotypes had been taken from it for the Paris prints and that the die was then re-engraved; or, secondly, it might have been that the original die was similar to the first Athens prints and that the electrotypes for the Paris prints were themsalves touched up with a graver to make the shadiug finos. I am inclined to think the latter suggestion was the correct one as I found a great variation in the shading lines of some of the Paris prints. The first Athens issue was printed during 1862 and consisted of the aame values as the Paris prints. There wore 2 distinct shades of colour in the 20 lepta, but in the other values the colour varied vary little. The 80 lepta was to be found with vermilion numerals on the back. The shading on the face was composed ofl ines only, all dots being absent.

They were finely printed and the shading lines did not run one into the other as in the second Athens print. I presume that the Greeks, fearing their first Athens plates would wear out, had electrotypes made from them, and that it was from these new electrotypes that the eccond Athens stamps were printed. The values of the second Athens stamps were the same as those of the two previous issues, only there were several varieties of each value. Of the 1 lepton there was a peculiar variety with short shading lines on the face, and of the 20 lepta there vas the palc blue stamp printed from the worn Paris plate. With the exception of a variety of the 1 leplon the stamps of this issue were very coarsely printed and sometimes the shading lines ran into one another to such an extent as to form an unbroke $n$ patch of colour on the cheek of Hermes. Stamps of this issue are sometimes found with errors in the figures on the back. The $18{ }^{16} 6$ issue was printed on toned paper with numerals at the back. There were six values, the 2 leptar having been omitted. Two new values, the 30 and 60 lepta, were added in this yenr. They were first printed in Paris and afterwards at Athens. The shading on the face of Hermes in the former was the same as that of the old Paris prints. Towards the end of 1876 (not 1877 as sometimes stated) the 20 lepta was printed in indigo on dark blue paper and in 1878 the 10 lepta was issued in orange-red without numerals on the back. The 10 lepta was also known on buff paper; and the 5,10 , and 20 lepta were found with errors of the figures on the back. The 1879 issue consisted of the $1,5,10,20$, and 40 lepta values. The 1 lepton was on yellow-buff and the others were on toned paper. The 5 lepta, was also printed on yellow paper. In 1881 the 1 lepton and 2 lepta were issued on toned paper. The former was almost identical with the 1 lepton of 1876 , though the lattor was somewhat more heavily printed and the colour was slightly deeper. I found, however, that the easiest way to distinguish used specimens was by the postmars, which in the 1876 issue had an inner as well as an outer circle, whereas in the 1881 issue the inner circle was almost always absent. In 1882 the colours of the 20 and 30 lepta were changed ; the formor being printed in carmine and rose-pink and the latter in pale and deep blue.

## GROUP COLLECTING.

## AFRICAN COLONIES.

By R. Hollick, Vicc-President of the Birmingham 1hilutelic Society.

## BRI'TISH EAST AFRICA.

1890 issue English Stamps, overprioted "British East Africa," and value.


1890, permanent type, perf. 14, wmk. Arms.

| $\frac{1}{1}$ anna brown .. | - | - | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ", green | - | - | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 2 " red .. | - | . | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| " brown .. | ... | . | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| 8 " blue .. | . | - | 6 | 2 | 6 |
| 1 rupee carmine | . | . | 9 | 2 | 6 |
| 2 " brown red | $\cdots$ | . | 9 | 4 | 6 |
| ,", slate violet | .. | $\ldots$ | 9 | 6 | 0 |
| " light blue | -. | . | 0 | 8 | 6 |
| " sap green | .. | . | 0 | 10 | 6 |

NOTE.-The sheets were imperforate on the four outer margins, the conner stamps being imperforate on two sides. All but the 2, 3, 4 and 5 repees are met with imperforate, and nearly all partially perforatei.e., imperforate vertically or horizoutally.

| 4 annas grey, imperforate only | $\ldots$ | 75 | 0 | 75 | 0 |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8 | perf. 14 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 10 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| 1 rupee | $"$ | $"$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 12 | 0 | 14 |

NOTE.--Thesc threc were intended for fiscal, but are available for postal purposes.

1891, same type.


NOTE.-These were also issued and used imperforate or perforated in one divection unly, pairs with partial per;oration
.. $30 \quad 0$
1891 provisionals overprinted with a hand stamp with now value.

| $\ddagger$ anna on 2 annas |  | $\cdots$ |  | $\cdots$ | $\pm 10$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 " | 1 annas | $\cdots$ |  |  | ¢15 |
|  | With nerv value in Mms. |  |  |  |  |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ anna on | 2 anuas | - | - | - | ${ }_{\text {f }}{ }^{\text {d }}$ |
| " | 4 annas | $\cdot$ | . |  | ${ }_{4}$ |

Each of these stamps was initialled in Mms. by Postmaster or Clerk.
189. 1 provisionals.

| 5 | annas black | overpriut on 8 annas | $\ldots$ | 10 | 0 | 17 | 6 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $7 \frac{1}{2}$ | $"$ | $"$ | $"$ | $\# 1$ | 1 rupee | $\ldots$ | 10 | 0 |
| 25 | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1894 permanent issuc, perl. 14.



1806 provisional.
black and lilac
NOTE.-The ocerprini being form'al with ernte apmaratios, many misprints and double pintmus are met with.

1896 Indian Stamps overprinted in black, "British Last Africa" iu thre lines.


| $\frac{1}{2}$ anne, | yellow green |  | .. 0 | 2 | 0 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | carmine rose |  | .. 0 | 3 | 0 |  |
| 2 ", | checolate |  | 0 | 5 | 0 |  |
| 2t , | deep blue |  | 0 | 5 | 0 |  |
| $3{ }^{3}$ | grey .. |  | 0 | 5 | 0 |  |
| , | dark green |  | .. 0 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| 1t ", | orange |  | .. 0 | 7 | 0 |  |
| 5 " | bistre |  | .. 0 | ! | 1 | 3 |
| 12 | lilac |  | .. 1 | 0 | 1 |  |
| 8 " | stonc |  | ... | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| 1 rupec, | blue |  | .. 8 | 0 | $\pm$ | 0 |
| ${ }^{1}$ | red |  | .. ir | 6 | 7 | 0 |
| 3 | violct |  | .. 8 | 6 | 10 | 0 |
| 4 " | carmine |  | .. 11 | 0 | 12 |  |
| 5 " | darla brown |  | 21 | 0 | 22 |  |
| 1897 stamps of /anzibar, overprinted British East Africa. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ amaa, | green and red |  |  | 0 | 20 | 0 |
| " | blue and red |  | .. 10 | 0 | 20 |  |
| 2 | brown and red |  | .. 12 | 0 | 15 |  |
| ti : | orange and red |  | .. 15 | - | 15 | 0 |
| 5 " | bistre and red |  | . 15 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| 7 ., | purple and red |  | .. 16 |  | 16 |  |

Two stmmps of this isste, overpriatod $\because 3$ in red
2\} on : 3 ammas .. .. .. 15 0 90 ${ }^{2} 011 \quad, \quad . . \quad . . \quad . . \quad 20 \quad 0 \quad 250$ NOTE. The $2_{2}^{2}$ on 1 unter in red is probably barl. 1s:it, 1 rupee in brighter blus .. 1 i 10 o
ison stamps as inge as the rupee value of India, disign unaltered, ummed.

1 rupec, ultranatine
2
3
4
5
10
20
50
"
"
10
10
20
50
5
",
orange
-

## THE COMPARATIVE RARITY OF

## BRITISH EAST AFRICAN STAMPS.

First issuc in English! The 1 anna on ©d. unused is the rarest. Sccond issuc or Company's stamps: Au immense quantity of remainders were in hand at the time the Imperial Government tuok over the administration. These were sold to a dealer. The anak values were in great prepouderance with the exception of $2 t$ annas. The grey 4 and 8 annas and

1 rupee were not included. 1995 stamps of the Company, overprinted "British East Africa." The numbers overprinted are thus given by Postmaster Remington :--

| 4,980 $\frac{1}{2}$ anna | . | 1,900 8 anuas |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1,040 1 ,, | .. | 2,349 1 rupice |
| 1102 , | . | 5202 rupees |
| 4,020 2.2 | . | 7193 " |
| 2,230 3 " | - | 8684 " |
| 3,240 4 " | . | 5685 |
| 3,780 4t | .. | 7805 annas |
| 1,140 7 7 , | . | - |

1896 Indian stamps overprinted British Fast Africa.

|  | nna, | 11,040 | .. |  | anuas, | 1,960 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 11,280 |  | 8 |  | 1,160 |
|  | nnas | 12,200 |  | 12 |  | 1,000 |
| 2 | " | 9,200 | - |  | rupce, | 3.200 |
| $2{ }^{2}$ | " | 13,200 | . |  | rupees | 392 |
| 3 | , | 2,560 |  | 3 |  | 392 |
| 4 | " | 3,400 | . | 5 |  | 392 |

1896 permanent issue of Zanzibar, overprinted "British East Africa."

| $\frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} \text { anna }}$ | . | .. 1,500 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | .. 4,200 |
| 2 2 on 1 anna |  | .. 3,000 |
| 2 annas |  | .. 2,400 |
| 2 on 3 annas |  | .. 3,600 |
| $4 \frac{1}{2}$ annas |  | .. 1,800 |
| 5 | . | .. 1,800 |
| 71. | . | -. 1,800 |

## SOCIETY REPORTS.

## BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

IIonorary President:-W. B. Avshr, Eṣ̨. President:-W. T. Wrison, Esq.
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Mon. Secretary and Treasurer:-Mr. G. Jounson, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

Mavch 1Fith. Paper. Quecnsland. Mr. II. Pimm.
Miss Sinallwood was upanimously elected a member.

Mr. Pimm then read his paper on the Stamps of Queensland, illustrating it by means of his own collection, which contained a fair number of almost every variety.

## April 21st. Display. Roumania.

Dr. Hill Norris and Mr. R. Kost were unanimously elected members.

Hearty votes of thanks were given $t$ to the following for their donations to the Library: Mossers. H. L'Estrange Ewen (Edition de Luxe of his Standard Priced Catalogue of British Stamps and Postmarks) ; J. A. Margoschis (bound volume of the Junior Stamp Collector) ; D. J, Mencarini (Descriptive Catalogue of the Stamps of the Phllipine Islands).

Owing to the only suitable room for the Exhibition being engaged till somewhat too late for holding same, it has been decided to postpone it till the Autumn when the Committee hope that all those who have so kindly offered exhibits will be able to renew those offers. Date and particulars will be announced in due course.

Messrs. Wilson, Pimm, Cooke and Johnson then shewed the stamps of Roumania. Mr. Wilson's exhibit was especielly fine, including the errors, used and unused, and all other varieties unused in a fine range of shade. The pairs, strips and blocks of the early issues on laid papar are worthy of special mention, as well as some of the varietics of perforation, etc., in the later issues, which are very difficult to obtain in mint condition.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES STAMP EXCHANGE

(Established I886).
Hon. Secretary :-W. G. Walton, Fentham Road, Birmingham.

The A packet was the best sent out in April. Among other good stamps included in the packets this month were a grand copy 1d. Tasmenia, first issue, 1d. and 2d. star wmy., 1d. and 2d., no watermark, and all the Tasmanian provisionals in pairs and blocks. The 21 d . British Columbia, blue Ionian on original, Natal, first issue, 3d., two or three copics, Great Britain, 4d., imperforate, several Sydney views, first issue New Zealand and tuused English together with a nice lot of St. Vincent, Nevis and West Indian were also on the sheets. The May packets are much better than the April even. New members proposed are Geo. Barnard (India), P. Deverell (London), J. S. Allen (London), G. Nicho son (Fleetwood). The January sheets have been returned and all accounts paid for that month. Rules, \&c., post free from the Secretary.

The S. W. Laxcashire Exchange Society:February packet has been returned and sheets sont home, the sales this month being much above the
average. March packet is expected back shortly and judging from reports received from notifying members, the sales are expected to rank bighly. The April and May packets are also well oa their way. Contributions to all the above packets have been excellent. Secretary, Wm. Ditchfield, S.E.P.S., 194, Dorning Street, Wigan.

The Roath Stamp Exchange Societr. 90 sheets were received for the April packets. I shall be glad to hear from any collector desirous of joining. Secretary, W. G. Bowden, Mackintosh Place, Cardiff.

Stricrban Stamp Exchange Society.-On April 24 th 222 sheets were mado up into four packets and despatched on their several rounds. Perfect specimens of many rare issues were offered at $50 \%$ below catalogue prices, and good sales are expected. Very common varieties and defective copies are in little demand. The following were enrolled as members during the previous month :-Messrs. Wotton (London), Wooderoft (London), Clark (Aberdeen), Ward (Jersey), Lloyd (Lichfield), Rev. W. Jenks (St. Albans), Meyers (Johannesburg), and Mrs. Caroe (Copenhagen). Non-contributors who desire to see packets are reminded to notify the Secretary, who will see that their names are duly inserted on the lists. Secretary, H. A. Slade, Ingles:de, St. Albans.

The Brigtol and Clifton Philatelic Societr. -A meeting of the Society was held on the 5th inst., Dr. Bush in the chair. It was resolved that all packets should be returned to the hon. sec. by June 24 th, and that none should be sent out during July and August. Dr. Bush then displayed a part of his collection of reconstructed sheets of 1d. blacks, red
 plate numbers with many blocks of unused 1d. reds, and numerous varieties. Mr. Stooke showed a part of his reconstructed sheets, all very carefully arranged, also several complete sets of obliterations all in their chronological order. Mr. Cartwright also exhibited four nicely-mounted sheets of 1 d . red imperf. and perf. with 2 and 4 letters, 1d. Venetian red, and a complete set of plate numbers of 1d. red.

Richiond Stamp Exchange Society - The April packet was made up on the 12 th inst., directly after Easter, which caused same to be two days later than the regular date. The total sent comprised a rather fine general collection. The December packet has been returned showing sales $12 \frac{1}{2} \%$, but this could be considerably increased if members would advise Secretary of their requirements. The following have joined the society since the the last report:-Messrs. H. J. Adams, A. H. Dingwall, I. Casino, F. H. Boxsius, and Mrs. Boucher. Secretary, At. Reid, jun., 14, Parsifal Road, West Hampstead, N. W.

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## + + CONTENTS. ${ }^{\text {O }}+$

BOOK 1.-STAMPS.
Part 1.-Adhesive Postage Stamps. Page.
r. Synopsis and Price List ... ... ... s
2. Descriptive Catalogue e ... ... ... is



Part Ill.-Stamps Impressed on Stationery.

1. Synopsis and Price List
2. Descriptive Catalogue ... ... ... ${ }^{6}$ a-Envelope Series ... ... ... ... 65 b- Registration Envelope Scries ... ... 8i c-Wrapper Serics ...
...
${ }^{83}$ $\begin{array}{lllll}d-\text { Newspaper Series } & \ldots . & \ldots & \ldots & 85 \\ \text { - Postcard Series } & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & 88\end{array}$
Part IV.-Stamps of Restrictid franking Power.
a-Issues for he Levant ... ... ... 91 b-Issues for Government Departments ... ... $9^{z}$ $c-$ Issues for Private Firms ... ... ... gs
Part V.-Post Office Telegraph Stamps ... ... 98
Part Vi.-Fiscal Stamps ... ... ... to7
Part Vil-Ggnemal Remarks.
a-Proofs and Essays ... ... ... 118

$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { c-" Specimen " Stamps } & \text {... } & \text {... } \\ \text { d-Minor Varieties ... } & 125 \\ \text {... } & \text {... } & 125\end{array}$
Part vili.-Stamps Issued Prinately. a-Oxford and Cambridge College Stamps ... 130 "-Circular Delivery Contpanies' Stamps … 136 c-Railway Letter Fee Stamps $\quad$... ... $14^{\circ}$ d-Private Telegraph Companies' Stamps ... $14^{2}$ BOOK 2.-POSTMARKS.
Part 1.-List of British Postmarks ... ... 149
List of Post Offices in the United Kingdon 160
Part il.-Catalogue of British Stamps used Abroad 1;44

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34
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$i-$ Embessed Series...
 , I--1e La Rue Series … ... - . 1



1. Synopsis and Price List ... ... ... \&s
2. Descriptive Cataloghe $\quad . . \quad$... $\quad . . \quad \overline{6}_{i}$


 e-Postcard stries ... ... ... $\ldots$...
 a-fssies for he Levant



phi til-Genemal Remses a-l'roots and Essay:
$b-$ Waturmarks. illustratoi
c- "Spicimen" Stanps 123

a-Osford and Camlotidee College Stamps ... 13:
i-Circular Delivery Companies Samps
$r-$ Railway I.cter foe Stamps
I-Pritale Telceraph Companies' Stamps $\quad \cdots \quad . \quad . \quad 1$
BOOK ב-POSTMARKS.
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Yol. 7. JUNE 21, 1898. No.9.
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42. CHESTER ROAD,

EASTHAM, ESSEX.

## "THE ADVERTISER."

(Reprinted from "Philatelic Chronicle" of January 31st, 1898.)
THE last issue of The Advertiser was sent
to all the old subscribers who have dropped out in addition to the usual quantity of specimen numbers. This meant an increase of a thousand at least on the normal circulation, but the success of the Christmas Advertisey encouraged us to fresh enterprise. The extra names were all over the world, but principally in Great Britain. On February 12 th comes the next big issue, and this will be of even larger proportions. If these two come up to expectation we shall still further increase the normal circulation. We may say for the benefit of all concerned, that we have registered nearly two hundred new subscribers to the Advertiser and Chronicle within the last six weeks, and this is where the big issues pay us.
'Iwo hundred thousand is a big figure, but it represents the number of circulars, price lists, club rules, and handbills circulated by means of The Advertiser during the last twelve months at io:- per thousand. The postage on 1,000 circulars at $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. each is $£ 21 \mathrm{~s}$. 8 d . If they are sent out with The Advertiser filis. 8d. is saved, or $75 \%$ of the postage It may be argued that circulars distributed in this way are not so efficacious as those sent separately, but this is open to question-at any rate the difference is not represented by $75 \%$. To print circulars about note-paper size runs from $77^{-}$- to 12 : $^{-}$per page for a thousand, according to the work on a page-at these prices they are done well, and the l'hilatemic l'ubilshing Company are prepared to print and advantageously circulate to any extent. That the system pays is proved by the fact that the same people send circulars for distribution again and again.
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## ADVERTISENEATS.

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Ill commanications for the next issue shomid rach a- by the Texth of the Montmat latest. We camus guicmince insetion if received after that date.


| Editorlal |  |  | $\ldots$ | rine. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Chrontcle |  | ... | $\cdots$ |  | 85 |
| The Postminn's Knock |  | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ |  | 66 |
| Notes on cinglish Stamps |  |  | $\ldots$ |  | 6 |
| Grove Lollectiag | .. | ... | $\ldots$ |  | 6 s |
| Tie Stamps of the lonia, dalands |  | ... | $\cdots$ |  | 69 |
| Tae Omaha Stamps |  |  | $\ldots$ |  | 70 |
| Sociely Keports |  | -. |  |  | 7 |

The philatetic Chronc! is sent to ali the members of tio Birmingham Philatelic Society and Bidiand Counties Stamp Exclange, beins the Official Journal of these Socletios.

- $\left[\begin{array}{c}\text { Ille picture series of New /ealamd are } \\ \text { at presem the most tallsed of :tamps, }\end{array}\right.$ in lact. they are a puazle. My readers will recollect they were issued in New Zea. land on April 2 , and on the same day were sole at the Colonial office to coliectore, In due seasen sets were recived from both . Auchand and London, but strange to say the $2!1$. were different in each set: the colont and ilesign are the same, beat those raceived from duekland are inscribed "NEWV $\therefore$ H. فL.ND pospagi: d revexu!." .boveamd * $11 \%$. Earssins" instratght line and " [ahe Nal. Tirt on a scrull iorista. The Loman
 above, and below in lined frame " rostage a Revente " and " L.ak: Wakatore " an a scroll similar to last. The puzth is which will prove (t) he the rare one. The presumption is that the Vishtur fisue will be rare as the -peltine of the bake is incored "lhis is another sase of the advantage of buying new sets as wilered. line early bugar catchas the errors which will become valuable. The set is a very complete one comprising : $\frac{b d}{}$., id, $2 \mathrm{~d} ., 2!\mathrm{d}, 3 \mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{td}_{\mathrm{d}}, \mathrm{j} \mathrm{d} .6 \mathrm{~d} ., \mathrm{xd} ., \mathrm{gd} .$. I $\cdot, 2$. and 5 , and they make an extremed hand. some set having the additional advantaze of being a permanont isate.


## CHIONICLE.

( $\lambda^{\prime}$ HILLI. To the list of unpaid stames notol in our issate of May 1 tha, whe la valuc inay be added. Postage duc stimps.

$$
16 \text { atavo, eamine. }
$$

GIBRALTALA, - Mr. J, S. Pariente, of Pangier, sends us, a specimen if the Gibraltar stathes sutcharged

## $E$ NOW READY, 1897 EDITION. 己

## фкке Britisf gtamp Direetory.

$\tau^{1}$HE PHILATELIC PUBLISHING CO. hsve published an entirely New Edition of this Directors (last issaed in 1881), whiah will supply a long-felt want in British philately. As publishers of The Philatelic Chronicle and The Advertiser, they have enjoyed for gears exceptional opportunitios for procaring the names and adaresses of British Colleotors, and these are now collated and published for the first time in book form.

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All communications for the next issue should reach us by the Tenth of the Monthat latest. We caunot guarautee inscrtion if received after that date.

Jone 21st, 1898.
CORTENTS.

| COHTENTS. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Editorial ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 69 |  |  |  |  |  |  | ge |
| Chronicie |  | $\ldots$ | ... |  |  |  | 68 |
| The Pastman's Knock | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | .... | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 66 |
| Notes on English Btamps |  | ... | ... | ... | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 67 |
| Group Collecting ... |  |  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 68 |
| The Stamps of the Ionia | Is | ads | ... | ... | ... | ... | 69 |
| The Omeha 8 tamps | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | 70 |
| 8ociety Reports | .. | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... |  |

The Philatelic Chronicle is sent to all the members of the Birmingham Philatelic Soclety and Midland Countles Stamp Exchange, being the Official Journal of these Societies.

$T^{\mathrm{H}}$
HE picture series of New Zealand are at present the most talked of stamps, in fact, they are a puzzle. My readers will recollect they were issued in New Zea. land on April 2, and on the same day were sold at the Colonial office to collectors, In due season sets were received from both Auckland and London, but strange to say the $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. were different in each set ; the colour and design are the same, but those received from Auckland are inscribed "NEW \%EALAND postage \& revenue" above and "Mr. Earnslaw" in straight line and "Lake Wakitipu" on a scroll to right. The London edition are inscribed "NEW ZEALAND" above, and below in lined frame "postage \& revenue" and "Lake Wakatipu" on a scroll similar to last. The puzzle is which will prove to be the rare one. 'The presumption is that the Waktripu issue will be rare, as the spelling of the lake is incorrect. This is another case of the advantage of buying new sets as offered. The early buyer catches the errors which will become valuable. The set is a very complete one, comprising : $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$., Id ., 2d., 21/2d., 3d, 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 9d., $1 /-, 2 /-$ and $5 /-$, and they make an extremely hand. some set having the additional advantage of being a permanent issue.

## CHRONICLE.

$\gamma$ HILI.-To the list of unpaid stamps noted in our issue of May 14 th , the 1c. value may be added. Postage due stamps.

1 centavo, carmine.
GIbRALTAR.-Mr. J. S. Pariente, of Tangier, sends us a specimen of the Gibraitar stamps surcharged
"Monocco-Agencies" in two lines. It is rumoured that a new issue will shortly appear for Gibraltar.

Messrs. Turner and Co., Haddington, also sends us other specimens of the Morocco stamps.

5 centimos, green.

| 10 | $"$ | red. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 20 | $"$ | bistre. |
| 25 | $"$, | blue. |

GREAT BRITAIN.-Mr. T. C. Cartwright calls our atien tion to the fact that the current red $\frac{1}{2}$ d. has now a break in the marginal line by the sirth stamp down the left side.

GRENADA.-A nev 212 d . stamp to commemorate the discovery of the island by Columbus has been authorised.

HAYTI. - A new issue of postage stamps is now being engraved in the U.S. for Hayti, the values being the same as of old with the exception of \$1.00. They will all bear the picture of President TI. Simon Law. The 20 cents orange has been surcharged 2 cents; and also the 20 cent brown. This was done in order to use the sets up as quickly as possible to make wry for the new issuc. There were only 20,000 printed of the 20 cent brown and it will probably be a scarce stamp. The 7 cent stamp now comes unperforated horizontally.

MEXICO.-Mekeel's Weekly has a block of the current 5 c . stamps perf. 6 (watermarked eagle and H.M.). Tbey are on sale at the Mexico City post office, and the other values are expected to appear with this perforation.
a centevos, ultramarine, perf. 6.
NEWFOUNDLAND. - We are informed by a St. John's corresrondent that three addilional values of the new rei may be expected to appear niny day. The $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{c}$. bears the picture of young Prince Fidward, eldest son of the Duse of lork ; the 3c. has portrait of Princess Victoria Miary of Teck, wife of the Duke of York, and the 5 c. that of the Duke himself. The five stamps of this series thus shows four gener tions of living royal personages.

NEW ZEALAND.-Mr. C. F. Winstaniey, of Christchurch, sends us information about the new issue which is now on sale, and also a copy of the $2 \frac{1}{2}$ error with shilling Waritipe, All on sale in New Zealand are on unwatermarked paper and printed in London. Those issued in New Zealand are of different colours or moie pronounced shades than the London edition. The 5d, is a red brown, London atamp is dark brown; the 4d. is pink; the ?d. is a different shade. It is stated that the $2 \frac{2}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. and 5 d . are being all bought up. The $2 \frac{2}{2}$ d. orror is selling in l'oston to day for 50 cents. The Nut Engiand Stamp Co. and the Colonial Stamp Co. were the first here to receive any of the New Zealand stames. If the stamps in future are printed in New Zealand and should be on N.Z. watermarked paper, we may have
a great many varietics of a very bandsome set of stamps.

S'C. LUCLA.-Mr. C. J. 1. Charles, of St. Lucia, sends us the new 2d. stamp (die 2) which was issued on May 9th owing to the postage to all foreign countries being reduced to 2 d The 2$\}$ d. stamp is now obsolete.

2d. blue and yellow.

## Postcards, \&c.

AZORES. -Tho Vasco de Gama cards are out for Portugal and all colonies. There are two values, 10 and 20r. The 10r. is for use in Spain and Portugal, and there are eight varictics with different views of buildings and scenery on front; the 20r. is for postal union use, and there are four varieties of this value.

Commemorative post cards.
10 reis, rose on gray (8 varieties).
20 " lilac on gray (4 varieties).
GIBIZALTAR. The 10c. card, black, has been surcharged for use in Morocco similarly to the adhesives.

PERSIA, - A uew card with stamp bearing head of the new shah has been issued.

2 shahi, brown ois buff.
Three wrappers with stamp of same type as the 1sh. have been aspued. All are on brownish paper.

## 2 shahi, brown.

3 " violet.
6 " yellow.
TASMANIA.-Mr. H. Vaughan, of Hobart, has sent us two envelopes, one of the value 2 d . and the other 2 did., which was a special issue on January 1 st, 1898. Thoy were all sold out in a few days, the total issue being 1,676 of the 2 d ., and 1,672 of the 24 d . The envelopes have six different views of I'asmanian scenery, but the stamps are of the usual design. They are most handsome envelopes, and are destincd to be very scarce.

2d. green stamp.
$2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. mauve stamp.

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

-不NATION of shopkeepers !" scornfully exclaimed the great Napoleon of the British. A curious instance of the commercial mind triumphing over martial ardour and the glory of arms, comes to hand in the postcript to a letter recently received in Birminghem from a soldier now serving in the Nile expeditionary force. "Keep all the stamps on my letters," he advises, "they'll fetch a good price later en." Anoid the clash of arms and all the excitements and dangers of Soudanese warfare, Tommy Atking has an eye to future business with enthusiastic
philatelists The man who remembers the va' a if a post-mark will not end his days in a wol....ise, noglected by his countrymen.

With the exce: tion of China, all the nations of the world have now become members of the Postal Union, and China has amounced her intention to join the Union as soon as sho is in a condition to resume the respousibilities of the association. This announcement was made at the second plenary yession of the Universal Yostal Congress in Washington The representatives of China asked that the protocol be left open fer her rdmission. The Corean delegates announc $d$ the agreement of their government to the general compact, to take effect at a date not later than January 1st, 1899 , the time fixed for the convention, sigued at the Congress, to go into effect.

In the Artic regions the Jussian mail rontas are thaversed by puindeer sledges, which fly over the crisp snow at the rate of seventiv miles a day.

The premier English stamp firm-Messrs. Stanley Gibbons-have re-entered the arena as wholesale dealers, and have issued a wholesalo list for Junc, which contains 28 pages and is fall of the desirable lines which the tirm can offer by reason of their buge stock. lealers should whil see this book and collectors should sond for the prospectus of Stamps, Cards, Philatclic ${ }^{2}$ ublications, \&e., of 34 pages, which forms their retail list, for there is no firm which has so varied an assorment of phiatelic alleibutes as stanley Gibbons, Limited.
"Of all the sad and gloomy words, That msnkind over writ,
There really are few sadder ones Thau these two, 'Please Remit1'"
Guess not 1 We think thoso sadder far : (In misery let us groan)
When we get our thirtecnth letter back
"Left town, address unknown!"


A postal card that required seventeen years to travel ninety-uine ( 99 ) miles breaks the record for slow delivery. It was posted in Leicester in June, 1881, and has just been rectived in London. The address was plainly written on the card, and no one knows where it hes been all this time.

The folluwing shows the öpposite side of the medal. A letter was posted in a Norfolk village addressed to a lady who had just removed into, ajartments in Shaftesbury Road, Grouch Hiil, N., but was worded "Sharsbery Road, Churchill, Londou," the namo and number only being correct. The Iotter was safely delivered the following day. It bore five postmarks showing that it reached Norwich at 7 p.m., on the

21st, and arrived in "London, SP 21." Two of the postmarks cannot be distinctly read, and the other shows that it was at "Paddington $W$ " at 7 a.un. SP 22."

## NOTES ON ENGLISH STAMPS. <br> By W. S. Webb. HOSE-RED PENNY, IMPEBF.

In a recent exchange packet of English stamps I saw a remarkably fine unused block of six imperf. id. with stars in uppei corners, very deep red, ou white paper, ful gum, and watermarbed large crown. This block would be either from the sheets accidentally issued inforforate about 1857, or may possibly be from plate 66, from which in 1864 the 1d black "Royal reprint" was made. From Mr. H. Ewen's catalogue I learn that a cortaiu number of sheets were struck in rose-red as well as in black; that neither were perforated; and that the black and red are of equal rarity.

## THE: MODERN P, O. AND THE MCLREADY.

It canuot be expected that the official memory carries itself back to 1840 with much of an eje to detail, hence it is that the present post office's modo. of dealing with anything so antiquated as a Mulready onvelope, is a very uncertain quantity. A few days since, what purported to be a penny Mulready was sent to me for opinion. It was but an imitatio: of the real thing, passable as far as the front was concerned, though there were enough discrepancies in the design to indicate certain forgery, bat not showing any attempt to imitate the "Dickinson" paper; neither was the oblong label with word postage on the back: it was simply a modern-made envelope of vellum-wove paper, but the curious thing was that it had done postal duty, having been used from Rotherhithe in 1887, and dulg-or unduly - delivered, untaxcd, at the place in Scotland to which it was addressed. Exactly the reverse of the foregoing is the experience of a Liverpool g ntleman, who tells ne he had addressed to him a genuine unused 2d. Mulready, and that the authorities surcharged him with "postage due" on delivery. I have not heard the ond of the matter, but I should think the officials will have difficuity in justifying their action, which, of course, my friend requires them to do.

## halfpensy plate 9.

This strmp-one of the most interesting of the plate-number varieties -has bcon in fair evidence lately on club sheets, and I have been so fortunate as to find one on part of the paper on which it was used, postmarked at Manchester as carly as Janjary 16th, 1872, which is 15 days eariier than the date of issue
given in Eren's catalogue. It may or may not be the cariiest date known: dated copies are very hard to find at all, and I should much like to know if an carlier one has been seed.

## vaccination certificates.

In the notes for June last I mentioned that I had found three of these stamps, showing a small " 3 " in white under the bust, and dated January 23rd, 24th, and February 29th reepectively: (this latter should be valuable - certainly a rare date). New, two other dates have turned up with the same feature-1.3.72 and 2.3.72. So the die with the numeral seems to have had two spells of use, of 2 and 3 days respectively. Have stamps of the five foregoing dates been seen without the ting " 3 "? And is the latter known on any other dates than those mentioned?

## I. $\mathrm{A} . \operatorname{oFFICIAL}$.

I have just found an unused copy of the 2id. lilac, which has a stop after "official" exactly like those after the $I$, and $K$. If genuine, as $I$ think it is, this is hitherto unknown, and I am endeavouring to to trace its source and history. I shall be glad to hear if anyone has found a similar feature on this or the other values with the above overprint.

## APRIL NOTES.

Major E. B. Evans very kindly informs me in reply to the query last month anent the dates of the 6 . embossed stamps, that he has a telegraph form with 10.1.94, and that he believes the "florets" were first inserted in February, 1894. Also, with regard to the 1.10.70 wrapper, Major Evans only knows it in the $14 \times 5 i n$. size, and bays that the catalogues are in error which quote a $12 \times 5 \mathrm{in}$. of this issuc.
[Owing to delay in the pest Mr. Webb's notes arrived too late for insertion in the May number.]

## GROUP COLLECTING.

## AFRICAN COLONIES.

By R. Hollick, Vice-President of the Birmingham Philatelic Society.

## BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

1890 issue. Design:-Arms of the compar:y surmounted by "Eritish South Africa Company" in ecroils above, beneath, value in straiglt line. The size of $£ 1$ to $\pm 10$ etamps being considerably larger than the lower values. Perf. 14.


| 1/- brown | . | - | 2 | 6 | 3 | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2j- red | . | $\cdots$ | 4 | 0 | 5 | 6 |
| 2/6 lilac | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 5 | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| 5/- yellow | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 10 | 0 | 16 | 0 |
| 101-green .. | . | - | 19 | 0 | 25 | 0 |
| £1 blue | . | .. | 35 | 0 | 30 | 0 |
| £2 rose red . . | .. | - | 50 | 0 | 50 | 0 |
| £5 sage green | - | - | 120 | 0 | 60 | 0 |
| £10 brown | .- | -. | 250 | 0 | 120 |  |

1891 provisionals New value overprinted in large type on preceding issue.


1891, same type as 1890 issue.

| td. blue and red |  | . | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2d. sea green and rod |  |  | 0 | 5 | 0 | 8 |
| 3d. grey and green |  | . | 0 | 8 | 1 | 6 |
| 4d brown and black | $\cdots$ | " | 0 | 9 | 2 | 0 |
| 8d. pink and blue |  | . | 1 | 9 | 3 | 6 |
| 3/-brown and green |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3/- brown and green | . | . | 6 | 6 |  | 0 |
| 4/- slate and red | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 9 | 6 | 12 | 0 |

NOTE.-The prececding issues are on two varietics of paper, the earlicr is a very thin paper showing portions of the watermark on nearly every stamp, the later printings are on paper somewhat thicher and without watermark.

The watermark consists of the arms of the company, which spread over nearly the whole of the sheet.

1895 issue, same type on very thick paper, perf. 124. 2d. green and red $\begin{array}{llll}.-15 & 0 & 3 & 9\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{lllllll}\text { 4d. brown and black } & . . & & . & 17 & 6 & 5\end{array} 6$

1826 issue, new design, perf. 14, stamps size of the higher values of preceding issues.

| 1d. black and mauve | $\cdots$ | 0 |  | 0 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1d. red and green |  | 0 | 2 | 0 |  |
| 2d. brown and lilac |  | 0 | 4 | 0 |  |
| 3d. red brown and lilac. |  | 0 | 5 | 0 |  |
| 4d. pale blue and lilac |  | 2 | 0 | 3 |  |
| 4d. blue and lilac |  | 0 | 7 | 1 |  |
| 6d. mauve and pink |  | 0 | 10 | 1 |  |
| 8d. green and voilet on buff |  | 1 | 2 | 2 |  |
| 1/-green and blue |  | 1 | 4 | 2 |  |
| 2/- blue and green on pink | . | 2 | 9 | 3 |  |
| $2 / 6$ purple and brown on yellow | . | 3 | 6 | 5 |  |
| 3/-green and lilac on blue |  | 4 | 6 | 5 |  |
| $4 /$ - red and blue on green |  | 5 | 6 |  |  |
| 5/. green on red |  | 7 | 0 | 10 |  |
| 10/-carmine and slate on pink |  | 13 | © | 15 |  |

1896 Buluwayo provisionals, the now value being overprinted in black.
(a) On Company's stamps.

1d. on 3d. green and grey
$\begin{array}{rrrrr}. & 160 & 0 & 60 & 0 \\ . & 40 & 0 & 60 & 0\end{array}$

3d. on $5 /$ yellow
$17 \quad 0 \quad 30 \quad 0$
(b) On Cape of 'Good Hope stamps.

| d, black |  | . | 0 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1d. rose |  | $\cdots$ | 0 | 8 | 1 | 0 |
| 2d. ochre |  | * | 2 | 6 | 2 | 6 |
| 3d. claret |  | . | 7 | 6 | 8 | 0 |
| 4d. blue |  |  | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| 6d. violet |  |  | 7 | 0 | 7 | 0 |
| 1/- yellow |  | . | 18 | 0 | 18 | 0 |

1898 , similar stamps to the 1896 issues but minor alterations of design, the arms in shield havo been re-drawn.
d. slate and mauve . . . . . 1

1d red and green
$\begin{array}{llll}\because & \cdots & 0 & 2 \\ \cdots & \because & 0 & 3\end{array}$
2d. brown and lilac
.. $\quad . \quad 0 \quad 3$
3d. red brown and bluish .. .. 0
4d. blue and lilac .. .. .. 0
6d. manvo and pink .. .. .. 0
8d. green and violet .. .. .. 1 o
NOTE. - The whole of the 1806 issue will be replaced with this redraz'n tipe, and will include higher valutes.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

## Continued.

On authorite of Potmaster of Canzibar we add to last month's list: -

Nov., 1895, 2, 3, ard 5 rupees on Indian stamps with overprint much closer together.

NOTES - These are probably of the nature of triats but were available for postage and rovenue. Some are to be met with postmarked ank are even now atailable for postape, although probably none were issued at the line to the public. Thew :atst us be confusci with the forged overprints which measure but a trifle less than the larger and regular overprint.

1897 issue The $2!$ anna on 1 anna in red should be added to the issue on Zanzibar stamps. There is a dangerous forgery of this stamp on sale.

These market prices are not fictitious, but have been arrived at by comparing auction reports and dealer's stocks, taking also into consideration numbers issued. A full stock of nearly overy stamp tabulated is held, and will be supplied by the compiler on receipt of amount. Letter should be addressed, R. Hollick, Erdington, near Birmiugham.

## THE STAMPS OF THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

Thanglateo From the Moniteut du Collechonnetu:
HE Ionian Islands, whicb were placed under British protaction by the Treaty of Paris, on the 5th of November, 1815, formed a repubic
and consisted of seven ialands: Corfu, Paxo, Leucade, Ithaka, Cophalonia, Zante, and Cerigo. These islands belonged to the Republic of Venice from the X1V. century, until the time when they became the property of France by the treaty of Campo Formio in 1797. From 1814-1863 they formed a Republican Confederation, under the name of the Enited States of the Ionian Islands.

Following the example of Greece and other countries of Europe, that had adopted the franking of letters by means of pustage stamps, the Ionian Parliament decreed by a law passed ou the 27th of July, 1857, the employmont of stamps This law came into force in the republic of the seven islands on the Ist of May, I859, and, as the mones used at this time was still the Spanish piastre, equal to 100 oboli or 50 pence, an issue of three different values was ordered. These three values served to frank letters in each isiand, from one island to another, and from the seven islands to freign parts, and in order to give the iuhabitants an incentive to use the stamps it was decided that letters addressed to any place in the islands and not weighing more than $\frac{1}{\text { ounce should }}$ only have to pay half the rate if prepaid. This concession however did not lead to any considerable iucrease during the first few gears. Accutding to oflicial intormation the total number of letters despatched by :lhe Ionian Post Offices were as follows:

| In 18.5 | 112,000 |
| ---: | ---: |
| " 1860 | 134,000 |
| " 1861 | 154,000 |
| "1862 | 171,000 |
| "1863 | 192,000 |
| "1864 | 104,000 |

The stamp, which does not bear any inscription of value is rectangular in shape and measures $25 \times 19$ mm . It is one of the best examples of stamps printed in 1859, and produced by tailledouce engraving on steel.

Three plates were made, each consisting of 150 stanps, and all the Iovian stamps were printed from these plates. I he stamps bear the likeness of Queen Victoria, who was the protectress of the Republic at the time. The head of the Queen is to the left in an oval formed by a garter with the Greek inscription at the top, Lonikon Kratos.

The first printing reached a total of 300,000 stamps as follows :-


These stamps were used from the beginniug of the postal service on the 15th May, 1859, until the end of 1861, at which time a second printing was made with
the same plates. This second printing can be distinguished by the paper and the change in the colours of the two higher values.

The second printing on the 15th of Uctober, 1861, reached a total of 600,000 stamps as follows:-

> 450,000 stamps of 1 obole, orange 120,000 30,000 , 2 oboli, dark blue 4,

Another point to distinguish the two printings is, that the 1 obole of the first printing is printed on yellowish-white paper without watermark, and the 1 obole of the second printing on bluish paper like the 2 oboli value. It is slso to be noted, that in both printings the 1 obole was printed on paper without watermark with the exception of about $150-200$ sheets or about 25,000 stamps, which were printed on the paper of the 2 oboli value, having as watermart a large 2.

The 4 oboli value was printed on greyish-white paper watermarsed 1 in the second printing.

All the values ceased to be used on the 1st of May, 1864, on account of the Iiritish Protectorate leing abolished and the Ionian Islands being united to the Kingdom of Greece by the Treaty of London, 24th Merch, 1864. Nowadays the stamps of the Ionian Islands are found unused, penmarked and obliterated with dies. Amongst the two former exist a good many reprints, but these can easily be detected by the shades, which are dull in the reprints, and the one obole is pale yellow instead of orange.

The stamps with postal obliterations must be considered as rarities, especially those of 1 and 2 oboli of the first printing, very few of which seem to have been saved.

## THE OMAHA STAMPS.

## United States Latest Igsue.

WE have reccised iaformation giving description of the Omaha Exhibition stamps placed, on sale June 15th. The border, which forms in its inner line an irregular oval framework to each of the scenes represented, consists of a luted figure on either side, with interior cross bars, beginning in a single line near the bottom of the stamp, and enlarging until it reaches a shield in each of the upper corners, wherein is engrased in white the Arabic numeral of denomination-the dollar mark being also included in the case of the $\$ 1$ and $\$ 2$ stamps At the top, connecting the two shields and united to the fluted
framework on the two sides, is a curved tablet on which are engraved in small white capitals the words "United States of dmerica." Above thi, on either side, are heads of wheat and between these a small scroll. Inmediately below the central scene is the title of the picture in diminutive white gothic leaters on a curved tablet, and below this on cither sido in scrolls are the words of value, "Onc," "Two," and so on, in white capitals, except in the case of the two highest denominations, when " $\$ 1.00$ " and " $\$ 2.00$ " are substituted for letturs. Alove each of these is a projecting ear of corn and at the bottom of all on a straight black tablet are the words "Poatage One Cent," "Postage Two Cents," and so on, in white capitals. The scenes represented on the stamps, together with the colours of the several denominations, ure these:

1 cent.-"Marquatte on the Mississippi," from a painting by Lamprecht now in the possession of the Marquette College, of Milwaukec, Wis., representing Father Marquette in a boat on the Upper Mississippi, preaching to the Indians. Colour, dark green.

2 cents.-"Farming in the Vest" from a photograph representing a Western grain field with a long row of ploughs at work. Culour, copper rod.

4 cents.- "Indian Hunting Buffalo," reproduction of an engraving in Schoolcrafe's History of the Indiau Tribes. Colour, Orange.

5 cents. - "Fremont on Rocky Mountains," modified from a wood engraving representing the Pathfinder planting the U.S. Hag on the highest peak of the Rocky Mountains. Colour, dark blue.
8 cents. - "Troops Guarding Train," representing a detachment of U.S. soldiers convoying an emigrant train across the prairies, from a drawing by Frederic Remington. Colour, dark lilac.

10 cents.-"Hardships of Emigration," from a painting kindly loaned by the artist, A. (i. Heaton, representing an emigrant and his family on the plains. in a "prairio schooner," one of the horses having fallen from exhaustion. Colour, slate.

50 cents.-" Western Mining l'rospector," from a drawing by Frederic Remington representing a prospector with his pack mules in the mountains searching for gold Colour, olive.

1 dollar.-" Western Cattlo in a Storm," represeut. ing a herd of cattle preceded by the leader, sceking safety from a gathering storm, reproduced frow it large steel engraving, aiter a pisture by J. Mac Whirter. Colour, black.

2 dollars.-"Mississippi River Bridge," from an ongraving, a representation of the great bridge over the Misaissippi at St. Louis. Colour, light brown.

## SOCIETY REPORTS.

## BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President:-W. B. Avery, Esq. President:-W. T. Wilson, Esq.

fice-Presidents:-R. Hollices, Esq.; W. Pimm, Esq. Committee:-Mr. H. R. Brwlay; Mr. P. T. Drakin; Mr. V. Lendeblad; Mr. T. VV. Peck; Mr. C. A. Sthpienson; Mr. W. S. Vaughton.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:-Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

May 19th. Paper. Stamps of Egypt. Mr. G. Johnson.

Messrs. L. C. Maphael. N. J. Vidovich, W. Brettschneider and L. A. Sanderson were unani. mously olected members.

Mr. G. Johnson then read his paper on the stamps of Egypt, illustrating it by means of his cillection. The two types of each value in the first issue and the minor varieties of the second issue received careful attention.

NOTICE.-The Birmingham Philatelio Socioty is not responsible in any way for any Editorial or other comments made in the philatelic Chronicle and Adverliser, except the romarks made under "Society Reports," which are always idoutically the same as sent to other journals.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES STAMP EXCHANGE

(Established 1886).
Hon. Secretary:-W. G. Walton, Fentham Road, Birmingham.

The May packets were of excellent quality. The A packet was a record for that division. Among the more noticeable stamps were a pair of "Post Paid" and other old Mauritius, a number of Sydney viows and a fine collection of other New South Wales, some Scinde Dawks on original letters, first issue Queensland, fine unint state unused English, scarce West Indians and other very good stamps priced at rensonable figures.

The following new members are proposed: $H$. Clark (Worthing), L. Magnee (London), C. P. Willians (Manchester), H. Dodge (U.S.A.), A. de Meester, R. W. Watson (Newcastle), C. Bigg (Bristol), de Vere Hunt (Cardiff), W. Hall (London), W. C. Weston (Hertford), G. P. Heisch (London).

Members who wish to propose friends are requested to send in names, and a!l good collectors are invited to join. By the rules there is no subscription due until January, 1899, and any lady or gentleman joining now has this time in which to judge the suitability of the club. Good references are indispensable. The subscription is $2 /$ - per annum, but as the Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser is sent free to all members whose subscriptions are not in arrear it is practically reduced to $6 d$. per annum There are vacancies for one or two good sellers. Prompt monthly settlements bouh sides. Rules \&c., from the Secretary.

British african Stanp Exchange -The June packet shows, as in other clubs in summer, a marked falling off in size and value, containing only eight sheets value $£ 132 \mathrm{~s}$. 10 d . Nett (not $50 \%$ discount). There are now 20 members, all of whom are believed to be thoroughly reliable, great care being exercised before anyone is admitted. Secretary, C. J. Endle, Kingsburgh Cottage, Boscombe, Hants.

British Speciagist Stamp Exchange. -Since Mr. Webb took over the British Specialist Stamp Exchange it has developed by leaps and bounds. The membership now numbers forty, and the United States stamps have been udded to the British and Colonial previously circulated. The club is prompt and advantageous in every respect, with nett prices and monthly settlements. The rules may be obtained from Mr. W. S. Webb, Walpole, Halesworth, Suffolk.

Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society. - The last mecting of the season was held on the 190 h inst. The Hon. Librarian will be glad to receive any contributious to the Society's library, addressed to Mr. T. C. Cartwright, 17, York Crescont Rosd, Clifton, Bristol. Copies of rules may be obtained from the hou. sec., Mr. R. Dalton, 30, Carnarvon Road, Redland, Bristol.

The Suburban Exchange Clob.-The October packets came back from their supplementary rounds on May 22nd, and sheats were returned, and accounts submitted with the least possible delay. Decinber A packets have been circulated among a certain number of non-contributing, buying members, and are expected back in about a fortnight's time. Secretary, H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Albans.

The S. W. Lancaghire Exchange Society.--The packet sent out this month is the finest yet, and to judge from the contributions, one would be led to think that the Philatelic season was only just at its height. The packet contains some British and British Colonial gems of the first water in mint condition, the British varieties in particular, perhaps never before seen in an exchange packet. Wm. Ditchfield, S.E.P.S. 194, Dorning Street, Wigan.

The Plymouth Phleatelic Socinti. - The cighth annual meeting of the Plymouth Philatelic Society was held at 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, May 25th, at 7.30 p.m. The reports of the hon. secretary and of the hon. secretary of the exchange branch showed that the past session ('97-98) had been distinctly satisfactory, as the financial deficit had been diminished by more than one-half, and the record of the exchange packet was in every respect an unqualified success. Papers had been read or notes contributed of philatelic interest at 14 meetings, and an interest shown in the Society's work that augured well for the future. The following officers were elected for the session of 1898.99 :-President, Major G. H. Stockdale, R.N. ; vice-president. R. T. Stevens, Esq.; hon. secretary and treasurer, W. A. Walker, Esq.; hon. secretary exchange branch, Dr. C. E. Russel Rendle; committee: Rev. E. J. Fyffc, R.N., F. A. Cocks, Esq., R.N.; If. Tucker, Esq.

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## - CONTENTS. 广 <br> BOOK I.-STAMPS.

$\begin{array}{cccr}\text { Part I-Adiesive Postage Stamps. } & & \text { Page. } \\ \text { 1. Synopsis and Price List } & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots \\ \text { 2. Descriptive Catalogue } & \ldots & \ldots & \text { is }\end{array}$
2. Descriptive Catalogue ... ... ... ... is $\begin{array}{lllll}\text { a-Line-Pngraved Series } & \ldots & . . & . . . & \text { is } \\ b \text {-Embossed Series... } & \ldots & . . & \ldots & 27\end{array}$
$c$-Surface. Printed Serjes d-De La Rue Series

49

Part III.-Stamps Impressed on Stationery.

1. Synopsis and Price List ... ... ... 58
2. Descriptive Catalogue
...
...
... 64
a-Envelope Series ... ... ... ... 65
b-Registration Envelope Serjes ... ... 8r
c-Wrapper Series ...
$\cdots$
.. 83
$d$-Newspaper Series

- Posticard Serics
...
IV.-Stamps of Resthicted Franking Powpr.
a-Issues for he Levant
b-Issues for Government Departments... ... 92
c-Issues for Private Firms ... ... ... 95
Part V.-Post Office Telegrain Stamps ... 98
Part Vi.-Fiscal Stamps ... ... ... 107
Part VII.-Gene al Remarks.
a-Proofs and Essays ... ... ... 118
$b$-Watermarks, illustrated ... ... ... 121
c-" Specimen " Stamps ... $\quad . .$.
d-Minor Varieties ... ... ... ... 125
Part VIII.-Stamps Isséed Privately.
a-Oxford and Cambridge College Stamps $\quad . . .130$
$\downarrow$-Circular Delivery Companies' Statnps ... 136
c-Railway Letter Fee Stamps ..
... 140
d-Private Telegraph Companies' Stamps
... 142
BOOK 2.-POSTMARKS.
Part I.- List of British Postmarks
... 149
List of Post Offices in the Uniten Kingdom 160
Part II.-Catalogue of British Stamps used Abroad 174

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The Plmouth 「ithatrlo Sondm, Tin-ighth ammal meeting of the Plymoth bintatelic Seciety was hetd at tha. Promess Square, an Widuesiay, May
 and of the hon. secretary of tio exchange btanct: showed that the past sessisn ranget lite been distinetit satisiactury, as the finanerb detien has been dimmished in more than molhalf. and the
 mathatified sucess. Papers had ment wad or notes coutributed of intatelic interent at athertings, and an interest show in the Suciers's work that athened well for the futhare. The foblowing thers were
 (f. H. Stocktile. H.N. : viec-presd ut. R. R. St vallF.eq. ho: secrenty and treastere. W. A. Waker,

 F. A. Cuelis. Eig. R N. : II Uncker. Pow.

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WE OUGHT 9 O FEEGFgRTTEKED Our "Monteith" ruled sheets have caught on to such an extent that some poor mitations are now leing offered to Dealers. Do not be deceived. Our Sheets have been on tho Market for years, and are the best and cheapest sold. So our nimerous clients tell us. Our Wighth fdition Sheet is now ready (and which, by the way, is twelve times larger than our first edition). Each Shect is ruled to hold 60 stamps. Full conditions and space for your name and addrest on front page. 25 for $6 d$; 50 for 11d.; 100, 1/6; 250, 3:6; 500, 6/-; sumple she $t$ free. Our Latest Novelty is an Approval Book, ruled to hold 120 stamps. lound in stiff cover, with full conditicns, \&e. Thoy are selling by hundreds. Second 1:dition now ready. 12 for $8 d$. . 25 for $1 / 2,50,2 /-, 100$, by post free. Sample books 1d cach. No'e our wer adidress.

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As our supporters are aware at intervals we issuc pucial numbers of "The Adyertiser," when we aend to who are likely to appreciate our Paper - in fact, io all the active Collecturs in English speating untries and many hundreds of others. On

OCTOBER 8th.
we shall issue our next Speciai Number, and we give this proliminary notice for the benefit of our forcign sibseribers who may be inclined to participate.

## A WORDTOTHE WISE:-

nON'T neglect this opportunity, Prices are the anme, but space is not unlimited, so send in earlyW. H Inter than Ootober 3rd. - to inake sure of being in the Big Number.


# The STAMP COLLECTOR'S ALMANACK 

FOl: 1898.<br>Published by S. Stewart.

Ir is in look form, contains a large amount of information useful to Collectors and Dealers, and is a a great advance upon last year's production, good as that was. Calendar, New Issues, Events of Past Year, Philatelic Societies of the World, Postal Information. de.. dic., ars some of the items included. The price is now reduced to

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## CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

THE have moved to larger and more convenient offices where in future your orders, ike. shall have our best attention. A nacket of stailip3, including Brazil, Newfoundland, Greece, Japan. Venezuel t, fic., gratis to applicants for our sheets of of stampsenclusing stamp for postage. Kuferences requirid.

## ARTHUR MONTEITH \& CO,

 14, Ches:er Green Road, Derby. Estublished I*85.
## NOTICE TO DEALERS \& COLLECTORS!

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affords a splendid ineans for selling and exchanging better class stamps on the most advantageous terms. Write for particulars. We want the name of every active collector and dealer, to place on our mailing list. Offers and Price Lists of Rare and Mediun Stamps requested.

## WILLIAMS \& CO.,

Publistuers of the Peruvian Specialists' Album \& Catalogue, Casilla 348, LIMA, PERU. dun

## Stamps of Thessaly.

THE Turkish Government desiring to estabiish a a control of the Postal Revenues of those parts of Thessaly occupied by the Turkish Army, a spocial set of postage stamps has been issued for use in the occupied districts only.

The stamps are of a new design, octagonal is shape and bear at the top a Turkish inscription signifying Postage of the Turkish Emire with a central design giving a view of the famous Bridge of Larissa, the chief town of the occupied districts. The words "special for the occupied districts in Thessaly" are also included in the design in Turkish characters.

The sets consist of five stamps of the values of 10 , 20 paras and $1,2,5$ piastres which as stated above is just a shade under $1 / 0$.

A part from the originality of these stamps they have also historical value which is unnecessary to specially point out. They are dostined to be very much sought after as the number of sets is cextremely limited.

Aithough we announced last month these sets at $1 / 9$, as Thessaly was evacuated in the first days of June and as we lave been overwhelmed by the orders which have arrived from all parts and greatly diminished our disposal stock we can only furnish them at the following price, pasi frce :-
1 set for $2 / 8$
10 sets for $25 /$.
1
100 sets for $£$

Payable in post office orders, cheques, or bank notes at current rates. Cnused stamps are accepted at $10{ }^{\prime \prime}$, discouut from nominal value.

We Irank our letters with the stamps of the Levant I'ont Office which may be preferred. No orders will be executed, no matter what may be the standing of the client, unless ace mpanied by the money. All letters must be addressed to

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IS ${ }^{\text {ARGE tigure in centre. Set of } 7 \text { values, } 1.2,3,5,10,20, ~=5}$ centavos, only 7d. per sot, post free. Unused and warranted genuine. Set of co values, $1,2,3,5,10,20,25$, 50 centavos, $t$ and 2 pesos. Only $2 / 6$ per set, post free. Supply limited. Apply at onec.

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Firm grip, can be put in water, cheapest in the market.
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A comprehensive list of British Coliectors (only). 86 pages, well bound in thick flexible covers.
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SYDENHAM. LONDON, ENGLAND.

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Beardsley's Philatelic Dircctory, 12,000 namzes, 42. In answering Advertisements please mention "Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser."


## CLARKE \& CO.,

## 



| Borneo, 1894, 1 cent $\begin{array}{llll}" & " & 2 & " \\ " & " & 3 & "\end{array}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
|  |  |



Cy"prus, "1880, 1" , 2 2 d
Labuan, 1892, angraved 6c. green


*Macao, 1898, $\frac{5}{5}$ avo, green



New South Wales, 3d. ${ }^{2}$ ". ..

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
5 \mathrm{~d} . & \because & \\
8 \mathrm{~d} ., \text { bird } & \because & \\
1 /- & \cdot &
\end{array}
$$



Roumania, 1891, 50 bani $\quad .$. * Donotes unused

Roumania, 1 leu, brown and rose Sirmoor, elephant, 8 pies, used


## SETS.

Borneo ald type, $1,3,4,5,6,10$ per doz. sels. Borneo, old type, $\frac{1}{2}, 1,2,3,4,5,6,8,10$ cents 80 25, 50 cents. .
25,50 cents. 1,2 doltars .. 480 5 and 10 dollars $\quad . .50$ cents. 1,2 dolars.... 1 set 12.1150 1894, used, $1,2,3,5,6,8$ cents $\quad \therefore 80$ $1897,1,2,3,5,6,8,12,18,24 \mathrm{c}$. 24 0

* ". $1897,1,2,3,5,6,8$
* $\quad$ " $1,2,3,5,6,8,12,18,21 \quad . . \quad 320$
*Br. East Africa Protectorate, 1, 1, 2, 21, 3, 4 Q2 6
- British Hast Africa on India, i, 1, 2, 2!, 3, 4 60 0
*China, 1897. t, 1, 2, 4, 5 cents
Holkar, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}, 1,2$ anmas, used .. .. .. 60

Japan War, 2, 2, 5 5, sens Liberia, 1892, 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 12 cents .. $\quad . .200$
" $\quad$ " official, $1,2,4,6,8,12$ cents.. 210 Labuan, $189 \ddot{9}$, engraved, $2,6,8,10,12,16,40$ used $\quad 420$ Labuan, 1894, used, $1,2,3,5,6,8$ cents .. , , $1,2,3,5,6,8,12,18,24 \mathrm{c}$. 1"̈97, 1, $2,3,5,6,8$


* ", 1886, figure, $1,2,3,4,5,6,10,20,25 \mathrm{c}$.

Mozambique Co., old type, $2 \frac{1}{2}$ to 300 reis, complete sets of 10

300
*Newfoundland, Jubilee, 2,3,4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15450
$"_{12} \ddot{3} \quad 1,2,3,4,5,6,8,10$
*New \%ealand, 18:8, $1,1,2,21,3,4, \ddot{5}, 6 \quad \cdots 3$
*Nicaragua, 1869, 1, 2, 5, 10, 25 cents
*Nicaragua, 1878, 1, 2, 5, 10, 25
Sirmonr, Rajah, 3,6 pies, 1,2 annas, used ${ }^{.}$it 0


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Vol. 7.
JULY 23. 1888.
No. 10.
1/6 per Ainnum, post free. FENTHAM ROAD, HANDSWORTH.

BIRMTNGHAM.
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Canada, R.S. MASON. Hamilton.
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lished fortniglitiv) publishes the prices realised at London auctons for all "single
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THIS SPACE
To
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APYLY TO THE
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Postage, Fiscal, Telegrapo Stamps

Envelopes, Cards, tc. RARItiES
And ath mipor varieties
WALTER WORLEV, yen, West Greem Rd., HTVEnvotit.

# Stamps of Thessaly. 

THE Turkish Government dekiring to estabiish a a control of the Pestal Revenues of those parts of Thessaly occupied by the Turkish Army, a special set of postaye stamps has been issued for use in the occupied districts ouly.

The stamps are of a new design, octagonal is shapa and bear at the top a Turkish inscription signifying Postage cf the Tubishe Empire with a central design giving a view of the famous Bridge of Larissa, the chief town of the cecupied districts. The words "special for the occupied districts in Thessaly" are also included in the design in Turkish characters.

The sets consist of five stamps of the values of 10 , 20 paras and 1, 2, 5 piastres which as stated above is just a shade under 19.

Apart from the originatitr of these stamps they have also historical value which is unnecessary to specially point out. They are destined to be very much sought after as the number of sets is extremely limited.

Although we announced last month these fets at $1 / 9$, as Thessnly was evneuated in the first days of June and as we have been overwhelmed hy the orders which have arrived from all parts and greatly diminished our disposal stock we can only furnish them at the following price, post free :-
1 set for 2,3
10 sets for 25.
!
100 sets for $£ 9$
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Jayable in post ofice rerders, cheques, or bank notes at current rates. linused stamps are accepted at $10 ;$., diecount from nominal valne.

We fank our leters with the stamps of the I evant Pest (ftice which muy he preferred. No orders will be executed, no matier witat may be the stinding of the ciant unless accompanied by the money: All letters must be addressed to

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altords a splendid menns for selling and exchan:betrer class stamps on the most advantageous lem. Writo for particulars. We want the name of cri : active colector and dealer to place on our notilite list. Ofers and Price Lists of Kare and Medi. .: Stamps requested.

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Apply early, as only a limited number to disposi
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All communication: for the next issue should reach us by the Texti of the Monthalatest. We camot guarattec insertion if received after that date.


The ristitci: Chronicl is sent to all the members of the Birmingham Philatelic Society and Midland Counties Stamp Exchange, being the Official Journal of these Societies.

HID sizns of the times hetoken a stronse
revival in stamps. For two year: things philatelic have becn steadily on the downsrade bus: apparently, lootom has becn touched and the tentency is to rise. The catuses of the stamplamp, which commenced a couple of years wo, were both estermal and internal. The speculative hoom of those days, which principally found its opporimity in the cycle trade. diverted money which would have heen -pent in stamps into oilher channels, while those who , lesired ant Were willine to stick to stamps were disensted by the indated, urterly lictitions prices to which stampe were forced by the greedy machinations of those who should bate leen the wepherds of philately. lut who prefered to art the part o! the wolf within the sheepfols.

These advire inlluences are row considerably modified. Jeverish speculation has received: shock from which it wili take a log time tw recover and feople will now return to less pretentions and safer-not to sity pleasinter-way of investing their spare cash. Over pricing, too, has received its death-blow. The catalogues or anyone else can tow price stamps at what they like, for the philatelic pullic are educated to the knowledge that catalogue prices are merely a trade convenience subject todiscomint accord. ing to the state of the marliet. At this moment $75 \%$ would be about the figure of discount - in six months time $5^{\circ \prime}$, wili represent it.

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A part from the originality of these stamps they have also historical value which is unnecessary to specially point out. They are dostined to be very much sought after as the namber of sets is extremely limited.

Although we announced last month these fets at $1 / 9,28$ Thessaly was evacuated in the first days of June and as we have been overwhelmed by the orders which have arrived from all parts and greatly diminifhed our disposal stock we can only furnish them at the following price, post.free :-
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> REFERENCES: AII the ohief Stamp Dealers in everys city of the soorld.


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All communications for the next issue should reach us by the Tenth of the Month at latest. We cannot guarantec insertion if received after that date.

July 23md, 1898.
COTTENTS.


The Philatecic Chromicle is sent to all the members of the Birmingham Philatelic Soclety and Midland Countles Stamp Exchange, being the Official Journal of these soclaties.

$G$
HE signs of the times betoken a strong revival in stamps. For two years things philatelic have been steadily on the downgrade but, apparently, bottom has been touched and the tencency is to rise. The causes of the stamp slump, which commenced a couple of ye;rs ago, were both external and internal. The speculative boom of those days, which principally found its opportunity in the cycle trade, diverted money which would have been spent in stamps into other channels, while those who desired and were willing to stick to stamps were disgusted by the inflated, utterly fictitious prices to which stamps were forced by the greedy machinations of those who should have been the shepherds of philately, but who preferred to act the part of the wolf within the sheepfold.

These adverse influences are row considerably modified. Feverish speculation has received a shock from which it will take a losg time to recover and people will now return to less pretentious and safer-not to say pleasanter-ways of investing their spare cash. Over pricing, too, has received its death-blow. The catalogues or anyone else can row price stamps at what they like, for the philatelic public are educated to the knowledge that catalogue prices are merely a trade convenience subject to discount according to the state of the market. At this moment $75 \%$ would be about the figure of discount-in six months time $50 \%$ will represent it.

On the whole the outlook is inspiriting, and next season should be looked for more confidently than either of the two last. When things are at their worst they must change for the better, and we have good opportunities for knowing that matters stampic reached low-watermark this spring, but we also are confident that a re-action is imminent and both dealers and collectors bave better times in store.

## CHRONICLE.

BELGIUM.-Another value of the current postal packet stamp has been issued, 15 c .

Postal packet stamp.
15 centimes, grey and black.
BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.-The American Journal of Plilately states that a new provisional 1d. stamp is in use. It is made by using impressions from the die used for stamping checks and adding the words "Internal-Postage," the whole surrounded by a frame. It is a large upright rectangle, and is imperforate.

Provisional stamp.
1d., vermi ion, frame and inscription dark ultramarine.

CANADA.-The change we forctold in our May issue is now an accomplished fact. The figure of value has been added to the new issue-the maple leaves in the lower corners having been removed and coloured figures of value put in their place in rectangular white spaces. We are indebted to Mr. R. S. Mason for early information of this change, and he also informs us of the jssue on June 29th of a apecial delivery stamp of value 10 cents. Bicycles will be used for the purposes of these special deliveries. Special delivery stamp, 10c. green.
CONGO FREE STATE.-New 3 and 10 francs stamps have been issued to replace the portrait type of the same values. The 3fr. has view of a native village in centre, and the 10 fr . of a stern wheel river steamer.

3 francs 50 centimes, red and black.
10

DENMARK,-The 50 ore has appeared with the new perforation.

50 ore, purple and trown, porf. $12 \frac{1}{2}$.
ECUADOR.-The revenue stampa have been seen postally used :-

Revenues used for postage.
2 centavos, carmine.
4 " on 20c., dark blua, red surcharge.
ERITREA.-The new Italian 10c. stamp is now surcharged for use in this colony.

10 centosimos, carmine, black surcharge.
HAYTI. - It seems that the new set chronicled is but a temporary makeshift to last until the new series being prepared by the American Bank Note is ready. It is stated that the 7 and 20 c . bave already been bought up by speculators. We are slso informed that the set was printed on the island and that the printer took for his pay a certain quantity which he holds for speculation.

HUNGARY.-The American Journal of Philately stetes that the 12, 24, 30 and 50 k . have appeared in new shades, with the ground-work lightly impressed, so that the paper which appears to be tinted in the earlier printings now looks white.

MEXICO.-We have received the 1, 2 and 16c. with the new watermark (Eagle and R.M.)

> 1 centgvo, dark green.
> 2 centavos, carmine.
> $15 \quad$ b blue-green.

MONTENEGRO. - The current set has appeared in new colours, as follows:-

| 1 | novtch, blue-green. |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3 | $"$ | carmine. |
| 5 | $"$ | red-brown. |
| 7 | $"$ | grey-brown. |
| 10 | $"$ | red-violet. |
| 15 | $"$ | brown-violet. |
| 25 | $"$ | dark blue. |

NEW SOUTH WALES.-The colour of the 6d. has been changed, owing to similarity to that of the 1d., and it now comes in a very brilliant blue-green, known as piridine green.

6d., viridine green.
VICTORIA.-The Rev. H. W. Lane, of Melbourne, informs us that an official intimation has been given of an intention to change the colour of the $1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. stamp-at present yellow green.

Postcards, \&c.
OAPE OF GOOD HOPE.-Mr. Geo. Johnson has shown us e couple of Cape of Good Hope provislonal
cards, mado by surcharging the $1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. card with a naw value one penny in black capitals. There are two types of surcharge. The cards sent by Mr. Johnson bear views of Cape Town on their backs.
one penny on $1 \frac{1}{2} d$. blate.
one penny ", " smaller and thinaer surch.
DUTCH INDIES.-All the stock of ligh value envelopes remaining on hand has been surcharged in black figures " 10 " for use as 10 c . envelopes.

Provisional envelopes.

| 10 cents on | $124 \mathrm{c} .$, grey. |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 10 | $"$ | $15 \mathrm{c} .$, bistre. |
| 10 | $"$ | $20 \mathrm{c} .$, blue. |
| 10 | $"$ | 25 c, , violet. |

LIBERIA.-Tho registration envelope now comes printed in red.
Registration envelope.
10 cents, red.
MAURITIUS.-There is a new provisional card, the 6c. single and reply card of 1896 being surcharged " 2 cents" with bar over "Union Postale Universelle" and "lifply" of the double card, which is separated, both halves being used as single cards.
Provisional post card.
2 cents on 6c., lilac, black surcharge.
PERSIA.-In addition to the 2s. listed in our last number the following cards have appeared.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 2 \times 2 \text { shahi, brown on buff. } \\
& 5 \text { " rose " } \\
& 5 \times 5 \text { " }
\end{aligned}
$$

TURKEX.-A 20p. card of type of the 1892 card bas appeared.

20 paras, dull rose on green.
WURTEMBURG. - The Deutsch Briefmarken Zeitung lists a new 20 pf . official envelope. Size $179 \times 258 \mathrm{~mm}$.

20 pfennigs, blue.

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

$Y^{0}$OUFS truly takes bis long vacation after the issue of this present number. For several weeks the Postman will be free from all thoughts and deeds philatelic, for the Chronicle is not published again, nor is the Advertiser, until August 97th. N.B.-This is to give notice to all whom it may concern that if they send in abusive letters in the meantime, complaining that they have not
received their papers, the same complaints will be solemnly and with due ceremony committed to the waste paper basket. This is final.

The latest phase of Mr. Walter Moricy's onterprise takes the form of a fiscal stamp album which bids fair to develop into a splendid book. It will have spaces for all known varieties, and be well printed on best quality paper with spaces revised up to the dey of issue. The first volume (Antigua to India) will be ready about August 20th. This edition should be gratefully received by fiscal oollectors for it undoubtedly fills a long.felt want, to use the stereotyped expression.
**

The philatelic West for May contains a full and correct account of the Trans-Mississippi stamps and a view of the Exhibition building. Mr Brodstone's paper is the official journal of the Nebraska Philatelic Socioty, claimed to be the largest state society in America.

Mr. W. N. Cullin, of Penang, Straits Settlements, wishes me to say that the S.S. Mecca went down with the mails on board on May 21st. If any of our readers were sending to Mr. Cullin about this time will they please take notice of the intimation.

Messrs. Ostars and Darlow, two of the best-known Manchester philatelists, are about to lsunch out in the stamp auction line. They are well-known locally and should be successful in their efforts. There is room for good philatelic auctions in several provincial centres, and they would be successful if not overdone. Mr. Plumridge was mentioned as being about to hold one or more in Birmingham but nothing seems to have come of it.

There is great need of a better system of classification previous to pricing. At present the cataloguers seem to follow this plan :-(1) that the value of stamps newly issued, used, is uncertain till fully twelve monthe have elapsed; (2) that a provisional stamp is a good thing, and to be valued accordingly; (3) that errors of any description are for the select few, and to be considered rare; and (4) that prices above pence should ascend by graceful bounds as at an auction. It is consequently no uncommon thing to find a current provisional priced at ten times its face-value (the only just obsolete St. Vincent 2 thd. black on pale blue started at $2 /$ in Gibbons' 1891 list, but in their 1897 cetalogue was down to 5d, unused) ; whilst errors priced at $£ 10$ are known to have changed hands at auction for $30 /$.

It is said that the stamps of Tobago became obsolete on July 1st., when the island was incorporated with Trinidad.

It will be sad news to many of our readers to learn of the death of Mr. Joe F. Beard, the secretary of the American Philatelic Association, and one of the bestknown dealers in the U.S.A. It was ouly a few months ago that his friends were agreeably surprised at his marriage, and now at the early age of 46 they are colled upon to mourn his loss. He died of appendicitis at his home in Muscatine, on Friday the 6th. Mr. Beard had one of the best collections of philatelic literature in the world, and was a subscriber to overy known philatelic paper.
***

The plates of the Camadian Jubilee stamps have been destroyed at the premises of the American Bank Note Company. 1t is said that $32,000,000$ stamps and $7,000,000$ postal cards have been printed from these plates.

The Government of Chili have invited designs for a new set of stamps, the competitiou being open to all countries,

$$
{ }^{*} *
$$

While North American stamps are protty well sought after, South America and Central America are almost virgin fields, and a collector taking up any South or Central American State at hazard will find ample scope for his energies, and little difficulty in securing a very fine and representative collection; how long this state of thinge will continue I should not like to phophosy-it is wonderiul how the Southern half of this Continent has been neglected, and sigus are not wanting that more collectors, at least, are waking up at last to opportunities which may ere long be lost.

The record ior cheap postage is held by the Swiss Federation. In that happy country one may send for 5 centimes ( 1 cent), a letter weighing up to 8 ounces to any place within a distance of 10 kilometers (more than 7 miles), and for 10 centimes ( 2 cents) to any part of Switzerland. A package of newspapers or books weighing four pounds is carried by the swiss mails for 15 centimes ( 3 cents). The fee for registering a letter is 10 centimes ( 2 cents).

## IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE.

S a resuit of the deliberations of the Imperial Postage Couference, which has been siuting in London, and which came to a final resolution on

July 12th, an Imperial ponny postage, save in respect to Australia, may now be regarded as a fact speedily to be accomplished. The Imperial Government, through the Colonial Secretary, has shown itself throughout to be strongly in favour of the adoption of this course, which has received the approval of the Treasury. The majority of the self-governing colonies have been represented at the conference by their Agents-General in London. though the Dominion of Canada sent her Postmaster-General and India the Postmaster-General of Bengal ; but Australia took no part in the deliberations.

Mr. Henniker Heaton, that indefatigable member of Parliament, has long been struggling for the universal penny-rate, but real progress was made when the Colonial Premiers visited this country for the Jubilea, and Mr. Chamberlain discussed the matter with them. The Duke of Norfolk's official announcement states that letter postage of oue penny per halfounce is to be established between the United Kingdom Canada, the Cape, Newfoundland, and as many more of the Crown Colonies as may be willing to fall in line. They all will in time, for the reform is one which compels others, and which makes retrogression impossible. Nothing is said about India, but she is, if not actively favourable to change, at least not opposed to it. The Australian Colonies will not accept it at present because they fear the loss of revenue. They have recently put up their inland postage rate to twopence, so they could hardly send letters abroard for a penny. But time works wonders, oven with Post Offices, and Australia will soon realise the need of following Canada's oxample. We are left in doubt whether the rates to Australasia will be reduced, but possibly out of deference to the wishes of the colonies no change will be mado just now. It would be too glaring an anomaly for a letter to travel from England to Melbourne, say for a penny, while a twopenny-halfpenny stamp was required to frank the return message. Australasia imagines she cannot afford the concession, and wisely resolves to cut her coat according to her cloth. However, experience has taught us in England that as the postage rates are reduced, correspondence increases almost in geometrical ratio. The Post Office believes in the maxim of the trader, small profits and large returns.

The effect which the change will have upon philately is inconsiderablo considering the magnitudo of the matter itself. Sove that the ald. and 5d. values of certain countries will become a little scarcer in a used condition, there is really nothing to effect philately itself, but the decrease in the postage will give facilities for colonial correspondence and exchange which philatelists will not be slow to turn to their own advantage. After a bit the United States will come into the federation and then we shall really appreciate the advantage of the change.

## GROUP COLLECTING.

## AFRICAN COLONIES.

By R. Hollics, Vice-President of the Birmingham Philatelic Society.

## BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.

1891. Stamps of British South Africa overprinted B.C.A in black.


## BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

1895. Design of two Negroes supporting Shield, Postage and Revenue above, value below without watermark.

1896. Same design, 1d. to 1/-, watermarked Cruwn CA, $2 / 6$ to $20 /-$, Cr. CC, 1d. black.
1d. blaok

| .. | - | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| . | - | 0 | 6 | 1 |
| . | $\cdots$ | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| .. | $\cdots$ | 1 | 6 | 2 |
| $\cdots$ | . | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| . | $\cdots$ | 6 | 6 | - |
|  | - | 8 | 0 | - |
| $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 12 | 6 | - |
| .. | . | 55 | 0 | - |

2d. green .. $\quad . \quad$.. $\quad 0 \quad 6 \quad 1 \quad 6$
4d. brown .. .. .. $100 \quad 2 \quad 6$

| 6a. blue | . |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 |  |  |  |

$\begin{array}{llllllll}1 ;- \text { carmine } & . . & . & . & 3 & 0 & 4 & 6 \\ 26 \text { matuve } & . . & . & . . & 6 & 6 & -\end{array}$
3/- yellow .. .. .. 8 0

| $5 /-$ olive |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| £1 blue (specimen $30 / \cdot . .$. | $\quad$. | 12 | 6 | - |

1897. New kypo, 1d. to $1 /-$, watermarked Cr. CA, 2/6 and upwards Cr. CC.


| 1898 1d. ov, rprinted in blaek on $3 /$. |
| :--- |
| Provisional ld, formed by connecting fiscal of | of cheque stamp into a postage.

NOTE. - The long fiscal stamps have been met with obliterated, but it is highly probable that they never franked mail matter.

These present market values are not fictitious, but have been arrived at by comparing Auction Reports and dealers' stocks, and also taking into consideration the numbers iseued. A full stook of nearly every rarity is held, and will be supplied by the compiler on reeeipt of amount. Letters to be addressed to Hichard Hollick, F'illongley Heuse, Boldmere Road, Erdington, near Birmingham.

## SOCIETY REPORTS.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES STAMP EXCHANGE

(Established 1886).
Hon. Secretary:-W. G. Walton, Fentham Road, Birmingham.

The July packets are very good, notwithstanding the holiday season and, in two branches, are equal with any sent out this jear. Some excellent old European and colonials are included.

The following new members are proposed :-A. Manoli (Gyprus), G. Wilkinson, B.A. (Southampton), W. J. Cochrane (Durham), J. T. Vartanian (Smyrna)
W. Gadsby (Leicester), J. K. Harris (London).

Members who wish to propose friends are requested to sond in names, and all good collectors are invited to join. By the rules there is no subscription due until January, 1809, and any lady or gentleman joining now has this time in which to judge the suitability of the club Good references are indispensain'e. The subscription is $2 /-$ per annum, but as the Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser is sent Ir:e to all members whose subscriptions are not in arrear it is practically reduced to $6 d$. per annumi. Thors are vacancies for one or two good sellers. Prompt monthly settlements both sides. Rules, \&c., Irom the Secretary.

The S.W. Lancaghire Exchange Society.-A farther increase both in value of packets and list of members is to be noted this month. Thero were seven applicants for admission, five of whom were accopted. There have been also five more joined this month for Auguat, and as there are several applicathons now under consideration a further increase is expected. The greatest care is now exercisod in the admission of new members in vicw of the greatlyincreased value of packets, and cnly those furnishing eatisfactory references are admitted. Secretary, Wm. Ditchfield, S.E.P.S, 194, Dorving Street, Wigan.

The Suburban Stamp Exchange Club, - The December sheets have been returned and accounts duly submitted, and sales were of a very high average. January packets lave just terminated their rounds, and sheets and accounts will be forwarded without delay. February and March packets are nearly round. In spite of the off seasou, five packets have shown but little falling off in point of value, $16 \bar{y}$ sheets have been made up and put into circulation by the 25 th ult. Members leaving home for more than two days should notify dates of absence to prevent delay, other. wise the proper fines will be exacted. Packets will be circulated throughout t!1e summer. Among the new members enrolled this month are: A. Still (Liverpool), Miss Higgins (Luton), W. Brettschneider (Melbourne), J. Johnston (New Deer); S. Seon (Reading), L. Maguee (London), and Mre. Stirling (Strathpeffer) ; one resignation (Mr. C. Lewis) was accepted with regret. The Suburban will not be absorbed by the proposed Herts Philatelic Society, but both will run concurrently for the present. Regulations sent on application to the secretary, H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Albans.

## THE STAMPS OF THE Fill ISLANDS.

 been at a loss to understand the meaning of the C.R. on the 1871-72 issues over which V.R. is printed in the 1875-78 issues.The first stamps were struck by the Government which crowned Thakombau king and bear his initials C R, (Cacobau Rex) In 1874 when the Istands were sold to Great Britain the condition of the finances did not warrant tho expense of a new issue of stamps and therefore the old stock was utilised by surcharg. ing them V.R (Victoria Regina).
Owins to the peculibrity of Fijian spelling the sound of $t h$ is represent d by the litter $c$, and $m$ is pronounced before $b$, therefore the name "Cacobau" is sounded "Thakombau."

It appears strange that the earlier "Fijians" areso high priced sceing that in 1875 there were 1,400 schools and 900 churches established, mostly under Wesloyan auspices, but it must be borne in mind that there were probably only 60 or 80 white missionaries, the total white population of the Islands not exceeding one thousand souls, and of these a large portion were not likely to have a heavy correspondence. That we can obtain any specimens of the earlier issues at a reasonable price is due to the fact that the "remsinders" of the 1871.72 issues were sold to dealers.

The type set issues of 1870.71 have been repriated but the reprints are easily distinguishable from the originals, being printed on pink laid paper and pin perforated, and the measurement across the stamp is 16 mm . or $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}$. less than that of the genuine stamp.

## GAMBIA.

## By C. J. M. Lehner,

Sec. of the British Cclonial Specialists' Stamp Exchange.
[The following article will be of considerable interest in view of the changes now taking place in the Gambia postal issues.]
$\sigma 0$ the collector of watermarks, the stamps of Gambia will be of more than passing interest, offering as they do practically unlimited varicties of watermark. or rather the positions in which the watermark appears on the stamps. The varieties in watermarks are caused thus :-It appears that the paper, especially manufactured for the British Colonial Stamps, bearing the well-known Crown and C.C. and Crown and C.A. watennart, has always had the watermark arranged in the same manner. 240 to the entire sheet, in four plates of sixty (ten horizontal rows of six), separated by a narrow vertical space and a wider one, the latter lettered "Crown Agents" or "Crown Colonies." When I tell you that the stamps of Gambia are in plates of 15 (three horizontal rows of five), you will see that the stamps cannot possibly fit the watermarked paper in any case.

Consequently we find stamps with watermark Crown and C.C. sideways, with watermark vertical, and some with this watermark borizontal; and all the stamps with watermark Crown and C.A. are stated to have the watermark in the latter position only, viz., horizontal. All the values since 1874 can be found watermarked with one or two bars, and varieties with inverted watermark are conmon.

The year in which Gambia first issued stamps does not seem to be agreed upon, both Messrs. Bright and Scott say 1869, while Messrs. Gibbon's in their latest catalogue give 1866. I am inclined to think 1866 is the more correct date; the following list does not give all varieties of watermark, only the more interesting varieties are included.

Reference List.
January, 1866.
Engraved and printed by Messrs. De la Rue \& Co. No watermark. Wove paper, imperforate.

1. 4d. pale brown. 2. 4d. deep brown.
2. 6d. blue.

August, 1874.
Watermark Crown and C.C. Imperforate. 4. 4d. pale brown. 5. 4d. deep brown. 6d. 6d blue.
August, 1874.
Watermars Crown and C.C. Imperforate.
7. 4d. pale brown.
10. Gd. blue.
8. 4d. brown.
11. Gd. deep blue.
9. 4d. deep brown.

Imperiorate specimens undoubtedly exist, and a complete set as above is in the Tapling collection. 1880.

Watermark Crown and C.C. Perf. 14 (A). Watermark upright.

| 12. | 12d. orange. | 16. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3d. ultramarine. |  |  |
| 13. | 1d. lake | 17. |
| 14. deep blue. | 2d. rose. | 18. |
| 1s. green. |  |  |

15. 3d. pale ultramarine.

## (B). Watermark sideways.

19. $\frac{1}{2}$ d orange.
20. 4d. brown.
21. 1d. lilec rose. 24. 4d. deep brown.
22. 2d. rose carmine 25 . 6d. blue.
23. 3d. ultramarine. 26. 1s. green,
24. 

Watermark Crown and C.A. Perf. 14.

| 27. | id. blue green. | 32. | 3d. pale grey. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 28. | id. deep blue green. | 33. | 3d. deep grey. |
| 29. | 1d. carmine. | 34. | 6d. blue green. |
| 30. | 2d. orange. | 35. | 1s. violet. |
| 31. | 2dd. ultramarine. |  |  |

In the Taping collection is a specimen of the $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. blue green of the above jasue with treble perforation at the bottom.

In the last two issues it is possible to get two specimens of each varlety in two distinct shades, due no doubt to separale printings, necessitated by the
smallness of the plates and the way the stamps are printed, by embossing. This is, I think, the ouly British Colony which issues adhesive postage stant.pi printed by this method.
In The Stamp Collector's Fortnightly Mr. H. Hilckes calls attention to a rather curious and interesting variety of the 6d. stamp of Gambia, he writes :-
"The stamps are printed in sheets of 15 , and tha spacimen on the top right corner has the appearance of the illustration we annex; evidently the plate must been indented through falling on the middle surface, which thus gave this stamp a crooked appearance, the right side line being shorter than the left side line by about $3_{3}^{3}$ of a millimetre.

The left hand top stamp also shows a similar characteristic, but here the crookedness is not so pronounced. I have so far not been able to ascertain whether this peculiar variety exists in the imperforated sheets, not having come across any copies, but I have found it in the blue as well as in the olive colour of the perforated series."

The above paragraph is commented on and the interest considerably added to in the Philatelic Record. of a later date. The comment runs as follows :-
"Teating this matter by our sheet of the 6d., we find the grestest width of the sheet is on the left hand edge of the fourth row of stamps and here the shoet measures $713 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{m}$., on the extreme right edge barely $71 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{m}$. The plate must, as Mr. Hilckes suggests, bave had a fall, but the injury has not been to the middle edge but to each side of the top edge. The stamps lie perfectly true to a straight edge at the base of the top row, but if the top of the sheet is tested with a straight edge rule it will be seen that the stamps bulge up near the centre the third and fourth stamps being the highest.

To the left, the incline is gradual over these stamps, from $713 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{m}$. to $70{ }^{3} \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{m}$. and to nearly $71 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{m}$. ; nearly all takes place in the right band top corner stamp, bence the peculiarity noted."

Just recently I have received the $1 /$ - in a much paler shade than before. I am also informed that the embossed stamps are to be entirely suspended by the De la Rue type, and the stock now in hand is being carefully doled out, so that the stamps may last until the new ones are ready.
In conclusion I would warn collectors to look closely at any of the following values:-

4d. and 6d. imperforated; 3d., 1d., 2d., $6 \mathrm{~d} ., 1880$ issue. These forgeries are belicued to be of Italian origin, and are good enough to deceive even old collectors. They are to be met with, unused, used, and on the original letter $1-$ Stamps.
[This issue should hase been published on July 16th but, owing to the removal of our printers to larger and more commodious premises the issue has been delayed.]

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+ CONTENTS.
BOOK I.-STAMPS.
Part 1.-Adhesive Postage Stamps.
Page.
r. Synopsis and Price List

2. Descriptive Catalogue
$a-$ Line-Engraved Series ... 1 $b-E m b o s s e d ~ S e r i e s . . . ~$ ... $c$-Surface.Printed Series $\quad . . . \quad$... $\quad . . . \quad 27$

Part 11.-Mulkeady Entelofes and Letter Sherts and Jubilee Stationery

56
Part IIl.-Stamps Impressed on Stationery.

1. Synopsis and Price List
2. Descriptive Catalogue
a-Envelope Series ... $\quad . . . \quad$... $\quad . . .64$
b-Registration Envelope Series $\quad . . . \quad$... 81
c-Wrapper Series ... ...

|  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| -Newspaper Series | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | ... |

e-Postcard Series ......$\quad$... $\quad . . .8$
Part IV.-Stamps of Restricted Franking Power,
$\begin{array}{llll}a \text {-Issues for he Levant } \\ b=\text { Issues for Government Departinents ... } & \ldots & . . . & 91 \\ 92\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { b-Issues for Government Departnents ... } \\ \text { c-Issues for Private Firms ... } & \\ 92\end{array}$
Part V.-Post Office Telegrarin Stamps ... ... 98
Part Vi.-Fiscal Stamps ... ... ... 107
Part Vil.-Gene al Remarks.
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { a-Proofs and Essays } & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & 118 \\ b=W a t e r m a r k s, ~ i l l u s t r a t e d ~ & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & 121 \\ c-4 \text { Specimen " Stamps } & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & 125\end{array}$
.. 118
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { c-MSpecimen } \\ \text { d-Minor Varieties ... } & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & 125 \\ \text {... } & \text {... } & 125\end{array}$
Part VIII-Stamps Issued Privatelily.
a-Oxford and Cambridge College Stamps ... 130
b-Circular Delivery Companies' Stamps $\quad$... 136
c-Railway Letter Fee Stamps $\quad .$.
... 140
d-Private Telegraph Companies' Stamps $\quad \ldots \quad$... 142 BOOK 2.-POSTMARKS.
Part I-List of British Postmarks
List of Post Offices in the United Kingno: ifi
Part Il.-Catalogue of British Stamps used Abroad 174

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2．Wescriptive Cataluguk：$\quad$ ．．$\quad .$.
．1－jinelopeseries．．．$\quad$ ．．．$\quad . . \quad$ ．．． 65

：Wrapper si－rj•s ．．．．．．．．．号
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## CONTENSS.



The fhilituic Chronide is sent to all the members of the Birmingham Philatelic Society and Midland Counties Scamp Exchange, beins the Official Journal of these Societies.

ITGREAT postage stamp fraul has been brousht to light by Sianley Gibbons' Ifonthiy Jonrnal. It appear: that, with the exception of imitations of the it black, there has been no dangerous forgery of our stamps during the 58 years of their existence; but Staniey Giblous Limited have now found in their stock a very large atmater of contrerfeits of the 1 - green, plate 5 . They have recently parchased a large parcel of old stamps. Many of these old stamp: ind been on telesraph foms, as shown by the postmork which is that of the Stock Wwhanse Telegraph Olfice, bearing the date of July 23 3il, 1872 . No fewer than soo of these forgerics, a!l used upon the same date, were found in this one parcel : and as the framl was never discovered, the Department mast hawe been robled to the tube of from $\mathcal{L} 5$ to $\mathcal{L} 50$ a day for many months. Mr. Nissen, of the fimn of kiley and Nissen, was the inst tu cail Sussis. Stantey Gihmons attention io the forgery.

The pani.al aroption of fuperial penay postuce !es siven a strong inpetus to the movemunt in frour of a pemy post heween this conntry asi the inited States. The movenum i- wamby suported on loth sides of the Attantic, and there can be no doubt that the reduction would be widely populat, for the volane of correspondence between the linited kinglom and the (nited States is abreaty rery large, and includes letters from many pursons to whom the difference between 2 ! d. and 1 d . in the rate is amatter of importance.

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Avaust 27Tr, 1898.

## CONTENT8.



The Philatelic Chronicle is sent to all the members of the Blrmingham Philatellc Bocioty and Midand Countlos Stamp Exchange, being the Officlal Journal of these Socleties.

不GREAT postage stamp fraud has been brought to light by Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Jonrnal. It appears that, with the exception of imitations of the id black, there bas been no dangerous forgery of our stamps during the 58 years of their existence ; but Stanley Gibbons Limited have now found in their stock a very large number of counterfeits of the I/- green, plate 5. They have recently purchased a large parcel of old stamps. Many of these old stamps had been on telegraph forms, as shown by the postmark which is that of the Stock Exchange Telegraph Office, bearing the date of July 23 rd , 8872 . No fewer than 100 of these forgeries, all used upon the same date, were found in this one parcel; and as the fraud was never discovered, the Department must have been robbed to the tune of from $\mathcal{L}_{5}$ to $\mathscr{L} 50$ a day for many months. Mr. Nissen, of the firm of Riley and Nissen, was the first to call Messrs. Stanley Gibbons attention to the forgery.

The partial adoption of ${ }^{* *}$ Imperial penny postage has given a strong impetus to the movement in favour of a penny post between this country and the United States. The movement is warmly supported on both sides of the Atlantic, and there can be no doubt that the reduction would be widely popular, for the volume of correspondence between the United Kingdom and the United States is already very large, and includes letters from many persons to whom the difference between $2 \frac{d}{d}$. and Id. in the rate is a matter of importance.

## CHRONICLE.

cOOK ISLANDS.--The Australian Philatelist announces a new issue for this place. The central design consists of a sea bird, within a Greek border. It is to be printed in New Zealand and is said to be very ugly.
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. -Thore has been seen a copy of the 4 d . in a new colour which will shortly be issued, The 3d. will also be changed, and the 6d. will be a slightly different shade of violet. The 2 $\frac{1}{2} d$. have either run short or the Post Office have a stock of the surcharged $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. on 3d. issued in 1891 as these are at present on sale. As the surcharge is exactly the same as in 1891 even to the single copy of the sheet of tho straight serif to the ' 1 ' of ' $\frac{1}{2}$ ' it is probably the old stock that is being used up.

3d. dars̀ lilac.
4d. olive.
CHINa.-The sc. of the London Print has been placed on sale. Watermark a shell.
$\frac{1}{2}$ cent, chocolate.
FALKLAND ISLANDS.-Two new values have been issued here of large size with head of Queen in centre with name above and value below 'HALF A CROWN ' 'FIVE SHILLINGS,' and with figures of value. Watermark Crown C.C. Perforated 4.

2/6 deep blue.
5/- red brown.
GOLD COAST.-We have received the id. value, and have beard of the other values, from various sources, of the new type similar to the $5 /$-value.
$\frac{t}{d}$ d. lilec, name and value, green (tablet lined ground)

| 1 d . | " | carmine, |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2tat." | " | ultramarine, |
| 3d. | " | yellow (tablet white ground) |
| Gd. | " | violet |
| 1/-green, | ", | black (tablet lined ground) |
| 2/- | " | carmine, |

MOROCCO.-Mr. J. S. Pariente has sent us a specimen of the new private issue for use between Tangier and Alcazar. The stamp bears the design of a steamship and is oblong in shape. The sat contains 8 atamps, viz: 5, 10, 20, 25, 40 and 50 centimos, 1 and 2 pesetas. The set may be obtained from Mr. Pariente.

NEWFOUNDLAND.-We hear that the plates of the $1887-96$ issue have been destroyed

PABANG,-The $\$ 1$ and $\$ 5$ l'erak heve been surcharged for use here, similar to the other values listed.

Provisional stamps.
1 dollar, black and green.
5 dollars, " " $"$ and blue.
PORTUGAL.-Four new values of the current set have been issued on acoount of the raising of the
international letter ratos, due to depreciation of the curroncy.

65 rois, gray-green.
115 ," salmon on pink.
130 ," brown on buff.
180 ," slate on pink.
ROUMANIA.-The 2b. and 60b. postage due stamps have appeared with the PR watermark. Perf. 13.

Postage due stamps.
2 bani, green, variety.
60
TRINIDAD.-Mr. Gco. Johnson has sent us the new Trinidad stamp commemorating the landing of Columbus, issued on August 1st. It is a large stamp, brown, with mauve frame, dated 1498-1898, and with the value (2d.) and the lettering rrinidad-con-memoration-the landing of columbus. The plain border of the sheets ( 60 stamps to the sheot) has the watermark, "CROWN COLONIEs" in block letters at each side. Watermark, Crown and CC irregularly placed as the paper was probably meant for stamps of another size, perforation 14. Only 48,000 wore printed and no more impressions will be made.

2d. mauve and brown.
URUGUAY.-Mr. G. Johnson has sent us the provisional $\frac{1}{2} c$. on 1c. of 1894 type, issued to make up fractions of the peso in various postal rates.
$\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{c}$. black, surch. on 1 cent blue.

> Postcards, \&c.

QUEENSLAND.-Mr. W. H. Robinson, of Brisbane, bas sent us one of the now pictorial post cards, of which there are eighteen varieties at present. The picture occupies a good portion of the face of the card.

PORTUGAL.-Mr. G. Johnson, Hon. Secretary of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, has sent us the new Centenary of India card. It is very ordinery in appearance on the front, but the back bears a handsomely engraved design commemorative of Vasco da Gama, the famous Portuguese navigator.

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

$\tau$HE holidays are over, yet the good time is still with us, and to think of work is a sin and a shame. Stamps are off-distinctly off this beautiful August weather-but philatelic papers must be published and your poor Postman has been sternly and coldly recalled to labour from his seclusion on the banks of the Silvery Sabrina. Alas, that it should be sol [Note: I would inform readers of P. C. and A. that the Postman has been what he calls "doing" the Severn Valley. By rumours that have reached me I believe he was forcibly ejected from several spots

Which had experienced enough of his demoralising presence. "Seclusion" forsooth-bah !-Editor, $P$. C. and 4.]

The Birmingham Philatétic Society's annual report, containing lists of members, rules, balance sheats, résumé, programme, advertisements of members and the trade, \&c., will be published on October 6th, 1898. The society guarantee to issue at least 4,000 copies. One copy will be deposited for reference with each of the 500 philatelic societies-English, foreign and colonial-whose proceedings are announced in the Vertrauliches Korrespondenz-Blatt, and other periodicals ; the remainder will bo distributed to philatelists of standing. The rates for advertisements are, whole page, $20 /$-; half page, 11 -; quarter page, $6 /$; oneeighth page, $3 / 6$; business cards, 2,6 , and all advertisements must reach the Hon. Sec. before September 17th.

A somewhat uniquo sale ** ${ }^{*}$ by auction was held on the 19th inst., at Messrs. Debenham, Storr and Sons' rooms, King Strect, Covent Garden, consisting of no fewer than 98 lots of miscellaneous arcicles which had been lying for some time at the Returned Letter Office, and were offered for sale by order of the Postmaster-General. The novelty of the auction attracted a large crowd of bidders. The articies submitted comprised Bibles, Prayer Books and Hymn Books, dress suits, some hundreds of shirts, blouses, and all kinds of gentlemen's and ladies' underlinen ; also literature from "The Queen's Reign" to penny novelettes, patent medicines, cricket bats, pipes, and hundreds of boxes of cigars and cigarettes, purses, hats, caps, bonnets, packets of sweets, opera glasses, boots and shoes, walking sticks and umbrellas, brass fittings, tools, ironmongery, bicycle tyres, razors, and, in fact. some thousands of articles of every conceivable kind. The prices realised in nearly every instance were ridiculously small, some excellent bargains being obtained.

Auction prices are admittedly unsafe guides to value. They sorve a useful purpose, however, in recording the value set upon out-of-the-way parieties by collectors and dealers genorally.
**

Please do not forget the big issue of The Advertiser on October 8th. Remember that stamps are on the up-grade now. We have receised a commission to distribute 3,000 circulars with this issue, and can do with more. Dealers who intend to advertise in or distribute with this issue are requested to make their arrangements early.

Imperial penny postage * was evidently not carried without a final struggle in the last ditch between the progressive colonies and the ruling red-tapeism of St. Martin's-le-Grand. Addressing the Colonial party on

July 19th, Sir Walter Peace, the Agent-General for Natal, referring to the late Postal Conference, presided over by the Duke of Norfolk, said it would always be a proud recollection for him that he was " one of the trio who put their backs to the wall and fought until Imperial penny postage was a triumphant and accomplished fact." The dauntless three wha so sturdily backed up the scheme initiated by Mr. Henniker Heaton, and made the greater part of the Empire one penny postal area were Mr. Mulock, of Canada, Sir David Tennant of the Cape, and Sir Walter Peace, of Natal. The Duke of Norfolk will entertain at Arundel Castle, at the end of this week, these gentlomen and others interested in the recent Conference. The date proposed, by the way, for the inauguration of the new rate is Christmas Day.

The postal authorities of St. Lucia promulgated a decrec on May 6th reducing foreign postage to 2 d . As the consent of the Colonial Secretary could not be obtained, another notice was issued on June 10th restoring the $2 \frac{1}{d}$. rate. Somebody will probably profit by the short life of the 2 d . stamp.

Messrs. Williams and **o., of Lims, Peru, undouktedly the foremost stamp dealers of South America, are issuing an new 12 page price list which we shali be able to supply to applicants ere long. This firm have a wonderful stock of South Ameriran stamps and can supply more cheaply than any other dealor.

French Post Office employes are in a peculiar position, in fact "between the devil and the deep sea." They have received orders forbidding the reading of postal cards and then they are directed not to allow insulting or libellous postal cards to pass through the mails. Query: How can they do it and obey orders?

## NOTES ON ENGLISH STAMPS. <br> By W. S. Webr. <br> "official" varieties-obsolete,

8INCE referring in June to the $2 \frac{1}{2}$ d. lilac with a stop after "Official," I have had opportunities of examining a number of the carly printings of "I. R. Official" and "Govt. Parcels" of all values. I found no new varieties among the I. I.'s of other values than the $2 \frac{2}{2}$; but another specimen of this with the stop has turned up; this and the one previously found are lettered in the lower corners K.S. and L.S. respectively, showing them to have cecupied adjoining positions (vertically) on the sheet. As probably but one printing of this inscription on the 2dd. lilac took place, all stamps of above lettering should show the stop after "oficial." Among "Govt. Parcels," I
found the 9d. green with a square stop, equal to the strokes of the letters in thickness-after "Parcels" on a stamp lettered A.J.: this is also an unchronicled phenomenon. A blook of four $1 \frac{1}{d}$ d. lilac, lettered sa, s в, т A, т $\quad$, had normal dots under the T of both upper stamps, but on the left of lower pair tho dot is barely visible, and totally absent on the fourth stamp. Readers having either many or few of the older officials should look for these varieties, and I shall be very glad to hear whon any aro found, whether or not the letters correspond with those above described.

## DITTO, CORRENT.

The following are worthy of record: "Govt. parcels" 2 d , with broken O , like a reversed C ; and 9 d . with no upper bar to E , which thus looks like an inverted F . The dd. "Army Official" may bo found with the vortical stroke of $L$ not quite touohing the foot, which is of normal length.
instructions(s) on postcards.
It is funny that the long-familiar inseription "The Address only," \&c., should still remain on the cards sold by the Post Office, when it has vanished from those which are stamped to order. It has now no purpose to serve-you may write your message all round the address if you like, provided you leave the latter easily distinguishable, and beep the writing a respectful distance from the stamp.

The cards certainly look somewhat "one-eyed" without the line of instruction, hut that is not a sufficient reason for retaining it, as some appropriate ornament or re-arrangement could be substituted

The private cards may be found in both shapes without the instructions, but appear to be used by vary few firms, and aro comparatively seldom seen. A very scarce card will be the "court-shape" with the inscription, and arms of type II. (142 mm . long).

## railway letter-pee stamps.

Keep a good look-obi for these, as changes are often occuring either in the details of printing, perforation, \&c. names of companies, or shades of colour, and many obsolete varicties are rising. I hear that some companies now object to aupplying the stamps direct to the public, and if this becomes generel, it will have the effect of raising the value even of current sorts, used as well as unused. The regulations under which the railways carry letters on this system give the stamps a decided postal character and their collection has therefore become a recognised branch of English philately.

## NORTH-GERMAN PROVISIONAL ENVELOPES.

THROUGE the arrest of Foreman Greenenthal of the Government Printing Office in Berlin, the following intoresting facts were brought to light.

In the year 1868-69 the Post Office authorities of the North Germen Bund at the time made use of Provisional Envelopes (which wore not in circulation after the 1st of January, 1868) with numeral of value stamped thereon of the individual German States, in such a manner that they had them pasted over in the Royal Prussian Government Printing Office at the time with 1 and 2 Groschen stamps as well as 3 Kreuzer stamps of the North German Confederation, and printed with a paculiar surcharge which bore the words, "Norddeutschor Postbezirk" in Diamond typo repeated 60 times. This innovation had the result of creating numerous styles of now envelopes, which was a source of great interest to the stamp collectors. Altogether 41 styles of envelopes of the German states were overpasted.

In the end of the seventies and beginning of the eighties, at a timo when these envelopes were no longer in circulation, entirely now combinations of over pasting appeared which were until then totally unknown. All these newly discovered styles had the correct surcharge printed upon them.
These new provisional envelopes which were sold for hundreds of Marks, being very rare, ware in great demand but still there were a fow who did not believe in them. This was especially the case with a Russian collector by the name of F. Breitfuss who declared in the year 1885, that many of theso varicties which were in circulation at the time when the large surcharging stamp with which the pasted over stamps wero printed, "as a well-known fact" mysteriously disappeared from the Goverament Printing Office.

Upon further enquiries the "Verein fur Brief. markenkunde " in Berlin received the answer that 13 surcharging stamps which wero, according to the rules and regulations concerning the issuance of valuable papers, always kept under lock and kay after the work had boen performed, were destrojed.

The director of the Goneral Court of Justice, E. Lindenberg in the year 1893, proved conclusively that all those pasted over provisional onvelopes, which appeared at the end of the seventics, were fraudulent issues. The director was onabled, through the documents of the Government Post Office Dcpartment which were at his disposal, to prove that the old envalopes were pasted over according to a certain system and that it was altogether impossible for that reason that the later "discovered " raritios were over produced by the Prussian Government Printing Office, and, by order of the Post Office Department, delivered to the department and afterwards sold to the public.

Soon after this it occured by chance that auch a surcharging die was found in Berlin in the possession of a private person, also several other dies.

At that time theso artloles were sold privately and sent to the Government Post Office Museum, whers they are now under lock and key.

It must be remarked, by the way, that by means
of the stolen dies，not only the＂pasted over＂but also other old provisional envelopes were＂fraud－ ulently issued＂in large numbers．－Herald Exchange．

## GROUP COLLECTING：

## EFRIOAN COLONIES．

Br R．Houlici，Vice－President of the Birmingham Philatelic Society．

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE．

1853 issue，imperforate，triangular stamp，on bluish paper．

| Face | Unused．Used． |
| :---: | :---: |
| mk，Value． | s．d．s． |
| Anchor，1d．shades of red | $40 \quad 0$ |
|  | 40 |

1855－58 isgues＂，Imperforate，triangular stamps，on white weve paper．
Anchor，1d．，carmine，red－brown，dull

| rose（shades） | 10 | 0 | 2 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4d．，blue（many shades） | 5 | 6 | 1 | 3 |
| 4d．，slate－blue | 12 | 6 | 6 | 0 |
| 6 d．，dull lilac | 15 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| 6d．，slate－lilac | 80 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| 6d．，meuve | 20 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| 6d．，deep lilaso | 20 | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| 1／－，pale green | 50 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| 1／－，yellow－green | 60 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| 1／－，deep green | 80 | 0 | 14 | 0 |
| 1／－，emerald green | 80 | 0 | 17 |  |


1861，provisional issue，printed from wood blocks， on white laid paper．
Lines，1d．，scarlet ．．．．$\$ 30100 \quad 0$

| 1d．，carmino |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1d．，blue（error） | $\cdots$ | ． |  | $£ 60$ |
| $4 d_{\text {，}}$ ，milky blue | ． | ． | £25 | 450 |
| 4d．，blue ．． | ．． | ． | － | 45 |
| 4 d ．，deep bluo |  |  |  |  |
| 4d．，red（error） | ． | ． | － | £80 |

NOTE．－The first ia6ue＂of triangular stamps was printed by lfessrs．Perkins，Bacon and Co．The second by the same firm until 1863，thence by Mesirs．De la liue and Co．；the provisionals by Messrs．Saul and Solomon．In making up the plates，a Id．and $4 d$ ．were misplaced，thus causing one error in each sheet of 64 stamps．This error was rectified after about 400 sheets were printed．Both values of the woodblocks are found with re－touched corner．The 1d．on Crown C．C．paper is looked upon as an essay．

1864－65 issues，rectangular stamps on wove paper， perforated 14，an outer line forming framework to the entire design．

Cr．C．C．，1d．，rose red $\quad$ ．$\quad . \quad 3 \quad 6 \quad 10$

| ＂ | 4d．，pale to dark blue | $\because$ | 8 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| ＂ | 6d．，lilec to manve（日hades） | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 |  |
| ＂ | $1 /-$, pale to dark green | ．． | 10 | 0 | 0 | 6 |

18368，provisional issue．
Cr．C．O．，4d．＂Fourpence＂overprinted
in red on 6d．．．$\quad \ldots \quad 12 \quad 6 \quad 1 \quad 6$
1871－77，same design，but with outor line removed．
Cr．C．C．，年d．grey ．．．．．．． 10010
＂1d．carmine $\quad . . \quad \cdots \quad . . \quad 0 \quad 4 \quad 0 \quad 1$

| $" 1$ | $\begin{array}{l}\text { 4d．deep blue } \\ 5 / . \text { orange }\end{array}$ | ．． | ．． | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |

1874 to 1880 ，provisional issues．
Cr．C．C．，1d．，＂One Penny＂over－ $\begin{array}{lllll}\text { printed in red on } 6 d .(1874) & 20 & 0 & 7 & 6\end{array}$
1d．，＂One Penny＂over－ printed in black on 1／－（1877） 30070
3d．，＂Three pence＂over－ printed in red on 4d，blue （1879）

16004
3d．，＂Three pence＂over． printed in black on 4d rose （1880）．．．．$\quad . \quad 1 \quad 6 \quad 0 \quad 6$
1880，permanent type as 1871 issuo．
Cr．C．C．，3d．，lilac－rose $\quad . \quad$ ．． 200006
＂3d．，＂3＂overprinted In black on above $\quad \cdots \quad \cdots \quad 1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 6$
3d．，＂ 3 ＂overprinted in black on ditto $\quad . . \quad . . \quad 1 \quad 6 \quad 0 \quad 9$
NOTE．－Errors of these provisionals are to be found， of the 1d．on 1／－with the bar only；of the 3d．on 4d． blue，with THEEE，with PENCB and with double overprint；and of both varieties of figure 3 on 3d．lilac rose inverted．

1882－3 issues．
Cr．C．A．，血d．black ．．．．．． $0 \quad 4 \quad 0 \quad 1$


1882 ，provisional issues．
Cr．C．C．，$\frac{1}{2} d .$, ＂Halipenny＂over－ printed in black on 3d．iake $\begin{array}{lllll}60 & 0 & 20 & 0\end{array}$
Or．O．A．，$\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$, ＂Halfpenny＂over－ $\begin{array}{lllll}\text { printed in black on 3d．lake } & 1 & 0 & 0 & 6\end{array}$ 1884－90 issue．
Anchor，fd．black．．．．．． 0 1 0

|  | 1d．rose | － | ．． 0 | 3 | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2d．ochre | － | ．． 0 | 4 | 0 |
|  | 4d．blue | $\cdots$ | ．． 0 | 8 | 0 |
|  | 6d．mauve | － | $\cdots 1$ | 0 | 0 |
|  | 1／－green | ． | 7 | 6 | 0 |
|  | 5／－orange－yellow |  | 20 | 0 | 1 |

1891，provisionsl．
Anchor，2łd．on 3d．，magenta ．． $0 \quad 6 \quad 0 \quad 4$ NOTE．－A variety of this surcharge is found with straight serif to 1 of $\frac{1}{2}$ ．

1892 issue.
Anchor, $2 \frac{12}{2} \mathrm{~d}$, pale green .. .. 200003 1893, provisional.
Anchor, 1d, on 2d. ochro $\because \quad . \quad 0 \quad 3 \quad 0 \quad 3$
NOTE.-A variety of this surcharge is found without stop.

1893, new design.
Anchor, 1d. rose red .. .. $0 \quad 2 \quad 0 \quad 1$
1893, the outer line of frame having been removed.
Anchor, 1/- blue-green
1896 issue.
Anchor, 21d. blue.. .. .. $0 \quad 4 \quad 0 \quad 1$
" 1 - yellow.. $\quad . \quad . . \quad 1 \quad 6 \quad 0 \quad 4$

11 5/- ochre ..
1898, issue.
Anchor, 3d. dark lilac " 4d. olive .. $\quad . \quad$.. $\quad 0 \quad 6 \quad$ -

Last month the type partly moved after Mr. Hollick had corrected the proofs. The prices should be:-
bRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA PROTECTORATE.
1898, 1d., overprinted in black on 3/- $18 \begin{array}{llll} & 8 & 2 & 6\end{array}$ 1d. provisional, cheque type .. 40 -
These present market ralues are not fictitious, but have been arrived at by comparing Auction Reports and dealers' stocks, and also taking into consideration the numbers issued. A full stock of nearly every rarity is held, and wlll be supplied by the compiler on receipt of smount. Letters to be sddressed to Richard Hollick, Fillongley Hcuse, Boldmere Road, Erdington, near Birmingham.

## HAWAII.

Ware in receipt of information that the foreign office at Honolulu has discontinued the sale of the official set of Hawaiian stam.ps, they having recoived an offer for the whole issue at face value, and concluded to accept it. They have reserved the privilege, however, of using those that are required for official business until the annexation is a finelity. As these stamps oannot be procured except at a premium. I am feariful tho advancer at retail will be quite a consideration to the buyer, as it only required some $\$ 5.000$ to purchase the whole number, and we are assured that they are in strong hands. The purchasers have made a "scoop." This is the first move and we are prepared to hear of a number of surprises regarding Hawaiian stamps, aq quite a number will be hard to purchase at catalogue prices, the dealers not baving them in stock. The latest intelligence is the annexation of the Archipelago by the United States and probably by now, all Sandwich Island atamps are obsolete.

## HAYTI.

VERY fow of the new issue of stamps have been used postally except the 2 and 5 cent values. The others were furnished in such small quantities that they were bought up at face value, that is, in gold, by some speculator, and the 2 cent surcharge are now being offered at $\$ 3.00$ gold per one hundred and not many for sale at that price. The 2 cent brown is mentioned in some of tho papers as being issued in 1893. This is a mistake, both stamps were surcharged at about the same time, there was perhaps 6 months difference in the time and they were both done to use up the old issue; the brown in 1897 and the orange in the early part of this year. They are showing a number of errors of double print in the orange, but none on the brown, which will in time be the rare stamp of the two. A letter has just been received with the brown and orange surcharged, the one, threc, five and seven of the new issue together with the five, seven and three of the previous issue. The stamps of Hayti are all right and there has been no real evidence that the government hare, or contemplate issuing any stamp of a Seebeck nature. The country has always been free from attempts of the kind, and it seems rather hard to impute a speculative motive to the stamp as some are doing at this late day.

## SOCIETY REPORTS.

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Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:-Mr. G. Johnson B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

The packets for July are good considering that we are in the holiday season.

| A. packet (mixed) | £1,320 16 |
| :---: | :---: |
| B. ", (colonials only) | 1,430 134 |
| C. " (foreign only) | 27610 |
| Total | 3,028 |

Your committee has purchased for the library the following very desirable volumes which were offered to us on very reasonable terms. They make our
library one of the best in existence. London Philatelic Society's publications: British India and Ceylon, Tabmania, Oceania, West Indies and North American Colonies, all well bound in full morocco. The Philatelic Journal complete; Stamp Collectors' Journal, volumes 1 to 12, complete, half leather; MoKells Philatelic Catalogue (Evans) ; Dr. Gray's Illustrated Catalogue ; Pemberton's Stamp Collectors' Handbook; Philatelic Record, volumes I., II., III., XIV., XV., to complete file; Westoby's Stamps of United Kingdom; Philbrick and Westoby's Post and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain; Gibbons' Stamp Advertiser and Auction Record; Gibbons' Monthly Journal, volumes I.--VII.; Metropolitan Philatelist, volumes I.-IV.; Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, volumes I.-III.; Alfred Smith's Monthly Circular, 1877-94; Stamp News Annuals, 1891, 2, 3, 4, 6 ; Stamp News, volumes VI.-XI. ; Philatelic Journal of America, 1891 ; American Journal of Philately, volume IV.; Vindin's Philatelic Monthly, volumes V., VII.; Skipton's Auction Epitome, 1890-2; Philatelique Suisse, volume I. ; Foreign Stamp Collectors' Journal, 1878-93, \&c., all bound in cloth.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES STAMP EXCHANGE

(Esfablished 1886).
Hon. Secretary:-W. G. Walton, Fentham Road, Birmingham.

The August packets show in improvement even on the excellent July ones, aro vory full of good stamps at low prices, offering splendid opportunitics to purchasers. The following members are proposed :J. Jeffrey (Aberdoen), W. T. Elliott (Kidderminster), H. S. Tewson (Cape Town). Rules, \&c, from Secretary, post free.

The "Bbitisif Specialist" Stamp Exchange.Circulation of packots in both sections is as brisk as can be expected, at this, the most awkward season for postal exchange clubs. The majority of the members don't; give philately a long vacation, so the packets have been regularly made up and despatched as per rules. Only English, Colonials, and U.S. are dealt with, and there have been and are some fine sheets going. Secretary, W. S. Webb, Walpole, Halesworth (Member S.E.P.S.).

Richmond Stamp Excinange Society. - The Sccretary begs to draw attention to the following notices : Marking Spaces.-Members who persist after this notice in marking spaces with initials when they remove stamps from the packets, instead of using full name, and those who use pencil instead of either ink or rubber stamp will be understood as handing in their resignations. Several times this matter has been brought under your notico, and yet members expeot the secretary to cheok all takings and balance accounts. It either meana the secretary must
disband the club or ruin his sight, therefore this practice must be discontinued. Delay of Packets.Several members have lately delayed packeta by leaving home, and omitting, as per rules, to advise secretary in sufficient time to divert packets from going to their address whilst away. If members intend to break rules the secretary prefers their resignation, as the responsibility of safeguarding their interests is too great when rules are not adhered to. Members would also oblige when not contributing sheets, if they do not wish to purchase from the packet, by informing the secretary by postcard. It saves them postage of packet and the time of other members. [A good portion of the above remarks applies to members of exchange clubs generally, so we leave the notices in their entirety.-EDItor.]

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1．Synopsis and Price List ．．．．．．．．． 98
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Part V．－Post Oftice Telegraph Stamps ．．．．．．g8
Part Vi．－Fiscal Stamps ．．．．．．．．． 107
Part Vil．－General remarks． a－Proofs and Essays ．．．．．．．．． 118 b－Watermarks，illustrated ．．．．．．．．． 121

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a－Oxford and Cambridge College Stamps ．．． 130
$b$－Circular Delivery Companies＇Stamps ．．． 136
$c$－Railway Letter Fee Stamps ．．．．．． 140
${ }_{d}$－Private Telegraph Companies＇Stamps $\ldots \ldots .142$
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|  | Symopsis and l'rice Jist ... | $\cdots$ |  |  |
| 2 | Westriptive Catalogug | ... |  | 15 |
|  | 6-I :me.Engraved Series |  |  | 13 |
|  |  |  |  | 27 |
|  | 6-Surfice - ${ }^{\text {cimueal Series }}$ | $\ldots$ |  | 2 |
|  | r-Ine la kue Stries | ... |  | is |
| Pakt 11.-Monetabi Entecones and and Jubilee Starionelis |  | LET11.A |  | 50 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | Syuopsis and l'rice List |  | ... |  |
| 2. | Descriplive Catalogne |  |  | 1 |
|  | a-i:nvelope Series ... $\quad .$. |  | .. | 65 |
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| ,. 2c. orange | 0 | 6 |
| , 50 grcen | 0 | 10 |
| 10 e red | 09 | 8 |
| 1-itac. blue | 19 |  |
| Serfoundiand, imperf., id brown and claret.. |  |  |
| Nerfoundland, imperf., 3d. green .. | 46 |  |
| ,, 4d. lake | 20 |  |
| 5d. red \& brorn | 36 |  |
| $\cdots$, $\because$ 6d. lake | 10 |  |
| , peri., 13c., orange | 39 |  |
| ," ,. 2c. green | 0 |  |
| $\cdots \quad, \quad$ lc brown $\ddot{\square}$ | 0 | 0 |
| Niger Coa-t, prot. ${ }^{\text {d. to } 1 /- \text {, cat. } 15 / 9 \text {, }}$ our price |  |  |
| St. Vincent. 1d. on 24 d. on 1d. rose .. | 9 | 18 |
| St. Lucia, ld. rose cheap .- | 50 |  |
| Tcbago, fd. on $2 \frac{2 d}{}$. bide .. 2td. on 4d., slate .. | $\begin{array}{ll}1 & 3 \\ 2 & 9\end{array}$ | 12 |
| Turk's Isles, \%d. on 1d.. vermilion | 49 |  |
| Trind $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. on 2td. .- | 0 |  |
| Trisidad, impert., purple | 70 |  |
| " blue | 60 |  |
| $\because$ brown and red | 70 |  |
| Virgin Isles, 4 d on 1i. | $30 \quad 0$ |  |

CHEAP SETS.


## ALL ORDERS POSTAGE EXTRA.

WANTED TO PCRCHASE- 5,000 Barbados ( $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. and 1 d. ) ; 20,000 Common India $5,000 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. Triuidad. Make Offers.

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Revised and corrected to October, 1895 .
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Firm grip can be put in water. cheapest in the market.
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rifin. lens, tolds into handle, cheap and good
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This valuable book gives the actual up-to-date values of stamps by the prices brought at Auction and shows also the condition of the specimens sold
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## "THE TIME IS GONE PAST

(says Mekeel's Ifeekly for packots on the old plan. Messrs. Alfred Smith \& Son realized this some time ago. To purchase their

## NEW 'ROWLAND HILL'

packet collection at $\$ 15$ means a sub stantial profit, if the stamps be sold separately, even by a dealer, and this from the retail standpoint is saying a good deal."
\&3 complete ; Sample Part, 4 -.
POSTCARD BRINGS DESCRIPTIVE BOOKLET.

## ALFRED SMITH \& SON,

37 \& 39, ESSEX STREET,
STRAND, W.C.

## CHEAP SETS OF

British Plate Numbers.

| 1d. red |  |  | Complete Set of. |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { My } \\ \text { price. } \end{gathered}$ |  | Catal |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\ldots$ |  | ... | 191 |  |  | 6. |  |
| 1 k d. sed | ... | $\ldots$ | .. | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 8 |
| 2 d . blue | ... | ... | ... |  | 1 | 0 | 2 | 9 |
| 2d. rose | ... | ... | ... | 18 | 7 | 0 | 15 | 3 |
| 2dd. blue | ... | ... | ... | 7 | - | 9 | 7 | 0 |
| 3d. rose | ... | ... | ... | 20 | 7 | 6 | 21 | 1 |
| 4d. orampe | $\ldots$ | ... | ... | 10 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 9 |
| 6d. violet | ... | $\cdots$ | ... | 8 | 3 | - | 6 | 7 |
| 6d. grey | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 8 |
| 1/-green | ... | ... | ... | 13 | - | 0 | 18 | 7 |

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[^22]
## Philatelic Chronicle \& Wuertiser

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Published Monthly.
Subscription, $1 / G$ peek Anntim. Subscriptions commence with current number. Back numbers of Vols. 1, II, 1IT, IV, V\&V1, Gd. each Specimen, ld. Odd numbers of Vol. VII, Bd. each. Back Nos. of the Advertiser $2 / \mathrm{C}$, for $1,2,3,4,5$, and 11, and Bd. each all others.

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Subscriptions and advertisements must be prepaid.
Iatfpern!/ Stamps should always be sent in prefer--nee to those of any other val ute. Money from abroad must be remitted by Postal Order or Notes. Amounts under 2. may be sent by unused stamps, higher values, tat current rate of exchange. Unused LiS. and Canadian high values accepted at face value. Postal and Money Orders payable at ilion Road, Aston.
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New Subscriptions to the "A advertiser" are entitled to one short Advertisement. Subscription Gd. for 12 issues, post-free.

All communications for the next issue should reach us by the Tenth of the Montinat latest. We cannot ;uarabitec insertion if received after that date.

SEiTLEND:M 21st, 1898.
CONTENTS.


The Philatelic Chronicle is sent to all the members of the Birmingham Philatelic Society and Midland Counties Stamp Exchange, being the Official Journal of these Societies.

WITAl the resent issue our seventh volume comes to an end, and next month sees our eighth birthday. I During the seven years of our existence we have seen many changes in the stamp world. Some years have been good, some only fair, hut the last twelve months and the nine months before it have been bad-distinctly bad. How some of the dealers struggled through this lime is known only to themselves, bat they had difficult work in many cases. luting a hold face on and asserting that the times were fairly prosperous, was the bitterest wrench's. A paper such as ours ganges the state of the trade themometrially. We call usually tell when things are going well with the dealers and when they ate not so satisfactory. 'They have been buy, hut tow the thermometer is rising rapidly. The "winter of our discontent" is rapidly being made "glorious summer" by the near advent of a successful season, and already the signs tell us that things stampic are fairly on the upgrade. May we treat the better times) discreetly that they will not again depart.

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2/8
Postage Stamps, with prices up to date 6d.
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ed.
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$i \times$ ain., measures all perfs. from 7 to 17 . Along one side is 2 scale of inches and fractions, and along the other a millimetre scale, giving from $\$ \mathrm{~mm}$. to i deolmetre.
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Neatly ruled with all requisite spaces on best paper. The best ever offerd (8amples id. stamp).
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1,000 for 0 d.
On tough extremely thln paper, gammed with pure gum medium size
STAMPS OF HELIGOLAND
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REVENUE STAMPS OF THE BRITISH COLONIES - $9 / 8$ By Walter Moriey, A complete and valuable book of refer ence, with current market value.
NUNN'S DIRECTORY (Stamps)
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Patt II.-Entires only
Part II.-ENTikEs only . . . . .. . . $1 / 0$
The TWO bound together .... . . . . $2 / 6$
GIBBONS' 1897 CAT 3 LOGGUE, Part I. or 11.
do do. Part III
STAMP TONGS (nickel-plated)
Part III
Farm grip, onn be put in water, oheapest in the mariset.
MAGNIPYING GLASS
ifn. lens, folds into handle, cheap and good
THE BRITISH STAMP DIRECTORY
a.

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A comprebensive list of British Colrectors (only), 86 pages, well bound in thick fexible covers.
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r2 for ed.; 25 for $1 / 2$; 50 for $8 /-$; 100 for $1 / 9$. Ruled to hold 120 stamps. Bound in stiff covers. Bnvelope size. Pull conditions on fropt cover. Sample id.
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## "THE TIME IS GONE PAST

(says Mekeel's Weekly for packets on the old plan. Messrs. Alfred Smith \& Son realized this some time ago. To purchase their

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packet collection at $\$ 15$ means a substantial profit, if the stamps be sold separately, even by a dealer, and this from the retail standpoint is eaying a good deal."
$\mathbf{\& 3}$ complete ; Sample Part, $4 /=$.
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The zo sets for 451 - nell. post free.
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## PBilatelic Cbroniele \& Naveptiser

 AND PHILATELIC TIMES. Published Monthly. Subscription, $1 / 6$ per Annum. Subscriptions commence with current number. Back numbers of Vols. I, II, III, IV, V \& VI, 6d. each Specimon, 1d. Odd numbers of Vol. VII, 3d. each. Back Nos. of the Advertiser 2/6, for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 11, and 3d. each all others.
## ADVERTISEMENTB.

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September 21st, 1898.

## CONTENTS.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Page. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Editorial |  | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | ... | $\ldots$ | . |  | 89 |
| The Pontman'\% | Oc |  | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |  | 0 |
| Notes on English | tan |  |  | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |  | 92 |
| The U.B. Omaha | $1{ }^{\text {c }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | 92 |
| Proponed Now Iss | of | p | 8 | op | Tem |  | d | 93 |
| gons of Philateli | nn |  | don | ... | ... | ... | ..- | 94 |
| Group Colleoting | ... | $\cdots$ | ... | ... | ... | - | ... | 94 |
| 80cluty Reportis | +" | - 0 | -** | ... | ... | ... |  | 96 |

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$$
\begin{aligned}
& 2 \text { cents, blue and brown. } \\
& 10 \\
& 15 \text { " bed and blue-black. } \\
& 15 \text { blue and red-brown. }
\end{aligned}
$$

CANADA.-We have received official information that the complete new set, with figures in lowor corners, the 1 and 3 c . of which we listed in our issue of July 2nd, will be put on sale very shortly. The complete list of values and colours is as follows:-


50 cents, green-olive.
COOK ISLANDS.-Mr. E. W. Hounsom has favoured us with specimens of the new Cook Island stamps. The design is a sea-bird in lull flight. Shape, an oblong rectangle, perf. 11.

2d brown.
6d. purple.
1'. carmine.
HONDURAS.-We have received two new stamps from this country, which we presume to be precursers of a complete set. They are very roughly printed, and of cheap appearance, bearing imprint "Lit Nacional" at bottom of each stamp. The centra] design consists of railroad train with larga numeral on white tablet in lower left corner; "Centavos" in straight line at bottom ; "U.P.U.-Correos " diagonaliy across upper left corner; "De Honduras" in straight line at top; " 1898 " in small fyures above numeral.

5 centavos, light blue.
10 centavos, blue.
LABUAN. - The surcharge on the 18 c . has been transferred to the bottom of the stamp. 18 conts, black and olive-brown, variety.

NEW ZEALAND.-It is said that the design used for the 1d. stamp (Lake Taupo) will be used for the 4d., and the present 4d. design (White Terrace) for the 1d. This was the original intention, but in some way the designs were confused in London. The new 4d. will be printed in the brown and blue tints while the 1d. will probably be in the Postal Union coloura red.

Postcards, \&c.
MEXICO. - We have received new 2 and 3 c . cards; the 2 c is in rose and black and is for Cnited States and Canada, and the 3c. is in brown and green, for Postal Union use. The inscription in lower left corner resds "Lado Que Se Heberva Para La Direc-cion-Coté Réservé a L'Adresse)."

2 cents, rose and black.
3 ," brown and green.
MOROCCO. - The cards have received the
"Morocco-Agencies" surcharge.
Provisional post cards.
5 cents, green.
$5 \times 5$
10
$10 \times 10$
"
carmine.
?
"

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

THE stamp season is treading on our heals again -or is it we that are treading upon its heels? It matters not one jot-stamps are coming again and your Postman recognises that he must buckle to and bring his mighty powers into action or goodness only knows what would bappen to the Clironicle and the Advertiser.

The Sign of the Times: A big issue to open with! Not half a big issue but the hog, the whole hog and nothing but the whole hog in the way of big issues. It is not the size of the book to which I refer - it will still be eight inches by six and a half-and with as many pages as are required. The bigness-perhaps "size" would be more elegant-is in the circulation. The smallest of our big issues last season would double in quantity the largest issue of any philatelic paper published in Britain, probably.

Big issues don't pay us-that stands to reason -but they bring support from hore there and evarywhere by reason of their universal circulation and the out-of-the-way places they reach. For example, take New Zealand. New Zealand is not a particularly out-of-the-way place but it will sarve! Now The Postman will wager his best go-to-meeting silk-hat that the Chronicle and Advertiser heve more subscribers in New Zealand than all the other British papers put together. This is how the big issue helps us. Whether they are of use to our advertisers we leave them to say. Anyhow, from a big bundle of letters received during the final two months of last season, I have taken the few that follow. In the words of the immortal poet, Jones, kindly "chuck yer hi over'em ":-

Dear Sirs,-Being so pleased with my last adver. tisement I have great pleasure in enclosing an advertisement for the next three issues.

> Yours faithfully,

Lincoln, 11/6/'98.

I was pleased with my first edvertisement. I think that it will be the same for the enclosed. Lille, June 10th, 1898.

Henri Ochin.
Dear Sirs,-I have much pleasure in testifying to the excellence of your journal, and have no hesitation in say.ng it is the best I have come across far advertising as I have received more replies from your journal than trom any other

Yours, \&ic.,
Southport, 16;5/'98.
Robt. Heath.
Dear Sir, - I was very satisfied with my last insertion in your paper and I beg you to insert me again this insertion in your paper.

Yours truly,
Brünn, 11/5/'98.
Ernst Subak.
I have used the "Advertiser" inserting an ad. four times ( 24 words) and I have gained about $£ 10$. From this anyone can learn something.

Yours truly,
Smyrna, June 3rd, $1898 . J$ John T. Vartanian.
I hope to run a larger advertisement in your paper for some time. Have had very good results Yours faithfully,
Oldham, Mar 4th, $1898 . \quad$ H. B. Backhouse.
Gents. - I have tried ads. in several other foreign papers but those I have inserted in "Advertiser" bring more replies.

Yours truly,<br>Avondale, N.J., U.S.A, David B. Crochett.<br>April 20th, 1898.

The "Advertiser" is the best collectors" or dealero" book. I have had numerous replies to my cheap advertisement and have added some hunfreds of stamps to my collection through the "Advertiser,"

Yours faithfully,
Dunedin, N.Z., 18/4/' 98.
Hugh Baird.
The advertisements I have had at different times have always resulted satisfactorily. Yours sincerely,
April 16th, 1898.

W. H Robinson.

Dear Sir,-The small advertisement you put in for me was a success, as I got about 80 answers from it. Coulgardie, W.A., 12/3/'98.
J. A. Rosha.

4iter maf last "ad." I have not sent a repeatsimply because I have cleared. The number of applications for sheet has beeu incredible and I have few left.

Yours truly,
Halifax, Yorts., 2/2/'98.
Lionel Dichinson.

These are picked almost hap-hazard from a lot of letters bearing testimony to the same effect, so it looks as though somebody got something out of advertising in The Adrertiser. There is, however, a conservative section of dealers who consider them. solves in honour bound to support the journals of dealers only and ignore other papers. They will go and pay three or five rounds a page or even a bigger rate in a paper of this kind when they can have a page in The Advertiser at 30/- or less. The price for advertising in the dealer's paper is perfectly lair and reasomable for he naturally expects to get a considera. tion for sharing his connection with a rival. The Advertiser, if course fails in this particular, but it is known to a few thousands of the "general public" of philately all the same. But enough advertising the paper, let us get on !

Apropos of the proposed auction sale in Birmingham to which I alluded a couple of months ago, Mr. H. W. Plumridge writes me to the following effect: "As a matter of fact we arranged to hold an auction sale after the Birmingham Society held its exhibition. As this was postponed, our sa'e was also postponed, but we have made arrangements with the Society to hold a sale during the exhibition." Mr. Plumridge should do well in Birmingham. Thore is plenty of scope. While on the subject 1 would call att ntion to the experiment of Messrs. Ostara and Darlow in Man. chester. Thoy held their first sale on the 15th inst. -rather early, I fancy-but their next, on October 17 th, should be an unmitigated success.
The "Rowland Hill" series of packets bas been a household word with philatelists for some twenty years. Me:srs. Alfred Smith and Son have just issued a new prospectus of this justly-famed series and it would be warth anyone's while to send to them and ask for \& copy. The sixteen packets comprising the series contain 14,00 different stemps and cost $£ 3$. It is only neoessary to add that these stamps are not of the ordinary common or garden variety packet class, but are all clean picked copies, fit for any collection.

Messrs. Whitfiold King have sent me their newest wholesale list. Sufficient to say it is as good and the stamps are as cheap as heretofore.

One of the consequences of the occupation of Crete by the Powers was the establishment of four Frener post offices upon the isle. They are located at Canea, Retimo, Candia and Sitia. At present the French Levant stamps are emplajed but it is rumoured that French stamps similar to the
"Cavalla " issue, but with the surcharge " CRETE" are being prepared.

The catalogue price of the Jubilee posteard is 15 s . (rorth about 7 s .6 d .) and the Jubilee envelope 2 s . Gd . These latter, however, hardiy fetch 1s. each.

The 3 centavo stamp of Argentine which was issued in 1893, six months after the baiance of that series, was recently retired from circulation. Contrary to all precedents the remainders are to be burned.

21,000 stamps of 1 frauc of "Madagascar et Dependances" have been printed with the inscription in blue instead of red in error.

The following are the numbers of the stamps of Uruguay surcharged "Paz, 1897 ":-


As regards collecting Australian stamps there are now very fair opportunities-the stamps are full of interest and in some cases of difficulty also-used copies can be had for much less than they would have cost two or three years ago Indeed there are still, as there always have been, aud ever will be, ample opportunities for the collector who will exercise his own individuality and find out a speciality for himself instead of joining in the prevalentiashion of the day.

## NOTES ON ENGLISH STAMPS.

By W. S. Webb.
"british leyant" erboh. ONDERS will never cease," and the latest is a copy of the 80 paras on current 5 stamp, on which what should be the figure 8 shows decidedly more like a " 3 ." It is probably due to a flaw in the type of the intended 8, so that a gap gecurs where the two curves should unite on the left, and a rather long-armed 3 is the result. I have st present seen but one specimen, so possibly the freak is of recent appearance. It is probably occuring once ou a sheet, if not already corrected, which it certainly should be, as it reads very distinctly " $\$ 0$ paras."

## dated wrapper stampg.

Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen kindly informs me that he bas found the dated stamps of Vaccination Cortificates with die No. 3, on all dates from 23/1/72 to $21 / 3 / 72$, and be adds that many of these occur on same days as tho un-numbered die 1 was used on. At the same time I expect Mr. Ewen will agree with me that die 3 is by far the scarcer. I have seen quantities of the stamps dated between the above limits, but proportionately very few bore the numeral.

## PENRY POSTCARDS.

There is a decided variety of shado in the large size brown peuny card, which should be recognised by the catalogues. Gibbons, for example, gives the colour of the small card of 1879 simply as "brown" whilst the larger card of 1983 is described as "dark brown." This is correct as far as it goes, but the large card certainly exists also in a light brown shade, much paler even than any of the printings of the small cards (the colour of which varies very little). I first saw this pale card overprinted "specimen," and thought probably it was the preliminary printing for that purpose only, but I have just seen a couple without "t specimen," so it was apparently issued to the public to a small extent. This card is worth looking out for, not only on account of its rarity, but because it shows such a striking contrast to the usual doep brown of the large penny card. I have met with the $1 \frac{1}{2}$ d. of same aize suroharged " specimen," but that is of the usual dart shade.

## THE UNITED STATES OMAHA ISSUE. <br> A FEW CRTTICISMS. <br> With Notes by Non-Lex.

WHO shall decide when doctors disagree? Our philatelic brothers in the States looked forward to the Omaha issue with considerable interest-they now contemplate it apparently with mixed feelings. These are a few of the opinions expressed on the other side of the horring pond. I will not venture any statement myself, for, after porusing these criticisms of native born Americans, any opinion I might be tempted to form would be a fearful and wonderful thing. Here they are:-

We think them very artistic-in fact we think them superior to the Columbians in grace of design and execution of detail. Especially the 8c., which is a masterpiece.-Virginia Philatelist.

Very disappointing. We were promised that it should exceed the Columbians both in beauty and interest, and in fulfilment of this promise we are offered a set of miserable daubs. The 8 c . reprosents either Coxey's army or Colonel "Bill" Bryan leading his horde of silver votaries. You pays your eight cents and you takes your cloice. -N. Luff, in American Journal of Philately.

Immensely satisfactory to the rank and file of collectors; they are considered beautiful and ap-propriate.-Melieel's.

A disappointment; many of the designs are ill suited for the purpose for which they have beon selected; others are grotesque, while the engrav. ing is not such as to give credit to the Bureau.Weckly Letter, in Metropolitan Philatelist.

Those who have seen them seem to have only words of praise for the various denominations.G. MI. Bartels, in Weekly Philatelic Era.

Of all the stamps that have been issued lately they are the poorest specimens of workmanship I have seen.-S. E. L., in Weekly Plilatelic Era.

I think the Omaha Stamps are yery handsome -much more so than the Columbians.-Editor Cox, in Western Philatelist.

The fifty cent is a very poor job. To my notion thoy do not in any way compare with the Columbians.-Dr. Cottlow, in Weekly Philatelic Era.

Altogether, the Omaha stamps are very credit-sble.-Albert Olson, in Meheels.
The engraving is coarse and indistinct, the ink somewhat muddy, the colors not over attractive. -E. L. Smiley, in Boston Stamp Book.

Most thoroughly American in design of all the stamps that the government has so far issued. Missourienses, in Mekeel's.

Commemorative sets have their chief claim upon one on account of beauty, but this one hasn't even that -D. W. Osgood.

They makea very pretty set.-P. M. Wolsieffer, in Metropolitan Philatelist.

They cannot be bragged on as far as beauty is is concerned.-International Plzilatelist.

To summarize, we might say that the issue is very artistic, and superior to the Columbians, save that they are a set of miserable daubs. Yet they are im. mensely satiafactory and beautiful while they are, at the same time, disappointing, grotesque, and diecreditable to the Bureau of Printing. Still the
fact that those who have seen them have only words of praise is explained by the assertion that they are the poorest specimens of workmanship to be seen. They are handsomer than the Columbians but are a poor lot and do not in any way compare with them. Altogether, the Omaha stamps are very creditable because the engraving is coarse and indistinst, the ink somewhat muddy, and the colours not over attractive while thoy are most thoroughly American -having no claim to beauty and nothing to brag about, but make a very pretty Bet.

## PROPOSED NEW ISSUE OF HOSPITAL STAMPS.

$8^{0}$great was the success of the " hospital stamps" issued last year in connection with the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, that it has been decided to further develop this idea during the present year. In 1897 two varieties of stamps were produced, and their sale realised a sum of sbout £35,000. This year four stamps, each of distinct design, are about to be issued, of the respective values of $1 /-, 26,5$,-, and 10/-. In colour the stamps will be red, blue, dark green, and green respectively, and each will coytain a vignette of the figure of Charity, together with the date and a facsimile of the Prince of Wales's signature. Only one-third of the total number produced in 1897 will be issued this year, and the plates will then be at once destroyed. There is only one course for philatelists to take and that is to ignore the labels altogetherthey are "stamps" only by courtesy, and collectors must deckine to allow themselves to be swindled even in the sacred name of Charity. One thing, the exploiters will have to do their work themselves as, surely, no respectable firm of stamp dealers will touch the labels for their own sake.

## NEWFOUNDLAND.

THE change in the colour of the current 1 cent Newfoundland from claret to green, while perhaps looked for sooner or later, came rather unexpectodly. A correspondent in St. Johns wrote at the time that they had no idea the change had been made until they had sent to the post office for 1 cent stamps and received the new green instead of the claret.

While speaking of Newfoundlands I wish to warn collectors against buying the $\frac{t}{t}, 1$ and 2 c . reprints of last November under the impression that they are orig'nals. The $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{c}$. black, 10 . yellow-green, and 2 c . orange, were reprinted at that time and have been ou sale at the general post office St. Johns at face without limit as to quantity. The difference between these reprints and the originals would appear very slight to one not familiar with the originals and not having them for comparison. Hence it would be no difficult matter to pass the reprints as originals with a largo majority of collectors, and many dealers might ignorantly sell them as such.

Not long ago I had the 1c. yellow-greens offered me by two prominent dealers and in each case I had no hesitation in pronouncing the stamps to be the last reprint then on sale at face at the general office in St. Johns.

The reprints are a considerably lighter shade of green than the originals, and there are also slight differences in the printing, most pronounced under the glass, which further distinguish them. The pe. and 2c. reprints also differ in shade from the originals. The difference in the half cent is very marked when a sheet or large block of each are placed side by side. The gum on the 2c. reprints is decidedly different to that on any of the originals I have seen.

These reprints are received for postage and, while as with the 1894 re-issue they may ultimately prove rarer than the originals, at the present time I do not consider them worth half as much as the originals unused. The 1c. yellow-gren, I particularly consider a rather scarce stamp unused,-Philatelic Era.

## SONS OF PHILATELIA ANNUAL ELECTION.

GHHE result of the ballot for officers in the ensuing twelve months has resulted as follows:President, J. C. Miller; vice-president, Jos. S. Davis; secretary, J. F. Dodge; treasurer, E. Gerlich; int. secretary, R.J. Russell; sales supt., C. E. Shaw; librarian, F. M. Townley; auction manager, W. A. McDonnell ; counterfeit detector, F. Noyes ; attorney, H. C. Crowell; purchasing agent, A. Herbet; trustees, T. L. W. Porte, T. O MeCarthy, H. C. Beek, all of Detroit, Mich.

## GROUP COLLECTING,

## AFRICAN COLONIES.

By R. Hollick, Vice-President of the Birmingham Philatclic Society.

## GOLD COAST.



1879 issue, wmk. Crown C.C., perf. 14.

| 1d. olive | . | . | .. | 5 | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id. | . | . | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8 |  |
| 2d. green | . | . | . | .. | 3 | 6 | 1 |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2d. mauve | . | . | . | .. | 35 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4d. orange | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 6 | 1 | 6 |

1883 issue, provisional.
1d. black overprint on 4 d . mauva, perf. 14.
NOTE.-Oj the above stamps, perf. 14, provisionals were made by culting

Half of penny blue used as $\frac{1}{2} d$. "taopence green used as $1 d$.
Quarter of fourpence used as mauve $1 d$.
The first is found bisected diagonally, the second vertically and horizontally.

1884, wmk. changed to Cr. C.A.

| dd. olive yellow | . | .. | 60 | 0 | 10 | 0 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id. blue | .. | .. | .. | 200 | 0 | 20 | 0 |

NOTE.-The penny blue was bisected and used as halfpenny.

1884-91, same design, wimk. and perf.

| $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green | $\cdots$ | - | 1 | 0 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1d. rose | - | . | 2 | 0 |  |
| 2d. grey | - | . | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| 2td. blue and orange | . | . | 4 | 0 | 2 |
| 3d. olive yellow | $\cdots$ | - | 5 | 0 |  |
| 4d. magenta | - | $\cdots$ | 07 | 0 | 3 |
| 6d. orange .. | . | . | 10 | 0 | 4 |
| 1/-violet | - | $\cdots$ | 16 | 0 |  |
| 2/- brown | - | - | 36 | 3 |  |

1887, provisional black, overprint
1d. on 6d. orange .
.. 150
76
1889-94, new design, Cr., C.A., perf. 14.
5/- lilac and blue .. $\quad . . \quad 6 \quad 6 \quad 3 \quad 6$
10/- lilac and red .. .. 12 6 7 0
20/-green and red $\quad . \quad$.. 200 0 180 0

| Specimen |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 20/- brown and black | .. | .. | 50 | 0 |  | -6 |


| 1898, design as last issus. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. lilac and | green | - | -. | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1d. " | carmine | . | .- | 0 | 2 | 0 |  |
| 2td. ", | blue | . | .. | 0 | 4 | 0 | 2 |
| 3d. | yellow | . | $\cdots$ | 0 | 5 |  |  |
| 6d. " | violet |  | . | 0 | 9 |  |  |
| 1/-green and | black | . | - | I | 4 |  |  |
| 2/- | carmine | . |  | 2 | 6 |  |  |

These present market values are not fictitious, but have been arrived at by comparing Auction Reports and dealers' stocks, and also taking into consideration the numbers iseued. A full stock of nearly every rarity is held, and will be supplied by the compiler on recoipt of amount. Letters to be addressed to Richard Hollick, Fillongley Hruse, Boldmere Road, Erdington, near Birmingham.

## SOCIETY REPORTS.

## MIDLANDCOUNTIESSTAMPEXCHANGE

 (Established 1886).Hon. Secretary :-W. G. Walton, Fentham Road, Birmingham.

The September packets are very good and total somathing like $£ 500$. There are vacancies for one or two members and, as subscription is not charged for the unexpired portion of the half-year, the present is a good time to join. Good references required. Rules, \&c., post free from the secretary. New members proposed this month are: A, Durando (Cardifi) W. H'. Borrill (Romford), W. Pugsley (London), A. J. Foulger (Bradford), Ernest E. Schnadhorst (Woodford), H. Harrop (Manchester), H. C. Hodgett (Lydney).

Scburban Exchange Club.-In spite of the effect of the hot weathor on philately the Club packets have begn in circulation throughout the summer, and have maintained a very fair level of excellence. It is satisfactory to note that but littlo delay in forwarding eithor packets or accounts has occurred through absence from home, \&c. Presumably September will see a great improvement in the value of packets, and an increase in the roll of nembership, which now musters about 320 ; only three notices of resignation were received to August 20th, 1898. February accounts have been settled, and nearly all those of March. April sheets will also be returned within the next fortnight. February sales (including supplementary circuits) amounted to £265 2s. 2d. ; Marct sales to £241 0s. 2d. Secretary, H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Albane.

# TO START THE SEASON. <br> The BIC ISSUE 

OF

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#### Abstract

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... 06
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Duttia, $\frac{1}{2}, ~ t, 2$, and 4 annas $\ldots . . . . . . . .$.
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| ", | 10 |  |  |
| Grenada, td. violet and black | 010 | 9 | 6 |
| " 6d. mauve | 1 |  |  |
| 8d. brown | 410 |  |  |
| New Brunswick, 1c. mauve | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| ,, 2c. orange | 0 | 1 |  |
| ,, 5c. green | 0 |  |  |
| 10 c . red | 09 | 8 |  |
| , 121 l c. blue | 19 |  |  |
| Newfoundland, imperf., id browin and claret.. |  |  |  |
| Newioundland, imperf., 3d. green | 6 |  |  |
| " $\quad$ " 4d. lave | 2 |  |  |
| " 5d. red \& brown | 3 |  |  |
| 6d. lake | 110 |  |  |
| perf., 13c., orange | 39 |  |  |
| " 2c. green | 05 | 3 | 6 |
| ,. $\quad$, le brown | 04 | 3 | 0 |
| Niger Coast, prov. $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to $1 /-$, cat. $15 / 9$, our price |  |  |  |
| St.IVincent, 1d. on zid. on 1d. rose | 19 | 18 | 0 |
| St. Lucia, 1d. ruse, cheap | 50 |  |  |
| Tobago, tid. on $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. blue | $\begin{array}{ll}1 & 3 \\ 2\end{array}$ | 12 | 6 |
| $2 \frac{1}{2}$ d. on 4d., slate | 29 |  |  |
| Turs's Isles, $\frac{1}{\text { da }}$ on 1d., vermilion | 49 |  |  |
|  | 10 |  |  |
| Trinidad, impert., purple | 70 |  |  |
| " blue | 60 |  |  |
| ", brown and red | 70 |  |  |
| Virgin Isles, 4 d on 1/- |  |  |  |



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TO-page Price List-Free. Largest Wholesale List in the Trade.
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Pristed for the Pablishers by Randall Brothers, Aston Cross, Birmingham, Sepl.21st, 1998.


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    ARE OFFERED IN EXCEANGE FOR STAMPG to the catalogue yalue of $£ 30$.
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